

# MARAC

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference

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Delaware • District of Columbia • Maryland • New Jersey  
New York • Pennsylvania • Virginia • West Virginia

## DC Caucus Report Steering Committee Meeting Rochester NY April 24, 2014

**DC Archives Organizing Meeting:** On April 18 I attended a organizing meeting to discuss the current state of the DC Archives and advocacy efforts to ensure the continuation of the current budget appropriation, DC Council support, and the successful transition to the new mayoral administration.

**Resumption of Archives Month Preparations:** Throughout the months of February and March I resumed organizing and arranging DC Caucus activities for a rescheduled Archives Fair in celebration of American Archives Month. This included re-contacting panelists, re-finalizing the venue, beginning advertising for the rescheduled event, and re-confirming initial logistics and volunteer participation. The Archives Fair was held on April 3, 2014.

**Archives Fair:** On April 3 the Archives Fair was successfully held in around the McGowan Theater at the National Archives in downtown Washington, DC. Turnout was excellent and attendees were able to network with other archival professionals, view reserved tables and speak with exhibitors, and learn from the four panels and presentations scheduled throughout the day. A blog post will be submitted about the Fair in the near future.

**DC Caucus Budget:** Submitted FY15 DC Caucus budget to the Treasurer for approval by the Finance Committee.

**New Member Welcome:** Sent emails to new MARAC/DC Caucus members welcoming them to MARAC and the DC Caucus. Each email also briefly described past activities of the DC Caucus and upcoming events.

Respectfully Submitted by Andrew Cassidy-Amstutz, DC Caucus Representative

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Delaware Caucus report  
April 24, 2014  
Rochester, NY

## Hagley Museum & Library

Jon M. Williams, former MARAC member, retired at the end of January after 43 years of service at Hagley. Jon was the Andrew W. Mellon Curator of Prints and Photographs and most likely accessioned a good part of the two million images, films, audio recordings, and oral histories in Hagley's collection. Outside of Hagley, Jon was a noted jazz pianist and included brewing among his proclivities.

## Delaware Historical Society

The Delaware Historical Society was founded in 1864 as a literary society to research and document the history of Delaware. Today preserves and promotes Delaware history and heritage. The Society's three million objects and archival items are used to fill exhibitions, in educational and outreach programs, for historical research and publications. Events celebrating this major anniversary will be held throughout the years. See the Society's webpage for more information and a calendar of events.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Clewell  
Delaware Caucus rep





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## Maryland Caucus Report Steering Committee Meeting Rochester, NY April 24, 2014

1. Sent out a call to the MD Caucus for news for the MARAC blog and for the Rochester Steering Committee meeting.
2. Submitted FY15 budget for the MD Caucus to the MARAC Treasurer.
3. Continued welcoming new members to the caucus via email, including incorporating information about the MemberClicks website, the MARAC Blog, and other communications outlets.

I have very much enjoyed serving at the Maryland Caucus Representative for the past four years, especially in getting to know everyone who is involved in the archives profession within the great state of Maryland. Thank you to everyone who assisted me in planning tours and other events for the caucus and for supporting the caucus by attending those activities. Thank you to all the Steering Committee members who served during my two terms for giving me wonderful insight into the inner workings of MARAC and showing me the diversity of governance issues that the Steering Committee tackles with such devotion. When I remember that MARAC is a completely volunteer-run organization, I am always even more amazed by the impressive accomplishments of the organization. I look forward to serving MARAC again in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Novara  
Maryland Caucus Representative

## **New Jersey Caucus Report for MARAC Steering Committee Meeting, April 24, 2014**

Recent activities of the NJ Caucus include:

1. Discussion of CAPES 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at Baltimore program (see CAPES PDF)
2. Welcomed new members
3. Requested \$150 for FY 15 for NJ Caucus in anticipation of my successor's requiring funds for an event.
4. Sent items below to the MAA regarding activities in the NJ Caucus

### **Mid Atlantic Archivist**

#### **New Jersey Caucus News**

**February 2014**

### **Monmouth County Archives**

The Monmouth County Archives is planning Archives Week in October, an annual event held since 1996 in the Monmouth County Library Headquarters in Manalapan. The featured speaker on Archives and History Day on October 11 will be historian and musician Joe Becton, who will present a program on Civil War music. Sixty-two exhibit tables for history organizations will be available in the meeting room. The Civil War in New Jersey will be the theme of the Archives' annual October exhibit in the Monmouth County Library. During Archives Week, on October 8, there will be two programs, one a workshop for public history intern supervisors and the other a lecture on New Jersey's Civil War Photographers. Contact: [gary.saretzky@co.monmouth.nj.us](mailto:gary.saretzky@co.monmouth.nj.us)

### **Princeton University**

#### **Keen New Addition: Photo Album Purchase Contains Rare Images of Woodrow Wilson**

[From the Mudd Manuscript Library Blog]

With more than 600 books on Woodrow Wilson, including Scott Berg's recent autobiography, is there anything new about Woodrow Wilson? With the acquisition of the photo album of Paul Edward Keen Class of 1915, the answer is yes.

His photo album contains a dozen images of Wilson's 1913 inauguration and his 1915 return to campus to vote, as well as many more campus and local scenes that he took while studying at the Princeton Theological Seminary (1912-16) and Princeton University (MA 1915).

About half the album contains photographs that Keen took elsewhere such as Philadelphia and Antietam, but the latter half is filled with images of the town of Princeton and the campuses of the University and Seminary. In one 1915 photograph Wilson's black mourning armband is visible on his upper left arm; Edith, his wife of 29 years, died in August 1914.

Born in Yorkana, Pennsylvania in 1888, after graduation from the Seminary, Keen was ordained in the United Evangelical Church and led the congregation in Wrightsville, PA, before becoming a Bible professor at Albright College (his undergraduate alma mater) in 1924. Starting in 1928, he taught at the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Napersville, Illinois, until his death in 1958.

The album was purchased, in part, with funds provided by the Goreff/Neuwirth Charitable Trust in honor of Danielle van Jaarsveld, Class of 1995.

To see images from the album, please visit <http://blogs.princeton.edu/mudd/2014/02/keen-new-addition-photo-album-purchase-contains-rare-images-of-woodrow-wilson/>

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn Radick

NJ Caucus Representative

New York State report to the Steering Committee  
Rochester, New York, April 24, 2014  
Submitted by Susan Woodland

1. The New York Archives Conference will take place this year at Binghamton University from June 4 - 6. Complete details can be found at: <http://www.nyarchivists.org/nyac/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/NYAC-2014-Program.pdf>
2. The New York State caucus is proud to remind members of the Steering Committee that the next President of SAA will be MARAC member and New Yorker Kathleen Roe, who will begin her term of office at SAA in Washington, D.C. in August.
3. I would like to thank everyone on the Steering Committee who has made the past two years a wonderful experience for me, learning how MARAC functions and having the opportunity to discuss and vote on governance issues that will improve the effectiveness of MARAC in the coming years.



**TO: MARAC Steering Committee**

**FROM: Dyani Feige, Pennsylvania State Caucus Chair**

**RE: Pennsylvania State Caucus News**

Submitted to the Steering Committee on Thursday, April 24, 2014 in Rochester, New York.

**STATE CAUCUS NEWS**

5 MARAC members joined the Pennsylvania Caucus between January-March, 2014.

Submitted FY15 State Caucus budget to the MARAC Treasurer for approval by the Finance Committee.

Thank you for two great years of service as the Pennsylvania Caucus Chair!

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To: MARAC Steering Committee  
From: Laura Stoner, Virginia Caucus Representative  
Date: April 17, 2014

The Greater Richmond Archivists Bunch has met several times since the last report.

The Virginia Caucus met for our annual spring meeting at James Madison University, in Harrisonburg, Va., on March 28, 2014. A group of speakers presented a lightening round of presentations about innovative things going on at our repositories in the state. We spent the afternoon touring the Carrier Library exhibit “Dressing for Education: Carrier Library's Diamond Jubilee,” and then a guided tour of the newly renovated Duke Hall School of Art and Art History. Thirty Virginia caucus members attended the event.

Work continues on planning for Virginia Archives Month.

Thanks for allowing me to serve on the Steering Committee for the past two years. It has been a wonderful experience.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Stoner

Images from the Spring Virginia Caucus Meeting, March 28, 2014 at James Madison University.





WV State Caucus Report  
Spring 2014  
April 21, 2014  
Submitted by Nat DeBruin

I have been continuing to work on raising awareness of MARAC among the library community in West Virginia. In the fall of 2013 I was elected as Chair of the Preservation Roundtable in the WVLA and started planning for an event to revive the Roundtable as a forum for archival and special collections interests. The following article was submitted for publication in the upcoming West Virginia Library Association newsletter:

**1. Preservation Roundtable Hosts Workshop on Preservation of Photographic Images at the West Virginia Library Association (WVLA) Spring Fling**



**Image provided by Ms. Pamela Williams, Frostburg State University**

The Preservation Roundtable hosted a workshop at the 2014 Spring Fling that concentrated on the preservation of photographic images and negatives. The workshop was presented by Caitlin Walker, a graduate student in Marshall University's MA in History program and Nat DeBruin, the Head of Archives and Special Collections at Marshall.

Ms. Walker's portion of the workshop focused on the history of various photographic processes dating from the earliest heliographs in the 1830s through the development of color photography and safety film in the twentieth century. She

addressed the physical structure of negatives and printed images and discussed the chemical processes involved. She provided several different examples of photos from Marshall's image collections for the workshop participants to examine including daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, cyanotypes, ferrotypes, and albumen prints. Ms. Walker emphasized that a thorough understanding of the different types of processes was essential for taking the proper steps to preserve the images.

Mr. DeBruin's portion of the workshop concentrated on the different environmental hazards that threaten the permanency of photographic images. He also discussed other hazards such as mold, insect damage, and unstable chemicals in the images that can also affect and damage the images. After a discussion of the hazards, he provided several methods that small institutions with limited budgets could use to preserve their image collections. Workshop participants were divided into teams and conducted a practical exercise with different types of photographs in order to evaluate the types of images and different preservation measures that needed to be performed in order to stabilize and preserve the images.

The workshop concluded with a discussion of several different preservation issues that the participants had been invited to bring to the workshop. The workshop participants were also provided with a selected bibliography of preservation resources to take with them to their institutions. A complete copy of the PowerPoint presentation and bibliography will be posted to Marshall University's Institutional Repository, Marshall Digital Scholar (MDS), as soon as possible. An announcement will be made on the WVLA ListServe with a link to the MDS site.

It is hoped that similar workshops hosted by the Roundtable in the future will address preservation and conservation issues that are relevant to a wide variety of institutions in the state.

**2. West Virginia University (WVU) and Marshall University both processing collections of glass plate negatives.** West Virginia University has a collection of 10,000 glass plate negatives that have been acquired over many decades. They are now reviewing their processing and cataloging with the intention of improving their physical containment, and of increasing their accessibility. Marshall University's collection consists of approximately 15,000 negatives from the Proctor Studios in Huntington, West Virginia. Marshall has been processing their materials for 10 months and have begun creating a database of the scanned images (approaching 300 records) that have been identified for retention.

**3. WVU Political Cartoon Project.** WVU is now digitally processing a collection of 150 original pieces of political cartoon art from the New Deal era that are

connected with the papers of West Virginia Senator Rush Holt. This project is being funded by his wife who is still alive and doing well.