

THE CIVIL HISTORY

The Regional Newsletter of
The Friends of the National Archives and
National Archives Southeast Region

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Friends of the National Archives Annual Meeting

Saturday, January 26, 2008
10:00—12:00
Open to the Public

Would you like to see Abraham Lincoln's telegram to his generals? Or hear audio records from the Oval Office? The Public Vaults, an amazing exhibit of records from the holdings in the National Archives on display in Washington, D.C., display at any given time about 1,100 records—originals or facsimiles of documents, photographs, maps, drawings, film or audio clips, allowing you to see the raw materials of our American democracy.

We are pleased that our program for the annual meeting of the Friends of the National Archives will include a teleconference with Marvin Pinkert and Lee Ann Potter in Washington, D.C. in which they will give us a guided tour of the exhibit and the Boeing Learning Center.



Patent for a Hat to Prevent Drowning, 1840
on display in the Public Vaults and Boeing Learning Center at the National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Pinkert will preview for our Atlanta audience the new Digital Vaults, coming in February, 2008. The Digital Vaults is the culmination of a two-year effort to create an online exhibit inspired by both the archival records and the interactivity of the Public Vaults. The design of the Digital

Vaults allows visitors to create their own exhibit experience by selecting the records and subject areas they would like to explore. Along the way, visitors can save their favorite records by putting them into "My Collection." This web version of a folder holds these records so users can make a poster or a movie on the web site or simply view them again.



If anyone is interested in serving as an officer in the Friends, please contact George Jacobs, President, at 706-867-1940 or by e-mail at gjacobs23@alltel.net.

"This Great Nation Will Endure" Exhibit Closes

The closing ceremony for the photographic exhibition **This Great Nation Will Endure** was held Saturday, November 17, 2007, in Morrow, Georgia, at the National Archives Southeast Region.

The exhibition was created by the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum in Hyde Park, New York. The photographs are drawn from the massive Farm Security Administration collection of Depression-era photographs at the Library of Congress. These photographs include some of the most familiar and powerful



"Eleanor Roosevelt" from Warm Springs, GA.

images of the nation to emerge from the difficult years in the 1930s. Many have reached iconic status in American culture.

A special guest at the ceremony was "Eleanor Roosevelt" in the person of Nancy Sinko, a member of the staff at Franklin D. Roosevelt's Little White House in Warm Springs, Georgia.

For those who missed the preview of this video in November, we will show it again at the annual meeting. Among the film's "stars" are Ed Trippe, Peggie Sides, Fred and Susanna Munguia, and other familiar faces.

Student Photography Contest Winners

A highlight of the closing ceremony was the announcement of the winners of a photography contest for young people sponsored by the Southeast Region.

From July - November, the Southeast Region encouraged students to explore both their artistic and written talents in a photography/essay contest. Students were asked to capture images similar to those taken by FSA photographers during the Great Depression and to write a brief essay explaining the photograph's historical significance. This contest was based on the Southeast Region's latest exhibit, *"This Great Nation Will Endure" – Photographs of the Great Depression*.

Josh Teske, a student at Jonesboro High School, was the first-place winner in the

High School Division, Elijah Brooks from Rex Middle School, was the first-place winner in the Middle School Division, and Madison Couch from Bethlehem Elementary was the first-place winner in the Elementary School Division.

"Mrs. Roosevelt" presented the winners with certificates, and staff read the students' essays about their award-winning photographs.

Over 75 students participated from across the state, and over \$1,000 was awarded in prizes. All students who entered the contest received a certificate of participation.



Josh Teske, 1st Place,
Jonesboro High School



Elijah Brooks, 1st Place,
Rex Mill Middle School,
with Regional Admin.
Jim McSweeney



Madison Couch, 1st Place,
Bethlehem Elementary,
with "Eleanor Roosevelt"

NARA Employees Produce DVD

As part of the Family History Fair held last July, the National Archives Southeast Region conducted numerous oral histories related to the Great Depression. These interviews are the foundation of a 30-minute DVD created, produced, and engineered by NARA employees Erica Bethel, Karen Kopanezos, and Lonnie McIntosh. ***Stories From the Depression*** has received widespread acclaim from all who have viewed it.

Congratulations Karen, Erica, and Lonnie for a job well done!



Lonnie McIntosh, Erica Bethel, and Karen Kopanezos

Save the Date – April 11, 2008 Wernher von Braun Lecture

The Southeast Region is pleased to announce that Michael J. Neufeld will deliver a lecture on his recently published book ***Von Braun: Dreamer of Space, Engineer of War***. Wernher von Braun, the chief rocket engineer of the Third Reich and creator of the infamous V-2 rocket, became one of the fathers of the U. S. space program. Neufeld's biography depicts von Braun as a man of "profound moral complexities, glorified as a visionary and vilified as a war criminal, a man whose brilliance and charisma were coupled with an enormous, and some would say, blind ambition."

He has an important place in American history, and as the country prepares to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of NASA, new opportunities abound to study, reflect, and reassess his accomplishments—both as an engineer and as a man.

Dr. Neufeld's research took him to numerous libraries and archival repositories, including the National Archives, Southeast Region. He made extensive use of the records of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Marshall Space Flight Center, in Huntsville, Alabama.

Dr. Neufeld is Chair of the Space History Division of the National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC. In 1990 he was hired as a Museum Curator in the Aeronautics Division, where he remained until early 1999. After transferring to the Space History Division, he took over the collection of German World War II missiles, and from 2003-2007 the collection of Mercury and Gemini spacecraft and components. He was named Chair of Space History in January 2007.

The National Archives Southeast Region Presents a Free Workshop:

Were Your Ancestors Slaves?

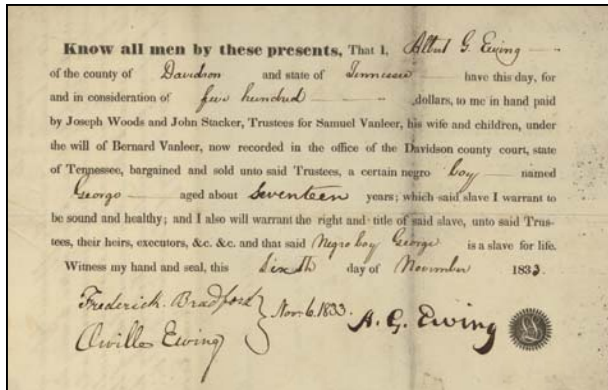
Saturday, February 23, 2008 10:00 a.m.

The National Archives, Southeast Region, will present a program on locating family history information for African Americans whose ancestors were slaves.

The workshop will focus on original documents in the National Archives that list slaves as passengers on vessels; documents related to the importation of slaves, primarily from Africa in violation of Federal laws; and lists of slaves available in other sources.

The process of locating genealogical records on African Americans in the pre-Civil War period is extremely difficult and tedious. The documentation is scattered throughout a variety of government records, and the lack of last names complicates the process. This workshop will give African Americans ideas and suggestions about places to look and resources available.

A special feature will be a display of original records listing the names of



slaves as passengers on ships, living on plantations, and in various other original records—some of which date from the early 1800s.

Alan Huffman to Speak on Researching African American Slave Stories

Featured speaker for the workshop will be distinguished author Alan Huffman. Huffman is the author of *Mississippi in*

Africa in which he recounts the saga of Isaac Ross and two hundred freed Mississippi slaves who sailed to Liberia before the American Civil War to become part of a new American-African colony. He will discuss his research techniques and his quest to uncover the details of the story. Who were the slaves? What really happened to them? Are the stories which have circulated for decades really true?

Through research and interviews, Huffman weaves a human drama that spans two centuries and two continents and culminates with Liberia's recent civil war.

Alan Huffman is also the author of the photo-essay book *Ten Point: Deer Camp in the Mississippi Delta*. He has contributed to *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*; *The Los Angeles Times*; *Lost*; *National Wildlife*; *The New York Times*; *Outside*; *The Oxford American*; *The Washington Post Magazine*; *Preservation*; *Smithsonian*; and numerous other publications.

REGISTRATION:
Call 770-968-2100 to register.
The workshop is free and open to the public.

Slavery Records in the Southeast Region

NAME	SEX	AGE	HEIGHT	COLOR	OWNER OR CONSIGNEE
Richard C. Smith	Male	11	5 1/2	Brown	Montgomery
John Smith	Male	11	5 1/2	Brown	Montgomery
William Smith	Male	11	5 1/2	Brown	Montgomery
...

of origin and destination) showing name, age and description of each slave, the name and residence of exporter and consignee, and pledge that the slave had not been imported after 1807. The Southeast Region holds records for two ports.

Mobile, 1820 - 1860
Savannah, 1790- 1860

They are arranged chronologically by date of arrival and show name, tonnage, and nationality of vessel; date of arrival; name of master, name of slave (usually Christian only), age, sex of slave; name

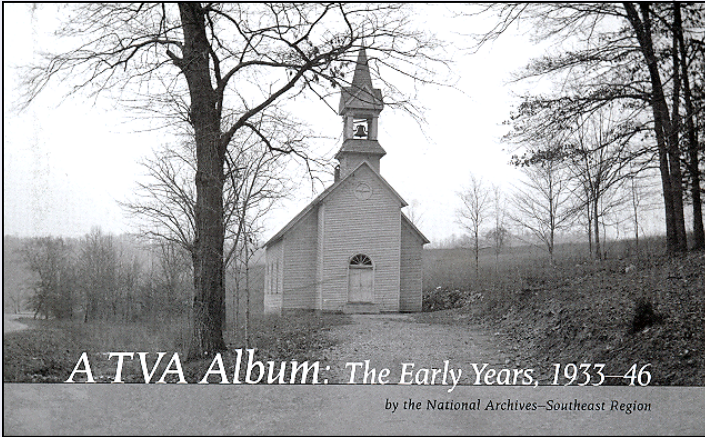
and address of consignee; and name of owner.

There are various other records in these Customs Service records which tell the story of slaves coming into the United States as well as records for freedmen leaving the United States for Liberia and other countries.

For those slaves brought into the country illegally after 1808, the records of the U. S. District Courts hold numerous cases related to violations of this law.

Several laws were passed in the 19th century to suppress the African slave trade and support the colonization of recaptured and freed Africans. After 1808, it was required that all vessels of 40 tons or more carrying slaves in the coastwise trade file duplicate manifests (ports

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.FRIENDSNAS.ORG



The Southeast Region is proud to announce the publication of *A TVA Album: the Early Years, 1933 -46*. This book of twenty-four images portrays the shared struggles and triumphs of “regular folk” whose lives were changed forever by the Tennessee Valley Authority. Organized by the themes Work, Rest, and Worship, this album offers the viewer a glimpse into the faces of the people of the Tennessee Valley.

Price: \$10.00
Order Online at <http://estore.archives.gov/>

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