

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS

By *Lin Ezell*

The President of the United States dedicated the National Museum of the Marine Corps (NMMC) on November 10, 2006. With an average annual visitor attendance of 500,000 during its first three years, the museum is one of the most popular cultural attractions in Virginia. Its exhibitions are known for their ability to recreate environments and immerse visitors into the action of Marines at war. Visitors are encouraged to put their own shoes into the boot prints of Marines at Iwo Jima, the Chosin Reservoir, and Khe Sanh.

The Marine Corps museum’s mission is typical of history museums: collecting and preserving objects that reflect the history of the Corps; interpreting Marine Corps history using those objects; educating students and families and training teachers; and conducting collections-based research. The museum also has one atypical charge, that of supporting the recruitment, education, and retention of Marines.

The Marines have long displayed historic artifacts in variety of settings. For example, early 20th-century authors described “war trophy rooms” with their captured weapons and flags located at Marine Corps Headquarters and Marine Corps Barracks in Washington, D.C. In 1940, the Marine Corps established its first museum at Marine Corps Base Quantico on the second deck of Little Hall. It contained a series of built-in wall cases populated by mannequins clad with reproduction uniforms, guns, personal items, framed flags, and crew-served weapons. Colonel



The National Museum of the Marine Corps, with its soaring 210-foot mast recalling the image of the flag-raisers at Iwo Jima, was designed by Fentress Bradburn Architects.

*See **Marine Corps Museum** continued on page 3*

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Mike Reis

What's in a generation? Historians are well taught in grad school to avoid (or at least be a little suspicious of) analyzing the past via a division of it into rigid generations. Still, we can never resist thinking about generations of fellow human beings in a generational light, particularly because of our love for our families and our personal voices and stories. We also can't resist because—let's face it—generational analysis *is just plain enjoyable*. From the “revolutionary generation” through Gertrude Stein's “lost generation,” Tom Brokaw's “greatest generation,” and even the “Me Generation,” looking at how folks roughly the same age as each other experienced and interpreted what they did can offer valuable insights along with hours of fun for ages 9 to 99.

And a generational perspective can also help us to find ways forward for federal history as well as for organizations like the Society for History in the Federal Government that advocate for a better and greater public and professional understanding of what historians, archivists, curators and their colleagues bring to the table. I thought of this a lot during our recent, highly successful 30th-anniversary annual meeting held on March 25 at the National Archives at College Park, Maryland. Appropriately enough for a birthday celebration, the conference—and let me say a huge thanks right here to all SHFG officers, members, and volunteers, as well as NARA staff and our presenters and interested attendees, who made it happen—was marked by much useful generational interaction amongst us, including two sessions titled “The Next Generation of Federal Historians” and “Writing History in Your Spare Time,” where insights

were shared concerning professional goals and challenges. Interestingly, and I believe positively, the old adage “*Never Assume*” (see Tracy's efficiency expert to Hepburn's savvy reference librarian in the great movie *Desk Set*) may apply to more than one generation with representatives at our meeting—to wit:

- *Never assume* that knowledge transfer is a one-way street from old to young. Presenters of all ages made clear that mastering key federal history know-how and expertise—sustaining a program or building a serious agency declassification effort—depends on working through those challenges and not on a body of received wisdom. All can learn from all and fresh perspectives are welcome!

- *Never assume* that younger federal history professionals are automatically enamored of all current digital tools as “better” than traditional research. In fact, to name just one example, younger professionals realize that research using old-fashioned, fully detailed paper finding aids, cannot yet be supplanted by supposedly useful search tools with defective features like unreliable filters or bad OCR. Perhaps the “next, next generation” will witness a change for the better? SHFG heartily supports it, but it's not yet occurred.

- And never assume that older professionals, who may commit to a lengthy career with an agency, turn into incurious functionaries rather than careful scholars with varied interests. Pete Daniel, Don Ritchie, and Sam Walker in their provocative roundtable on “Writing History in Your Spare Time” attested to the fact that being a committed federal history professional doesn't mean checking your other scholarly interests at the office door, but does mean educating and hopefully enlisting your agency in what you want to achieve. Life-work balance can be a challenge at any age if we are writing an outside book, taking extra courses, or attending a professional development seminar. We should all strive for official recognition of this and, if it's not forthcoming, push some more and by all means alert SHFG as a potential ally.

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Opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the positions of *The Federalist*, the SHFG, or the agencies or organizations where the authors are employed.

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Marine Corps Museum, continued from page 1

John Magruder opened the next iteration of the museum in the base's old post headquarters, Building 1019, in 1960. Much of the material displayed there was acquired by Magruder in a collecting effort during the 1950s.

Magruder's museum at Quantico closed in 1976 and reopened as the Marine Corps Historical Center at the Washington Navy Yard in 1977. Behind-the-scenes support for the collections came, in part, from Museum Branch staff working out of Building 2014 at Quantico, where some of the reserve collections were stored.

In 1978, the Marine Corps Aviation Museum got off the ground at Quantico, keeping seasonal public hours in unheated hangars. This facility evolved into the Marine Corps Air-Ground Museum by the mid-1980s, with the addition of a third hangar in 1990. The Air-Ground Museum closed in 2002, and the Marine Corps Historical Center shut its doors in 2005 in preparation for the opening of the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

The visibility of these earlier museums, which were all supported officially by the Marine Corps with federal appropriations, and the pride of individual Marines prompted many donations of objects through the years. Vehicles, aircraft, and other equipment were transferred as federal property to the museums through the Marine Corps. It was not until the 1970s, however, that collections management procedures were implemented, to include formal cataloguing, deeds of gift, and inventory procedures. Previously, a less formal method of numbering items had been used, and there was little documentation that supported the provenance of the collection. And there was no systematic plan for what to collect.

After the very active collection efforts by Colonel Magruder in the 1950s, the various Marine Corps museums acquired some significant collections of pre-WWI objects related to the Corps. The bulk of the collections, however, dated from World War II to the present. With the opening of the NMMC in 2006, the increased rate at which we are losing WWII veterans, and the growing tendency of Vietnam War veterans to "downsize" their personal possessions, the museum began experiencing a renewed interest by veterans and their families to donate objects to the museum and archival materials to the Gray Research Center.

The strength of any history museum rests with its collections, and the current museum is no exception. NMMC's keystone objects that represent how Marines have waged war since 1775—weapons, tanks, vehicles, aircraft—were transferred to the museum by the Marine Corps. But pride in being a Marine has prompted many generations of Leathernecks to donate their personal items to the permanent collection, to include uniforms, medals,

kits and packs, presentation swords, and trophies. Because the museum is charged with caring for its collections—some 30,000 objects—in perpetuity, curators add to the collection very selectively, consulting a formal collections rationale for guidance. Stewardship responsibilities are divided among five broad categories: ordnance, uniforms and heraldry, aviation, art, and general collections. Curators and collections managers work together to fully account for the collection.

As is often the case with museums, less than 10 percent of NMMC's objects are on exhibition at any one time. Most of the collections are in storage at Marine Corps Base Quantico, while some objects are on loan to other museums around the country. A team dedicated to the preservation of aircraft, vehicles, artillery pieces, and other large artifacts completes the detailed restoration of several artifacts each year. In the planning stages is a new building to be co-located with the NMMC, constructed specifically to house the reserve collections and to enable the museum to preserve artifacts in a state-of-the-art restoration and conservation center.

An in-house exhibitions team, working with curators and historians, designs and oversees permanent and temporary installations, including the Commandant's Corridor at the Pentagon. Museum educators utilize these exhibits to craft formal education programs that meet the needs of classroom teachers and are linked to specific Virginia Standards of Learning. Teaching with objects is what makes museum education so unique. But education at the Museum can definitely be fun, especially for "Little Marines," with puppet shows, hands-on activities, storytelling, trains, and gallery hunts. During 2009, 35,000 students visited the Museum and participated in a structured tour or activity. Popular family day programs are offered on the second Saturday of each month. Student Marines from Marine Corps University, Command and Staff, the Basic School, and other classes at nearby Quantico also make good use of the museum as part of formal Professional Military Education activities.

Since World War II, the Corps has been instructing a small number of Marines to go to war and do art! Continuing in that tradition, in 2009, the Museum deployed two artists to Iraq, Afghanistan, and training sites in the United States, to capture what today's warriors are facing. Upon their return, they transform their sketches, notes, and photographs into finished works of art, to include works on canvas and sculpture. More than 60 of the 8,000 works from the combat art collection were featured in a multiservice show in Newport News, VA, in 2009. Plans are under way for a major Marine Corps aviation art show to be co-hosted with the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum in 2012, to mark the centennial of Leatherneck aviation.

The National Museum is being constructed in phases, the first of which includes approximately 120,000 square feet. It opened with permanent galleries dedicated to “Making Marines,” World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. In June 2010, three additional galleries will open to tell the story of the Marine Corps from 1775 through World War I. In immersive exhibits, visitors take their places alongside Marines in battle. Aircraft, tanks, and other vehicles are prominently displayed. Period uniforms, weapons, medals, flags, and other artifacts help visitors trace the history of the Corps. The history of the organization mirrors the history of the United States, but told by individual Marines. It is not a “hall of generals”; the Museum recognizes the importance of every Marine doing his or her job to accomplish the mission of the Corps, and it is their stories that are told here. Cast figures—especially life-like mannequins—populate the galleries, and the models for this figures were today’s Marines, capturing the poses and action of yesterday’s warriors.

Traveling exhibits from other venues displayed on the second deck give guests a reason to come back to the Museum regularly. Shows have included “Ghosts in the Landscape” from George Eastman House, “At the Controls” from the Smithsonian, “Memories of World War II” from Smith-Kramer Fine Arts, and “A View of the American Homefront” from the Normal Rockwell Museum. Photographer Eddie Adams’ work from Vietnam will be featured in 2010, along with some unusual images from the National Air and Space Museum in a show called “In Plane View.” In 2011, special exhibits will feature “Native Words, Native Warriors” and “When Janey Comes Marching Home.”

Visitors have much to look forward to with the opening of the next three galleries. World War I will come alive with a recreation of the Battle of Belleau Wood. On a single day in June 1918, there were more Marine casualties than had been suffered cumulatively since the Corps was born in 1775. Special care was taken in setting the stage for the charge across a French wheat field against well-fortified Germans. Visitors will enter the forest, come upon the battle, and feel its force.

Future phases (another 80,000 square feet) will add a giant-screen theater, classrooms, an art gallery, visible storage, and more exhibition space to the flagship building. Construction may begin as early as 2012. A chapel



The Museum’s Leatherneck Gallery welcomes visitors with aircraft suspended from the ceiling and exhibits depicting WWII and Korea battle scenes.

that overlooks the Museum and Semper Fidelis Memorial Park opened in October 2009. Also planned as part of the 135-acre “Marine Corps Heritage Center” are a hotel/conference center, artifact storage and restoration building, hiking trails, and additions to Semper Fi Park.

The National Museum of the Marine Corps reports to Marine Corps University and is federally funded and staffed by Marine Corps civilian employees and Marines. Reorganization in 2005 created a museum structure separate from the History Division, its long-time organizational partner. The archival collections merged with the Gray Research Center’s Archives and Special Collections Branch. All three organizations report to the university and are based at Quantico. The Museum’s construction and expansion would not be possible without the assistance of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. This strong public-private partnership, approved by Congress in 2001, allowed for the construction of an iconic building and the delivery of high-quality programs.

In 2009, the Museum received the Themed Entertainment Association’s award for Best New Museum, and the Secretary of the Navy recognized the Museum with the Award of Merit for Group Achievement.

The Museum stands as a proud acknowledgement of the courage and commitment to duty delivered by all Marines, in support of today’s Marine Corps families, and as an inspiration to the next generation of Americans.

Command Museums are located at Camp Pendleton, at Recruit Depots San Diego and Parris Island, and at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, which reflect the unique interests and objectives of those facilities. All the Marine Corps museums are free. The National Museum of the Marine Corps is open every day except Christmas and is conveniently located just off I-95 in northern Virginia, near but not within the gates of Marine Corps Base Quantico. There is ample free parking, two great restaurants (one of which recreates Tun Tavern where the Corps reportedly recruited its first Marines in Philadelphia in 1775), a unique Museum Store, docent-led tours, and Marines to greet you.

For additional information, please visit www.usmc.museum.org.

Lin Ezell is the Director of the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

THE SHFG T-SHIRTS

By Charles Downs, SHFG Archivist

Every archives collection usually has odds and ends of three-dimensional objects that are not exactly records yet have some connection with them. Among SHFG's documents, photos, negatives, disks, and audiotapes are several T-shirts, six of them, dark blue with the familiar SHFG column logo silk screened in white. The SHFG archives has several photos of society members displaying the shirts—one was featured here last quarter. Terry Gough arranged to have several of these shirts ready for the president's reception in December 1991, where one was presented to outgoing president David Trask. The remaining shirts were sold to society members to help cover production costs. They proved so popular that a new batch of the shirts was offered for sale in the spring 1992, *Federalist* for \$12.50 each, provided they were picked up at the April meeting. After that, the price rose to \$15 each to cover mailing costs.

Less well known is that there was an earlier SHFG T-shirt, one that is not documented by photographs, or much else, in the archives. However, after a thorough search of the back of my closet, I've located a somewhat worn example and donated it to the SHFG archives. (*Note: My wife claims I am a packrat, but I think she exaggerates.*) The shirt is light gray with the old SHFG logo in dark red, consisting of a quartered circle with images representing the society's constituents in each quarter. This logo was SHFG's original symbol, used on early publications and letterheads, but except for SHFG's old hands, it is unfamiliar to most of the society's members. It was abruptly discontinued from use after a relatively short time. As an undated memo found in the archives notes in passing, "Several years ago the Society adopted a logo, but it has had to discontinue its use because it infringed on a symbol used by a Federal Agency." Any guesses as to which symbol and which agency? For more information about the SHFG archives, write to chasdowns@earthlink.net



David Trask displays the SHFG T-shirt

FEDERAL HISTORY ONLINE

The 2010 issue of SHFG's journal, FEDERAL HISTORY, is now online at www.shfg.org under "Publications."

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Roger D. Launius, on Federal History and National Identity

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PROMOTING “SOUND SENTIMENT” DURING WORLD WAR I

By Linda L. Stinson

When the Department of Labor was created as the ninth Executive Department on March 4, 1913, it was given the mission to “foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners of the United States, to improve their working conditions and to advance their opportunities for profitable employment” (from *The Organic Act of the Department of Labor, Public Law 426-62, March 4, 1913*). The Department of Labor has tried to fulfill its mission during days of prosperity and depression, in times of peace, as well as war.

The implementation of this mission, however, was tested almost immediately. Within the first five years of its existence—while still assembling staff, moving into suitable quarters, developing programs, and printing stationery—the Department of Labor, along with the rest of the country, found itself at war. In December 1917, a proposal was submitted to President Woodrow Wilson to create a “single, centralized, coherent war-labor administration” under the direction of the first secretary of labor, William B. Wilson. This proposal was adopted and, by January 1918, the Department of Labor began assuming new war duties.

Several organizational changes were required at the Department of Labor to meet the demands of a nation at war. The National War Labor Board was created to monitor and control labor disputes in war industries; a Division of Negro Economics under the direction of Dr. George E. Haynes was established to address industrial race relations and war labor problems specific to black workers; an interagency War Labor Policies Board was developed to provide policy consistency across the federal government; and the Women in Industry Service under the direction of Mary Van Kleeck and Mary Anderson was organized to protect women joining the wartime workforce.

Additionally, on July 1, 1918, the Department of Labor created the Information and Education Service under the direction of Roger W. Babson. Given the task to “promote

sound sentiment in industrial plants, to combat unsound industrial philosophies, and to acquaint the public with the national war labor program of the Government,” Director Babson further elaborated on the purpose of the group as “a drive to strengthen the morale of the workingman by means of the dissemination of propaganda.”

The Information and Education Service adopted a multi-pronged approach to its mission of social education. This strategy was reflected in five organizational components, each given a specific role. Known as the “publicity division,” the Education Division collected and disseminated labor news of interest to both employers and employees. The articles sent to magazines and newspapers were intended to be factual and unprejudiced, accurately documenting the history of American labor during the war. Nevertheless, the department’s 1919 annual report added that “propaganda was interwoven with the regular news” to promote patriotism by showing that workers had a stake in the country and an interest in the war. The annual report cites the example of a feature story sent to every major U.S. newspaper, describing

two mechanics—one who lost an arm during battle in France and the other who remained on his job in America. The article, based on interviews with the two mechanics, was written in such a way that it “brought out many truths and made possible splendid constructive propaganda” for both categories of workers.

Information Division developed a “small but efficient and enthusiastic” Speakers Bureau. Sent around the country, speakers delivered a single message: The war can be won only by uninterrupted maximum production. This objective meant that job turnover had to be reduced and output had to be increased. From July to December 1918, speakers delivered 378 talks in 41 states. An additional 400 volunteer speakers gave 1,200 addresses pressing home the message that patriotism should be expressed through systematic and efficient work. A motion picture


THE FRUITS OF VICTORY

Would Turn Bitter if We Failed to

HARVEST THEM NOW!

*United Effort Is Needed as Much in
the Work of Reconstruction as
in Winning the War*

*So let us continue to work together
in the spirit that we should not put
our own interests above the interests
of the Nation.*



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

W. B. WILSON,
Secretary of Labor

For extra copies address: Roger W. Babson, Director General, Information and Education Service, Department of Labor, 1700 G St. N.W., Washington, D.C.

section also delivered “picture propaganda” through special feature films, news reels, slides, and video trailers.

The Information and Education Service’s remaining three divisions also promoted sound labor practices and increased production. Working in conjunction with the other divisions, the Industrial Plants Division focused specifically on combating “slacking among employees engaged on war work,” promoting industrial peace, and halting any pro-German influences that might affect workers. Serving largely as an advisory unit, the Economic Division monitored labor policy developed throughout the federal government and provided advice on the publicity and educational campaigns created and implemented by the rest of the Information and Education Service. Using the specific medium of the printed poster, the Poster Division furthered the efforts of the other divisions by urging full-time work, warning against frequent job changes and absenteeism, and fostering good relations between employers and employees.

Given the succinct and pithy nature of a paper poster, the ad campaign produced by the Poster Division summarized quite clearly the work of the entire Information and Education Service. For this reason, the posters themselves warrant a closer look.

The early posters, fostering support for the decision to go to war, are the strongest in tone. The Kaiser and Germany are identified as the enemy. Americans are warned that enemy threats lurk in the workplace. And the message of hard work and efficiency as the domestic weapons of war is introduced.

Approaching the end of the war and during reconstruction, the messages in the posters changed sharply in tone. The post-war emphasis focused on the construction of new buildings, home purchases, efficient work to keep prices low, and industrial peace. The previous call for patriotism to be demonstrated through support of the troops and munitions industries was redirected to the virtues of social cooperation and building a better future at home.

The poster campaign began with a small distribution of sample posters and continued after the Armistice was signed on November 11, 1918. The campaign grew steadily until the division was distributing approximately one million posters per month. They were sent to workshops, factories, stores, and railroad stations in every state of the union. However, the annual report firmly makes the point

that posters were sent only to localities that actually requested them and required the requestor’s commitment to display the posters prominently.

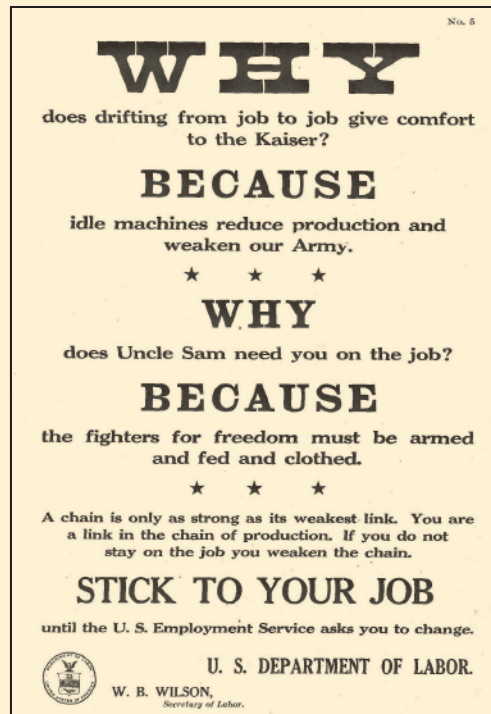
Throughout the campaign, each poster carried the name of William B. Wilson, the first Secretary of Labor, evidence of his support and sympathies for the project. The name of Director Roger W. Babson was also included as the point of contact within the Department of Labor. From Director Babson’s accounts of his work in the annual reports, it is clear that he was committed to the idea of the poster campaign as a tool for shaping social attitudes and behavior.

On leaving office after the war, Babson’s final report included sections on “Winning the Confidence of the Masses” and “Needed Campaigns” for the future that are almost philosophical in nature. Reflecting further on “The Use and Abuse of Politics and the Press,” Babson stated that the work of the Labor Department’s Information and Education Service in the “reformation of public opinion” had been made possible through the cooperation of the newspapers, to which the government owed more than it could ever repay.

Roger Babson was only at the Department of Labor for the brief period between 1917 and 1919. During that time he made a profound impact on the way the Department of Labor served the nation during World War I. Babson’s time at the Department of Labor also seems to have affected him profoundly. In 1919, he published the book *W.B. Wilson and the Department of Labor*, which is now available free online through Google Books: <http://books.google.com/books?id=IWFMAAAIAAJ>. In the preface Babson thanked everyone at the Department of Labor, from the heads of bureaus to the elevator operators and porters, saying they were exceedingly kind to him and courteous—giving him the two happiest years of his life.

For more information or to make an appointment to view the original posters, contact Linda L. Stinson in the Department of Labor’s Historical Office at 202-693-4085. *A note on sources:* much of the material for this article was drawn from the Reports of the Secretary of Labor, 1918 and 1919.

Linda L. Stinson is a historian in the Department of Labor’s Historical Office.



IN MEMORIAM



Dr. William C. Baldwin, a historian at the Office of History, Headquarters, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, died on August, 24, 2009 of pancreatic cancer. With his passing the federal history community lost a gifted historian, mentor, and friend.

A native of the Old Dominion, Bill grew up in Honaker, Virginia, and attended the College of William and Mary where he received his degree and was elected Phi Beta Kappa in 1966. Bill then attended the University of Michigan where he focused on European military history, with a specialty in French military history.

After receiving his degree in 1972, Bill taught at the University of Kentucky for seven years. Bill joined the Corps of Engineers history program in 1980. He was the historian at the Engineer Studies Center for his first three years of federal service, then spent the next two years teaching history at the Engineer School at Ft. Belvoir. He became a staff historian in the Office of History in 1985.

Bill quickly left his mark on two of the office's most important activities: the oral and field history programs. As the director of the oral history program from 1985 to 1994, Bill interviewed a wide cross section of engineer personnel whose reminiscences shed new light on operations ranging from World War II to the Cold War. In 1989 the Office of History gave Bill another challenging assignment, that of managing the Corps of Engineers' field history program. As the program manager he played a pivotal role in enabling the Corps' divisions, districts, centers, and labs to capture, preserve, and write their own histories. Bill led the field history program by balancing exacting historical standards with a healthy dose of pragmatism, flexibility, and good humor. Over the course of fifteen years he helped Corps' field history program managers produce over two dozen books.

Two histories warrant special mention. In the late 1980s, Bill recruited a talented team of contractors to write a comprehensive history of engineer operations in Europe. That volume, *Building for Peace: U.S. Army Engineers in Europe, 1945–1991*, was ultimately published in 2005. In the early 1990s he supervised the research and writing of *Bricks, Sand, and Marble: U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Construction in the Mediterranean and Middle East, 1947–1991*, that traced the evolution of the Corps' operations in the Middle East during the Cold War. The latter volume was published in 2010.

Over the course of the next fifteen years Dr. Baldwin served as the project manager for a long string of highly successful Engineer histories. In 1993 he was the project manager for a history of American Forces in Berlin that broke new ground for the book's inventive layout. In the mid-1990s, and again in 2005, he oversaw sweeping revisions of the general history of the Corps of Engineers. In 2005 the Office of History also published a history of significant local importance. Titled *Capital Engineers: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the Development of Washington, D.C., 1790–2004*, the award-winning publication combined a sophisticated layout with hundreds of photographs, drawings, and maps, many published for the first time. Dr. Baldwin served as the project manager for the ambitious effort, and the book has won critical acclaim from historians across the region.

After a federal career that spanned nearly three decades, Bill Baldwin's superb accomplishments aptly demonstrated that he was a man of many talents. As first an author and later as the project manager for a steady succession of groundbreaking engineer histories, he helped ensure that the lessons of the past were available to shape the decisions of the present. He also proved himself a superb administrator, successfully leading the Office of History's critically important oral and field history programs. Perhaps his greatest accomplishment can be found not in his numerous historical publications, but in the many historians that Bill taught, encouraged, and mentored throughout his distinguished career.

THE TIP OF THE HISTORY SPEAR CAPTURING COMBAT HISTORY OF THE ARMY IN CURRENT OPERATIONS

By David Hanselman

Ever since history teams under S.L.A. Marshall deployed to combat in WWII, the US Army has deployed military history detachments to our nation's wars. The mission of the Military History Detachment (MHD) is to deploy into theaters of combat in three-person teams consisting of one officer and two NCOs to collect historical data from Army units in the field. This data typically consists of oral interviews, documents, photographs, and artifacts. Together, this compilation becomes the official historical archives of the US Army at war. What separates the MHD from other historians in theater is that MHDs are soldiers first, nearly all of whom are reserve component soldiers, and they deploy into the combat arena and into harm's way to conduct their missions.

In the summer of 2007, the 305th MHD answered the call to war for the second time when it was activated with less than 30-day notice for deployment to Afghanistan as part of Combined Joint Task Force-82, Operation Enduring Freedom 06-08. The deployment would be the first historical coverage in Afghanistan in over three years, so the mission was not only to conduct the traditional collection mission, but also to establish conditions for follow on detachments to provide continuous coverage in the Afghan Area of Operation (AOR).

The soldiers who deployed with the 305th were Master Sergeant Richard Gribenas, Sergeant Julie Wiegand, and Major David Hanselman. All three soldiers had deployed to war before and all three volunteered to stay with the 305th MHD in order to deploy as a team. After one week at their reserve center to prepare their gear for shipment and one week of mobilization training at Fort Benning, GA the 305th arrived in Afghanistan on 10 September 2007.

The 305th MHD had its work cut out for them since they were going to an area where they would be responsible for a geographical region larger than the entire country of Iraq. While the Iraqi theater of operations included five military history detachments, plus no less than four additional historians in theater, the 305th comprised the only

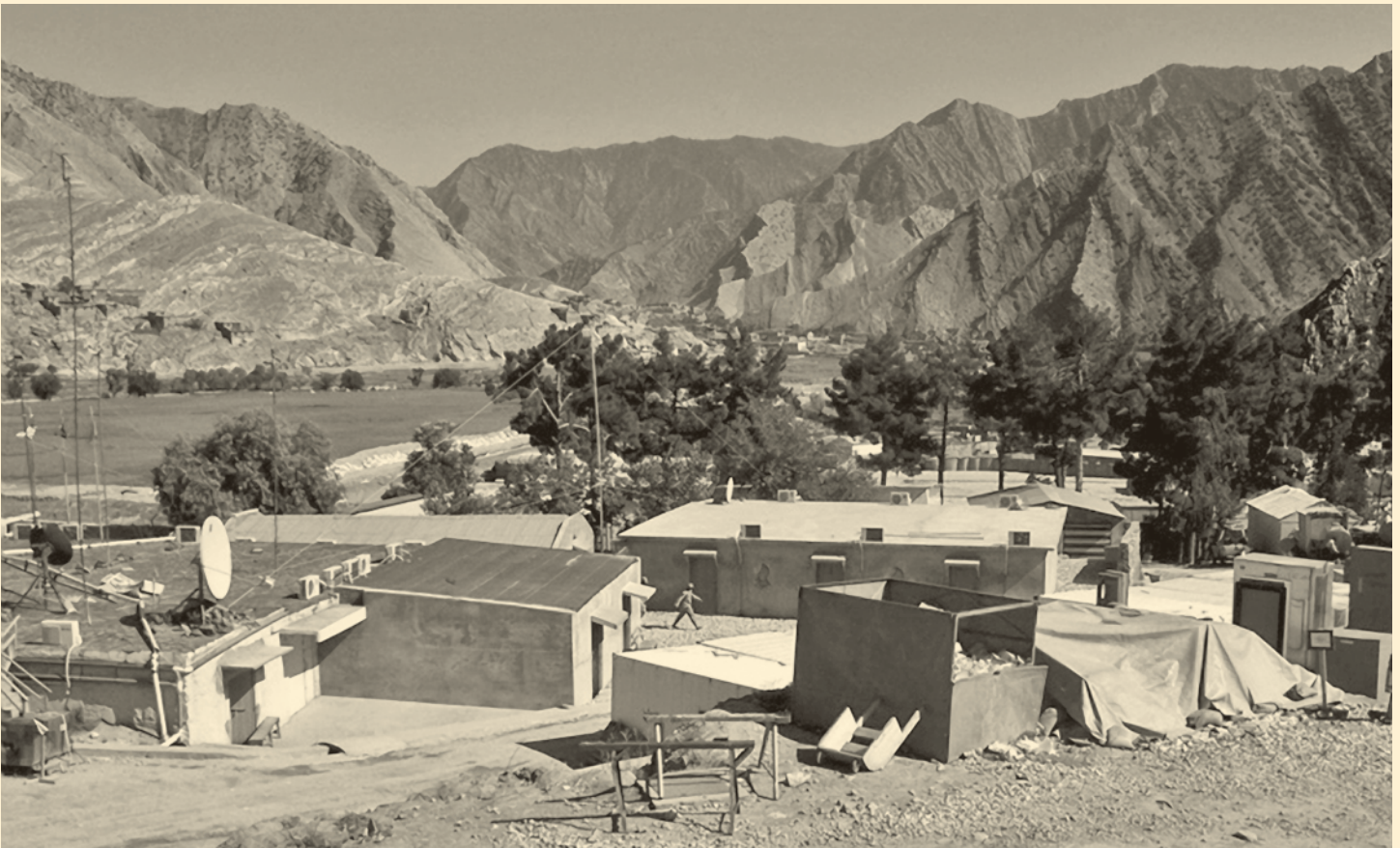


MAJ David Hanselman with a representative from the United States Agency for International Development, Chowkay, Afghanistan, May 2008.

history coverage in all of Afghanistan, a theater with few roads and limited air assets. As such, the MHD's commander also jointly served as the Theater Historian for the US Army. This additional task required the commander and his two non-commissioned officers to participate in senior level planning, briefings, and tasks at their home base of Bagram Air Base. All of this in addition to being responsible for an area over 65 percent larger than any other MHD deployed.

Within three weeks of arrival into theater, the 305th conducted its first extended "outside the wire" mission to northeastern Afghanistan. This 30-day mission embedded the 305th with the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team (ABCT) in the most contested regions of Afghanistan. The history team participated in the pivotal operation Rock Avalanche in the Korengal Valley, and during that operation MAJ Hanselman and MSG Gribenas were both cited for direct combat with the enemy. During this mission the soldiers of the 305th collected interviews, documents, photographs, and artifacts documenting

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and two NCOs
to collect historical data
from Army units in the field.***



Camp Blessing, Afghanistan, May 2008.

the actions of the brave Sky Soldiers, to include interviewing several soldiers who were killed in action just days later. Although the team took these losses hard, it only reinforced the importance of the mission to preserve the sacrifices of soldiers, so they are never forgotten. The team also conducted extensive collection of a battle whose soldiers were later recommended for the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, and two Silver Stars.

The 305th MHD continued to deploy forward in November and December when it traveled to Regional Command South and covered US operations in southern Afghanistan. Their work included participating in their second major combat operation, Operation Mar Karardad, the assault on Musa Qaleh. The 305th team embedded with the US forces from the beginning of the operation and documented the operation from the initial planning through the execution of the largest combat air assault of the war.

They then embedded with the paratroopers on the ground and weathered harsh storms and enemy action to record the historic battle. Of note, MSG Gribenas spent several days with the lead elements of paratroopers entering the city of Musa Qaleh, SGT Wiegand flew with an aircraft recovery team that recovered a USAF helicopter, and MAJ Hanselman participated in multiple combat flights with US aircrews, taking direct enemy fire on several occasions. He also returned to Kandahar Air Base from one ground combat mission with his own prisoner of war.



Historian SGT Julie Wiegand.

The 305th not only spent the holidays away from home, but they spent them away from their base, in the field with the soldiers they were covering. Over the first four months of 2008, the 305th conducted multiple missions to bases throughout Afghanistan. They also documented the transfer of authority between the 82nd Airborne and the 101st Airborne. In April 2008, the 305th

set out again for an extended field mission and spent the next three weeks covering Operation Rock Penetrator once again in the northeastern mountains with the 173rd ABCT. The team collected history on the current operations, as well as past operations that involved heroic actions from US forces.

During its deployment to Afghanistan the 305th MHD traveled to 21 different bases and collected 379 interviews totaling over 325 hours of first-person histories. The detachment's historians also collected over 8,500 photographs and 3,000 documents to add to the historic archives of the US Army. What is unique about the 305th efforts is that not only was their collection sent to the US Army Center of Military History, but the team maintained contact with multiple historians within the US Army and provided information directly from the battlefield to other agencies within the US Army to include the Center of Army Lessons Learned, Combat Studies Institute, Army Heritage Center, US Army Training and Doctrine Command, US Army Forces Command, and historians from the infantry, aviation, transportation and nine other branches within the Army. They worked with the US Special Operations Command and the Marines, Air Force and Navy who conducted joint operations with the Army. For the first time in MHD operations, the entire Army history field benefited directly from their efforts.

The 305th MHD redeployed in August 2008 after earning its second campaign streamer. The soldiers of the 305th MHD and the other teams like them dedicated themselves to the history mission for the US Army. Since September 11, 2001, the 305th has spent over three-and-a-half years on active duty, to include Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and hurricanes Katrina and Rita. They have also deployed on two additional missions outside of the continental United States and six operations within the continental United States, all in seven years.

The 305th is a small unit compared to most units, but they have been called upon for every major event that the Army has been a part of since 9/11. They are the most deployed MHD in the US Army, and the soldiers of the 305th have remained with the unit through it all, due to



MSG Richard Gribenas, center, receives a convoy security briefing.

their dedication to their mission and to the soldiers whose history they hold.

Today other MHDs are serving in Iraq and Afghanistan just as their predecessors have done since WWII. So many people never stop to consider what it actually takes to gather the information that ultimately becomes that history book on the shelf. That's okay though, because for the soldiers of the 305th and those like them, the reward comes from the soldiers that they meet. When that tired, dirty young soldier can't believe that some historian came clear out to their remote combat outpost just to meet with them and they say, "thanks for remembering us."

Major David Hanselman commanded the 305th MHD during its recent deployment to Afghanistan. He is also Director, US Army Transportation Museum, Ft. Eustis, VA.

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INTERNSHIPS IN FEDERAL HISTORY

Internship opportunities in federal history offices are diverse and extensive. Interns can make valuable contributions to a program, and often these opportunities lead to permanent positions. This column highlights a different history internship program in each issue. You can send information on your office program for future inclusion to benjamin.guterman@nara.gov.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, DC

Program goals: To encourage students to consider careers in foreign affairs; to provide students with valuable work experience in a foreign affairs agency; and to aid the Department in achieving its mission.

Intern duties: Internships are excellent preparation for future careers in both the Civil Service and the Foreign Service. The Department is looking for students with a broad range of majors. Duties may include writing reports on human rights issues, assisting with trade negotiations, assisting with citizen's services or visa work, helping Americans in distress abroad, or organizing conferences or visits of high-level officials. Others may research economic or environmental issues, write news stories, work on web pages or help produce electronic journals.

Work location: Internships are available worldwide, although most are in the Washington, DC, area.

Application requirements: The prospective intern should submit these three documents:

- Applicant Profile
- Application, including Statement of Interest
- Transcripts and optional Student Aid Report (SAR)

Web site: <http://careers.state.gov>

E-mail: Studentprograms@state.gov

FORREST BARNUM

I was excited to have the opportunity to intern with the Historian's Office at the Department of State, but I really didn't know what to expect. Though I had familiarized myself with HO's legendary flagship production, the *Foreign Relations of the United States (FRUS)* series, I had no notion of how it was assembled or what, if anything, the office did beyond this. My only exposure had been to "academic" history, the kind practiced in the ivy-covered towers of academia, not the HO's robustly practical working history. I figured my destiny was parochial, the typically mundane tasks of an intern in a working office, my education mainly gained by exposure to the government.

I was happily proven wrong in short order. I was given two rather fascinating long-term tasks, proofreading XML-coded FRUS volumes and cataloguing HO's extensive and anarchic archive. Both jobs required me to familiarize myself with the new software HO is using to bring its products to a wider audience and improve office efficiency. The FRUS volumes will eventually join those already fully available on our attractive new web site (<http://history.state.gov/>), while the archive will be fully searchable on the office's newly created, cutting-edge internal server. I was able to familiarize myself with the breadth of HO's work; FRUS is only one aspect of our operations. We produce excellent educational materials and curricula, engage in collaborative projects with aca-



Forrest Barnum will receive his Bachelor's of Arts in History and Political Science from McGill University this spring. He will be employed in the Historian's Office through next summer.

demical institutions and foreign governments, and provide historical services to the Department and the government at large. I have also had the pleasure of working on several short-term projects in the office. Perhaps the most enjoyable of these was cataloguing some two dozen boxes of photos and documents, among which were letters written by members of President Lincoln's cabinet, including Secretary of State William Seward.

Additionally, the staff members in HO have been unfailingly gracious and generous; always willing to share their knowledge and encourage my efforts. At its most basic level, my job as an intern is to help everyone in the office when they need it. My modest efforts would be entirely meaningless without the hard work and professionalism they display every day. I was exceedingly glad to have had a chance to work in HO; it has provided me with a priceless experience in professional history. The skills, connections, and knowledge I have gained here will serve me in good stead for years to come.

SECRETARY RICE “HERO” OF FRUS CRISIS, SAYS LEWIS AT HEWLETT LECTURE

“Somebody needed to speak out,” declared Professor William Roger Lewis — and the best way he could do this, he continued, was to resign as Chair of the State Department’s Historical Advisory Committee. Seeing that the *Foreign Relations of the United States (FRUS)* series was in peril, then-Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice became the “hero of the story” by decisively addressing the concerns Lewis raised.

Lewis, who holds the Kerr Chair in English History and Culture at the University of Texas at Austin, and is a founding director of the National History Center and former president of the American Historical Association, delivered the society’s annual Hewlett Lecture on October 21, 2009, at American University’s Katzen Arts Center. In his presentation, he outlined what he regarded as the managerial abuses that roiled the State Department’s Historian’s Office in 2007-8, culminating in his December 2008 decision to resign in protest from the advisory committee. The controversy over the State Department history program drew considerable attention and even allegations that the committee Lewis chaired had acted as an “academic lynch mob” — which Lewis denied, along with the “myth” that managers in the Historian’s Office “were stabbed in the back.”

The State Department’s Historical Advisory Committee was established in 1991 under Public Law 102-139 to oversee the preparation and timely publication of the *FRUS* series. Published since 1861, *FRUS* has been described by former Secretary Rice as the “gold standard” for reliable and honest documentary history. As Lewis pointed out, however, *FRUS* has not been “free from problems”— notably, the resource needs and protracted declassification periods that have hindered publication of *FRUS* volumes at the legally prescribed intervals. Lewis’ predecessor as advisory committee chair, Professor Warren Kimball, pressed the Historian’s Office for more information about publication delays and content decisions in the 1990s and early 2000s, thereby precipitating tensions between the committee and the staff.

Lewis first joined the Historical Advisory Committee in 2000. By 2004, when he reluctantly accepted the chairmanship, Lewis believed that the committee had become “dysfunctional.” As chair, Lewis moved to implement three reforms — each of which met with initial resistance from staff and even some committee members. First, committee members would be required to read all docu-

ments selected for publication in *FRUS*, as well as those withheld from publication. Second, the committee established a regular “seminar,” where *FRUS* editors could discuss works in progress and keep committee members up-to-date on their work. Third, discussions of previously published volumes augmented the committee’s regular agendas, to identify mistakes, air second thoughts, and promote the use of past experience to facilitate improvements in future volumes. As soon as the reforms were in place, Lewis said, staff attitudes began to change.

In mid-2007, a crisis began brewing in the Office of the Historian that soon drew the attention of the Historical Advisory Committee. Staff actually approached Lewis, as Chair of the Committee, to inform him of the deteriorating situation in the Office of the Historian.

The growing crisis involved a catalog of abuses directed against staff by what Lewis called a “clique of a half-dozen leaders” in the Historian’s Office. They misused their authority, Lewis said, showing favoritism, practicing cronyism, applying inappropriate security measures, and harassing staff with “obscene language” and “petty tyranny.” Morale in the office plummeted, and an “exodus of experienced historians” commenced. Even Ted Keefer, the highly respected General Editor of *FRUS*, whom Lewis praised as “greatly responsible” for the series’ excellence, was pressured into retirement. The Office of the Historian, as Lewis put it, was “hemorrhaging,” and the fate of the *FRUS* series was in jeopardy.

The committee compiled 12 instances of abuse as evidence of the intolerable situation. Then Lewis attempted to go through channels to present the evidence, but was “rebuffed.” Open warfare erupted between the leadership of the Historian’s Office and the committee. State Department officials unleashed a torrent of criticism against the committee, accusing it of “going off the rails.” One high-level official called the committee “a disgrace.” Another told Lewis that if he resigned in protest over the imbroglio, “your career will be over”— a prediction that the nationally renowned scholar and former AHA President derided as “laughable.”

Describing himself as “unrepentant,” Lewis took the evidence the committee had collected directly to the Secretary of State in late summer of 2008, and announced his resignation — and the reasons for it — at the committee’s December 2008 public meeting. With her tenure as Secretary drawing to a close, Rice held meetings to review

the evidence submitted by the committee. Listening to the evidence, in Lewis' words, not just as Secretary of State but also as a scholar who held FRUS in "high esteem," Rice appointed a special committee under Warren Kimball to look into the matter. By mid-January 2009, Kimball's committee upheld the findings of Lewis' old committee. This paved the way for an investigation by the State Department's Inspector General's Office. The Inspector General's Office interviewed 90 witnesses before issuing a report in May 2009 that Lewis called "comprehensive and accurate," and which confirmed the reports and evidence submitted by the earlier committees. The new Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, sustained Secretary Rice's decisions, and division chiefs in the Historian's Office were reassigned to other positions.

In describing a situation in the State Department's Office of the Historian that he likened to the environment established by Captain Queeg aboard the fictional USS *Caine*, Lewis emphasized two other important points. As he attempted to respond to the abuses being suffered by staff at the Historian's Office, Lewis said, he encountered no political interference; the George W. Bush White House did not attempt to intercede. He also lauded the work of State Department staff historians. Noting that he straddles the fence between academic and government history himself, Lewis dismissed the "academic condescension towards government historians." "Historians are historians, regardless of employer," Lewis concluded, and they are all "equals as historians."

MAKING HISTORY

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

The Federal Highway Administration has added a new article to its Highway History page. "The Packet Boat—Transportation By Canal," by Rickie Longfellow briefly relates the development of canal transportation in the United States. It can be found at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure/back1009.cfm>.

LINCOLN ARCHIVES DIGITAL PROJECT

The Lincoln Archives Digital Project (www.lincolnarchives.us) has developed a new interactive timeline with audio and video segments, as well as a document and photo gallery, to provide insight to the Lincoln administration years. In preparation for the upcoming Civil War sesquicentennial, portions of the papers of generals Burnside, Butler, Halleck, Asboth are being placed online. With over 6,000 documents already online, and over half a million others scanned and in the process of being placed online, Civil War enthusiasts from around the world can now have access to these wonderful records from the comfort of home. In addition to documents, the project has now added podcasts. The proceedings of the annual Lincoln Symposia held at the National Archives, College, Park Maryland, for the years 2005–2009 are also online. For more information, contact Karen Needles, 240-462-9802.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

David S. Ferriero, the new Archivist, announced that NARA will receive a 2.31 percent increase over last year's congressional appropriation under the Consolidated Appropriations Act signed by President Barack Obama on December 16, 2009. The Archivist also announced the establishment of NARA's new National Declassification Center (NDC). The creation of the NDC is specified in the new Executive Order on Classified National Security Information signed by President Obama on December 29, 2009. Specifically, the NDC is charged with streamlining declassification processes, facilitating quality assurance measures, and implementing standard training for declassification reviewers. Initially, the NDC will be located at the National Archives College Park, MD, facility and focus on clearing the backlog of referrals in reviewed documents both in federal records and presidential materials. Dr. Michael Kurtz, Assistant Archivist for the Office of Records Services, Washington will serve as acting director of the NDC pending the selection of a permanent director. See the NDC website: <http://www.archives.gov/declassification>.

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), in partnership with Documents Compass at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, announced 5,000 previously unpublished documents from the nation's founders are now available online through Rotunda, the digital imprint of The University of Virginia Press. The ROTUNDA Founders Early Access project makes available for the first time letters and other papers penned by important figures such as James Madison, John

Adams, and Thomas Jefferson. The Founders Early Access portion of the site allows users to read, search, and browse the newly transcribed documents, and is available at no cost to users.

Digital facsimiles of thousands of Civil War Widows' Pensions are now online as a result of a five-year partnership between NARA, Family Search, Footnote.com, National Archives Volunteer Association, National Park Service, and The Generations Network. The collections come from records housed at the National Archives at College Park, MD, and Washington, DC. The widows' pension application files, a rich source of information about ordinary American citizens of the time, include supporting documents such as affidavits, depositions of witnesses, marriage certificates, birth records, death certificates, and pages from family bibles. To get an idea of the scope of this project, imagine taking 1.28 million widow's certificate case files, individually scanning, correctly indexing, and then placing each online. With help from the various partners, the pilot project successfully completed 500,000 images from September 2007 through April 3, 2008. Building on this accomplishment, the digitization process continued and we now have more than 349,062 images online as of today. How and who helped to make this project a success? The Civil War Conservation Corps volunteers prepared 881 boxes of pensions for scanning. The National Archives Document Conservation and Special Media Labs prepared and digitized documents too large for the regular camera stand. Family Search volunteers digitized 594 boxes (683,155 images). Footnote.com then indexed and uploaded the online images that are available today.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH AND THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

The History Office at the National Institutes of Health and the Food and Drug Administration History Office are collaborating on an exhibit on the history of replacement heart valves titled "The Issue Was Patients: Developing Heart Valve Replacements." It begins with the pioneers in the field from Charles Hufnagel to Alain Carpentier, Albert Starr, and a host of other early surgeons and researchers. One of the highlights of the exhibit will be the hand-sewn cloth valves made by Nina Braunwald, a physician and surgeon at the NIH, the first board certified female cardio-thoracic surgeon in the United States, and a pioneer in heart valve replacements. It also highlights the transition from a robust "frontier" of devices and device

designs prior to 1976 into a more commercially viable and strongly regulated industry following enactment of the 1976 Medical Device Amendment. The exhibit is slated to open in March 2010 at the Clinical Center at NIH. From there it will travel to the FDA's new campus in White Oak, Maryland. Eventually it will be made available to other museum and medical venues, and a virtual online web site will greatly expand the physical one.

NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM

Stamp collector William H. Gross has donated \$8 million to the National Postal Museum to create a new 12,000-square-foot gallery that will be named in his honor. The new gallery, which will give the museum public space at the street level, is expected to open in 2010. In addition to the financial donation, Gross will loan three extraordinary philatelic objects: A cover from the Pony Express service; a cover featuring the 10-cent George Washington stamp, dated July 2, 1847; and a block of four 1918 "Inverted Jennys."

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

The exhibit "Holidays on Display" examines the art, industry and history of holiday display across the United States. Focusing on parading culture and department store retail display, primarily between the 1920s and 1960s, when holiday displays were considered commercial endeavors equally rewarding for the American public, the exhibition showcases numerous photographs, postcards and rendering illustrations of parade floats and window displays—including the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade and Marshall Field & Company Christmas windows—as well as objects relating to the early creation of these displays.

TREASURY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

The Treasury Historical Association (www.treasuryhistoricalassn.org) recently held its annual meeting, which featured a lecture by John M. Mercanti, Chief Engraver of the U.S. Mint. The association also announced the upcoming publication of a new book on the history of the Treasury building entitled *Fortress of Finance: The United States Treasury Building*. Written by architectural historian Pamela J. Scott, the book recounts the construction and evolution of the building, noting its many architectural features. The new history is approximately 300 pages long and contains more than 200 illustrations. The book is slated for release in summer 2010 with an anticipated price of approximately \$50.

FEDERALIST CALENDAR

May 20–23, 2010. Society for Military History (SMH). 77th Annual Meeting. “Causes Lost and Won.” Lexington, VA. Visit <http://www.smh-hq.org/conference.html>.

June 3–6, 2010. Institute for Political History. 6th Biennial Conference. Columbus, OH. Visit <http://www.slu.edu/departments/jph/conf2010.html>.

June 24–26, 2010. Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR). Annual Conference. Madison, WI. Visit <http://www.shafr.org/conferences/annual/2010-annual-meeting/>.

August 10–15, 2010. Society of American Archivists (SAA). Annual Conference. Washington, DC. Visit <http://www.archivists.org/conference/>.

September 2–5, 2010. American Political Science Association (APSA). Annual Conference. “The Politics of Hard Times: Citizens, Nations, and the International System under Economic Stress.” Washington, DC. Visit http://www.apsanet.org/content_65547.cfm?navID=193#.


September 30–October 3, 2010. Society for the History of Technology. Annual meeting, Tacoma, WA. Visit <http://www.historyoftechnology.org/>.

October 13–16, 2010. Western History Association (WHA). 50th Annual Conference. “Many Wests.” Incline Village, NV. Visit <http://www.westernhistoryassociation.org/conference/>.

October 15–17, 2010. Association for Documentary Editing (ADE). Annual Conference. Philadelphia, PA. Visit <http://www.documentaryediting.org/meeting/index.html>.

October 27–31, 2010. Oral History Association. Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. “Times of Crisis, Times of Change: Human Stories on the Edge of Transformation.” Visit <http://www.oralhistory.org/annual-meeting/>.

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