Indiana State Library Staff Member Selected as Fulbright Fellow

The J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board has awarded a 12-month fellowship to Andrea Bean Hough, Senior Subject Specialist of the Indiana Division of the Indiana State Library, to serve as the 2nd Air Division Association/Fulbright Librarian in Norwich, England.

The Fulbright Program is the United States government's premier scholarship program, created by Congress in 1946 to foster international understanding through educational and cultural exchanges. Individuals are selected on the basis of academic and professional qualifications and potential, and ability and willingness to exchange ideas and experiences with people from other cultures.

Through the U.K. Fulbright Commission, a 12-month award for a 2nd Air Division Association/Fulbright Librarian for the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich, England, is granted each year. The 2nd Air Division Memorial Library serves as a living war memorial to the 6,700 USAAF servicemen who were killed flying from 2nd Air Division bases in East Anglia during World War II. In addition, the library provides information on the history, bases, and operations of the 2nd Air Division, and offers specialized library and information services about the United States, its culture, and its history.

During her 12-month appointment, Andrea Bean Hough will act to build links between the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library and Norfolk County high schools, and to develop opportunities for educational work with adults interested in World War II or in American history and culture. This will include public speaking engagements; working with teachers, school governing bodies, and organizations to teach them about the Memorial Library and encourage its use through lesson plans, tours, and class projects; and providing reference and collection development services for the collections in the library.

Hough has been with the Indiana State Library since March 1998. She serves as head of the Indiana Division, which collects and makes available information on all aspects of Indiana's culture, economy, history, and related subjects, including both current and historical information. Prior to her service with the Indiana State Library, she was on the staff of the University of Houston Libraries in Houston, Texas, first as Special Collections Librarian, then as the first University Archivist. Hough has a master's degree in American history as well as a master's degree in library science, and a bachelor's degree in political science and history, all from Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. After applying for the Fulbright Fellowship, she discovered that her great uncle, Lavon Bean, served as a gunner in the 2nd Air Division's 466th Bombardment Group in England during World War II.

Preserving the Wright Brothers' Legacy

In the long history of invention, there is probably no parallel to the unostentatious manner in which the Wright brothers of Dayton, Ohio, ushered into the world their epoch-making invention of the first successful manned powered flying machine. Documents dealing with early air operations in the field of aviation, as well as the activities of subsequent aeronautical agencies, are preserved in several dozen public and private repositories throughout the world. They include not only official documents on aviation but also personal papers of the Wright brothers and those who helped develop aviation.

Last year the Dayton and Montgomery County Public Library (DMCPL), with major sponsorship from the Ohio Humanities Council, was the primary organizing institution of the symposium, "Preserving the Wright Brothers' Legacy," with more than two hundred participants. At this symposium, archivists and historians from institutions all over the country who have holdings on the Wright brothers were able to get together for the first time in history and discuss their holdings, preservation activities, and their preparations for the centennial anniversary of powered flight in 2003. The DMCPL is the publisher of this very important source of information. This publication seeks to aid scholars and researchers in locating collections of primary and secondary documents on the Wright brothers. The first part of it will deal with the proceedings of the symposium, held in Dayton on October 22, 1999. These proceedings will be essential to the historian writing about preservation activities in this area. The second part of the book will describe the equally important collections, including personal papers, of all the repositories and other collections of primary and secondary materials that have direct relevance to the Wright brothers. The third part will include a chronology of major events, a bibliography of rare and valuable books, and a listing of Web sites where collections from all over the world can be accessed.

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Orville Wright, Amelia Earhart, and Dr. Howard McClenaghan, December 1933. Photograph courtesy of the Franklin Institute.

The Dayton and Montgomery Public Library is closely affiliated with the Wright family. It is the only library that has copies of all the newspapers published by the Wright brothers since 1883 (including *The Weekly Midget* and *West Side News*). It also has the Wright family genealogy and all the scrapbooks of the Wright brothers. The library owns many books, journals, technical reports, photographs, and posters donated by the Wright family after the death of Orville Wright in 1948. These materials have been processed, preserved, and published both on-line and in book form. In addition to The Wright Brothers Papers, archival collections available at DMCPL include Woman Suffrage and League of Women Voters, Paul Laurence Dunbar, and The Shakers.

The symposium was important for Ohio's bicentennial and the centennial of powered flight, both to be celebrated in 2003. The Dayton community has been preparing for the upcoming events by the formation of the Inventing Flight 2003 Committee. This organization has scheduled a program of celebrations, which will begin December17, 2001, the same day that the guide will appear. One of the DMCPL project staff will be coordinating this with the Inventing Flight 2003 Committee. A guide of this type has never been published by any institution. In addition to including all the proceedings as well as the holdings of the participating institutions at the symposium, it will include holdings from other institutions and a chronology of major events surrounding the Wright brothers.

Winner of Governor's Archives Award Announced

The Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board (WHRAB) and the Wisconsin Historical Society have announced that the Monroe County Local History Room in Sparta, Wisconsin, is the recipient of the first annual Governor's Archives Award. The Governor's Archives Award was established in 2001 to recognize an individual, program, or organization that has made a significant contribution to preserving or increasing the availability of Wisconsin's heritage of original historical documents.

Monroe County historian Audrey Johnson and the volunteers at the Monroe County Local History Room have spent the last 10 years organizing and indexing Monroe County Circuit Court and County Court Civil Case files dating from 1855 through 1937. The cases include family court issues, personal disputes, minor criminal offenses, damage suits, and real estate cases.

The records and the index are now available to genealogists and other researchers at the La Crosse Area Research Center at Murphy Library on the University of Wisconsin–La Crosse campus. For more information on using the collection, contact Murphy Library at 608-785-8505.

Assessment/Mentoring Project's Expanded Program Selects Repositories to Receive On-site Assistance in Caring for Historical Collections

The Assessment/Mentoring Project at the Wisconsin Historical Society has selected a group of 12 Wisconsin public libraries, community museums, and local historical societies to work with volunteer professional archivists on caring for historical collections.

The much-needed help for the selected, nonprofit organizations results from the Assessment/Mentoring Project, an initiative planned by the Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board. Other organizations that assisted with the planning include the Wisconsin Association of Public Librarians, the Wisconsin Council for Local History, and the Wisconsin Federation of Museums. The Wisconsin Historical Society and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission are providing funding for the project.

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In the project's expanded phase, beginning in September, a professional archivist serving as a volunteer mentor will visit each repository and help staff members assess and care for their historical records such as letters, organizational and business records, photographs, maps, atlases, and films. Assessment in hand, mentor archivists will help repositories develop and implement plans for the ongoing storage, care, cataloging, and use of their collections.

The following 12 repositories were selected for the project's expanded phase:

Bayfield Heritage Association, Inc., Bayfield
Brewer Public Library, Richland Center
Burnett County Historical Society, Danbury
Douglas County Historical Society, Superior
Mead Public Library, Sheboygan
Menominee Tribal/County Library, Keshena
Milwaukee County Zoo, Milwaukee
Neenah Public Library, Neenah
New London Public Museum, New London
Oshkosh Public Library, Local History Maps and Atlases Collection, Oshkosh
Priests of the Sacred Heart, Hales Corners
Racine Public Library, Racine

For more information, visit the Assessment/Mentoring Project Web site, <http:/www.shsw.wisc.edu/archives/whrab/mentoring/>, or contact project archivist Sherry Severson at soseverson@mail.shsw.wisc.edu or at 608-264-6446, or State Archivist Peter Gottlieb at pgottlieb@mail. shsw.wisc.edu, at 608-264-6480, or at Wisconsin Historical Society, 816 State Street, Madison, WI 53706-1482.

New Archival Research Fellowship Program Funded

The Massachusetts Historical Society, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northeastern University, Schlesinger Library at the Radcliffe Institute, and WGBH Educational Foundation were awarded $143,000 over three years by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the funding arm of the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, to manage a new, nonresidential archival research fellowship program.

Up to five projects of $10,000 each in June 2002 and June 2003 will be awarded (pending final funding from the NHPRC) to enable fellows to conduct research and write about a topic of importance to the archival profession.

Proposals concerning electronic records will be considered a higher priority than others. In June 2003 and June 2004, fellows will present their findings in Boston at a symposium that will be open to all who are interested in attending and will engage a broad spectrum of individuals from related disciplines in lively discussion.

The project was conceived to advance both basic and applied research and to encourage broad participation in the research process, enabling archivists, curators, and information specialists who work full-time under a 12-month contract the flexibility to conduct research. As complex issues may benefit from teamwork, collaborative research projects will also be considered for funding. Candidates for the fellowships will be drawn from practitioners in the archival, manuscript, historical, library, records management, information science, and other information communities as well as from professions in related disciplines.

Project funding is to be administered by the Massachusetts Historical Society. Application materials will be available July 1 at <http://www.archivists.org> or by contacting Brenda Lawson at the Massachusetts Historical Society, 1154 Boylston Street, Boston, MA, 02215. Phone: 617-646-0502, E-mail: blawson@masshist.org.

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