News from the Midwest—Kathy Koch, Assistant Editor
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists

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ILLINOIS

American Medical Association (AMA)

The Archives of the AMA is pleased to announce two new digital resources available on CD-ROM, providing researchers with full-text search capability. The *Transactions of the American Medical Association* series represents the precursor to the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, and offers a comprehensive account of the activities of the AMA in its formative years, as well as an understanding of the larger themes confronting the medical profession in the nineteenth century. Each CD covers a specific year of AMA transactions, with years 1848–1882 currently available. Each contains a complete record of the organization's annual meetings, including resolutions passed into AMA policy, scientific essays, official speeches, and council and committee reports.

The second CD resource, *The Digest of Official Actions,* sheds light upon the origins and development of AMA policies that have helped shape the state of American medicine. While not a complete record of past AMA actions, the digest does offer an unprecedented compilation of summary information that points the researcher to the early *Transactions of the American Medical Association,* the *Journal of the American Medical Association,* and the *Official Proceedings of the House of Delegates.* This allows the reader to research various subjects and to trace the details of numerous resolutions put forth by the AMA throughout its history, covering such diverse topics as health insurance, professional liability, and health fraud. The three separate CDs cover the years 1846–1978. <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/1854.html>

Chicago Province Archives of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD)

Chicago Province Archives of the SVD announces its Web presence through the Chicago Province Web site. Click on "Archives" from the menu to reach the Chicago Province Archives and SVD Resource Center page. Find out about its mission, holdings, special interest areas, and availability to researchers. <http://www.divineword.org/>

Chicago Public Library

The Chicago Public Library, in cooperation with the Just the Beginning Foundation, launched a major new exhibit in January: *Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education: Looking Back and Moving Forward.* The exhibit, located at the Carter G. Woodson Regional Library through June 30, focuses on African-American legal struggles for civil rights, looking back to slavery from the 1954 Brown decision and forward to today's controversies. Many of the items in the exhibit are drawn from the archives of the Just the Beginning Foundation, an organization formed in 1992 to celebrate the integration of the federal judiciary. These archives are among some 150 collections housed at the Chicago Public Library's Vivian G. Harsh Research Collection of Afro-American History and Literature.

Celebrating features rare photographs, letters, programs, and memorabilia along with extensive interpretive texts, including a first printing of the Emancipation Proclamation, slave insurance policies, correspondence from early campaigns to integrate the federal judiciary, and photographs from *Brown v. Board of Education* and other school struggles of the 1950s and 1960s. One section of the exhibit is centered on Chicago black judicial pioneers, and highlights the careers of federal judges James Parsons, Edward Toles, Irvin Mollison, and George Leighton. For further information, contact Michael Flug at 312-745-2080 or at mflug@chipublib.org. <http://www.chipublib.org/>

VanderCook College of Music

VanderCook College of Music's most recent exhibit is *The Scrapbooks of Nutt and Harr,* documenting the lives and interests of Hubert Estel Nutt, cofounder of VanderCook College of Music, and Haskell Harr, graduate of VanderCook College and renowned percussion teacher. <http://www.vandercook.edu/archives/exhibitScrapbooks.html>

INDIANA

Indiana Historical Society

Politics touches virtually every aspect of our lives, particularly during a presidential election year. Visitors to the Indiana History Center can learn more about the political process—from political cartoons and music to movers and shakers—by visiting the newest exhibition, *Politics: Beyond the Ballot Box.* Open to the public in the Rapp Family Gallery through December 31, *Politics* will take visitors on a

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trip through Indiana's political past and present. Follow the stories of struggles by women and other groups to gain the right to vote, accounts of riots and scandals, voting trends, and the music these stories inspired. Enjoy vintage political cartoons, autographs, and other political artifacts and memorabilia. <http://www.indianahistory. org/>

IOWA

State Historical Society of Iowa

One of the oldest and largest organic and natural food cooperatives in the nation, Blooming Prairie Warehouse, Inc., recently donated 30 years of its organizational records, along with $5,000 to foster the preservation and use of these materials. Founded in 1974 as a cooperative natural food warehouse, Blooming Prairie is now a division of United Natural Foods, Inc., the nation's premier organic food distributor. The Blooming Prairie Warehouse collection offers extensive documentation of an important grassroots movement in Iowa. Working cooperatively, the members of Blooming Prairie were able to secure alternative food sources for consumers while helping to promote good nutrition and long-term health. Moreover, the cooperative has supported production systems that do not harm the environment or the well-being of society. Other topics covered in the collection include cooperatives and buying clubs, nutrition and organic standards legislation, and organic foods farming and marketing. <http://www.iowahistory.org/>

KANSAS

Kansas State Historical Society

A new exhibit, *Willing to Die for Freedom: A Look Back at Kansas History,* opens April 3 at the Kansas Museum of History. For the first time in the history of the National Archives, one of its public law documents, the Kansas-Nebraska Act, will be loaned to another institution. On exhibit through June, the Kansas-Nebraska Act will be the centerpiece for the museum's exhibit commemorating the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the Kansas Territory. Also featured are John Brown's pike, slave bills of sale, a shackle from a freed man, several rare flags and banners, and the Kansas constitution. The exhibit runs through October 1. <http://www.kshs.org/>

Territorial Kansas Online, 1854–1861

Explore the turbulent times of "Bleeding Kansas" in this Institute of Museum and Library Studies (IMLS)-funded, collaborative exhibition from the Kansas State Historical Society and the Kansas Collection of the University of Kansas. Hundreds of personal letters, diaries, photos, and maps bring to life the settling of Kansas during the fierce debate over slavery. The exhibit allows users to explore general topics, browse maps and key words, and view lesson plans. <http://www.territorialkansasonline.org/>

MICHIGAN

Gerald R. Ford Library

Ford Library archivists have partnered with State Department specialists to achieve major new declassifications. Researchers now have access to Secretary of State Kissinger's vivid reports to President Ford on his unfolding overseas discussions with Chinese, Soviet, and Middle Eastern leaders from 1974 to 1976. These formerly top-secret accounts are accompanied by the release of the presidential country files for the Middle East and South Asia. There is a large body of National Security Council memos and embassy cables on such topics as Israeli-Egyptian Sinai talks, the partition of Cyprus, the outbreak of the Lebanese civil war, the Rabat Summit of Arab nations and its designation of the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people, arms transfers, Afghan-Pakistan tensions, and, of course, oil. Also, a repository guide with links to all collection finding aids is now available. <http://www.fordlibrary museum.gov/>

Wayne State University, Walter P. Reuther Library

The Reuther is pleased to announce the March launch of the Virtual Motor City collection, a collaborative project between the Walter P. Reuther Library and the Digital Library Services team of the Wayne State University Library Systems. In October 2002, the Institute of Museum and Library Studies (IMLS) awarded a National Leadership Grant for the digitization of 15,000 images from the Reuther Library's *Detroit News* Collection. The majority of the images focuses on the years 1928–1970. The grant also provided for original cataloging of available image data, allowing for more complex searches of the on-line database, as well as allowing search engines to locate the cataloged images. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Clemens at 313-577-1663 or at ag5489@wayne.edu. <http://dlxs.lib.wayne.edu/cgi/i/image/image-idx>

In fall 2003, the Reuther's Audiovisual Department completed the last

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of three grants used to preserve and duplicate 10 silent duplicate negative films that depict several of Detroit's ethnic neighborhoods in the early 1950s and provide a unique glimpse into the ethnic diversity of the city before sprawl and destratification dissolved the homogeneity of each neighborhood. Copies are available for research by appointment in the Audiovisual Department.

Collections recently opened for research include the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), President's Office - Jerry Wurf (1959–1981). This collection of 185 linear feet of records documents Wurf's term as AFSCME president from 1964 to 1981. <http://www.reuther.wayne.edu/>

MINNESOTA

University of Minnesota, Immigration History Research Center

A major gift from the Elmer and Eleanor Andersen Foundation was awarded to the Immigration History Research Center (IHRC) to support the Rudolph Vecoli Endowed Chair in Immigration History Research. The gift of cash and stock will enable an additional match from a Challenge Grant awarded to the university for the IHRC by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Former Minnesota governor Elmer Andersen is the philanthropist for whom the IHRC's home, the Andersen Library, is named.

The directors of the Estonian Archives in the U.S., Inc., voted in 2003 to transfer the institution's vast archival holdings to the IHRC for preservation and scholarly access. In addition, the organization contributed $150,000 to establish the Hildegard and Gustav Must Graduate Fellowship in Estonian American Studies at the IHRC. <http://www1.umn.edu/ihrc/>

University of St. Thomas

The Department of Special Collections at the University of St. Thomas and the Luxembourg-American Heritage Society is pleased to announce the creation of a Directory of Luxembourg-American Resources. This Web-based directory allows genealogists and other researchers to easily identify libraries, archives, and historical societies that maintain collections relating to Luxembourg-American heritage. Organized by city, state, and repository, the directory includes contact information as well as a brief description of collections held by each institution. For further information or to add your collection to the directory, contact Ann Kenne at amkenne1@stthomas.edu. <http://web1.www.stthomas.edu/libraries/special/Lux_Am_Directory/>

MISSOURI

National History Day in Missouri

National History Day in Missouri (NHDMO) is an educational outreach program of the Western Historical Manuscript Collection–Columbia (WHMCC) and the State Historical Society of Missouri. WHMCC staff helps run the NHDMO state contest, this year to be held April 17 at the University of Missouri–Columbia. Staff also conducts teacher workshops, produces curricular materials, and oversees the nine regional programs around Missouri.

NHDMO encourages students in grades 6–12 to explore historical issues, ideas, people, and events through the use of primary sources. Participants conduct in-depth research on individual topics related to a broad annual theme (this year's is "Exploration, Encounter, Exchange in History"). The students make use of libraries, archives, museums, historic sites, and oral history interviews to create presentations in various categories such as research papers, museum-style exhibits, dramatic performances, and multimedia documentaries. Participants present their projects in local and regional competitions, with winners advancing to state and national contests. The 2004 national contest takes place June 13–17 at the University of Maryland. For more information, please contact State Coordinator Diane Ayotte at ayotted@umsystem.edu or at 573-882-0189. <http://www.umsystem.edu/whmc/nhd/nhdmain.html>

Truman Presidential Museum & Library

On February 13, Bess Wallace Truman's 119th birthday was celebrated with the presentation, "The White House Years of David and Julie Nixon Eisenhower." "Bess Truman's birthday is one of the most festive days at the Truman Library," director Mike Devine said, "a time when we break away from daily business for an hour or two and remember our First Lady by recalling in some way the White House life she lived." Presenters David and Julie Nixon Eisenhower are the grandson of President Dwight D. Eisenhower and daughter of President Richard M. Nixon, respectively.

Harry S. Truman: His Life and Times, a new permanent exhibition, opened January 3. The exhibition covers five areas of Harry Truman's life: early years, family life, political career,

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White House years, and post-White House years. This exhibition is designed for family members of all ages, capturing the imagination of museum visitors with original artifacts, photographs, and manuscripts, along with engaging audiovisual programs and participatory activities. <http://www.trumanlibrary.org/>

NEBRASKA

Nebraska State Historical Society (NSHS)

This year is the 150th anniversary of the passage of the bill that created Nebraska and Kansas territories; several activities are planned to turn attention to this historic legislation that not only shaped the Nebraska but the nation, including:

- *Sowing Seeds for Statehood: Nebraska Territory, 1854–1867*, an exhibit tracing the brief but colorful territorial history in the rotunda of the NSHS Headquarters Building. From the death of the first territorial governor after two days in office through the controversy of capital location, to the issues of whether Nebraska would be slave or free and the fate of indigenous peoples, the 13 years of Nebraska Territory were packed with drama and matters of life and death. Historic documents and photographs highlight the stories of fledgling Nebraska. The exhibit runs through December.
- *Putting Nebraska on the Map: Highlights from the Forke Map Collection.* Dating from 1540 to 1879, these historic maps reveal fascinating changes in the perception and shape of Nebraska.
- A special Kansas-Nebraska Act edition of *Nebraska Trailblazer*, the NSHS newspaper for kids, outlining the important but complex issues (such as popular sovereignty and slavery) that precipitated the passage of what was referred to as "the Nebraska bill."
- A review essay to be published in *Nebraska History* highlighting previous journal articles about the origins of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the territorial system, Nebraska party formation and statehood, the territorial governorship and judiciary, and social and economic history.

<http://www.nebraskahistory.org/>

NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota State Historical Society

North Dakota veterans of twentieth-century wars, from World War II through the Persian Gulf War, are encouraged to tell their unique stories by being interviewed for the state's Veterans History Project. More than 200 interviews have already been conducted, and volunteers are available throughout the state to continue the project. The Veterans History Project is designed to gather the stories of wartime veterans who live in or served from North Dakota, even those who may now reside elsewhere. Veterans interested in telling their story should contact Project Coordinator Tom Willard or their county veterans' service officer. Willard can be reached at 701-328-3533 or at twillard@state.nd.us.

The project is being coordinated by the state's history agency, the State Historical Society of North Dakota. It combines the efforts of the State Historical Society, U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan's office, the Library of Congress, the North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs, the North Dakota Humanities Council, North Dakota State University, AARP–North Dakota, county veterans service officers, and North Dakota veterans organizations. <http://www.state.nd.us/hist/veterans/>

OHIO

Ohio Historical Society (OHS)

The OHS was selected as an Exemplary Program for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) for the Ohio Memory Project (OM). The OM was designated an exemplary project because of the far-reaching impact it has and will continue to have, as well as the numerous audiences it has touched. The number of people served was very high. One of the key features of OM is the "My Scrapbook" feature. This interactive feature allows users to create their own scrapbook based on favorite images or around a certain theme. Teachers seeing a demonstration have applauded the personal scrapbook and many have already begun to incorporate it into their curriculum. Other special features include zooming, allowing visitors to magnify images and objects, transcripts of handwritten documents, and collections related to National History Day themes. A secondary piece of the project was to assess the state of digitization in Ohio. Over 800 surveys were mailed to cultural heritage repositories in Ohio, a symposium was held to discuss the findings, and results were distributed both in paper and on the Web. <http://www.ohiomemory.org/>

Ohio University (OU)

The Mahn Center for Archives & Special Collections is very busy playing a supporting role in this year's university bicentennial. Events employing images and documents from

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the archives range from a university-commissioned multimedia dance and musical extravaganza featuring projected historical images, to a CD of campus songs from across the years, to a Chicago-premiered historical play, *Free Man of Color*, based on OU's first African-American graduate John Newton Templeton (1828). <http://www. library.ohiou.edu/libinfo/depts/archives/>

Society of Ohio Archivists (SOA)

The SOA will hold its spring meeting April 15–16, at The Ohio State University's Medical Heritage Center in Columbus. <http://www.ohiojunction.net/soa/>

Western Reserve Historical Society

Current and upcoming exhibits from the Western Reserve Historical Society include:

- *Cleveland Then and Now: A Photographic Study*, through September 12
- *Standing on Ceremony: African Prestige Swords from the Collection of Donna L. and Robert H. Jackson*, April 24–November 7
- *The Daring Decade: Women in The Roaring Twenties*, May 1–October 24

<http://www.wrhs.org/>

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota State Historical Society

The South Dakota State Historical Society Annual Meeting will take place May 21–22, at Ramkota RiverCenter in Pierre. This year's theme is "Opening the Rosebud: A Multicultural Perspective." A diverse range of speakers will explore how race, culture, class, and gender figured into and were affected by opening the Rosebud to settlement. Topics will include land-claim issues, Lakota poetry, homesteading, historic characters, and western art. In addition, the Governor's Awards for History are presented each year at the annual meeting awards banquet. <http://www.sdhistory.org/>

WISCONSIN

University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee (UWM)

The UWM Archives Department was awarded a $50,000 grant by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) to host a Fellow in Advanced Archival Administration. This prestigious annual award is designed to give the NHPRC fellow an opportunity to develop skills in archives administration and management. Lisa Janssen, who holds an M.L.I.S. with a concentration in archives from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, was selected for the year-long fellowship. Janssen will be developing and implementing an outreach plan to promote the use of the WTMJ-TV News Film Collection among UWM students and public school students involved in next year's National History Day competition. Journal Broadcast Group, Inc., donated the news film collection to the Wisconsin Historical Society in October 2001, with the provision that it remain in Milwaukee where it could be readily accessed by WTMJ-TV staff. The collection consists of an estimated 1.5 million feet of 16mm film stored in nearly 10,000 canisters, the original footage used to illustrate stories broadcast by WTMJ-TV News from 1950 to 1980.

The UWM Archives Department has also prepared an on-line curriculum kit of primary and secondary sources for use by students participating in this year's National History Day competition. The on-line kit features images of more than 100 documents from over a dozen manuscript collections listed in categories such as immigration, frontier settlement, and wartime. <http://www.uwm.edu/Library/arch/nhd/nhd.htm>

Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS)

Its motto: Strange but true. Its mission: Amuse, surprise, perplex, astonish, and otherwise connect you with your past. Its method: Lower a bucket into the depths of Wisconsin history and bring to light curious fragments of forgotten lives. What is it? *Odd Wisconsin*, the latest on-line exhibit from the WHS. Exhibit categories include animals, bizarre events, curiosities, odd lives, and strange deaths. <http://www. wisconsinhistory.org/odd/>

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