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Greetings MARAC members,

At our Spring 2017 conference, you will have the opportunity to meet our new administrator, Sara Predmore. She started in her position on January 5 and survived her first Steering Committee on January 27. I know that she looks forward to meeting many of you at the Newark Conference. Elsewhere in this issue is a profile of Sara. Welcome to MARAC Sara!

As I come to the end of my term as chair, my thoughts turn to the opportunities and challenges facing our organization and profession as we move forward. As chair, I have faced challenges regarding governance and operations. The Steering Committee successfully implemented the Bylaws revisions that went into effect July 1, 2016. This has streamlined our governance structure while at the same time created more leadership positions. We hired a new MARAC administrator and we are in strong financial shape. Going forward, we are working on developing tuition scholarships for graduate students, establishing a mentoring program, and creating more education workshops for our members.

We have an opportunity to be an important means of promoting mutual understanding and tolerance. During the last two years, the Steering Committee has strengthened its belief that MARAC’s mission is to promote the diversity of archives and archivists. To meet that goal, I created the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force in 2015 to survey members about the critical issues pertaining to diversity facing the organization and to recommend specific goals, objectives, and programs for increasing diversity in MARAC and the profession as a whole. Because of our ongoing commitment to diversity, the Steering Committee believed that MARAC needed to release a statement strongly opposing the President of the United States’ 2017 Executive Order that restricted entry into this country by people from seven Muslim-majority nations. We believe that it is incompatible with our goal to be a diverse and inclusive member organization.

The challenges facing our profession in the future are strong. Possible hiring freezes could affect our members who work for the federal government. There is legitimate concern about federal funding for history-related programs at the National Park Service, National Archives, Library of Congress, and Smithsonian Institution. Now more than ever, politicians are targeting federal grant initiatives such as the National Endowment for the Humanities, National Endowment for the Arts, and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Threats to funding for programs that support cultural institutions will test the power of our advocacy efforts. We need to partner with professional groups, such as the Regional Archival Associations Consortium (RAAC) and National Coalition for History (NCH). MARAC and RAAC have partnered to gain a more substantial role on the NCH Board. I urge you to review the NCH 2016 annual report on its web site to learn more about the organization’s work and about some of the challenges to the history and archives community. NCH is working on projects such as the Congressional History Caucus, advocating for establishing a new American Museum of Women’s History, and preparing for the United States’ 250th anniversary in 2026. NCH is positioned to continue its transformation into an organization seeking the broadest possible influence in supporting the efforts of historians to bring the past’s lessons to contemporary Americans. It is imperative that archivists, librarians, and museum curators develop greater skills in advocating for archival programs and issues.

I want thank all of the members for their support during my time as MARAC chair. It has been a rewarding experience. I look forward to supporting Vin Novara as he takes over as MARAC chair on July 1, 2017. See you in Newark, April 20-22!

Brian Keough
MARAC Chair
Some of the oldest and most interesting records held by the New York State Archives (NYSA) are the approximately 12,000 pages of colonial government documents from the Dutch colony of New Netherland. Comprised of council minutes, court proceedings, correspondence, patents, ordinances, and more, they illustrate not only the administration of the colony, but the everyday life of its inhabitants. And with the Dutch West India Company records in Holland destroyed in the 19th century, these are some of the only New Netherland administrative records still in existence. The collection was a natural candidate for digitization based on its historical value, physical condition, and frequency of use. In 2016, with 2,500 pages already available to researchers in NYSA Digital Collections at http://digitalcollections.archives.nysed.gov, the NYSA embarked on a project to digitize and upload the remaining 9,500 pages in just over one year.

Outside funding for the project came from two sources. The Dutch government has a program called the Mutual Cultural Heritage Programme (MCHP), through which it funds projects overseas that promote and make available the shared history and culture of the Netherlands and the partnering country. The MCHP provided funds for the digitization portion of the project, which went toward hiring a vendor, Hudson Archival, to scan the materials. The Society of Daughters of Holland Dames, a hereditary organization for descendants of Dutch settlers, contributed funds to hire a professional archivist to prepare metadata. I served as this project archivist from January 2016 until January 2017, working with supervisory archivist Monica Gray. The New Netherland Institute (NNI) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the translation of the Dutch colonial manuscripts into English and promoting scholarship of New Netherland. NNI administered the grant funds for this project, and the translations produced by Charles Gehring and Janny Venema at NNI accompany the Dutch documents in the NYSA Digital Collections.

The two main challenges of the project were identifying each Dutch-language document and generating respective item-level metadata. The solution to both issues lies in a publication called O’Callaghan’s Calendar of Historical Manuscripts in the Office of the Secretary of State (1865). Edmund Bailey O’Callaghan was a writer and archivist who worked for New York State from the 1840s to the 1870s. One of the projects he completed during this time was to arrange, describe, and index the Dutch manuscripts. The Calendar is a chronological list of every Dutch colonial document at the State Archives, arranged by volume and page number. Before undertaking anything else, I went through every volume of the manuscripts page by page, making sure all was in order and noting any missing pages. The accuracy of the page numbering was essential to ensuring documents were identified correctly. We also devised a process to turn the Calendar into usable metadata by having Hudson Archival scan our copy, perform OCR with the software Abbyy FineReader, and extract the results into a spreadsheet which I could edit.
After preparing the metadata, the next step was linking each scanned image with the appropriate description and uploading it all into the NYSA Digital Collections. The NYSA uses CollectiveAccess for its digital management system. One capability of CollectiveAccess is the bulk import of data. This is achieved by creating a mapping, which is a document that maps one system of data to another; in this case, mapping the columns of the metadata spreadsheet to the DublinCore metadata fields in CollectiveAccess. The mapping is entered into the data uploader, so when the metadata spreadsheet is uploaded, CollectiveAccess automatically creates an object for each row of the spreadsheet. The filenames are part of this metadata record. The images are then uploaded with the media uploader, and, through the filenames, the images are paired with the correct metadata.

Archivists tagged personal names and signature blocks by hand, the TEI documents were validated through an automated process, and then they were uploaded into the NYSA implementation of XTF. Finally, a link to the translation was added to each document in CollectiveAccess using the filename as the common field. Users viewing a Dutch document in the digital management system can now click a link in the metadata and the English translation will pop up in another tab.

While the Dutch documents are available directly and at no cost to researchers through the NYSA Digital Collections like other records, the NYSA also is creating a dedicated landing page for them. Here researchers will receive access by series and volume, as well as historical background, a description of the project, and related resources.

This successful project represents a marriage between the old and the new—the leveraging of technology to make centuries-old manuscripts accessible. The location, language, and fragility of the Dutch records at NYSA have long limited their usefulness to most researchers. With the documents and translations online, the history of New Netherland is available to a wider audience than ever before.
Sara Predmore did not arrive as MARAC's new administrator via a traditional path. As Ms. Predmore describes it, her professional life is “not a straight line.” However, with her varied background and extensive travels, MARAC welcomes her and her experience to the organization.

Ms. Predmore, a graduate of the University of Richmond, studied business on a ROTC scholarship. She later received her MBA with a concentration in finance. After college she served for five years on active duty in the United States Army, stationed at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, working in finance. While there she met her future husband, also in the service. After her discharge Ms. Predmore's husband remained on active duty and she, and then their children, followed him on his postings. The family spent a dozen years overseas based in Germany, Macedonia, and Armenia. They also traveled frequently during holidays and school breaks. Ms. Predmore joked that her children always enjoyed an annual Thanksgiving pizza dinner in a different country while traveling on breaks.

As her children grew, Ms. Predmore returned to work, initially volunteering in public and school libraries and then securing paid positions, often in technical services. Most recently, Ms. Predmore served for several years in development for a public library in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. Today she has “traded donors for members” and will be planning regional meetings for MARAC instead of local library events.

Ms. Predmore began her role as MARAC's new administrator on January 5 and is based at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa. Later that same month, she attended her first Steering Committee meeting. It was an opportunity for her to begin to connect names with faces. As she prepares for her first MARAC conference in Newark in April, she is learning about the registration process and becoming familiar with MARAC workshops and all the other conference offerings. She knows that the semi-annual meetings will be extremely busy, but welcomes the challenge and looks forward to Newark. “I like a little bit of madness every once in a while,” she confesses. “It will be awesome.”

As the MARAC administrator, Ms. Predmore knows that the organization is entrusting her with a great deal of responsibility for its ongoing operations, and she seeks to earn that trust and support of the individuals around her. She hopes to accomplish these goals for herself and on behalf of MARAC, she explains, “[It’s] not just getting things done, but getting things done in a well-thought out way.”

To help introduce MARAC members to Ms. Predmore, the Mid-Atlantic Archivist posed five additional questions to her. Responses below are edited for space.

1. **If you could have dinner with any people from history, who would they be?**
   I never knew three of my grandparents and I would have liked to get to know them.

2. **What is your favorite book?**
   *Shantaram* by Gregory David Roberts.

3. **Given your extensive travels around the world, what was your favorite place to travel?**
   Croatia. At the time, we lived in Macedonia, which is landlocked, and to visit Croatia and see the islands, it was beautiful.

4. **What might we be surprised to know about you?**
   In addition to working in libraries, I also was a barista and ski instructor!

5. **What activities do you enjoy doing in your spare time?**
   Anything outside—hiking, biking, skiing—anything in the fresh air.
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as well as wherever five regular applicants wish to take it.

The 2017 application is available at

For the 2017 application and more information about the Certified Archivist examination, go to the ACA website ([www.certifiedarchivists.org/get-certified](http://www.certifiedarchivists.org/get-certified)) or contact the ACA office (518-694-8471 or [aca@caphill.com](mailto:aca@caphill.com)).
I arose at 7 am on January 21, though I hadn’t been able to sleep all night. I turned off my alarm and proceeded to post a “fight like a girl” image, with a heartfelt caption peppered with hashtags and resistance fist emojis to my Instagram.

The night before I’d made the hour and a half drive to Trenton with my husband to join my two other friends for a solidarity supper and camp out of sorts. My friend and fellow historian, Michelle Iden, and I had volunteered to participate in a grassroots oral history project initiated by a women’s archivist roundtable to which I belong. [WAR] (Women Archivists Roundtable), as the Society of American Archivists section was called then, always felt like an appropriate acronym for the social battle we were facing. We prepared our forms, tested our digital recorder, and cut out laminated march logos to don the next morning. Michelle had previous interviewing practice and I was an archivist so we doled out our duties accordingly.

Our Uber arrived at the Trenton War Memorial building just before 9 am and we scoped out an entry point and looked for our first interviewee, an anti-domestic violence advocate and friend of Michelle’s. My tension melted. This was not the militant crowd of angry feminists I’d been indoctrinated to expect. This was a hopeful, bright-eyed, and inclusive group of women and their loving supporters.

As a first-time marcher myself, I had dutifully read every precautionary webpage. I knew how to make a tear gas antidote with Maalox, and I knew better than to lock arms with my neighbors. When I arrived, I pawed my jacket where I’d stashed my particulate mask and noted egresses and possible escape routes. But when I met those first welcome faces, my shoulders relaxed and I no longer thought about the preemptive “what ifs.” This event was so well organized and laid back that I didn’t realize until I was reflecting in bed that night that I had only seen one police officer the entire day, and he was directing us past a barricade during the march.

Weeks before the event, we were still deciding which location worked best logistically. We had New York City and Philadelphia on our radar, but saw that Trenton still had not been assigned an oral historian. We volunteered and I am really happy we did because the Trenton march was simultaneously immense and intimate in size. I think our final tally was somewhere around 7,000 marchers. I appreciated the energy of a rousing crowd and the scale of being able to actually hear the speakers and take in their words.

We managed nine interviews before the program started, walking alongside the last few as they headed indoors. My group found our way to the overflow section at the front of the theater steps. 7,000 voices cried out as the event organizer, Elizabeth Meyer, reminded us that we were gathering with millions around the world, both at marches and those who supported from their homes, places of employment, and in spirit. We cheered as she encouraged us to stay connected, active, and vocal. Signs waving around me, we thrust our fists toward the sky. One spiritual leader reassured us that in our cause we were united and emboldened us to “pray with [our] feet.”

This theme of unity was a common refrain among interviewees. When asked “why she marches,” a passionate activist told us, “I march for those who can’t…wherever it looks like somebody needs to stand up for people that can’t stand up for themselves, especially when it come to affordable healthcare, [education], [discrimination], and...
violence against women and people who don't look like me. I'm there.”

We heard from women and men describing what I would best define as intersectional feminism; a new wave of feminism that seeks to acknowledge the commonalities among various community struggles and the interconnectedness of oppressive institutions’ reach. The marchers we spoke to were eager to have their thread of the story recorded. A few of them even seemed surprised or flattered to be included in a national oral history project. I remember telling one woman that her voice would be archived for other generations to hear and she paused and just smiled. “That’s pretty amazing, actually...to be part of something this big. It’s important,” she reflected.

Through our conversations it became clear that this march represented the concerns of both liberal and conservative women alike, as marchers expressed feeling “woke” and invested in making the future a kinder place. “We are not going to be invisible. We are not going away,” remarked an eager 20-something. “I've always just kind of been more of a, you know, do-the-right-thing-myself kind of person, but now I feel like I need to make sure it's more visible and not so much 'be the change,'” she continued. “You need the people to see the change.”

The historian in me beamed, tears welling in the corners of my eyes throughout the afternoon festivities. Here I was standing with my husband and graduate school colleagues, participating in a legacy I had only ever read about in class. I was standing on the shoulders of activist giants who had set a precedent of peaceful protest and I had never felt more patriotic.

Several days after the march, I was fortunate enough to speak with the event organizer, Elizabeth Meyer, on the telephone. She was energized and astounded by the continued response the Trenton Women’s March was still generating. I asked her how this sister march came about and what advice she would give other activists looking to organize.

As a former middle school history teacher, poised to share the democratic process with her young daughters (four and six years of age), Meyer found herself devastated by the election results, what this administration meant for her girls, and the kind of world that was laid out for them. She made a choice to organize locally and to get people on board like ACLU of New Jersey, Planned Parenthood, New Jersey Citizen Action, and other social and civil justice groups who had experience in this area. Meyer remembers feeling galvanized when she read about the Women’s March on Washington and thinking, “If I can't make it to Washington, my voice still needs to be heard somehow. I can't possibly be the only woman in New Jersey who can't make it to Washington D.C.”

What is particularly impressive about Meyer’s efforts is that she had no prior organizing experience. She went from cold calling watchdog groups to heading a steering committee comprised of 26 activists, legislators, and community leaders. Meyer turned her vision into an inspired and inclusive event that encouraged and united New Jersey citizens on both local and national fronts. Meyer shared that one of her most remarkable moments was as she stepped out into the crowd and felt a palpable energy in the assembly. “I know what it's like as a person to have hope, but I've never been in a situation where there have been so many people and you can literally feel hope. And you can feel the sense of solidarity with one another. [There] were so many people who were marching that day for so many different issues, yet [everyone] was there feeling hope.”

That energy definitely followed the Trenton marchers down to the Statehouse, and it has remained with those who I have talked with in the month since the event. There is an intensity and excitement in this new season of activism, and that feeling of hope and solidarity does not seem to be waning.

As a museum archivist, whose duties are diverse and often non-exclusive to actual “archival work” in the traditional sense, I cannot thank Women’s March on Washington Archives Project Co-Administrator Katherine Vandeven enough as well as all of the seasoned [WAR] archivists who streamlined this process and empowered me to empower others to share their voices. I get emotional when I think of the enormity of this movement, millions worldwide, and I am honored that I was able to help document that solidarity and the individuals who made up that collective cry.
MARAC excitement is coming back to New Jersey! The New Jersey Caucus looks forward to seeing you April 20–22 when it will host the Spring 2017 MARAC conference in reinvigorated, rejuvenated, revitalized, extremely historic, and ultra-excitng and awesome Newark, New Jersey, America's third oldest city. Our conference hotel, the Best Western Robert Treat, named for the original settler of Newark, opened in 1916 and has hosted American presidents and other dignitaries. It is conveniently located within walking distance of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, the Newark Museum and Public Library, and Rutgers University, Newark.

For the first time, MARAC will conduct a Business Archives Forum on Thursday, April 20. Additionally, on Thursday, MARAC-In-Service: A Community Service Project, where MARAC professionals assist local archives, will take place at the New Jersey Historical Society. The traditional full and half-day workshops are also available on Thursday. Offerings include “Care and Identification of Color Photographs,” “An Introduction to Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) for Archivists,” and “Data Privacy for Born-Digital Collections.” To view a complete list of workshops, sessions, and speakers, check out the program at: http://www.marac.info/upcoming-conferences.

The Friday morning plenary speaker is Dr. David Kirsch, associate professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship at the Robert H. Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland. The Friday luncheon speaker is Dr. Timothy J. Crist, president of the Newark History Society.

Friday night’s reception will be at 15 Washington Street, a 1920s skyscraper that first served as the headquarters for the American Insurance Company and later became Rutgers’ S.I. Newhouse Center for Law and Justice. Rutgers renovated the building in 2015 and restored its Great Hall, which will serve as our backdrop while we gather and listen to some swinging jazz, savor Iberian-themed appetizers, and enjoy historical displays from local repositories.

Newark offers a wide array of destinations of cultural and historical significance, arts and entertainment, and fine dining that conference attendees are sure to enjoy. Take advantage and tour the spectacular Branch Brook Park cherry blossoms which bloom in April and the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, the fifth-largest cathedral in the United States. See the historic mansions in the Forest Hill section as well as the Institute of Jazz Studies at Rutgers Newark and the Newark Museum. Going it on your own? Explore Newark with “Newark Walks,” an interactive and engaging pedestrian tour of the city available to you via your smartphone. We hope you brought your appetite! Newark’s Ironbound District is home to over 170 fine restaurants and eateries, and is within easy transportation of the hotel.
All roads, railroad tracks, and runways lead to Newark. Located on the convenient Northeast/I-95 corridor and served by one of the largest and busiest airline hubs in the country, you will find your transportation options ample and plentiful as you plan your travel to Newark. If traveling by rail, Newark's Penn Station is reached via the Amtrak Northeast Corridor line, New Jersey Transit regional services, and the PATH line running to and from downtown New York. Newark International Airport is one of United Airline's busiest regional hubs, and is also served by all other major airlines. The Garden State Parkway connects to the New York Thruway to the north and the Cape May-Lewes Ferry to the south. The New Jersey Turnpike is at the center of the I-95 corridor of the Boston to Washington megalopolis. Additionally, all national and regional bus services stop in Newark.

You can find complete conference and local information at our conference web page, https://marac2017newark.wordpress.com. We're looking forward to rolling out the welcome mat in Newark, truly a remarkable renaissance city.
Mid-Atlantic Archivist | 10

Timing is everything? Absolutely! At Newark’s Branch Brook Park more than 5,000 cherry trees, greater in number than the famed Washington, D.C. display, will be in their peak blossoming period when the Spring 2017 MARAC Conference comes to the Newark Best Western Robert Treat Hotel from April 20-22.

The Essex County Cherry Blossom Festival is an annual event, showcasing 27 varieties of white and pink blossoms. Newark’s Branch Brook Park, spectacular in its own right, was the first county park in the United States. It has been placed on both the New Jersey (1980) and the National Registers of Historic Places (1981). Immediately adjacent to the park is the beautiful Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, presently the fifth-largest cathedral in the United States. Of hybrid English-Irish and French Gothic design, the cathedral dates back to 1899. A tour of both the Cathedral and Branch Brook Park is available to MARAC attendees as part of the afternoon tour offerings on Thursday, April 20.

Newark’s cherry blossom history dates back to 1928. Mrs. Caroline Bamberger Fuld of the Bamberger’s Department Store family offered to fund 2,000 new cherry trees for Branch Brook Park after seeing the Washington, D.C. display. By 2004, when an inventory of remaining trees was taken, only 1,000 of the original trees were still alive. The Essex County executive and the Branch Brook Park Alliance undertook a massive replenishment effort, resulting in over 4,000 new trees added by 2016.

Warm early spring weather can result in some blossoms blooming as early as mid-March, but the peak season occurs in mid-April, in perfect concert with Spring 2017 MARAC!

There are events galore surrounding the Cherry Blossom Festival during the month of April. On Saturday, April 22, you will have plenty of time (after attending the last session) to check out the Essex County Family Day proceedings in the park. Ride a paddle boat and get an extraordinary view of the blossoms while enjoying lunch from one of the participating food vendors. If you are staying in Newark an extra day, the 2017 Bloomfest! kicks off on Sunday, April 23 at 11 am in “America’s pinkest park!” A packed schedule of events includes Japanese cultural demonstrations, children’s activities, live music, a crafter’s marketplace, food and more! As we approach April, you can observe the progress of the cherry blossoms by accessing the Essex County Parks web site at http://www.essexcountyparks.org/parks/branch-brook-park, scrolling to the bottom of the home page, and clicking on the “access webcam here” tab on the right hand side. The view will become spectacular in front of your very eyes!

All just a short distance away from the conference hotel. For information on these and many other Newark attractions and events, as well as complete conference information, visit our conference web site at https://marac2017newark.wordpress.com/.

See you in Newark!

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THERE ARE GOLF COURSES APLENTY IN AND AROUND NEWARK!

Whether you're an experienced golfer or just a “hacker,” the greater Newark area has ample golf courses to meet every golfer’s fancy. In fact, TheGolfNexus.com lists 100 public and private golf courses within a 21-mile radius of the Best Western Robert Treat Hotel, where MARAC Spring 2017 will be held April 20-22.

The County of Essex Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, the first county park system in the nation, opened the first public golf course in New Jersey on July 4, 1914 at Weequahic Park in Newark. The course “provided the general public an opportunity to play golf and made no distinction based on race, religion, gender, or economic status.” Originally opened as a nine-hole facility, Weequahic Golf Course was expanded to 18-holes in 1970, and fully renovated in 2009. Along with the Hendricks Field Golf Course in Belleville and the Francis A. Byrne Golf Course in West Orange, Essex County offers a myriad of choices for golf enthusiasts. For more information on Essex County Parks golf courses, visit http://www.essexcountyparks.org/golf.

And there are many others! To see the full GolfNexus list of Newark area golf courses, visit http://www.thegolfnexus.com/cities/nj/newark.

The birds will be singing, the cherry blossoms will be spectacular, and the fairways will be lush and green in April 2017 in Newark. See you there!

1. “Essex County Weequahic Golf Course: 100 Years on the Greens of Weequahic,” County of Essex Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, 2014.
TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS (ARCHIVES)—MARAC STYLE, IN NEWARK

When the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) comes to Newark in April 2017, it will present a ground-breaking event: a first-ever MARAC forum dedicated to Business Archives. But you don't have to work for a corporation to attend this forum. Many archivists in the field are required to perform cross-over records management functions for our institutions, and this forum will address the specific needs of archivists who have responsibility for managing and preserving business records.

The Business Archives Forum, taking place on Thursday, April 20 from 9:00 am until 4:30 pm at the Best Western Robert Treat Hotel, consists of an informative and instructional agenda of presentations and interactive discussion sessions conducted by business archive professionals from the MARAC region. There will be something for everyone—from the corporate archivist to the small institution archivist in charge of maintaining the institutional records.

You may view the full agenda and session overviews by accessing the Spring 2017 MARAC Newark webpage at https://marac2017newark.wordpress.com/ and selecting the Business Archives Forum tab. Join us and “take care of business” in Newark! For additional information, contact Emily Cottle at emilyrcottle@gmail.com.

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MARAC is returning to Buffalo after 25 years! The Fall 2017 conference will be held October 26-28 at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo/Hotel and Conference Center in downtown Buffalo. The conference will explore the ideas of “Reinvention and Renewal: Putting a Shine on the Nickel City.”

The Program Committee is offering a diverse array of sessions. Areas of focus will include archival ethics, web archiving to enhance the democratic principle of transparency and accountability, partnerships between archives and records management programs, and documenting current political movements. Other sessions will center on access enhancements to Holocaust records and the National Death Penalty Archive. Institutional mergers and archives, and a dialogue about digital projects and their users will also be presented.

MARAC is excited to welcome New York State Archivist Tom Ruller who will open the conference with a plenary address on Friday morning.

Arranged tours reflect the deep architectural roots of the city, Buffalo’s connection to national history, and our incredible natural landscapes. An architectural walking tour will show meeting attendees the signature works of some of America’s most accomplished architects. If the arts are of interest, the conference is offering a tour of Shea’s Performing Arts Center, a National Historic Site in the Neo-Spanish Baroque design. Presidential history enthusiasts will be guided through the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site, location of the swearing in of the 26th President of the United States. And finally, a trip to Buffalo would not be complete without a visit to beautiful and awesome Niagara Falls.

In addition, attendees will have the option to partake in tours of Buffalo’s notable cultural institutions on-your-own, including the Buffalo History Museum, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Frank Lloyd Wright’s Darwin Martin House, Forest Lawn Cemetery, and many more.

Our reception will be held at the historic Ellicott Square Building, designed by Charles Atwood of D. H. Burnham & Company, and completed in May 1896. This structure was the largest office building in the world at the time of its completion. Attendees will be treated to Buffalo food classics and live music in the interior courtyard.

We hope you’ll join us for an exciting and educational conference, and we hope you’ll enjoy everything that Buffalo has to offer!
DELAWARE

E. Richard McKinstry Retires
On January 27, E. Richard McKinstry retired after 40 years of employment at the Winterthur Library, the last nine as director of the library. Rich arrived at Winterthur in 1977 as associate librarian in the Printed Book and Periodical Collection. He has served as the Andrew W. Mellon senior librarian responsible for the Joseph Downs Collection of Manuscripts and Printed Ephemera and the Winterthur Archives. He has also served as an affiliated associate professor in the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture. His articles and books are numerous, including his most recent publication on Charles Magnus, a 19th century printer from New York City. He was also the Delaware MARAC caucus representative for a number of years.

Delaware Public Archives Announcements and News
The Delaware Public Archives (DPA) is pleased to announce a collaboration with Robert L. Tjaden, professor and specialist of natural resource policy who is authoring a book on the history of forestry in Delaware. Mr. Tjaden, who is on sabbatical from the University of Maryland at College Park is currently procuring and scanning over 700 original photographs from various sources which will be used to create a new database enhancement within the DPA’s Forestry Collection. At the completion of the project, the original photographs will be accessioned into the State’s permanent collection.

NEW JERSEY

Morristown and Morris Township in WWI Exhibit
The North Jersey History & Genealogy Center of the Morristown & Morris Township Library will feature an exhibition drawn from their collections in honor of the 100th anniversary of the United States’ entry into World War I. “Called to Serve: Morristown & Morris Township in WWI” will be on display through August 14 in the Kirby Gallery on the library’s second floor.

On February 13, 2017, nearly 150 people gathered at the Delaware Public Archives for Gov. John Carney’s proclamation of February as African American History Month. The Governor, along with Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester and State Archivist Stephen Marz, also unveiled a new exhibit that chronicles the history of African American elected officials in Delaware, an extension of the Archives’ “Delaware Votes” exhibit highlighting the history of Delaware gubernatorial elections through documents, photographs, and memorabilia.

⇒ Caucus Representative
Sarah Denison
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sarah.denison@state.de.us

On April 6, 1917, the United States declared war on Germany, following months of U-Boat attacks against unarmed vessels carrying American citizens, as well as
evidence of a German plot to ally with Mexico against the United States. By the summer of 1917, communities around the country were mobilizing human talent and financial resources in support of the Allied war effort. The exhibition features stories of the community’s response to the Great War, as told in local newspapers, obituaries, photographs, ephemera, and letters. The personal consequences of the War can be seen through various artifacts maintained by the History & Genealogy Center, such as a pilot’s diary, correspondence of citizen soldiers to firefighter friends back home, a letter of a mother who lost her son, and first-hand reports of battles by African American soldiers motivated to enlist by patriotic duty and hopes for a future engendering greater opportunity at home.

Additional information on the Great War can be found by visiting the library’s sister institutions’ exhibits, “Women Warriors on the Home Front” at MacCulloch Hall and “1917 – World War, Women’s Rights and Weaponry Sciences” at Morris County Historical Society’s Acorn Hall.

For more information on the exhibit or collections contact the library at 973-538-3473 or njhgc@jfpl.org.

**Kip’s Castle Oral History Project**

The Kip’s Castle Oral History Project is an ongoing effort by the Essex County Parks Archives to stitch together the narrative of Kip’s Castle, a unique structure built on the crest of the First Watchung Mountain in Verona and Montclair in 1905. The Castle property has been an Essex County Park since 2007. With funding from the New Jersey Council for the Humanities and the expertise of the Rutgers Oral History Archives, an effort has been made to interview individuals associated with the prior ownership periods of Kip’s Castle. The interviewees’ narratives provide a glimpse into life at the Castle and speak to larger themes in U.S. history. Clips from the interviews have been linked, by the Parks Archives staff, with photographs and explanatory text at [www.HistoryPin.org](http://www.HistoryPin.org) (search Kip’s Castle). These audio entries join more than 100 historic photographs of the parks, reservations, and other facilities of the Essex County Park System available to the public on HistoryPin.

**News from Seton Hall University**

The New Jersey Catholic Historical Commission at Seton Hall University is proud to announce the release of a new book edited by Carl Ganz entitled: *Essays on New Jersey Catholic History* (South Orange, NJ: New Jersey Catholic Historical Commission, 2017) in honor of the 350th anniversary of the Garden State which includes a number of articles related to the development of Catholic life within the state such as: Anti-Immigrant Political Movements in New Jersey, Franciscan Sisters of the Poor in Hudson County During the Civil War, Passionists at St. Michael’s Monastery, Bishop Wigger Anniversary, the 1928 Presidential Election, and others.

The New Jersey Catholic Historical Commission in conjunction with Seton Hall University recently sponsored a one-day symposium in honor of the centenary of the Easter Rising (Éirí Amach na Cásca) which signified a major milestone in the history of Irish independence. Panelists explored the history, personalities, music, art, and theatre that defined this pivotal event in the Irish experience, and its impact worldwide. Speakers included historian Lorcan Collins, author of *Easter 1916* and *1916 The Rising Handbook*, who gave the keynote, prize-winning Irish poet, and others.
Caucus News

Micheal O’Siadhail, and other noted experts in the field. The program concluded with a performance of excerpts from Sean O’Casey’s The Plough and the Stars by Professor Daniel Yates and a troupe of Seton Hall student performers.

As part of outreach efforts with its students, faculty, and the public, the Archives & Special Collections Center at Seton Hall University features updated information on their home page—(http://library.shu.edu/archives) and a news section that displays blog entries designed to highlight different collections, projects, and special events that showcase the Center and its varied activities. http://blogs.shu.edu/archives/.

Innovative Archives Award
The New Jersey Caucus presents its Innovative Archives Award annually to a New Jersey organization that has provided exemplary leadership or service to the archival community and residents of the state. The Award may also honor a local, county, or regional organization, either for long-term leadership or service, or for outstanding effort demonstrated in a given year. Nominees may have developed innovative educational or outreach models utilizing archival sources, provided leadership during a time of emergency or crisis, demonstrated new thinking in finding a solution to an issue or problem, exhibited creativity in increasing awareness of local history resources among New Jersey residents and visitors, or otherwise provided exemplary service to the archives and history communities.

To nominate an organization (self-nominations are acceptable), complete and send the nomination form and supporting documentation by April 29 to the Caucus chair at njcauscuschair@gmail.com with the subject line "Caucus Award." The nomination form and criteria is located on the Caucus’ webpage under the "Awards" section: http://www.marac.info/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=84

We’ll see you all in Newark in April! Please visit the MARAC Newark conference web site for more details: https://marac2017newark.wordpress.com/

NEW YORK

Early Court Records Move to New York State Archives
Under the direction of Chief Records Officer Geof Huth, the New York State Unified Court System transferred approximately 1500 cubic feet of early court records—many dating back to early colonial times—to the New York State Archives. The historical records will be stored and made available to the public at the State Archives' state-of-the-art facility in the Cultural Education Center in Albany. For the past century, these old court records have been stored in the Hall of Records at 31 Chambers Street in lower Manhattan, and since 1942 they have been under the care of the New York County Clerk. The records consist primarily of civil case documents from two courts of statewide jurisdiction, the Supreme Court of Judicature and the Court of Chancery. These papers and parchments tell the ordinary stories of human conflict, from contract disputes and disagreements over estates to the often tawdry divorce proceedings of early New York (when infidelity had to be proved in order for a court to grant a divorce). These court archives reflect the legal, social, economic, and cultural forces at work in New York from the 1600s into the mid-1800s, including changes in the practice of law and the conception of justice.

This transfer of records was covered by The New York Times as well as television stations in New York City, Albany, and Brazil.

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A New Library-based Exhibition in the Mütter Museum, “Imperfecta”

Using artifacts from the Historical Medical Library of The College of Physicians of Philadelphia and Mütter Museum collections, the new “Imperfecta” exhibition examines the shifting perceptions about abnormal human development, from fear and wonder to curiosity and clinical science.

“Imperfecta” introduces the subject of teratology with a look at prodigy books. The early modern concept of monster is explored through these contemporary texts, which illustrate the co-existence of supernatural and natural influences on physical anomalies. Over time, curiosity with imperfect bodies led to the science of embryology. Modern medicine has proven that genetic mutations and exposure to toxins are to blame for abnormal births, not divine influence. However, simply because something—such as abnormal human development—has been studied and classified by medical science, does not mean that it cannot touch the deepest part of our psyche, making us question what it means to be imperfect.

Visitor engagement with “Imperfecta” will be enhanced by a physical poll through which visitors will be able to vote on one of three themes that will be explored digitally: the use of woodcuts in disseminating information, the concept of “otherness,” and the monetization of the “imperfect” body. “Imperfecta” opened March 10. The digital component will open Summer 2017.

Philip S. Klein Book Award
The Pennsylvania Historical Association (PHA) biennially awards the Philip S. Klein Book Award to the best book published in even-numbered years. At the PHA Conference in Shippensburg, held October 6-8, 2016, the award was presented to Dr. Jean R. Soderlund of Lehigh University for Lenape Country: Delaware Valley Society Before William Penn published in 2014 as part of the Early American Studies Series of the University of Pennsylvania Press. Dr. Soderlund made extensive use of archival collections all over the mid-Atlantic region for her study.

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Homelessness in America finally became an issue with national attention in the 1980s in large part because of the uncompromising commitment of Mitch Snyder and the Community for Creative Non-Violence (CCNV) in Washington, D.C. to force our government and ourselves to confront the issue.

Snyder was able to generate national attention through his unique brand of non-violent confrontational protest tactics aimed at shocking the public and drawing media attention to this cause. These protest tactics included building occupations, vandalism, pray-ins, laugh-ins, blood-pourings, and, most notably, hunger strikes.

In 1969, Snyder left his position as a Madison Avenue management consultant to devote his life full time to peace and justice issues. He started hitchhiking west and was found sleeping in a stolen car in California in November 1970. He was arrested, tried, and convicted of grand theft auto and violation of the Dyer Act, which is a federal crime. Snyder served three years in federal prison, mostly at the Federal Correctional Institution, Danbury, Conn.

During his time in prison, he met the radical anti-war Catholic priests Phillip and Daniel Berrigan. Like the Berrigans, Snyder became an outspoken critic of the Vietnam War and of the treatment of prisoners in federal correctional facilities. Snyder converted to Christianity and fully embraced a radical Catholic form of social protest. While serving his sentence, his protest methods included prisoner work strikes and hunger strikes. The political and spiritual conversion he experienced in prison profoundly shaped his life from that point forward. In many ways Snyder found his calling and voice in prison.

In the papers of Mitch Snyder (https://library.gwu.edu/ead/ms2018.xml) housed at the Special Collections Research Center in the George Washington University Libraries is contained a diary he kept while on a hunger strike protesting the treatment of prisoners. These diary entries provide many insights into Snyder’s growing commitment to activism and his understanding of the power of political protest. His diary documents how he found a community and developed a deeper understanding of what it means to be a part of a community. Snyder was also lonely and desperately missed his family and children, yet acknowledged it was his choice to walk away and that this was the sacrifice his moral courage required. The collection also reflects Snyder’s life, relationships, and activism through extensive correspondence, protest materials, writings, legal papers, and more.

In 1973, after being released from prison, Snyder came to Washington, D.C. specifically to join up with CCNV as an anti-war protester. CCNV was founded in the 1970s by Father Ed Guinan and a group of George Washington University students as an expression of both faith and moral outrage. CCNV was their response to questions about justice and human rights during a time of war.1 As the war ended CCNV began to shift its focus to the issues surrounding D.C.’s poor and unsheltered population.

CCNV set up soup kitchens, hospitality centers, and medical clinics in D.C. Its more radical acts included a protest in Lafayette Park across from the White House—dubbed “Reaganville.” This brought the presence of unsheltered people closer to the center of power and became a symbol of the great discrepancy in values in our nation. In 1982, CCNV helped organize and participated in the first congressional hearings on homelessness in the United States in nearly 50 years. In 1984 after a highly-publicized fast by Snyder and CCNV’s aggressive occupation campaign, President Ronald Reagan finally agreed to fund the renovation of the Federal City Shelter. The 1,350-bed Federal City Shelter is the largest and most comprehensive facility of its kind in the country. It sits at 425 Second Street NW—now known as Mitch Snyder Way.

On July 3, 1990 Snyder died in his room at the Federal City Shelter, the very shelter he helped build and where he lived.

1 From the CCNV website: http://www.theccnv.org/
for most of his time with the CCNV. His memory and message continue to resonate throughout D.C. and in the activist community. Many of the issues that Snyder fought against continue to exist across the country. It takes a special person and deep commitment to move our collective consciousness around an issue and inspire us not only to take action, but to believe in the possibility of action.

by Leah Richardson, George Washington University

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

Close-up of page from Mitch Snyder’s hunger strike diary. Courtesy of the Special Collections Resource Center, George Washington University Libraries.

Welcome New Members!

**December 2016**

Erin Alghandoor . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Kean University
Pamela Barroso
Grace Barth . . . . . . . . James Madison University
David Byrd . . . . Air Force History and Museums Program
Ron Davis . . . . Norfolk & Western Historical Society
Kathleen DeLaney . . . . . . . . Canisius College
Andrey Filimonov . . . . . . Center for Jewish History
Kendra Lightner . . . . . . Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library
Michael Maloney . . . Schenectady County Historical Society
Ann McShane . . . Clayton State University (Morrow, GA)
Sarah Oswald . . . . Union College
Erin Smith . . . . Museum of Three Stooges Memorabilia
Morgen Stevens-Garmon . Museum of the City of New York
Susan Wiesner . . . . University of Maryland Libraries

**January 2017**

Rebecca Bramlett . . . George Mason University Libraries
Erich Chang . . . . . . Rockefeller Archive Center
Peggy Dillard . . . . . . Rosenberg Library
Eunice Liu . . . . . . . The Winthrop Group, Inc.
Juliana Magro . . . . . Brooklyn College
Kathleen Melgar . . . Asbury Park Public Library
Sue Mershimer . . . . The World Bank Group
Martha Neri . . . . Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy
Amanda Peters . . . . Penn State University
Kristyn Scorsone . . . Newark Public Library
Molly Tighe . . . . . . Chatham University
Jane Verostek . . . SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

**February 2017**

Amy Berish . . . . . . Rockefeller Archive Center
N. Renee Brown . . . . University of Maryland University College
Matthew Callahan . . . Asbury Park Public Library
Sherri Farber . . . . . Rutgers University
Erin Fisher . . . . University of Maryland College Park
Jessica Myers . . . . Retired
Melissa Nerino . . . Industrial Archives & Library
Nora Reilly . . . New York School of Interior Design
Clayton Ruminski . . . Hagley Museum and Library
Julie Stoner . . . Library of Congress
Eric Walerko . . . Margaret R. Grundy Memorial Library
Nicholas Zmijewski . . . Industrial Archives & Library
## Treasurer’s Report
### Fiscal Year 2017, 2nd Quarter

(October 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016)

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<td>$79,546.41</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$204,499.86</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Summary - Second Quarter FY 2017</strong></th>
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<td>Opening Balance</td>
<td>$244,658.69</td>
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<td>$244,658.69</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
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<td>$32,186.52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>($72,345.35)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closing Balance</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Restricted Funds</strong></th>
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<td>PNC Savings</td>
<td>$51,182.59</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vanguard Bonds</td>
<td>$79,546.41</td>
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<td>$79,546.41</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>$130,729.00</td>
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</table>
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As MARAC returns to New Jersey, did you attend these previous meetings in the Garden State to connect with the history of Sinatra, Edison, and General Washington or to prepare for preservation in the 1990s? And check out how the programs evolved over time!

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New Brunswick, Spring 1983

Princeton, Spring 1986

New Brunswick, Spring 1990

Long Branch, Spring 1993

New Brunswick, Spring 2000
IMAGE CREDITS

FRONT COVER IMAGE
Cherry blossoms in bloom in Branch Brook Park in Newark, NJ. Photograph. Courtesy of the Essex County Parks Department.

FRONT COVER, TOP LEFT

PAGE 6
On the front steps of the Trenton War Memorial where the rally began. 21 January 2017. Photograph by Sarah Minegar.

PAGE 8
Clock in Military Park. Greater Newark Convention and Visitors Bureau.

PAGE 10
Branch Brook Park. Courtesy of the Essex County Parks Department.

PAGE 11
View of Weequahic Golf Course. Courtesy of the Essex County Parks Department.

PAGE 13
Buffalo City Hall, an Art Deco building on the National Register of Historic Places. 2016. Photograph by Jim Tammaro.

BACK COVER, LEFT TO RIGHT
Puerto Rico Day Parade [Newark, NJ]. Photograph.
Newark Public Library. Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center.

Newark Public Library. Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center.

New Pennsylvania R.R. Station, Newark, N.J. Postcard.
Newark Public Library. Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center.

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Hilary Lewis Walczak, MA in Public History, 2011
College Archivist, Grove City College
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