

# MARAC

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference

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

## DC Caucus Report Steering Committee Meeting Baltimore, MD January 23, 2015

**Friends of the DC Archives Meeting:** On November 12 I attended a FDCA 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 election results. Attendees were also updated regarding the outside contractor brought in to assist with the planning process.

**Friends of the DC Archives Postcard:** Throughout the past three months, I have assisted with efforts to create a general-purpose postcard for the Friends of the DC Archives. A draft of the postcard has been created and the final version will be printed in the near future. I will provide financial support from Caucus funding for the production of the postcard.

**Friends of the DC Archives Meeting with Karl Racine:** Throughout December and January, I have been working with other FDCA members to schedule a meeting with Karl Racine, the new Attorney General for DC. We will hopefully be meeting with him in the near future to discuss efforts to preserve records created by DC's elected officials.

**DC Caucus Happy Hour:** On December 16 the DC Caucus hosted a happy hour at Vapiano in Chinatown. Nine DC Caucus members attended.

**Task Force on Updating MARAC's Constitution and Bylaws:** Throughout the past three months, I have assisted with the process to update MARAC's Constitution and Bylaws. The task force has discussed draft versions of proposed changes and membership feedback about the changes as well. The task force is also writing a series of articles about several proposed changes that generated the most discussion from the membership.

**Awards Committee Article:** Throughout the months of December and January, I wrote an article explaining the rationale behind the Awards Committee as part of my involvement with the task force charged with updating MARAC's Constitution and Bylaws. This article will be published in the near future.

**I Need A Library Job Meetup:** On January 17 I attended a meetup organized by the INALJ organization for the DC, Virginia, and Maryland area. I spoke with attendees about MARAC and the role regional organizations could play in helping attendees find employment.

**Distributed Information to Caucus Members:** Distributed information to caucus members about FDCA activities, upcoming meetups, internship announcements, professional development opportunities, happy hours, and symposiums and other events.

**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

**Delaware Caucus Report**  
MARAC Steering Committee Meeting  
January 23, 2015

Submitted by: Emily Cottle

Since being created on November 1, 2014, the Delaware Caucus Facebook page has amassed 11 members.

I have continued to welcome new members to the Delaware caucus as they join MARAC.

A social get-together was arranged for December 9, 2014, but was cancelled due to a low response. I am currently attempting to reschedule for the first week of February.

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**Maryland Caucus Report  
Steering Committee Meeting  
Baltimore, MD  
October 16, 2014**

1. The Maryland Caucus added nine new members since October, but lost a couple due to relocations – most notably Kelly Spring, who was very active in the Maryland History & Culture Collaborative.
2. Over 25 members of the MD Caucus attended a two-part event held at the University of Maryland on December 5: First was a tour given by Doug McElrath of the exhibition *Beyond the Battle: Bladensburg Rediscovered*, a look at the Maryland municipality and its history both independent of and associated to the War of 1812. This exhibition, located in the Hornbake Exhibit Gallery, features manuscripts, diaries, broadsides, photography, artifacts, maps, scale models of notable historic buildings, and a large diorama of the port in 1770. More information about the exhibition is available from <http://www.lib.umd.edu/bladensburg>.  
  
Second was a happy hour held that evening at Mulligan's, a brew-pub located across campus as part of the university's Golf Course.
3. Continued planning numerous events for the MD Caucus, including two in Annapolis.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent J. Novara  
Maryland Caucus Representative

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## **Winter Steering Committee Meeting, Baltimore 23 January 2015 Report of the New Jersey Caucus**

A Facebook Group for the Caucus was created on October 18<sup>th</sup>. There are currently 49 members.

The Chair attended meetings of the New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance, League of Historical Societies of New Jersey, Advocates for New Jersey History, and the New Jersey History Forum.

The committee for the MARAC New Jersey Caucus Institutional Service Award has been corresponding via email to discuss revision of the criteria. The award will be reinstated this year, after a 7-year hiatus, and will be presented during Archives & History Day on October 3<sup>rd</sup> to a New Jersey organization that has furthered the cause of archives and history in the state. Announcements will go out February 1<sup>st</sup> and deadline for nominations will be April 15<sup>th</sup>.

It was brought to my attention that the Caucus co-sponsors the Paul A. Stellhorn Award with 3 other New Jersey organizations. Background information was gathered and arrangements are being made to be a more active participant. There has also been discussion on ways for the Caucus to be more active in Archives & History Day.

Seven new members were welcomed to the Caucus.

### **Caucus Archival Projects Evaluation Service (CAPES):**

As the CAPES 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary comes to a close, coordinator Fred Pachman must be thanked for his tireless advocacy for the program. Articles have appeared in “The Mid-Atlantic Archivist,” the New Jersey Library Association’s History & Preservation section newsletter, “The Chronicle,” and the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey’s newsletter.

CAPES was recognized at MARAC’s Baltimore Business Meeting, followed by a Saturday morning session, “CAPES at 25!” CAPES also received an award for 25 years of service at the New Jersey History Forum in November at Kean University.

Members of the CAPES Advisory Committee have been meeting with members of the New Jersey Association of Museums to create an Artifact Assessment Program that would be based on CAPES and sponsored by NJAM. A grant application has been submitted to the New Jersey Historical Commission to support the newly proposed program.

**Upcoming:**

The Caucus will meet on January 26<sup>th</sup> at the Institute of Jazz Studies at Rutgers-Newark, and be a joint meeting with the Brick City Archivists. The Caucus will also have a joint meeting with the New Jersey Library Association History & Preservation Section on February 25<sup>th</sup> at Rutgers-New Brunswick, and a joint meeting with the Pennsylvania Caucus on April 21<sup>st</sup> at the David Library of the American Revolution. The Caucus is planning monthly get-togethers at repositories around the state.

New Jersey History Day will be held on March 1<sup>st</sup> at Rutgers, March 7<sup>th</sup> at Kean, and March 28<sup>th</sup> at Princeton. This year's theme is Leadership & Legacy in History.

Submitted by  
Laura M. Poll  
16 January 2015

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## **Winter Steering Committee Meeting- January 2015**

The New York Caucus added no new members since October.

A new Facebook group for the caucus was recently started. Members were notified that the group was started and people are starting to join.

A post for the MARAC blog on accomplishments of members for the past year was published in December.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Martin

New York Caucus Representative

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## **Winter Steering Committee Meeting- January 2015 Pennsylvania Caucus Report**

The Caucus welcomed two new members in October and one new member in Nov/Dec., for a total of 242 members.

The Pennsylvania Caucus Facebook page has 107 likes. The Pennsylvania Caucus Facebook Group has 90 members.

The number of subscribers to the Pennsylvania Caucus e-list through MemberClicks has risen over 100%, increasing from 70 in August (only 25% of the 281 Caucus members who were on MemberClicks at the time) to 141 (60% of the 232 Caucus members who are on MemberClicks as of this week).

As not all members are on the e-list, we continue to use the e-list for non-MARAC events, workshops, and news but use the full e-mail distribution list for all MARAC Pennsylvania Caucus announcements.

Due to the holidays and a busy fall schedule for the Caucus rep, no additional Caucus meetings or tours have been held since the October Baltimore meeting. Upcoming events include:

1. Joint New Jersey-Pennsylvania Caucus meeting on April 21 at the David Library of the American Revolution
2. Meeting and tour at LancasterHistory.org (Lancaster County Historical Society), probably in May
3. Carlisle event with the Cumberland County Historical Society, Dickinson College, and the U.S. Army Heritage Center (probably in June, but need to finalize a date that works for all).
4. We also have talked with members in the Pittsburgh area and Northeastern Pennsylvania to schedule events in the fall and next spring.

Submitted by Valerie-Anne Lutz  
January 20, 2015



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**Virginia Caucus Report  
Steering Committee Meeting  
Baltimore, MD  
January 23, 2015**

**GRAB**

Sine the last update, the Greater Richmond Archives Bunch (GRAB) has continued to meet monthly.

**Facebook Group**

As suggested at the last Steering meeting, a Facebook group for the Virginia Caucus has been created (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/VACaucusMARAC/>).

**Caucus Meeting**

As of this report, the annual Virginia Caucus meeting has not yet been set, but will take place later this spring.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Turman Kidd  
Virginia Caucus Representative

WV State Caucus Report  
Winter Steering Committee Meeting  
January 23, 2015  
Submitted by Nat DeBruin

I am continuing to work to promote awareness of archival theory and practice through the Preservation Roundtable of the West Virginia Library Association. Two of the MARAC members here at Marshall University, Lori Thompson and Caitlin Walker, are developing a session for the upcoming spring (April 2015) WVLA conference. The working title is "What do you do when it is not a book; what to do with the OTHER stuff in your library." The focus of the session will be on helping public libraries perform basic preservation and physical control of manuscript and other collections that come into their possession.