

# THE BALCH COLUMN

THOMAS BALCH LIBRARY • 208 W. MARKET ST. • LEESBURG, VA 20176 • 703-737-7195 • FAX: 703-737-7150 • EMAIL: balchlib@leesburgva.gov

## HORSES AND LOUDOUN COUNTY

Donna Rogers  
Saturday, September 11, 2004  
1-3 pm  
Downstairs Meeting Room

Donna Rogers, noted local equestrienne and owner of a farm in Hamilton listed as a "Bi-Centennial Farm" for the State of Virginia, will discuss the horse in Loudoun County and its importance both historically and economically.



D. Rogers

## RESTORING AMERICA'S TREASURES – DODONA MANOR

Anne H. Horstman  
Sunday, September 19, 2004  
1-3 pm  
Downstairs Meeting Room  
Light Refreshments

Anne Horstman, a visiting lecturer on historic preservation, has been with The George C. Marshall International Center since 1998. She is overseeing the five-year restoration of Dodona Manor including restoration of the early 19th century structure, conservation of the Marshall collection of furniture and memorabilia, and recreation of four acres of gardens and grounds. She will discuss restoration of Dodona and what is involved in restoring national historic structures.



TBL Collection

## PLANNING FOR SUCCESSFUL RESEARCH IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Marty Hiatt, CGRS  
Saturday, September 25, 2004  
10 am – 3 pm  
Bring a bag lunch and beverage  
Pre-registration required: 703 737-7195

Come spend the day learning ins and outs of records and repositories in the counties of Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, and Prince William. Marty Hiatt, author of 3 books on Loudoun County, Governor for the Virginia Genealogical Society, editor and publisher of Northern Virginia Genealogy, a journal devoted to families and records of Old Prince William, and a board certified genealogical researcher and records specialist, will offer insights from her personal and professional experience doing research in several Northern Virginia counties. She will begin by discussing settlement and migration in the Northern Neck and then move on to Virginia information found at state and national levels. This is an excellent opportunity to start researching a difficult family history, learn the how-to of basic genealogy, or brush up on your research skills.



## MANAGER'S MUSING



Just eight short months ago I arrived in Leesburg to take over the helm of Thomas Balch Library. Though rather a drab time of year the reception was warm and welcoming. Since then there have been many opportunities to meet with supporters, friends and patrons of the library. Many have made special trips in to share their experiences and hopes for the Balch Library. I have listened carefully and hope to meet, with your continuing support, the challenges you have presented. It is this kind of participation and enthusiasm that makes working for the Thomas Balch Library so special.

For those who visit the Library, you may see changes as materials are arranged to provide better access, gain space in areas with growing collections, and provide safer environments for priceless collections such as the Yardley Taylor Map, now located in a reduced lighting area in the Microfilm Room. In response to expressed concerns for safety and care of collections, sign-in at the desk is now required of all visitors. Special restrictions apply in using archival and photographic holdings, and photocopying or duplication of such material may be limited depending on fragility, size or condition of the item.

In order to reassure those who have expressed concerns about inventory control, an inventory of holdings – both printed and manuscript - was conducted this spring. Catalogued items were scanned and matched to our records in Horizon, the online catalogue we share with Loudoun County Public Library. Manuscript collections were inventoried manually. To ease future inventories of special collections, an acquisitions database has been created to account for donated materials. Efforts are also being made to provide better and broader access to manuscript holdings, including oral histories and maps. Continuing support of The Friends of the Thomas Balch Library, Inc. is invaluable. Since my arrival, they have provided several thousand dollars for conservation supplies, computer upgrades, and professional literature to assist in our efforts to better care for the holdings of TBL.

For those unable to visit Thomas Balch Library in person, a brochure "Professional Researchers and Other Research Facilities" is now available. We are in the process of revising our brochure and be sure to check out our new website: [www.leesburgva.org](http://www.leesburgva.org).

I look forward to a continuing association with Balch and all its many fine supporters, friends and patrons.

Alexandra S. Gressitt  
8/16/2004

## RECENT ACQUISITIONS

- National Ruritan, Aldie, VA Branch Minutes & Financial Records, 1972-2001, M3
- New Hampshire Marriage Licenses, Pauline Oesterlin
- Marriages of Roane County, TN, Edythe Whitley
- 1890 Indiana Gazetteer & Directory, Polk County
- State Census of North Carolina 1784-87
- Lower Shenandoah Valley in the Civil War, Edward Phillips
- The Trail of Tears, Gloria Jahoda
- 1st Census of Texas 1829-36, Marion Mullins
- With Reverence for the Past: Gloucester County, Virginia, Martha McCartney

## DONATIONS AND GIFTS IN KIND

With heartfelt thanks, we acknowledge many wonderful people and organizations for their generosity and apologize for anyone we may have missed.

Anonymous	Robert Gallagher	Christian Pulve
Ruth Bishop Estate	Barbara Gregg	Muriel Stuart
Amy Butoch	Mari Maginn Hommel	Willis Van Devanter
Christos Christou Jr.	Margaret Hopkins	Beth Waters
William Donham	Irene Jones	Robert Whitaker
Friends of the Thomas Balch Library	Deborah Miller	Woman's Club of Loudoun, Inc.
	Elizabeth Brand Monroe	

And, our thanks to the Loudoun Library Foundation for a grant to purchase the following microfilm:

Loudoun Times Mirror, 1970-1974, and 2003  
Loudoun County Record of Free Negroes, 1844-1861  
Loudoun County Naturalization Records, 1908-1910  
Loudoun County Marriages 1872-1895  
Loudoun County Marriages 1886-1914  
Loudoun County Guardian Books: Vol. A 1759-1823, Vol. B 1823-1837, Vol. C 1838-1852, Vol. D 1853-1859, Vol. E 1859-1870, Vol. F 1869-1875, Vol. G 1875-1886, Vol. H 1886-1904

## CLERK'S OFFICE TOUR – HISTORICAL RECORDS

John Fishback  
Monday, October 4, 2004  
7-9 pm, Meet at Balch Library at 6:45 pm

John Fishback, Historic Records Manager for Loudoun County, will lead a tour of the Clerk's Office. He will discuss the extent of Loudoun County's record holdings, where to look for records of births, deaths, and marriages, deeds, and how to use these records in your research. Please meet at Balch Library at 6:45 pm. No one is permitted to enter restricted areas of the Clerk's Office after 7:00 pm, so we will leave the library, as a group, at 6:45 pm promptly.

## CONFERENCE ON THE ART OF COMMAND IN THE CIVIL WAR THE 1864 SHENANDOAH VALLEY CAMPAIGN

presented by The Mosby Heritage Area Association  
October 8-10, 2004  
Middleburg Community Center  
For information please call: 540 687-6681

## DEED RESEARCH

Wynne Saffer  
Saturday, October 16, 2004  
1-3 pm, Downstairs Meeting Room

Wynne Saffer, author of *Loudoun County, Virginia 1860 Land Tax Map*, will use a case study to demonstrate how to establish chain of title using deed indexes and other types of land ownership changes such as wills, marriages, old advertisements, and chancery cases.

## APPRAISAL FAIR –

Balch Antiques Fair

Willis Van Devanter  
Sunday, October 24, 2004  
1-4:30 pm, Downstairs Meeting Room  
Light Refreshments

Join us for the 4th semi-annual Thomas Balch Antiques Fair. Willis Van Devanter is a noted appraiser of books and works of art, chief buyer for the Paul Mellon Collection from 1957 to 1973 and acting curator of Graphic Arts at Princeton University in the late 50's.

Verbal appraisal fee is \$5.00 per item, with Mr. Van Devanter donating all proceeds to Thomas Balch Library for preservation and conservation of archival materials. He will appraise books, maps, prints, manuscripts, and small objects. Please no weapons or dolls. Cash or check only.



TBL Collection

## CENSUS RECORDS – WHO, WHAT, WHY, WHEN AND WHERE

Saturday, October 30, 2004  
1-4 pm, Downstairs Meeting Room

Staff specialists LaVonne Markham and Mary Fishback will discuss ins and outs of using the census – printed indexes, information sheets, and online subscriptions. Ms Fishback will discuss history of the census, what censuses were taken locally, nationally, and internationally, and tips on using census information. Ms Markham will demonstrate, using LCD projection, our online subscriptions in researching census records: AncestryPlus, HeritageQuest, and Genealogy.com

## PRESERVING THE WHITE HOUSE

Neil Horstman  
Sunday, December 5, 2004  
1-3 pm, Downstairs Meeting Room

Neil Horstman, current president of the White House Historical Association and past Resident Director of Mt. Vernon, will discuss the recent history of re-decorating and refurbishing State rooms of the White House. His talk will begin with Jacqueline Kennedy's interest and active participation in restoring White House rooms and will emphasize the role of the private sector in preserving historical collections.



Winslow Williams Collection

## CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Meets 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm  
Membership is open to anyone with an interest in Loudoun County history during the Civil War period.  
For information: 540 822-4480

September 14: Mark Ragan – The Story of the Hunley  
October 12: Teej Smith – The Execution of Two Confederate Spies  
November 9: Keith Young – Point Lookout: A Prisoner's View  
December 14: Kevin Rawlings – Civil War Santa

## WAR OF 1812 – INTENSIVE WORKSHOP

Saturday, December 18, 2004  
10 am – 3 pm

Bring a bag lunch and beverage and spend the day with 2 exceptional speakers, James Lucier and Craig Scott, who will lead you through a war often referred to as "the forgotten war" – its importance for establishing the United States as a self sufficient country, less reliant on Europe, more western focused, AND who can forget *The Star Spangled Banner*?



## JAMES MONROE AND THE WAR OF 1812

James Lucier  
Saturday, December 18, 2004  
10-12 noon

James Lucier is a Senior Fellow of the James Monroe Memorial Foundation, former member of the Advisory commission of the Thomas Balch Library, former staff director of the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and author of *The Political Writings of James Monroe*. Mr. Lucier will discuss James Monroe and his part as Secretary of State during the War of 1812, or the Second War with Britain. Battles were fought from Canada to New Orleans, and it was during this war that the British captured and burned Washington.

*Library of Congress*

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## MILITARY RESEARCH – WAR OF 1812

Craig Scott, CGRS  
Saturday, December 18, 2004  
1-3 pm

Craig Scott, CGRS, is a nationally recognized lecturer and author. He will discuss the process of researching soldiers who participated in the War of 1812 using resources at Thomas Balch Library and those of the National Archives. Mr. Scott donated copies of the Muster Rolls of the War of 1812 to our library. He is presently writing a book on the War of 1812, specifically about military soldiers. He has compiled a list of over 6,000 dead, plus widows and orphans.



*National Archives and Records Admin.*



## CAN YOU IDENTIFY THIS PHOTOGRAPH?

Please call the library with any information you may have.  
**703 737-7195**

The Balch Column

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