

Newsletter  
of the  
Illinois  
State  
Archives  
&  
The Illinois  
State Historical  
Records  
Advisory Board

**Jesse White**  
Secretary of State  
&  
State Archivist

Volume 22  
Number 2



## State Archives/State Library promote Lincoln Bicentennial celebration

Secretary of State Jesse White has announced that the Illinois State

Archives and the State Library have embarked on a multifaceted promotional campaign to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, Feb. 12, 2009.

"Next year, our nation will celebrate the bicentennial of the birth of Illinois' greatest son and our nation's greatest president," said Secretary of State Jesse White, who serves as State Archivist and State Librarian. "The State Archives and the State Library have many connections to Abraham Lincoln, and the Secretary of State's office is honored to help mark this important celebration by making the public, especially our schoolchildren, aware of Lincoln's greatness and his special ties to Illinois."

The State Archives holds a number of Lincoln documents — many written in Lincoln's hand — including

records during Lincoln's tenure in the General Assembly (1834-1841) and correspondence with various state officials. The Illinois Digital Archives, a repository of the State Library's digital collections, contains books and documents about the life, political career and assassination of Lincoln. The State Archives' collection of Lincoln documents has recently been digitized on IDA, which may be accessed at [www.idaillinois.org](http://www.idaillinois.org).

The Archives also is preparing an Abraham Lincoln teaching packet to be distributed to all middle and secondary schools in Illinois. The packet will contain a teacher's manual and facsimiles of selected Lincoln documents. The manual will outline the objectives of the teaching packet, discuss the nature of the documents, give a brief historical background for the period considered, and offer suggestions for further reading. Each document will include a verbatim transcription, an explanation of the document and suggested points to consider.

The State Library is sponsoring an essay contest for

(continued on page 4)



### EFIRD RECOGNIZED FOR 35 YEARS OF SERVICE

— Veteran Archives employee Kim Efird was recognized in January by Secretary of State Jesse White for his 35 years of service. Kim's work entails inventorying and processing state government documents stored in

the Archives and responding to reference requests. Over the years, he has become an expert on the records of the General Assembly. Efird holds a master's degree in library science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and is a certified archivist. He is a member of several archives organizations, including the Society of American Archivists, the Midwest Archives Conference and the International Congress on Archives, as well as the American Association for State and Local History, and the American Library Association.

"I cannot express enough praise and gratitude for Kim's unrelenting dedication to the State Archives," said Secretary White. "His commitment to his work, his coworkers and, ultimately, the people of Illinois have earned him immense respect among his peers and the archives community."

## DATES & REMINDERS

### **Society of American Archivists' 72nd Annual Meeting**

"ARCHIVES 2008: Archival R/Evolution & Identities"

August 26-30, San Francisco, CA

[www.archivists.org/conference/sanfrancisco2008](http://www.archivists.org/conference/sanfrancisco2008)

### **21st Midwest States Micrographics Conference**

September 16-18, Springfield

[www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com) • 217-782-5188

### **Illinois Association of Museums Annual Conference**

"Professional Excellence: Leadership in Museums"

September 24-26, Elmhurst

[www.illinoismuseums.org](http://www.illinoismuseums.org)

### **Illinois State Genealogical Society's 40th Anniversary Conference**

"40 Years of Discovery — Portals to the Future"

October 18, Elgin

[www.rootsweb.com](http://www.rootsweb.com)

### **Illinois Historic Preservation Agency's 2008 Conference on Illinois History**

October 30-31, Springfield

[www.illinoishistory.gov](http://www.illinoishistory.gov) • 217-785-7933

### **Downstate Local Records Commission Meeting**

1st Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m. (unless otherwise noted)

Margaret Cross Norton Building, Springfield

[www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com)

### **Cook County Local Records Commission Meeting**

2nd Tuesday of the month, 11 a.m.

Video Conference Room, 9th floor

Thompson Center, Chicago

or

Capital City Center, Springfield

130 W. Mason St.

[www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com)

### **State Records Commission Meeting**

3rd Wednesday of every month, 9:30 a.m.

Margaret Cross Norton Building, Springfield

[www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com)



## MayDay: A call to action

Archives, libraries, museums and historic preservation organizations across America set aside time on May 1 to participate in MayDay activities. The Society of American Archivists created MayDay in 2006 as a national initiative to protect valuable collections from disasters. The goal of MayDay is for archival institutions to take time to highlight emergency response and disaster preparedness initiatives.

State Archives staff observed MayDay by rereading the Archives' Internal Disaster Recovery Plan, noting the location of fire exits and extinguishers, and holding meetings of individual disaster recovery teams, which include the in-house recovery team; supplies procurement team; damage assessment and interleaving team; tag and label boxed materials team; record damages and inventory records team; packing (sorting and packing wet/damaged materials) team; physically moving/removing documents team; and record documents moved, condition, and location team.

All eight teams met to discuss each team's duties and responsibilities in the event of an emergency or disaster. Team members also discussed different scenarios and how individual teams should respond. Knowing who individual team members are, what is expected of each team, and how to respond to different scenarios can make a difference in saving archival records.

In observance of MayDay, the Archives' in-house recovery team discusses activating other Archives disaster recovery teams in the event of a disaster. Team members discussed how to react to situations ranging from earthquakes to fires to sewage backups.



In observance of MayDay, the Archives' in-house recovery team discusses activating other Archives disaster recovery teams in the event of a disaster. Team members discussed how to react to situations ranging from earthquakes to fires to sewage backups.

## Illinois Archives Month — October 2008

The Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board voted at its February meeting to again promote activities celebrating Illinois Archives Month — October 2008. This is the second year that Illinois will officially participate in Archives Month, an offshoot of a national effort to promote and increase public awareness of archival materials and repositories.

The ISHRAB encourages all Illinois archives entities to participate in Illinois Archives Month by hosting local events, exhibits and activities that highlight Illinois' rich documentary heritage. ISHRAB

will again host an events calendar at [www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/ishrab/ishrab.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/ishrab/ishrab.html) and produce a promotional poster.

For more information about Illinois Archives Month or to post an event on the event calendar, please contact:

**Illinois State Archives**  
**Margaret Cross Norton Building**  
**Publications Unit**  
**Springfield, IL 62756**  
**217-782-2226 • [eevans@ilsos.net](mailto:eevans@ilsos.net)**

## Archives honors former Director John Daly

The conference room in the Margaret Cross Norton Building was renamed the John Daly Conference Room on April 11 in honor of the former State Archives director, who retired in July 2004 after 30 years of service. The State Records Commission, the Downstate Local Records Commission, and the Illinois State Archives Advisory Board/Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board use the conference room for their meetings.

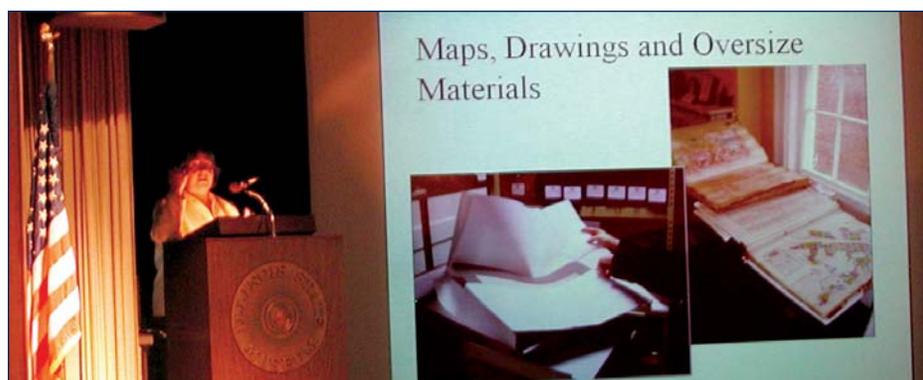
During his career as director, Dr. Daly organized the Illinois Regional Archives Depository system (IRAD), established a records management system for Chicago and Cook County records, oversaw the development of a new state records center, created the Illinois State Archives Advisory Board and the Illinois State Historical Records Board, created and later updated the *Descriptive Inventory of the Archives of the State of Illinois*, and helped make Archives information available online.

"Dr. Daly served the State Archives and the people of Illinois with pride and honor during his tenure as director," said Secretary of State Jesse White. "His attention to detail and an eye on the future of the archives industry laid the foundation for many of the Archives' initiatives in place today."

The Archives and Dr. Daly earned several awards during his tenure, including the Waldo Gifford Leland Certificate of Commendation (1979), the SAA Distinguished Service Award (1982), the C.F.W. Coker Award (1984), and the Philip M. Hamer and Elizabeth Hamer Kegan Award (1987). He is a fellow of the Society of American Archivists and has received awards from the Association of Records Managers and Administrators, the Federation of Genealogical Societies, and the Illinois State Genealogical Society.



The State Archives' conference room was renamed the John Daly Conference Room on April 11 in honor of the former Archives director.



**BASICS OF ARCHIVES** — Dottie Rehan, senior archival conservator at the Archives, presents a session on archival record conservation/preservation for the *Basics of Archives* workshop, sponsored by the Illinois Association of Museums. A second session focused on collections accessioning, organization and storage. The *Basics of Archives* is designed to introduce individuals who are responsible for archival collections, but may never have received formal archival training, to the basics of archives.

## Grant opportunities

The following grant opportunities must be applied for at **Grants.gov**. Once registered, you may apply for *any* government grant posted on the site.

### National Historical Publications and Records Commission

**Archives-Basic Projects** — Grants for fundamental archival activities that promote the preservation and use of America's documentary heritage essential to understanding our democracy, history and culture. **Final Deadline: October 1, 2008**

**Archives-Detailed Processing Projects** — Grants for promoting the preservation and use of America's documentary heritage essential to understanding of our democracy, history and culture. **Final Deadline: October 1, 2008**

For more information, please contact:  
NHPRC  
National Archives and Records Administration  
700 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Rm. 106  
Washington, D.C. 20408-0001  
Telephone: 202-357-5010 • Fax: 202-357-5914  
nhprc@nara.gov • www.archives.gov/nhprc

### National Endowment for the Humanities Preservation and Access: Humanities Collections and Resources

— Grants for digitizing collections; preservation reformatting; conservation treatment; de-acidification of collections; arranging and describing archival and manuscript collections; and cataloging collections of printed works, photographs, recorded sound, moving image, art and material culture. **Award Ceiling: \$350,000 Closing Date for Applications: July 15, 2008**

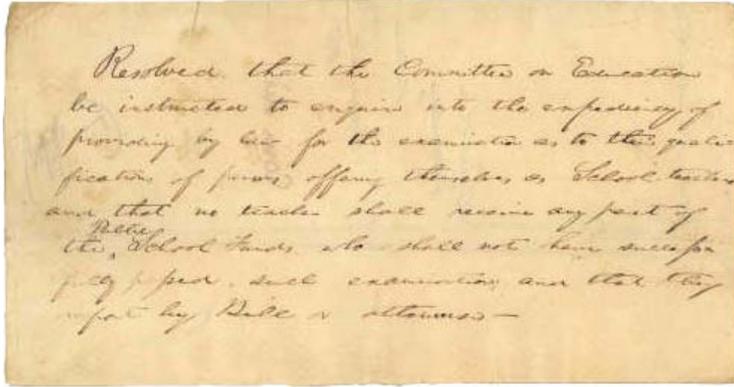
**Preservation and Access: Stabilizing Humanities Collections** — Grants for preserving humanities collections through improved housing and storage, environmental conditions, security, lighting and fire protection. **Award Ceiling: \$600,000 Deadline for Applications: October 1, 2008**

For more information, please contact:  
National Endowment for the Humanities  
Division of Preservation and Access  
1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Rm. 411  
Washington, D.C. 20506  
Telephone: 202-606-8570  
preservation@neh.gov • www.neh.gov

(continued from page 1)

Illinois students in grades 5 through 12, in which participants write a modern-day version of Lincoln's *Gettysburg Address*, reflecting their personal thoughts and dreams about where America is as a nation, and their ideals for freedom, democracy and equal opportunity. Essay contest forms were sent to all Illinois public and private elementary and secondary schools and may be downloaded at [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com). **The deadline for entries is May 31, 2008.**

Other components of the campaign include a series of six collectible bookmarks with notable trivia about Lincoln, a colorful poster to be sent to schools and libraries, a display in the Secretary of State's tent at the 2008 and 2009 Illinois State Fairs, and flagpole banners displayed around the State Library and the State Archives in Springfield.



A Dec. 2, 1840, resolution requiring all schoolteachers to pass an examination as to their qualifications was penned by Abraham Lincoln while serving in the Illinois General Assembly.

# ARCHIVES PUBLICATIONS

Hard Times in Illinois, 1930-1940: A Selection of Documents from the Illinois State Archives (2002), teacher's manual and 50 document facsimiles — \$10\*

The Illinois and Michigan Canal, 1827-1911: A Selection of Documents from the Illinois State Archives (1998), teacher's manual and 50 document facsimiles — \$12\*

Illinois at War, 1941-1945: A Selection of Documents from the Illinois State Archives (1994), teacher's manual and 50 document facsimiles — \$12\*

From the Ashes, 1872-1900: A Selection of Documents from the Proceedings Files of the Chicago City Council (1990), teacher's manual and 50 document facsimiles — \$10\*

Early Chicago, 1833-1871: A Selection of City Council Proceedings Files from the Illinois State Archives (1986, 1999), teacher's manual and 50 document facsimiles — \$14\*

**\* Teaching packets are available free to Illinois educational institutions by submitting a request on letterhead stationery. To order, please contact: Illinois State Archives, Norton Building, Publications Unit, Springfield, IL 62756, 217-782-2226.**

Presorted  
Standard  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #93  
Springfield, IL

For the Record is published three times a year by the Illinois State Archives Advisory Board, Office of the Secretary of State.

Jesse White • Secretary of State & State Archivist  
Produced by the Secretary of State Communications Department.

Printed by authority of the State of Illinois. April 2008 — 4M

Illinois State Archives  
Office of the Secretary of State  
Margaret Cross Norton Building  
Springfield, Illinois 62756