



# The FEDERALIST

Society for History in the Federal Government Newsletter

Second Series | Number 64  
Winter 2019

**SHFG**  
[www.shfg.org](http://www.shfg.org)

## 2020 SHFG ANNUAL MEETING

### Stories from the Heart of Government: Politics and History

The Society for History in the Federal Government will hold a joint annual meeting with the Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR) on March 13-14, 2020, at the Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education in Shepherdstown, WV.

The 2020 Annual Meeting continues the Society's 40th Anniversary commemoration.

The SHFG Annual Meeting is open to all scholars interested in federal history, including those working outside of the federal government and Washington, D.C. area.

Visit [www.shfg.org/Annual-Meeting](http://www.shfg.org/Annual-Meeting) for more information.



## The Wayne State Humanities Clinic

By Lillian Wilson Szlaga

The Wayne State Humanities Clinic was launched in 2017 and is the first of its kind in the country. Patterned after a legal clinic, the Humanities Clinic matches interns with nonprofits and businesses in Detroit, where they work on projects ranging from grant writing, copy editing, archival research, and managing digital archives, to quantitative research and historical documentation, qualitative data analysis and program evaluation, graphic design, media development, project development, and community outreach. Community partners gain the support of a highly skilled graduate student intern, for free, and interns are paid by the Clinic as they develop transferable job skills in a professional setting outside of the classroom.

While the Clinic was fulfilling its original mission of preparing graduate students for the job market, when I took over as coordinator in 2019, I wanted to expand the Clinic's mission to emphasize the necessity of the Clinic to Detroit communities. As Detroit continues to undergo a social and economic revitalization, humanities and social science expertise are in increasing demand at nonprofits and businesses. To demonstrate this, I used my background in volunteer management to act as an intern "broker" and matched interns, based on their educational and professional backgrounds, to specific projects with community partners. This marked a shift from the Clinic's first two pilot summers in 2017 and 2018, when interns chose which projects



2019 Humanities Clinic interns and community partners gathered at Wayne State's Tierney Alumni House on August 21, 2019, for the Clinic's first stakeholders luncheon.

they wanted to work on. However, allowing interns to choose their projects meant that the Clinic had to turn away potential partnerships if a project was not selected. Not only was this counter to the spirit of a "clinic," as legal or medical clinics would rarely turn away clients or patients based on a lawyer or doctor's interests and preferences, but it hindered our growth and limited the range of professional experiences available to our interns. To meet the

See "*Humanities Clinic*" cont'd on page 4

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Society for History in the Federal Government Newsletter

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The Society is a national professional organization open to all who are interested in federal history programs. Annual membership fee is \$55, \$35 students, \$100 institutions and includes a subscription to *The Federalist*, *Federal History* journal, and other periodic publications. Contributors are encouraged to submit articles, news listings, and photographs to the editors.

Current and back issues are available to members at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/Federalist>. Content listings for all issues are posted at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/page-18090>.

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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## President's Message

Kristin Ahlberg

As I sit down to write this message this Thanksgiving week, I am grateful for the reflections several past presidents and founders of the Society offered during this year's Hewlett lecture, a roundtable moderated by Carl Ashley. Phil Cantelon, Armita Jones, Pete Daniels, Lee Ann Potter, and Terrance Rucker discussed the Society's origins, its place within the larger historical community, and their views of the challenges and opportunities facing government historians; please read the article on page 7 of this issue of *The Federalist* for a more fulsome recap. I am thankful for them and for the historians and archivists instrumental in founding and guiding the Society during these past 40 years.

I am also thankful for Charles "Chas" Downs and his unparalleled work as SHFG archivist. With the move of the SHFG archives to American University, Chas has submitted his retirement papers. We will miss his dedication to preserving and maintaining our institutional history. I will also miss reading his *Federalist* column, "From the Archives," in which Chas highlighted key turning points and events in Society history, as well as artifacts (such as the 1980s era SHFG t-shirt featuring the Society's original symbol on page 6). His last column is printed on page 5 of this issue. Please also read Executive Council member Bruce Bustard's article about the transfer of the

archives from the National Archives to American University.

The move to American University fits within the Executive Council's goal of strengthening and/or developing partnerships with other professional organizations and local public history programs. In mid-November, several members of the Council met with the AU Library Director, archives staff, and public history faculty to generate a list of initiatives that SHFG might undertake with AU, including student utilization of the SHFG archives and co-sponsorship of events such as the annual meeting. These ideas will require some additional refinement, but we hope to implement some of this programming during 2020 and beyond. These Council members also had the opportunity to tour the stacks and see all the SHFG Hollinger boxes in their new home. Planning for our March 2020 joint meeting with Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR) continues. The conference will take place at the Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, March 12-14. The SHFG Program Committee is in the process of evaluating submissions and developing the program. When it is finalized, you'll be able to view it, as well as other essential conference information, on the SHFG website ([www.shfg.org](http://www.shfg.org)).

As this year ends, I am also thankful for the members of the SHFG leadership team, the Executive Council, the awards committees, and publications committee. These individuals devote many hours to carrying out both the administrative and intellectual work of the Society, on top of their professional and personal commitments, in order to ensure SHFG's vision continues.

## Feature Your Project!

Want to spread the word about your work? *The Federalist* newsletter prints information about federal history projects and issues affecting federal history programs.

If you or your organization have news items related to federal history that you would like printed in *The Federalist*, or if you have a press release, feature article, or profile you would like to contribute, email the editor at [shfgfederalist@gmail.com](mailto:shfgfederalist@gmail.com).

*The Federalist* welcomes contributors with information highlighting news of the profession, or who are willing to describe their projects for the SHFG audience!

## Editor's Note

In this issue of *The Federalist*, **Lillian Wilson Szlaga** profiles the organization she coordinates, the Wayne State Humanities Clinic—a first-of-its-kind organization that connects student interns with nonprofits and businesses through humanities projects. **Jeremiah D. Foster** investigates the career of federal historian Samuel Eliot Morison and his first-hand experiences in the WWII Battle of the Atlantic. **Elizabeth Charles** highlights the October 24, 2019, Richard Hewlett Lecture, which featured a distinguished panel of SHFG founders and former presidents in recognition of the Society's 40th Anniversary. And I share some preliminary work on a digital analysis of the complete text of the second series of *The Federalist*, 2004–2019.

This issue of *The Federalist* also includes information about the recent transfer of SHFG's archives to its new home at American University. **Bruce Bustard** discusses the reasons behind the transfer and the terms of the new arrangement with AU, and **Chas Downs** describes the content and significance of the SHFG archives in his final From the Archives column. While the archives' new location at

American University will increase its accessibility for SHFG members and outside researchers, the transfer will make it more difficult for Chas to access SHFG records and write the column from his workspace at NARA. Since he began From the Archives in 2008, Chas has provided the membership with countless critical insights into the history of SHFG. From the Archives has illuminated the story of the founding of SHFG and provided enlightening explorations of many of the decisions that guided the Society's development. As this organization continues to grow, and new members continue to fill leadership rolls, SHFG will increasingly rely on its recorded past to inform decisions in the present. I know that the documents Chas Downs worked to organize and preserve in SHFG's archives, and the information about those documents that he shared in his From the Archives columns, will become increasingly depended upon to guide SHFG members in the future.

Comments and suggestions are welcome at [shfgfederalist@gmail.com](mailto:shfgfederalist@gmail.com) or on Twitter [@faithtomfaith](https://twitter.com/faithtomfaith).

## FEDERAL HISTORY Call for Papers

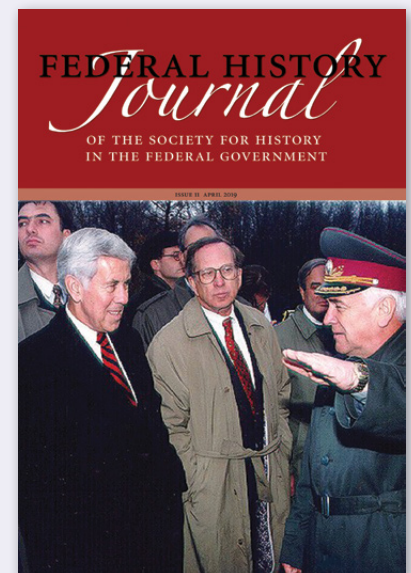
*Federal History*, journal of the Society for History in the Federal Government, seeks submissions for its April 2021 issue.

The journal promotes an interdisciplinary approach in its efforts to advance knowledge of the history of the federal government as well as of the professionals who produce historical work in government offices. It features scholarship on all aspects of the history and operations of the U.S. federal government, and of critical historical interactions between American society and the U.S. government, including the U.S. military, 1776 to the present.

It also publishes articles investigating contemporary issues and challenges in federal history work, including the areas of institutional history, interpretive work, museum work, records management, oral history, digital history, education, and library science. The journal highlights the research of historians working in or for federal agencies, in academia, and as independent scholars.

*Federal History* is an annual, peer-reviewed academic journal published both in print and online. It is indexed by Ebscohost. Read current and past issues at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/page-18340>, and submission guidelines at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/Submission-Guidelines>.

Send a draft and CV to the editors by Aug. 20, 2020, or earlier, at [federalhistory@gmail.com](mailto:federalhistory@gmail.com) for prompt consideration.





*“Humanities Clinic” from page 1*

demands of our community partners, we also extended the duration of the Clinic from two months to three months. In turn, the Clinic was able to accept proposals from all eighteen organizations that applied for an intern, which gave our community partners an opportunity to get more work done on their projects and increased the professional opportunities available to Clinic interns.

Being matched to a project was not always a comfortable experience for students. History Ph.D. student and 2019 Clinic intern Sean O’Brien was initially apprehensive about accepting the assignment to help the River Raisin Institute, an environmental nonprofit in Detroit, develop their podcast, because it was something he had never done before. However, by stretching his ideas about how to apply his experience conducting historical research, O’Brien not only helped the River Raisin Institute launch their first podcast, but learned about environmental practices and the technological aspects of building a podcast. “The most important thing I realized was that I could take my experience researching history and translate it into a project that initially, I didn’t think I was prepared for,” O’Brien said. “Being able to translate existing skills, and gaining new skills, increased my confidence professionally. I realized I could do this.”

O’Brien researched the equipment and costs of beginning a podcast and researched possible podcast topics and content based on the Institute’s environmental education, sustainability awareness and ecological restoration programs. O’Brien drafted templates for an entire first season of podcasts and ideas for future episodes which meant that the Institute could continue to produce the podcast after his internship ended.

“As graduate students, we don’t see ourselves in these professional situations very often because we are so wrapped up with being graduate students,” O’Brien said. “It’s good to know that our skills can be applied in professional settings as well.”

Clinic interns are particularly important at nonprofits that might not be able to afford to hire paid help. “With just three half-time team members committed to current work projects and programs, we did not have the human resources to research podcasts,” wrote Danielle Conroyd and Sharon Venier, staff members at the River Raisin Institute. “We would not have been able to pursue this new direction without the help of our intern.”

Therefore, as nonprofits and businesses in Detroit continue to grow, they need humanities and social expertise in order to thrive and support diverse communities. “Elizabeth made an immediate impact! Her fresh perspective, spot-on research and incredible writing skills improved Mercy Education Project’s sustainability. What a gift from WSU to our organization, Mercy Education students and the City of Detroit!” wrote Mercy Education Project staffers after Clinic intern and English Ph.D. student Elizabeth Drake collaborated with them on a grant writing project to raise money for their after-school program for underserved girls.

“We loved having an articulate, passionate individual involved with our organization,” stated Roz Keith, director of Stand With Trans, after intern and sociology Ph.D. student Lindsay Toman helped them implement support groups for transgender youth and

*Humanities Clinic coordinator and history PhD candidate, Lillian Wilson Szlaga, speaks about the Clinic’s recent growth at the stakeholder’s luncheon on August 21, 2019.*

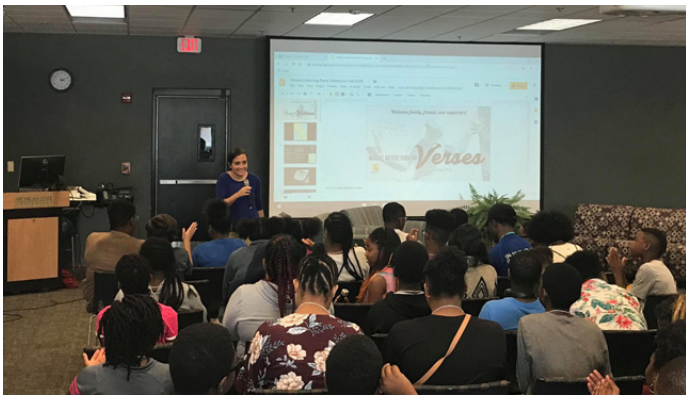


their families in 12 locations throughout Michigan.

Toman was one of two social science PhD students hired for the first time in 2019. The Clinic also hired its first M.A./MLIS student this summer. Branching out to include social science and M.A. students, means that we can provide a greater range of expertise to our community partners. Intern Rae Manela used her experience as an M.A. student in history and library and information science, to help the Arab American National Museum organize and create a finding aid for one of the museum’s ephemera collections, the Arab American Research Files. “Rae exceeded expectations,” wrote the museum’s librarian, Elizabeth Karg. “Not only was the Finding Aid created, but she reorganized the file according to subject matter.”

As coordinator, I provide the administrative support and mentorship necessary to make the Clinic run smoothly: I meet with interns one-on-one on a bi-weekly basis and communicate with them via weekly emails in addition to facilitating small group meetings so that interns can discuss their experiences with one another. Interns are remunerated for their participation in the Clinic: in 2017 and 2018, Clinic interns were paid with funds from an NEH Next Gen PhD grant. In 2019, the Clinic was funded by the American Historical Association Career Diversity Initiative, the Wayne State Graduate School, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Department of History, and the Department of English.

As the Clinic grows, it also continues to fulfill its original mission of preparing graduate students for the job market. History PhD Andrew Hnatow credits his Humanities Clinic internship at Wayne State University Press, with preparing him for his current job as an editorial assistant at the University of Texas Press, Austin. “As much as I draw on my PhD work in my current position, publishing as an industry highly values experience,” Hnatow said. “My degree is an asset in my work life, but UT Press seriously considered me as a candidate for my current position because of my internship.” Through his Humanities Clinic internship, Hnatow gained experience communicating with authors and potential authors, evaluating manuscripts and proposals, coordinating peer reviews and contracts,



*A Humanities Clinic intern and English PhD student, Mariel Krupansky, leads a class at the Michigan State University Community Music School—Detroit where she developed low-cost and free music-related programs for youth ages 1–18.*

preparing and presenting materials at editorial board and press-wide meetings. “I’ve asked my colleagues about this, so I can say that they knew that the internship meant that I could hit the ground running,” Hnatow said.

While the Clinic will continue to provide intern services free-of-charge to local nonprofits, we are trying to partner with more

for-profit businesses, who will be asked to make a donation in support of the Clinic. Businesses will gain the support of highly skilled graduate student interns and do good in our community by subsidizing interns for non-profit organizations. As we seek to make the Humanities Clinic a permanent, year-round fixture at Wayne State and to develop a realistic funding model that could be replicated at other institutions, we have been inspired in part by the HistoryMakers Internship Program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. UMKC history graduate students intern with community partners like the Kansas City Chiefs, and the football team pays for their graduate tuition and stipend.

Making the Humanities Clinic a permanent fixture at Wayne State, and expanding our community partnerships to include for-profit businesses, will help us meet the growing demand for humanities and social science expertise throughout Detroit, while continuing to prepare graduate students for meaningful careers beyond the academy.

*Lillian Wilson Szlaga is a Ph.D. candidate in history at Wayne State University in Detroit, where she is also coordinator of the Wayne State Humanities Clinic, and an American Historical Association Career Diversity Fellow.*

## From the Archives

# SHFG Archives is now at American University

*By Chas Downs*

Through a Deed of Gift with the SHFG’s Executive Council, American University agreed to accept SHFG’s archives, which was transferred there September 12, 2019. Bruce Bustard, SHFG Executive Council member, arranged for and coordinated the transfer.

At the time of the transfer, the SHFG archives consisted of 76 archives boxes and 8 binders broken into 38 series, as well as ten boxes of non-record or duplicate material. The total volume transferred was about 46 cubic feet. These records are largely textual, but include still pictures, audio tapes, electronic disks, artifacts, and record copies of publications. The period covered was from about 1980 to the present. Coverage of SHFG events and activities is relatively comprehensive, although there are some gaps when SHFG officers and chairpersons failed to turn over the appropriate records to the archives. Aside from documenting the history of the Society as an organization, the SHFG archives highlight its relationship with the National Archives, government historical offices, other Federal government entities, various historical organizations, university history programs, and the general public. It also provides a unique insight into the growth and evolution of the public history movement during a critical period of its development.



*SHFG archives boxes shelved at American University.*

With the SHFG Archives in the custody of American University, it appears that I am an archivist without an archives. I have enjoyed my time as keeper of the Society’s historical memory, having done my best to preserve and maintain these records, and to try to inform the Society’s leadership and membership of their unique value. Therefore, I have decided that this is an appropriate time for me to step down from the position of SHFG archivist, and so I have submitted my resignation to SHFG President Kristin Ahlberg.

So from now on, if you wish to learn more about the SHFG Archives, or if you have additional information or documentation on SHFG matters, please contact Leslie Nellis of American University Special Collections at [lnellis@american.edu](mailto:lnellis@american.edu).



## SHFG Archives Move to American University

At its June meeting, the Society's Executive Council voted to move the Society's archives to the American University Archives and Special Collections in Washington, DC. In 2018, President Jesse Kratz appointed a committee consisting of Jesse and Executive Board members Bruce Bustard, Richard Huber and Mattea Sanders to explore issues around the archives. The committee soon realized that while the Society's archives had been held at the National Archives at College Park since the early 2000s, there was no legal agreement with NARA to house them, and NARA management was not interested in entering into one. This informal arrangement developed for a variety of reasons outlined in Chas Downs' *From the Archives* article "The SHFG's Executive Council Search for a Repository for the SHFG Archives" in the Fall 2019 issue of *The Federalist* (Number 63, Pages 12-13), and the committee believed strongly that a formal agreement with a depository was needed and that the Society's archives deserved a permanent home.

A search for an institutional partner began. Committee members were looking for a modern facility, a professional staff, an ability to deal with the Society's electronic records, and a willingness to enter into an ongoing relationship with SHFG. Bruce Bustard contacted the American University Archives and Special Collections in early 2019. AU was enthusiastic about acquiring the archives. He paid a site visit to AU where he discussed the Society's needs and came away from the meeting and the tour impressed with AU's facility and staff.

After the Executive Council approved the move, President Kristin Ahlberg signed the deed of gift at the Council's August 2019 meeting. The next step was to plan the transfer of materials from College Park to American University. At NARA, Jessie Kratz, Dawn Sherman-Fells, Patrick Osborn, and Society Archivist Chas Downs coordinated the move. AU Archivist Leslie Nellis made the arrangements for American University to receive the records.

At the time of the transfer, the SHFG archive consisted of 77 legal and letter-size archives boxes, 3 federal records center boxes, and 2 shoe box type archives containers—a total volume of about 46 cu ft. Records include the official papers of officers, correspondence with the Society, meeting minutes, financial records, records of committees, awards committee files, and a record set of Society publications. Record formats consist of paper records, photographs, audio files, and electronic records. The great majority of these records have been processed and described due to the hard work of Chas Downs, who has served as SHFG's Archivist formally since 2012 and informally for several years before that.

The moving van pulled into Archives II on September 12, and the records are now housed safely at AU. Additional tasks remain. Most importantly, the committee needs to update the Society's records schedule, especially as it relates to electronic



*Kristin Ahlberg, with Bruce Bustard and Mattea Sanders, holding a shirt from the SHFG archives at American University Archives and Special Collections. For the story of this shirt, see Chas Downs' *From the Archives* column in the winter 2009-2010 *Federalist* (Number 24, page 5).*

records, which now form the bulk of the Executive Council's discussions and deliberations. In addition, arrangements need to be worked out between the Society and American University so that current records are sent to AU in a regular and timely manner. The committee is also exploring an ongoing relationship with the AU Archives and AU's Public History Program to encourage wider use of SHFG records.

*Individuals interested in researching the history of the Society should contact the American University Archives and Special Collections. Their offices are located in the Spring Valley Building on the AU Campus at 4801 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Suite 204, (202) 885-3256, archives@american.edu. All researchers are welcome and appointments are strongly encouraged.*

### 2020 Membership Renewal Reminder

Society memberships run from January 1 to December 31.  
Renew now to keep your membership current!

<http://shfg.wildapricot.org/join-us>

## Hewlett Lecture Highlights the 40th Anniversary of SHFG

By Elizabeth Charles

On October 24, the Society held the annual Richard Hewlett Lecture at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, DC. This year's presentation highlighted the 40th Anniversary of the Society and featured a distinguished panel of founders and former presidents, all of whom have played a significant role in creating the federal history community and institutions that we take for granted today. Placing the Society's founding in the context of the challenges facing the federal history community 40 years ago, panelists discussed the organization's contributions to improving the status of federal history over the years, and also contemplated some of the challenges that remain.

Founding SHFG members Phil Cantelon, Pete Daniel, and Arnita Jones provided recollections about why historians created an organization to support and advocate for federal history in 1979. Connections were drawn to the creation of the National Council on Public History (NCPH) in the same year, and the overlap with some of both organizations' founding members. Jones and Cantelon discussed Dick Hewlett's role as a founder of SHFG—the namesake of the annual lecture—as well as their involvement in founding the Society as a forum for federal historians to discuss issues of common concern. Daniel discussed the role of the Society in creating an independent National Archives and Records Administration, moving NARS out from under the GSA. Daniel also read from a letter founding member Jack Holl wrote in December 1979 which provided 9 charges for the Society and federal historians. The letter is now on the SHFG website and stay tuned for a further article on these activities.

Recent SHFG presidents Lee Ann Potter and Terrance Rucker addressed more current challenges that the Society and, more broadly, federal history faces. Potter discussed some of the ways federal historians also serve as public historians, educating the public about the vital role of government in the body politic. Rucker discussed the logistical challenges of running an all-volunteer organization and being the caretakers of the important reputation of the Society. He noted the importance of maintaining such projects as *The Federalist* and the Society's journal, *Federal History*.

The audience asked some thoughtful questions during the Q&A period and the conversations continued during the reception. Former SHFG president Carl Ashley moderated the panel.

Organizations like SHFG provide a community for federal historians, archivists, librarians, curators, and practitioners of federal and public history to share common concerns, and work together on issues that impact us all. The current leadership understands the importance of upholding the standard established by our founding members 40 years ago, by



*Above: SHFG founders and former presidents at the Hewlett Lecture on October 24.*

*Below: Panelists (from left to right) Lee Ann Potter, Phil Cantelon, Arnita Jones, Pete Daniel, and Terrance Rucker.*



advocating for federal history and promoting a community within the Society that welcomes a diverse group of members.

While we have certainly made progress in the last 40 years, it is clear there is more work to be done!

*Elizabeth Charles is Vice President of SHFG and a historian at the Department of State.*

### Special Thanks to Members who help Sustain SHFG at the Patron Level!

Kristin Ahlberg  
Carl E. Ashley  
Philip L. Cantelon  
Pete Daniel  
William H. Davis  
Shawn Friend-Begin  
Kristina Giannotta  
Terrence J. Gough  
Donald Hall  
Edward C. Keefer

Jessie Kratz  
Maarja Krusten  
Judson MacLaury  
Maeva Marcus  
James McNaughton  
Michael C. Reis  
Terrance Rucker  
Matt Wasniewski  
Zack Wilske



## Fifteen Years of Federalists: A Digital Analysis of SHFG's Newsletter

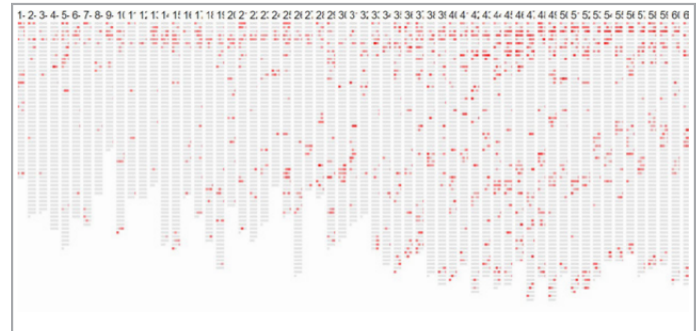
By Thomas Faith

The Society for History in the Federal Government's 40th anniversary year is an opportune time to reflect on the past, present, and future of the Society's newsletter, *The Federalist*. The availability of the complete collection of *Federalist* issues from the second series online at *shfg.org*, spanning the last 15 years of SHFG history, makes it possible to use software to analyze how specified terms were used in context over time. Full-text analysis of periodicals produced by a professional organization can shed light on the values and interests of its membership. Electronic analysis and visualization of text from *The Federalist* provides insights into SHFG activities, the federal history community, and the newsletter itself.

The second series of SHFG's newsletter began printing in spring 2004. When SHFG's Executive Council made the commitment to recommence newsletter publication after the first series of the newsletter ceased printing in 2001, they termed it the second series to avoid confusion about the gap in publication years. Since then, *The Federalist* has been published 4 times each year without interruption, chronicling SHFG events, disseminating news of the profession, and informing SHFG members about a wide variety of historical projects and programs.

PDFs of all issues of *The Federalist* second series on SHFG's website were converted to text files through an OCR (optical character recognition) process, and then carefully line edited for mistakes in digital transcription by the current editor of *The Federalist*. Page headers and end-of-line hyphenation were also removed so that the analysis software could accurately read and quantify article text. The resulting corpus, consisting of the full text of issues 1 (spring 2004) through 61 (spring 2019), was analyzed using Voyant Tools. Available at <https://voyant-tools.org/>, Voyant Tools is a free, open source, online software application that facilitates the visualization and analysis of electronic text. It is developed by Stéfan Sinclair and Geoffrey Rockwell, and is intended for use by scholars, students, and anyone interested in text analysis.

According to the text summary calculated by Voyant Tools, this corpus of 61 issues of *The Federalist* is a combined 815,153 words in length, with the shortest issue being number 9 (spring 2006) with 7637 words, and the longest issue being number 49 (spring 2016) with 16660 words. Excluding common-use words such as the, I, etc., by far the most frequently appearing word is "history." While that information may not be surprising, it is certainly welcome confirmation that history is the focus of the newsletter. Other most frequently used words include national, federal, records, and new. The fact that the terms "national" and "records" are used so frequently are among several other metrics that indicate how central the National Archives and Records Administration is to federal historical work described in *The Federalist*.



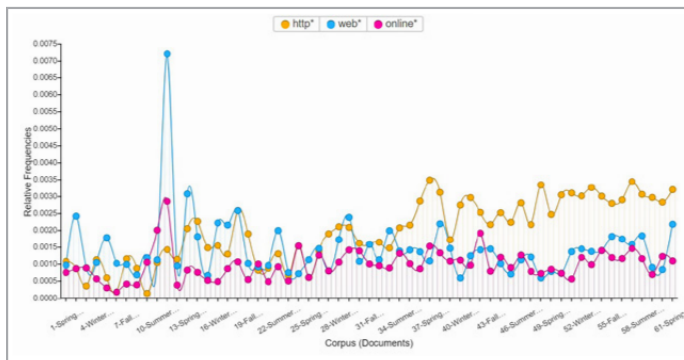
**Figure 1.** Microsearch of the term "SHFG," shaded in red, across the complete text of *Federalist* issues 1 through 61.

The term "new" is used in a variety of revelatory ways. Voyant Tools identifies words that appear in close proximity to each other, collocates, within the text, to help analyze meaning in context for specified terms. One of the most common collocates for the word new in *The Federalist* is history, which is welcome information since the purpose of the newsletter is, put simply, to report about what is new in history. But what else is new in *The Federalist* besides history? Of course, the term new is associated with words like York, Orleans, and Deal in the text, but also with the words: members, museum, shfg, exhibit, online, records, and events. Exploring collocates of the word new, therefore, is a good way to identify which general subjects the newsletter routinely covers.

Graphing the location of the term SHFG across each of the 61 issues is an indicator of what portion of each issue conveys information about the Society, as opposed to information about federal history that is not directly linked to SHFG. In the microsearch reproduced in figure 1, the red-shaded areas represent text in which the term SHFG appears, and the lighter grey areas represent all other text. The length of each bar is proportionate to the word count of each issue, from issue 1 at the left through issue 61 on the right. According to this analysis, information about SHFG tends to be clustered in the first few pages of every issue, with other references to SHFG scattered throughout and appearing at the end. Many of the red clusters in the middle of these *Federalist* issues represent Chas Downs' column on the history of SHFG, From the Archives. His features are a relied-upon source of information about SHFG in the newsletter, and now that the column has unfortunately ceased for now, future issues will likely provide less information about SHFG and its history.

Graphing and discerning changes in word-use trends over time is difficult with *The Federalist*, because the second series has not been in print over a long enough period of time to demonstrate many significant changes. An exception is in the area of online content. Graphing the three terms "http," "web," and "online" shows a gradual increase in instances of http over the other two terms. (Figure 2) While *The Federalist* consistently carries

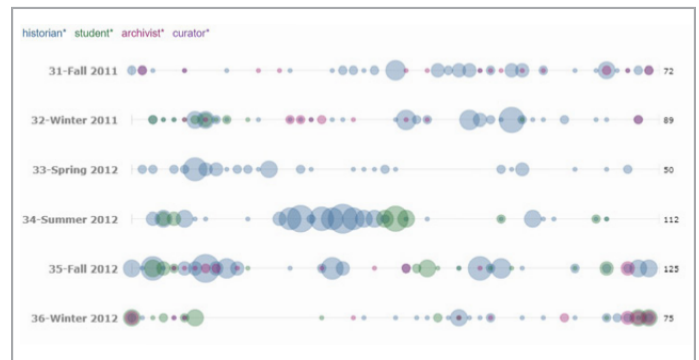




**Figure 2.** Frequency in use of the terms “http,” “web,” and “online” in issues of *The Federalist* from 2004 through 2019.

news about online projects, particularly in issue 11 (fall 2006) which was almost completely devoted to information on the subject, references to individual web addresses that begin with http have increased without a corresponding increase in use of the terms web and online. This suggests that the practice of simply printing urls, unaccompanied by explanatory text specifying that they are online or web addresses, has become increasingly commonplace in the pages of *The Federalist*.

Analyzing word use in the text of *The Federalist* is also a way to measure news items that reference specific audiences within the federal history community. Articles that use the terms “archivist,” “curator,” “historian,” and “student,” can be graphed as bubblelines, where each line represents an issue of *The Federalist* and the use of each term in the text is indicated by the size and color of the bubbles on that line. (Figure 3) Most of the six *Federalist* issues pictured here contain direct references to historians and one or all of the other specified terms, but issue 33 (spring 2012) only contains references to historians and omits any direct references to archivists, curators, or students. This analysis can highlight how well issues of the newsletter contain features of interest to a wide variety of federal history practitioners, and lessons from it can help editors ensure that future issues of *The Federalist* demonstrate improvement. SHFG members represent a variety of professional backgrounds and interests, including not only archivists, curators, historians, and



**Figure 3.** The terms “archivist,” “curator,” “historian,” and “student” in *Federalist* issues 31 through 36 graphed as bubblelines.

students, but also educators, interns, interpreters, librarians, preservationists, rangers, researchers, scholars, and others, and as an SHFG publication *The Federalist* should speak to the broadest possible audience.

Text analysis of *The Federalist* has the potential to provide new insights into the history of the newsletter, SHFG, and the federal history community. The variety of information featured by the second series of *The Federalist* can now be electronically searched and visualized, highlighting SHFG interests and concerns from over the past 15 years. Here, graphs measured trends in the prevalence of internet projects appearing in *The Federalist*, and the distribution of articles that contain direct references to various professional groups, but many other types of analysis are possible. The editor of SHFG’s newsletter will continue to develop this electronic text corpus, adding to it as new issues are published, and hopefully adding the issues from the first series of *The Federalist* to it one day as well. Lessons learned by searching and analyzing past issues of *The Federalist* will also hopefully help guide improvements to future issues of the publication.

*Thomas Faith is the editor of SHFG’s Federalist. Questions and comments about The Federalist corpus are welcome at shfgfederalist@gmail.com.*

## SHFG Advocacy

In August, Society for History in the Federal Government leadership sent a letter to the DEA urging that they convert two contract historian and museum positions to permanent federal FTEs. The letter explained the important role of historians in capturing institutional history and establishing programs and best practices within the DEA.

In October, several members of Society leadership and the Executive Council wrote to the NCPH leadership about the lack of a robust federal history component during the last few NCPH conferences. NCPH was very responsive, and we have had several productive discussions as to how to move forward.

## Samuel E. Morison and the Battle of the Atlantic

By Jeremiah D. Foster

The Battle of the Atlantic, which ran the full course of the Second World War (1939–1945), featured the involvement of many of the conflict’s most notable political and military figures, however perhaps one of the most unique personages to take part in that particular theater of the war was famed-federal historian Samuel Eliot Morison. A renowned scholar of American history at Harvard University, Morison received a commission as an officer in the U.S. Navy and set out to document wartime naval operations. Morison described this endeavor as a means of gaining “Perspective,” which tends to “aid in giving events their true setting... as there is a roundedness that one can only obtain on shipboard, seeing events as they unroll.” (Samuel Eliot Morison, *History of United States Naval Operations in World War II, Vol. I—The Battle of the Atlantic, September 1939–May 1943* (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1948), x)

Despite the many achievements of his life, Morison never composed an official autobiography and interestingly, he often resisted the efforts of others to write about him. Nevertheless, several less-extensive biographical works were produced during and after his lifetime, which have provided posterity with a reasonably detailed account of his life. Documentation of his military service can be found in government repositories such as the National Archives, but it should be noted that many of the documents substantiating the personal details of his life are kept in the archives of the Harvard University Library.

Morison was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on 9 July 1887, to John H., and Emily M. (Eliot) Morison. He was named after his maternal grandfather, Samuel Eliot, who was himself a historian, and fostered Morison’s personal interests in both history and maritime exploration. Morison attended grade school at Noble and Greenbough School (1897–1901) and St. Paul’s in Concord, NH (1901–1903). In 1904, Morison began his studies at Harvard University and by 1908, he had graduated from that institution with a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in history.

Following his graduation, Morison spent a year studying at the *École des Science Politiques* in Paris, France, before returning to Harvard to complete a doctorate in history. It was also during this time that Morison married his first wife, Elizabeth S. (Greene) Morison, in 1910, a union that produced four children. Elizabeth or “Bessie,” as she was often called, unfortunately died in 1945, but Morison eventually re-married in 1949. After completing his doctorate in 1912, Morison spent a year teaching history at the University of California at Berkeley. He finally returned to Harvard in 1915, and became a lecturer in history there in 1918. During the Great War (1914–1918) Morison was denied entrance into the Field Artillery Officers Corps but, nonetheless, managed to attend the Peace Conference in Paris between January and June 1919 as a part of the Russian Division of the American Commission to Negotiate Peace.



Samuel E. Morison circa 1952. (Naval History and Heritage Command, NH 47774)

During the interwar period, Morison organized a research trip known as the “Harvard Columbus Expedition (1939-1940),” which re-traced Christopher Columbus’s journey across the Atlantic. Following the journey Morison published several of his first major works, including *The Second Voyage of Columbus* (1939) and *Admiral of the Ocean Sea* (1942). Morison was awarded a Pulitzer Prize for *Admiral of the Ocean Sea* in 1943. With the U.S. entrance into WWII in late 1941, Morison began preparing for an entirely new kind of project: a firsthand account of the operational history of the United States Navy. After petitioning his personal friend, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Morison received permission from the President and Secretary of the Navy Frank Cox to undertake the venture.

In the spring of 1942, Morison obtained a leave of absence from Harvard and then on 5 May, he received a commission as a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve. In undertaking the momentous task of chronicling the U.S. Navy’s operations in the war, Morison organized a team of officers, scattered throughout the various theaters of the war, to assist him in safeguarding official reports and documenting operations. Nonetheless, he endeavored as much as possible to personally visit “almost every theater of naval warfare,” and to take “part in as many operations



U.S.S. *Buck* (DD-420) off the Philadelphia Navy Yard, 22 July 1940.  
(*Naval History and Heritage Command*, 19-N-23206)

as possible.” Morison did this with the firm belief that although “facts that I know not will come to light later... I believe that more is to be gained by writing in contact with the events, when most of the participants are alive, than by waiting until the ships are broken up and the sailors have departed.” Morison began his work in July 1942, personally embarking on an American warship and voyaging out into the U-boat infested waters of the Atlantic. (Morison, *The Battle of the Atlantic*, ix)

Just after midnight on Wednesday, 1 July 1942, the destroyer U.S.S. *Buck* (DD-420), Capt. John B. Heffeman, USN, in command, weighed anchor from the Navy Yard in Brooklyn, New York, and got underway for the United Kingdom as part of Task Force 37, escorting convoy AT-17. As the convoy’s flagship, *Buck* had situational awareness of the entire operation and as such, Morison later reflected that the experience gave him a “most valuable indoctrination in modern naval warfare and escort-of-convoy duty.” (Morison, *The Battle of the Atlantic*, xv.) *Buck* arrived safely with her companions in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, U.K., on 12 July and then journeyed back to the East Coast, arriving at the Charlestown Navy Yard in Boston on 28 July. *Buck* did not encounter any U-boats during the voyage, but the experience still provided Morison with unique insight into convoy operations, the heart of the fight in the Atlantic campaign.

After *Buck*’s arrival in Boston, Morison further augmented his understanding of convoy operations by “obtaining temporary duty with the Anti-Submarine Warfare Unit of the Atlantic Fleet.” (Morison, *The Battle of the Atlantic*, xv.) He worked closely with that unit compiling documents and filling several personal journals with details of the Navy’s fight against U-boats. After just a few months, however, as the Allied invasion of Vichy

French North Africa approached, Morison boarded the light cruiser *Brooklyn* (CL-40) on 24 October 1942, and got underway for French Morocco.

Steaming as part of Task Force 34, *Brooklyn* began her part in Operation *Torch* on 8 November 1942, by shelling a Vichy French shore battery off the coast of French Morocco. While on board *Brooklyn* during the next two days, Morison personally witnessed the cruiser defend against multiple air attacks, conduct anti-submarine operations, and screen transports as they landed Allied troops in the area. Morison compiled numerous journals about these operations and garnered valuable combat experience that later proved immensely helpful to his writings on the subject.

Following his participation in Operation *Torch*, Morison moved on to the Pacific theater of the war in order to partake in the events unfolding there. He eventually returned to the “Atlantic battle,” in spring 1943, but “by that time the peak of German success had passed, and the whole set-up of anti-submarine warfare had changed,” so, within the month Morison returned to the Pacific campaign, which was then in full swing. (Morison, *The Battle of the Atlantic*, xv.) During his time in the Pacific, he attended a number of key engagements and captured many unique details of the operations that occurred there.

With the close of the war in 1945, Morison left the naval service as a captain with seven battle stars to his credit for serving on board numerous vessels that had participated in wartime operations. A number of years later, with his transfer to the “Honorary Retired List of the Naval Reserve,” on 1 August 1951, he was promoted on the basis of the aforementioned combat awards to the rank of rear admiral. When the war concluded, Morison set about writing his immense and comprehensive 15 volume *History of United States Naval Operations in World War II*. Two of these volumes, *The Battle of the Atlantic, September 1939–May 1943*, and *The Atlantic Battle Won, May 1943–May 1945*, have proven foundational to the historiography of the Allied fight against Germany in the Atlantic.

After the war, Morison returned to his professorship at Harvard and continued his historical scholarship. In addition to the work he did for the USN, over the course of his lifetime, Morison published more than 30 scholarly monographs. Clearly as much of an adventurer as he was a scholar, Morison certainly lived up to one of his own favorite epitaphs: “Dream dreams, then write them—ay, but live them first!” (Cited following the title page in *By Land and By Sea: Essays and Addresses by Samuel Eliot Morison* (New York, 1953)) Morison was undoubtedly a unique figure of WWII’s Battle of the Atlantic—not only because he personally participated in it but also because he helped shape how it has been remembered.

*Jeremiah D. Foster, M.A., is a historian at the Naval History and Heritage Command in Washington, DC.*



## Smithsonian Institution Archives Puts New Info Online

The Smithsonian Institution Archives continually strives to add more collection information to its website. Some recent acquisitions include:

### Over One Hundred New Finding Aids Online, including:

- Accession 18–100 — National Museum of Natural History, Division of Mammals, Correspondence, 1934–1939, 1956–2017. This collection documents the career of Richard W. Thorington (1937–2017), who specialized in systematics, evolution, anatomy, and functional morphology in mammals, especially of primates and squirrels.
- Accession 18–172 — National Air and Space Museum, Aeronautics Division, Exhibition Records, 1978–2010. This collection documents documenting updates to the “Black Wings” exhibition. The “Black Wings” exhibition opened in 1982 in the Pioneers of Flight Gallery and initially focused on the Tuskegee Airmen. The exhibition was periodically updated and its content broadened.
- Accession 18–217 — National Museum of Natural History, Department of Entomology, Correspondence, 1949–1998. This accession consists of incoming and outgoing correspondence focusing on the study of mosquitoes. Topics include the Southeast Asia Mosquito Project, specimen collection, and distribution or loan of specimens from the Museum.
- Accession 18–240 — Office of Public Affairs, Audiovisual Records, 1993, 1996, 1999–2014, undated. This accession consists of audiovisual recordings regarding the Smithsonian Institution, including interviews with media outlets, footage of events, exhibits, webcasts, and public service announcements.



*Scientists on Solar eclipse Expedition, in front of the “U.S.S. Los Angeles.”, 1925, Smithsonian Institution Archives, SIA Acc. 90–105 [SIA2017–003784].*

### Forty-seven Finding Aids with New Links to Digitized Material, including:

- Record Unit 321 — National Museum of American Art, Office of Program Support, Records 1947–1981 (highlights are images of exhibitions, seminars and workshops)
- Thirty-nine accessions of various Smithsonian websites, with links to preserved sites on the Internet Archive Wayback Machine. Examples include:
  - The Panama Amphibian Rescue and Conservation Project website, crawled July 5, 2017
  - The National Museum of African American History and Culture website, crawled September 22, 2017
  - Biodiversity Heritage Library Consortium blog, 2007–2017, crawled April 21, 2017

### One Hundred Fifty-nine New Images Online:

- Over one hundred fifty images from Accession 90–105 — Science Service, Records, 1920s–1970s (images of scientists)

Visit <https://siarchives.si.edu/collections>

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### *White House History*

*White House History Quarterly*, features articles on the historic White House and its occupants. With the knowledge that the White House is one of the most richly documented houses in the world and the premier symbol of the American presidency, we publish original research that draws from these resources as well as first-hand interviews, secondary accounts, and the vast wealth of illustrations of all kinds, from drawings to photographs, in exploring the many aspects of so extensive a past. We serve a varied readership, both popular and academic, interested in history, architecture, and biography, all of which we present in the context of the White House and its ongoing traditions.

Prospective authors are encouraged to submit proposals for articles, in the form of abstracts, for the editor’s review. Please refer to the Call for Papers for a list of topics currently being considered for general thematic issues; these include The

White House and Television; Passing the Torch and the Lives of Former Presidents; Presidential Road Trips; Late 20th and Early 21st Century Fashion at the White House (articles needed on Pat Nixon, Rosalynn Carter, Barbara Bush, Hillary Clinton, and Laura Bush); The White House and the South; The White House and the Sea; Military Roles in the White House; The White House During World War II. Topics for other issues may include presidential biography; first family biography; and studies of documentary letters, journals, diaries, and illustrations that relate to the White House.

Authors interested in submitting an article are asked to complete the *White House History Quarterly* abstract submissions form or contact the publications office at [books@whha.org](mailto:books@whha.org). To download the abstract form, please visit <https://www.whitehousehistory.org/publications/white-house-history-journal/for-current-and-potential-authors>

## Department of the Interior Museum Collections Spotlight

Artist Gerald Cassidy left his job as a commercial art director in New York and moved to New Mexico for health reasons at the age of 20. The people and scenery of the Southwest would come to define Cassidy's artistic career and legacy. He became a founding member of the Santa Fe Artists' Colony in 1912 but passed away unexpectedly in 1934 while painting a WPA mural for a Federal building in Santa Fe.

At the request of Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes, this piece was specifically bought for the Department in 1935 from Cassidy's widow. At the time, it was one of the few instances of a Government purchase of a painting not under direct commission or through relief rolls regulations. While the painting was intended for display in the future Interior Museum, which opened in 1938, the piece has hung in the secretary's suite nearly continuously since its arrival at the Department. It depicts sunrise over the Navajo Nation near Smith Lake in northwestern New Mexico, with tribal members breaking camp after a healing ceremony. Between 1928 and 1932, Cassidy attended many Navajo ceremonies and made hundreds of sketches to inform his artistic work.

To catch up with the latest programs and happenings at the Interior Museum, subscribe to their newsletter at <http://www.doi.gov/interiormuseum>.



*Navajos Breaking Camp*

Ira Diamond Gerald Cassidy (1879–1934), circa 1928

Oil on canvas

Museum purchase, 1935

U.S. Department of the Interior Museum, INTR 01590

## In Memoriam

In July, the NASA History Division lost two beloved members of our community, Gail Langevin and Jane Odom. These two women shaped the History Division with their kindness, knowledge, and passion. The NASA family feels this loss deeply and will always treasure the wonderful stories of their time with us.

Gail Langevin passed away on 29 July 2019 at the age of 64 after a battle with cancer. Gail spent most of her career at NASA's Langley Research Center. She began as a technician in the Structures and Material Research Facility. Then she became a technical editor, and then finally she finished out her career as a historian and outreach and protocol coordinator. Gail is survived by loving family and friends and will be sorely missed.

Jane Odom passed peacefully away on 11 July 2019 at the age of 61 after a long battle with cancer. Jane was an archivist by trade and began her career in Washington, DC, with the National Museum of American History. She then spent 12 years as an archivist for nine different members of congress. After that, she came to NASA as the History Division's Chief Archivist, a role in which she stayed for 17 years. Jane is survived by many loved ones, and her memory will live on in their hearts.

Members of the NASA History Division offer personal remembrances of Gail and Jane in their most recent newsletter, available at <https://history.nasa.gov/histnews.htm>.

### DONATE to SHFG

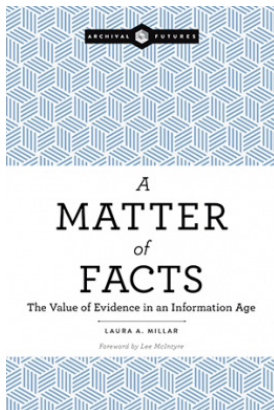
#### Support New SHFG Events

Please donate to SHFG's current efforts to organize and promote new events and workshops. These events will provide opportunities for professional development: to meet colleagues, exchange ideas, and learn more about the federal community.

We urge you to contribute to our General Fund. You can donate the amount of your choice, either by check or online payment (at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/Donate>).

Your donations also support all activities of the Society, including publication of *The Federalist* newsletter, *Federal History* journal, and stories and news for our website; our annual conference, the Richard G. Hewlett Lecture; and programming such as occasional tours, workshops, and social events that help students and historians develop in their careers.

## Recent Publications

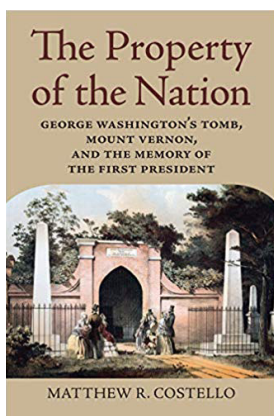


*A Matter of Facts: The Value of Evidence in an Information Age*, written by Laura A. Millar. The safeguarding of authentic facts is essential, especially in this disruptive Orwellian age, where digital technologies have opened the door to a post-truth world in which “alternative facts” can be so easily accepted as valid. And because facts matter, archives matter. An eye-opening treatise for the general public, an invaluable resource for archives students, and a provocative call-to-

arms for working professionals, Millar’s book:

- explains the concept of evidence and discusses the ways in which records, archives, and data are not just useful tools for our daily existence but also essential sources of evidence both today and in the future;
- includes plentiful examples that illustrate the critical role evidence plays in upholding rights, enforcing responsibilities, tracing family or community stories, and capturing and sharing memories; and
- examines the impact of digital technologies on how records and information are created and used.

With documentary examples ranging from Mesopotamian clay tablets to World War II photographs to today’s Twitter messages and Facebook posts, Millar’s stirring book will encourage readers to understand more fully the importance of their own records and archives, for themselves and for future generations. *A Matter of Facts* is the first book in the Archival Futures Series, co-published by SAA and the American Library Association. Available for purchase at <https://mysaa.archivists.org/>.

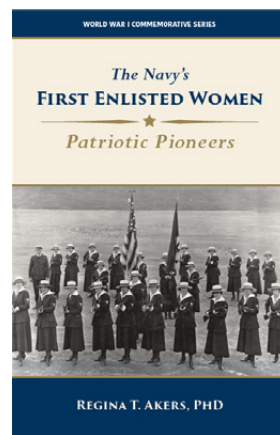


In *The Property of the Nation: George Washington’s Tomb, Mount Vernon, and the Memory of the First President*, the White House Historical Association’s senior historian Dr. Matthew R. Costello traces the story of Washington’s tomb, whose history and popularity reflect the building of a memory of America’s first president—of, by, and for the American people. George Washington was an affluent slave owner who believed that republicanism and social hierarchy were vital to the young country’s survival. And yet, he remains largely free of the “elitist” label affixed to his contemporaries, as Washington evolved in public memory during the nineteenth century into a man of the common people, the father of democracy. This memory, we learn in *The Property of the Nation*, was a

deliberately constructed image, shaped and reshaped over time, generally in service of one cause or another.

Washington’s resting place at his beloved Mount Vernon estate was at times as contested as his iconic image; and in Costello’s telling, the many attempts to move the first president’s bodily remains offer greater insight to the issue of memory and hero worship in early America. While describing the efforts of politicians, business owners, artists, and storytellers to define, influence, and profit from the memory of Washington at Mount Vernon, this book’s main focus is the memory-making process that took place among American citizens. As public access to the tomb increased over time, more and more ordinary Americans were drawn to Mount Vernon, and their participation in this nationalistic ritual helped further democratize Washington in the popular imagination. Shifting our attention from official days of commemoration and publicly orchestrated events to spontaneous visits by citizens, Costello’s book clearly demonstrates in compelling detail how the memory of George Washington slowly but surely became *The Property of the Nation*. Available for purchase at <https://shop.whitehousehistory.org/bookstore>.

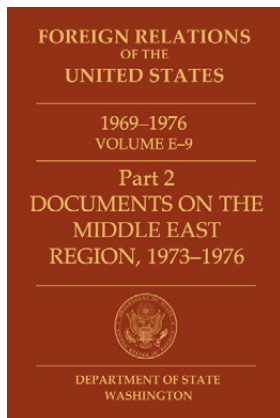
*The Navy’s First Enlisted Women: Patriotic Pioneers*, by Regina T. Akers. Women have volunteered to serve their nation during every war and conflict since the American Revolution. The female yeomen of World War I continued this legacy and remained focused despite strong criticism. The Navy operated more efficiently and effectively with them, and this book considers the contradiction between the United States’ engaging in a war to protect democracy while denying democratic rights and privileges to segments of its population. This richly illustrated monograph provides a brief overview of the history of women in the military prior to the United States’ entry into World War I; describes Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels’s decision to recruit women, the enlistment process, and their “basic training;” analyzes how the various clerical and non-clerical duties of the yeomen (F.) contributed directly to the success of the Navy’s strategy and the Allied victory, as well as to gender relations; and explores how wartime experiences changed the women’s lives and the Navy. The epilogue summarizes key changes in the status of Navy women since World War I. Also included is a select list of sources to assist those carrying out further study of this important topic. Available at <https://www.history.navy.mil/research/publications/publications-by-subject/patriotic-pioneers.html>.



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The Department of State released *Foreign Relations of the United States, 1969–1976, Volume E–9, Part 2, Documents on the Middle East Region, 1973–1976*.

This electronic-only volume is part of a subseries of volumes of the *Foreign Relations* series that documents the foreign policy decision making of the administrations of Presidents Richard M. Nixon and Gerald R. Ford. This volume documents the formulation of U.S. policy

toward the Middle East region as a whole, as well as the development of bilateral relationships with the countries of the Arabian Peninsula, from February 15, 1973, until December 28, 1976. During this period, Presidents Nixon and Ford and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger devoted much of their attention to managing the political, economic and strategic effects of the October 1973 Arab-Israeli war on U.S. interests in the region. Though the United States enjoyed cordial relations with every state on the Arabian Peninsula, with the exception of the People’s Democratic Republic of Yemen, the U.S. Government was criticized for its

relationship with and assistance to Israel during the war. The 1973–1974 oil embargo, led by Arab members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries against the United States and Western Europe, compounded the war’s impact and further complicated U.S. relations with most Middle Eastern states. In addition to raising international oil prices and creating a troubling financial situation for the United States, the embargo diminished U.S. prestige in the region at a moment when the Soviet Union’s influence in the eastern Mediterranean, the Horn of Africa, and South Asia appeared to be on the rise.

In response to this situation, the United States strengthened diplomatic relations with recently-independent Gulf states, who were responsive to offers of U.S. development expertise, technical assistance, and military aid. The Nixon and Ford administrations also courted Saudi Arabia as a political and economic partner, bolstered the modest U.S. military presence in the region, and expanded Washington’s diplomatic footprint with the establishment of new Embassies in the Gulf.

This volume was compiled and edited by Paul J. Hibbeln. The volume and this press release are available on the Office of the Historian website at <https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1969-76ve09p2>. For further information, contact [history@state.gov](mailto:history@state.gov).

## Making History

### Albert LePage Center for History in the Public Interest

We’re delighted to announce our programming theme for the upcoming year: Revisionist History. The series will examine how revision is critical to all historical scholarship, and how new events and new sources continually challenge us to re-think what we know about the past. Events for fall 2019 and spring 2020 include: Revising Early America, Revising the Civil War, Revising the Cold War, Revising the Holocaust, Revising Women’s Suffrage, and Revising the Planet. Learn more about the series and RSVP for events at [https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/artsci/lepage/events/revisionist\\_history.html](https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/artsci/lepage/events/revisionist_history.html).

### Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, bolstered by the strengthening and expansion of partnerships, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) accounted for 218 formerly missing persons from past conflicts, the highest yearly total reached by the agency or its predecessor organizations. Of the 218 newly accounted-for, 140 were from World War II, 73 from the Korean War, and 5 from the Vietnam War, including two civilians who flew for Air America. Besides the more than 35 partner nations whose cooperation in FY 2019 contributed to this success, DPAA’s mission also benefitted from stronger collaboration with the casualty offices from the Military Departments and Department of State; the Armed Forces Medical Examiner

System and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory; the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command and U.S. European Command; the Defense Intelligence Agency - Stony Beach; the Department of Veterans Affairs; and the American Battle Monuments Commission.

### Hampton Roads Naval Museum

Visitors walking towards battleship Wisconsin spent the 2019 summer passing the closed gallery of the Hampton Roads Naval Museum. Glass doors that once welcomed visitors into 240-plus years of naval history in the Hampton Roads area, were covered over with brown craft paper. Behind the glass, staff members, contractors, and volunteers were hard at work. On October 9, 2019, the gallery of the Hampton Roads Naval Museum opened to the public. Many who have visited before will recognize the familiar displays depicting the Revolutionary War through the Civil War. Everything else has changed—over 4,700 square feet of space is now open as part of the museum’s new exhibit *The Ten Thousand-Day War at Sea: The U.S. Navy in Vietnam, 1950-1975*. The immersive exhibit touches on the Navy’s role during the Vietnam War, incorporating new artifacts along with oral histories from area veterans. Drop by the museum on the second floor of the Nauticus campus in downtown Norfolk, Virginia, to see the new exhibit. To plan your visit and learn more about the museum, visit <https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/museums/hrnm/about-us1.html>.

## Holocaust Memorial Museum

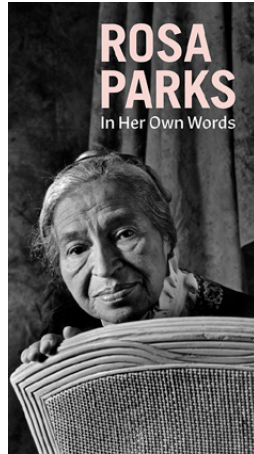
The writings of more than 200 Holocaust-era diarists are now accessible on the Museum's website and 13 are translated into English as a result of funding from the Museum's first-ever Kickstarter campaign. See them at <https://collections.ushmm.org/search/> using the search term "kickstarter."

## Library of Congress

To celebrate Constitution Day, the Library of Congress launched a new website — [constitution.congress.gov](http://constitution.congress.gov) — for the Constitution Annotated, the authoritative source for how the Supreme Court has interpreted the nation's governing document over the years. With advanced search tools and a modern user-friendly interface, the new website makes the 3,000 pages of the Constitution Annotated fully searchable and accessible for the first time to online audiences — including Congress, legal scholars, law students and anyone interested in U.S. constitutional law. For over a century, the Constitution Annotated — known officially as the *Constitution of the United States of America: Analysis and Interpretation* — has served as the official record of the U.S. Constitution. Prepared by attorneys in the American Law Division of the Library's Congressional Research Service, it explains in layman's terms the Constitution's origins, how it was crafted and how every provision in the Constitution has been interpreted throughout history. With this new, modern online home for the Constitution Annotated, the Library's Congressional Research Service and Law Library of Congress will be able to apprise Congress and the public of new legal developments more quickly and provide links to related information for the study of the Constitution.

The Library of Congress has been awarded a \$1 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for the Computing Cultural Heritage in the Cloud (CCHC) project, which will pilot ways to combine cutting edge technology and the collections of the largest library in the world, to support digital research at scale. With the grant support, the LC Labs team will test a cloud-based approach for interacting with digital collections as data. In collaboration with subject matter experts and IT specialists at the Library, LC Labs will invite a cohort of research experts to experiment with solutions to problems that can only be explored at scale. This effort will help produce models for supporting cloud-based research computing, and will make the costs and possibilities of this work more transparent to the broader cultural heritage community.

A new Library of Congress exhibition, *Rosa Parks: In Her Own Words*, will reveal the real Rosa Parks—A seasoned activist with a militant spirit forged over decades of challenging inequality and injustice. Opening Dec. 5, this will be the first exhibition of the Rosa Parks Collection, which includes her personal writings, reflections, photographs, records and memorabilia. The collection was placed on loan with the Library in 2014 and became a permanent gift in 2016 through the generosity of the Howard G. Buffett Foundation. *Rosa Parks: In Her Own Words* will immerse visitors in Parks' words, reflections, handwritten



notes and photographs from throughout her life, allowing her to tell her own life story. Four sections of the exhibition will explore Parks' early life and activism, the Montgomery bus boycott, the fallout from Parks' arrest for her family and their move to Detroit, and the global impact of her life. Read more about the exhibition at <https://www.loc.gov/item/prn-19-107>.

## Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and Museum

On November 19, Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero announced the appointment of Dr. Mark Atwood Lawrence as the new Director of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and Museum, effective January 5, 2020. For the past 18 years, Dr. Lawrence has taught a range of undergraduate and graduate history courses at the University of Texas at Austin. Specializing in American politics and diplomacy, Dr. Lawrence taught extensively on American history, the history of U.S. foreign relations, the 1960s, and the Cold War. In recent years, he has also served as the Director of Graduate Studies for UT-Austin's Clements Center for National Security and as Distinguished Fellow at the Strauss Center for International Security and Law. Beyond Austin, he has held various leadership roles in the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations and has consulted on the design and contents of historical museums. Most recently, he worked as the principal historical adviser for the National Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio, which opened in 2018.

## Marine Corps History Division

The Marine Corps History Division, as a component of the Marine Corps University, offers the General Lemuel C. Shepherd Jr. Marine Corps History Doctoral Resident Fellowship to support pre- or postdoctoral study of Marine Corps history. Funded by the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, this nine-month residential fellowship (August to May) is designed to support either dissertations or book manuscripts exploring the operational and institutional aspect of the Marine Corps past. The Marine Corps History Division also offers the Lieutenant Colonel Lily H. Gridley Marine Corps History Master's Resident Fellowship. Funded by the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, the fellowship is designed to support graduate work on topics related to the operational and institutional history of the United States Marine Corps. <http://usmcu.edu/mcupress>

## National Archives and Records Administration

With more than 92 million pages of digitized records available to search in the National Archives Catalog (<https://catalog.archives.gov/>), we are always working on ways to improve search results to better help you find what you're looking for. That's why we're excited to share a new feature in the Catalog: Optical Character Recognition, or OCR. OCR converts images that contain typed, handwritten, or printed text into text that can be read and searched by a computer. Previously, records in the Catalog were only searchable based on the titles, descriptions, and other fields entered by archivists, or by tags and transcriptions entered by citizen archivists. Now, with OCR capability, text from some

images in the Catalog can be extracted, making that text searchable and more likely to come up in your search results. Currently, the Catalog's new OCR engine is applied to records in either JPG or PDF format added to the Catalog since June 2019. NARA is exploring how to retroactively process records from before that point, but right now this feature applies to millions of pages!

The National Archives is also excited to announce a new tool to help you navigate the universe of records held at the National Archives: The Record Group Explorer (<https://www.archives.gov/findingaid/explorer>). This data visualization allows you to browse NARA's holdings by Record Group. You can use it to get a sense of the scale and organization of records at the National Archives and to explore what is available online via the National Archives Catalog. Click any of the blue boxes to see an overview of the scans available online, and find links to the Catalog, organized by format. Each Record Group page has a progress bar that provides an estimate of the percentage of textual pages that are currently available online.

### National Declassification Center

On October 1, 2019, the NDC released a listing of 245 entries that completed declassification processing between July 1, 2019 and September 30, 2019. These records are now available for researcher requests. This release consists of textual and special media records from military and civilian agencies as well as the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum.

Highlights from the released records include:

- Bureau of Ships, Records Relating to Project Artemis and Aircraft Carrier Designs
- Bureau of Ships, Ship Preliminary Design History and Data Files
- Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Intelligence Publications Collection
- Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Confidential Naval Intelligence Reports (IRs)
- Naval Operating Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet. Amphibious Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet. (COMPHIBFORPAC): Blue 156, Confidential and Unclassified General Administrative Files
- Department of State, Special Collections Missing in Action (MIA) and Prisoner of War (POW) Case Files
- Department of State, Paris Peace Accords Files
- Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State, 1953-1972
- Army Staff, Prisoners of War (POW), Missing in Action (MIA), Detainee Intelligence and Intelligence/Counterintelligence Source Files
- Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Special Orders, Court Marital Records, and Administrative Files [Armed Forces Special Weapons Project, 1947-1950]
- U.S. Marine Corps, Records Relating to Prisoners of War (POW) in Southeast Asia

- Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, White House Tapes: Sound Recordings of Meetings and Telephone Conversations of the Nixon Administration (February 16, 1971-July 18, 1973)
- Department of State, Dayton Accords Oral Histories, 1996-1997
- U.S. Central Command, Moving Images Relating to Gulf War Aerial Reconnaissance (AR)

To request access to the newly released records or to order copies, please contact Archives 2 Reference at 301-837-3510 or [archives2reference@nara.gov](mailto:archives2reference@nara.gov). For Nixon Tapes, please contact the Nixon Library at 714-983-9120 or [nixonreference@nara.gov](mailto:nixonreference@nara.gov). Please note that some series may contain other restrictions such as privacy or law enforcement and may require screening or a FOIA request prior to access. When making a request, please cite the Record Group/Collection Identifier, HMS Entry, and Series Title.

### National Endowment for the Humanities

Jon Parrish Peede, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), announced a new NEH-wide initiative commemorating the upcoming 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States. In preparation for the U.S. Semiquincentennial in 2026, NEH's new "A More Perfect Union" initiative provides funding opportunities across the agency's seven grantmaking divisions for humanities projects that promote a deeper understanding of American history and culture and that advance civic education and knowledge of our core principles of government. As part of the initiative, most of NEH's grant programs include special encouragements to applications related to the United States' 250th anniversary. The agency has also partnered with the U.S. Department of Education to support a national convening to assess the state of civics education and knowledge of American history in K-12 education, and created new funding opportunities to support cultural infrastructure projects and commemorations of the 150th and 200th anniversaries of statehood. NEH is also advising the United States Semiquincentennial Commission, the federally appointed body tasked with planning the 250th anniversary of American independence, on public engagement activities and partnerships with other organizations and federal agencies to prepare for the 2026 semiquincentenary.

The National Endowment for the Humanities, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Education (ED), also awarded a \$650,000 cooperative agreement to the civics education group iCivics to lead a coalition of experts in assessing the state of, and best practices in, the teaching of American history, civics, and government in K-12 education. *Educating for American Democracy: A Roadmap for Excellence in History and Civics Education for All Learners* will bring together more than 100 leading academics and practitioners in education, civics, history, and political science for convenings at Louisiana State University and Arizona State University to evaluate the current state of history and civics curricula across the country.



Informed by these discussions, the group will issue a “roadmap for excellence” that would outline for teachers, schools, and district and state policy-makers high-priority civic content areas, and recommend instructional strategies and best practices for integrating the teaching of civics and history at every grade level. This roadmap and accompanying report on the convenings’ findings will be released prior to a national forum in September 2020 in Washington, D.C., co-hosted by the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American History and the National Archives and Records Administration Foundation.

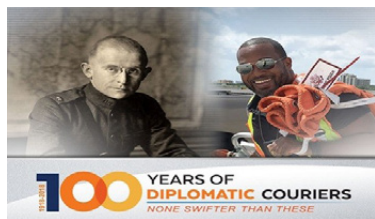
### **National Park Service**

From the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House in Washington, D.C. to the Seventh Ward of New Orleans, the struggle for racial equality is told through powerful places, people, and moments in history. On October 2, 2019, the National Park Service announced 22 sites and programs that commemorate, honor, and interpret the significant time period between 1939-1968 as parts of the African American Civil Rights Network (AACRN). The National Park Service formally announced 18 national park sites and programs, and designated four more resources as part of the AACRN. The 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama; Leona Tate Foundation in New Orleans, Louisiana; Rhode Island Historical Society’s “20th Century African Heritage Civil Rights in Rhode Island” webpage from Providence, Rhode Island; and the Civil Rights Movement Veterans Website join the AACRN, a growing group of federal and non-federal properties, facilities, and programs (collectively called resources) that commemorate, honor and interpret the history of the African American Civil Rights movement between 1939-1968. The AACRN, sponsored by Congressman William Lacy Clay and signed into law by President Donald J. Trump in January 2018, was established to recognize the importance of the African American civil rights movement and the sacrifices made by the people who fought against discrimination and segregation.

### **National Postal Museum**

“None Swifter Than These: 100 Years of Diplomatic Couriers” opened Sept. 14 at the Smithsonian’s National Postal Museum. Developed by the Diplomatic Security Service of the U.S. Department of State, the exhibition is on view through Jan. 26, 2020. In wartime and peacetime, the U.S. Diplomatic Courier Service carries the sensitive materials, equipment and information that make diplomacy possible. The exhibition’s title derives from the Greek historian Herodotus, who coined the phrase ‘none swifter than these,’ paying tribute to the speed and reliability of ancient Persian messengers.

The U.S. Diplomatic Courier Service traces its origins to the U.S. Army courier detachment (known as the “Silver



Greyhounds”), established at the U.S. Embassy in Paris in December 1918 to support the American Commission to Negotiate Peace at the end of World War I. A century later, the Department of State’s 100 badged diplomatic couriers travel the globe safeguarding the nation’s secrets. Today’s diplomatic couriers constantly troubleshoot and innovate to ensure secure logistic supply chains while supervising the delivery of classified equipment and documents, as well as secure construction materials to nearly every nation where U.S. diplomats work.

Through authentic objects on loan from the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Diplomacy Center, visitors can trace the evolution of shipping materials over the service’s 100 years of operation. The exhibition also presents Cold War-era surveillance devices (“bugs”) that were either used or discovered by U.S. security officers; the diary, passport and other personal effects of a 1918 diplomatic courier; and a 1936 diplomatic courier guide book, *Course of the Silver Greyhound*.

### **National Security Archive**

The National Security Archive, together with Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW) and the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAHR), sued Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and the Department of State on November 5, 2019, for violating the Federal Records Act by failing to create and preserve essential State Department records. Evidence from the House’s impeachment inquiry, including from Ambassador William Taylor, the chargé d’affaires for Ukraine under the Trump administration, and from former Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch, all speak to a pattern and practice of bypassing official record-keeping procedures at the State Department. The Federal Records Act lawsuit comes on the heels of a related Presidential Records Act case that the Archive, CREW, and SHAHR filed in May 2019 to compel the White House to create and preserve records of the President’s meetings with foreign leaders.

### **Oral History Association**

Allison Tracy-Taylor, an independent oral historian based in Sacramento, California, is the new president of the Oral History Association. She began her work in oral history in 2002 at the University of Nevada Oral History Program, eventually interviewing for a multi-year project on the history of women’s athletics at the University of Nevada. She later served as administrator of the Kentucky Oral History Commission (KOHC) at the Kentucky Historical Society (KHS), the only commission of its kind in the United States. She provided outreach, education, and technical support to oral history projects throughout Kentucky, managed the KOHC’s grant program, and collaborated to manage KHS’s extensive oral history collections. For the Oral History Association, Allison has served on Council from 2015 to 2018, the Education Committee, and the Program Committee for multiple annual meetings. Allison is also a

member of the Southwest Oral History Association. In addition to an M.A. in Oral History from Columbia University, Allison holds a B.A. in English Literature and Sociology from the University of Nevada. Read more of her biography at the Oral History Association's website: <https://www.oralhistory.org/2019/10/31/meet-our-new-president/>

### Organization of American Historians

The OAH signed on to three recent *Amici Curiae* briefs. OAH joined with 35 historians of American medicine and public health in submitting an *amicus curiae* brief in support of a settlement agreement, including broad transparency provisions in the interest of future research, in re National Prescription Opiate Litigation. Read more at <https://www.statnews.com/2019/09/12/historians-push-for-opioid-documents-archive/>. The second *amicus curiae* brief that the OAH has joined is in support of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. The OAH joins the AHA, 42 historians, and the Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality. Read the brief at [https://digitalcommons.law.seattleu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1114&context=korematsu\\_center](https://digitalcommons.law.seattleu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1114&context=korematsu_center). The OAH has also joined five other history organizations in submitting an *amicus curiae* brief in support of disclosure in *Pitch v. United States*. Read more at <https://www.citizen.org/litigation/pitch-v-united-states/>.

### Society of American Archivists

The Society of American Archivists approved the following statement on July 8: Substantial concern is being raised about recent action by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (ICE) regarding the presentation of two sets of records on their website. A collection of speeches and testimonies made by agency leaders was removed in 2017; the record of detainee deaths while in ICE custody remains on the website but is no longer updated. Both types of record are considered permanent by the National Archives and Records Administration and are part of records schedules that are applicable to ICE. Currently agencies are responsible for maintaining their own websites and they may add or remove documentation of their activities at will. In the cases of the aforementioned records and numerous others, the public has come to expect access to up-to-date online information, whether or not required by law. With agencies under particular scrutiny, such as ICE, provision of documents online supports government transparency and allows the public to hold the government accountable for its actions. Equitable public access to government information is a cornerstone of our republic. The Society of American Archivists (SAA) strongly endorses records scheduling and permanent retention that ensures protection of individual rights, accountability of governments and organizations, and accessibility of historical information. SAA continues to call on government agencies to provide the American public with access to records—transparently and proactively—and we urge government agencies to refrain from unauthorized destruction or removal of essen-

tial documents from public review.

On October 29, 2019, the Society of American Archivists also stated its support for the National Archives and Records Administration's (NARA) inquiry into Wilbur Ross' alleged misuse of private email to conduct government business. Title 44, Chapters 21, 29, and 31, of the United States Code identifies NARA as the institution that is officially responsible for federal records management and invests in them the authority to investigate violations of records law and propose remedies when violations are confirmed. As more reports of elected and appointed officials failing to meet their recordkeeping obligations come to light, SAA applauds and encourages NARA's active oversight and investigation. Misuse of private mail and other communication platforms is an ongoing problem for officials at all levels of government, despite public records laws and regulations that govern the creation and management of official records. SAA once again calls on all elected and appointed government officials to be familiar with—and to comply with—all local, state, and federal recordkeeping laws and requirements.

### Veterans History Project

Researchers, veterans and their families now have access to "Veterans and the Arts," an online "Experiencing War" website feature highlighting the stories of veterans who pursued the arts during their post-military lives. This new feature includes nine digitized collections from the Veterans History Project (VHP) archive, each of which holds the first-person narrative of a veteran who used artistic endeavors – such as music, creative writing, sculpture, ceramic arts and even the culinary arts – to assist in the transition to civilian life after serving. The website launched as an online companion to the Veterans Art Showcase series that concluded Nov. 9. For these veterans and active-duty service-members, art has served as an outlet through which they can articulate and process their wartime experience. To get a glimpse of this creative artwork, access "Veterans and the Arts" here: [loc.gov/vets/stories/ex-war-arts.html](http://loc.gov/vets/stories/ex-war-arts.html).

### World War I Centennial Commission

It started in October of 2016 with the first design submission of the National WWI Memorial in Washington, D.C. to the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts. After three years of collaborative iterations and improvements, on Sept. 19 the latest design submission for a National WWI Memorial in our nation's capital received FINAL APPROVAL from the CFA marking a major milestone in the realization of the project! In 2014, Congress authorized Pershing Park as the location for the WWI Memorial. It is on Pennsylvania Avenue one block from the White House in front of the iconic Willard Hotel.



# The FEDERALIST

Society for History in the Federal Government Newsletter

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## Federalist Calendar

**Jan. 3–6, 2020. American Historical Association.** 134th Annual Meeting. New York, NY. Visit <https://www.historians.org/annual-meeting>

**Mar. 12–14, 2020. Missouri Valley History Conference.** 63rd Annual Conference. “Constitutionalism & the American Presidency.” Omaha, NE

**Mar. 13–14, 2020. Society for History in Federal Government.** Annual Meeting. “Stories from the Heart of Government: Politics and History.” Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education. Shepherdstown, WV. Visit <http://www.shfg.org/Annual-Meeting>

**Mar. 18–21, 2020. National Council on Public History.** Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA. Visit <http://ncph.org/conference/2020-annual-meeting/>

**Mar. 22–24, 2020. Veteran Studies Association.** 5th Veterans in Society Conference. “Veteran Identity, Advocacy, and Representation.” St. Louis, MO. Visit <https://www.veteranology.org/conference>

**Mar. 25–29, 2020. American Society for Environmental History.** Annual Conference. Ottawa, Canada. Visit <https://m.aseh.net/conference-workshops/2020-conference-ottawa-canada>

**Apr. 2–5, 2020. Organization of American Historians.** Annual Meeting. “(In)Equalities.” Washington, DC. Visit <http://www.oah.org/meetings-events/oah20/>

**Apr. 30–May 3, 2020. Society for Military History.** 87th Annual Meeting. “Policy by Other Means.” Arlington, VA. Visit <http://www.smh-hq.org/smh2020/index.html>

**June 18–20, 2020. Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR).** Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. Visit <https://www.shafr.org/conferences/annual/shafr-2020-annual-meeting>

**June 25–27, 2020. Association for Documentary Editing.** Annual Meeting. Dickinson, ND. Visit [https://www.documentaryediting.org/wordpress/?page\\_id=3277](https://www.documentaryediting.org/wordpress/?page_id=3277)

**July 16–19, 2020. Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR).** 42nd Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. Visit <http://www.shear.org/annual-meeting/>

**Aug. 2–8, 2020. Society of American Archivists (SAA).** Joint Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. Visit <https://www2.archivists.org/conference>

**Oct. 7–11, 2020. Society for the History of Technology.** Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. Visit <https://www.historyoftechnology.org/annual-meeting/>