On Tuesday, April 23, archivists from the Indiana State Archives visited the Illinois State Archives so both staffs could learn about each others’ operations and swap stories. Pictured in the reference room of the Margaret Cross Norton Archives Building in Springfield are, from left to right: Robert Boots and David Joens of the Illinois State Archives; Keenan Salla, Claire Horton, Molly Herding and Chandler Lighty of the Indiana State Archives; and Cathy Poppovich of the Illinois State Archives.

Joshua Kesinger of the Illinois Secretary of State Police recently gave emergency response training to the staff of the Illinois State Archives as part of its annual MayDay emergency preparedness training. Among the issues he discussed were what to do in case of a fire, a flood, a tornado, an active shooter or mail containing a suspicious substance.

IRAD internship provides valuable experience

The Illinois Regional Archives Depository (IRAD) system is a program that provides for the storage, preservation and public accessibility of Illinois’ local government records. Started by the Illinois State Archives in 1976, IRAD consists of depositories at seven Illinois Universities: Eastern Illinois University, Illinois State University, Northern Illinois University, University of Illinois at Springfield, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago.

Among the types of records housed at the IRADs are birth, marriage and death records; meeting minutes; poll books; naturalization records; and land and tax records. The depositories receive visitors from all over the United States who utilize these records for various types of research, however, the IRAD system is more than a place to house historical local government documents. The depositories are staffed by interns, who are graduate and doctorate level students at the respected universities where the depositories are located. The IRAD program gives interns hands-on training to learn how an archives works, how to handle and conserve historical documents, and how to work with the public.

While not all interns seek a career in the archival profession, many do. In fact, the Illinois State Archives currently employs six former IRAD interns. Interns have also gone on to work in museums, historical societies and corporate archives. The current chair of the Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board is Neil Dahlstrom, a former IRAD intern and the manager of the John Deere Corporate Archives.

After 43 years, the IRAD system is still successful at giving its interns the experience needed for a successful career post graduation.
**State Archives displays first law on House floor**

On Dec. 3, 1818, Illinois officially became the 21st state. Two months later, on Feb. 4, 1819, the Illinois General Assembly passed its first law. To commemorate the bicentennial of the bill’s passage, Rep. Tim Butler requested that the State Archives display the bill on the floor of the Illinois House while the House was in session.

**Disaster preparedness and relief resources**

Every year, the Society of American Archivist’s (SAA) MayDay encourages archival institutions to set aside May 1 as a day to focus on disaster preparedness and emergency planning. Although disaster preparedness is a year-round obligation, the SAA encourages libraries, archives, museums and other cultural heritage institutions to do one simple thing each May 1 that will make a difference if, and when, a disaster occurs. Since 2007, the Illinois State Archives has participated in this day of action. Staff at the State Archives uses MayDay as an opportunity to conduct tornado, fire, earthquake and active shooting drills, test the Margaret Cross Norton Building’s alarm systems; and review and update the Archives’ internal disaster recovery plan.

For immediate assistance, contact the National Heritage Responders at 202-661-8088 or the Northeast Document Conservation Center’s 24/7 Emergency Hotline at 855-245-8033.

**Illinois Archival Repositories Directory**

The Illinois Archival Repositories Directory is an online resource that provides Illinois archivists with a way to locate other archivists in the state to exchange ideas and concerns. It also serves as a useful tool for researchers to use when trying to locate appropriate research centers. The directory is available online at [http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/ISHRAB/archival_repositories_directory/home.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/ISHRAB/archival_repositories_directory/home.html). The ISHRAB uses this directory to send news about upcoming grant opportunities and funding possibilities. The directory is searchable by name of repository, region, or name of county or city. To add your organization to the directory or update an existing listing, use either the online Submission Form ([http://www.ilosos.gov/archivalrepositories/emailForm](http://www.ilosos.gov/archivalrepositories/emailForm)) or the printable Submission Form ([http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/ard143.pdf](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/ard143.pdf)) in Adobe PDF format.

**Archives hosts student groups**

In March, the Illinois State Archives gave tours of the Margaret Cross Norton Building to archival students from Illinois College (left) and the University of Illinois (right). Students took a behind-the-scenes tour of the building and learned about paper conservation, the history of the Illinois State Archives and careers in the archival field.

**Professional development scholarships available to Illinois archivists**

The Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board (ISHRAB) is offering professional development scholarships to Illinois archivists and archival volunteers to attend an archival workshop or seminar of their choice in Illinois (or an online professional archival development course). Awards are available for up to $200 per applicant, per year, and may be used toward the cost of registration, housing, and/or travel to the event. This is a reimbursable award and scholarships will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis until the funding is exhausted. Complete scholarship information and an application form can be found at [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com) (click on Departments, Illinois State Archives, Illinois Historical Records Advisory Board).

**DATES & REMINDERS**

**Pritzker Military Museum and Library**

**Oral History Week Transcription Class**

July 12, Chicago

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

**National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators**

2019 NAGARA Annual Conference (35th Anniversary)

“10,000 Lakes, 10,000 Opportunities”

July 18-20, St. Paul, MN

[https://nagara.org/annualconferences](https://nagara.org/annualconferences)

**Society of American Archivists/Council of State Archivists**

2019 Joint Annual Meeting

“ARCHIVES * RECORDS 2019: Transformative!”

July 31-Aug. 3, Austin, TX

[https://www2.archivists.org/events/](https://www2.archivists.org/events/)

**Archives hosts student groups**

In March, the Illinois State Archives gave tours of the Margaret Cross Norton Building to archival students from Illinois College (left) and the University of Illinois (right). Students took a behind-the-scenes tour of the building and learned about paper conservation, the history of the Illinois State Archives and careers in the archival field.

**Professional development scholarships available to Illinois archivists**

The Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board (ISHRAB) is offering professional development scholarships to Illinois archivists and archival volunteers to attend an archival workshop or seminar of their choice in Illinois (or an online professional archival development course). Awards are available for up to $200 per applicant, per year, and may be used toward the cost of registration, housing, and/or travel to the event. This is a reimbursable award and scholarships will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis until the funding is exhausted. Complete scholarship information and an application form can be found at [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com) (click on Departments, Illinois State Archives, Illinois Historical Records Advisory Board).

**Archives hosts student groups**

In March, the Illinois State Archives gave tours of the Margaret Cross Norton Building to archival students from Illinois College (left) and the University of Illinois (right). Students took a behind-the-scenes tour of the building and learned about paper conservation, the history of the Illinois State Archives and careers in the archival field.

**Professional development scholarships available to Illinois archivists**

The Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board (ISHRAB) is offering professional development scholarships to Illinois archivists and archival volunteers to attend an archival workshop or seminar of their choice in Illinois (or an online professional archival development course). Awards are available for up to $200 per applicant, per year, and may be used toward the cost of registration, housing, and/or travel to the event. This is a reimbursable award and scholarships will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis until the funding is exhausted. Complete scholarship information and an application form can be found at [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com) (click on Departments, Illinois State Archives, Illinois Historical Records Advisory Board).
State Archives displays first law on House floor

On Dec. 3, 1818, Illinois officially became the 21st state. Two months later, on Feb. 4, 1819, the Illinois General Assembly passed its first law. To commemorate the bicentennial of the bill’s passage, Rep. Tim Butler requested that the State Archives display the bill on the floor of the Illinois House while the House was in session.

Disaster preparedness and relief resources

Every year, the Society of American Archivist’s (SAA) MayDay encourages archival institutions to set aside May 1 as a day to focus on disaster preparedness and emergency planning. Although disaster preparedness is a year-round obligation, the SAA encourages libraries, archives, museums and other cultural heritage institutions to do one simple thing each May 1 that will make a difference if, and when, a disaster occurs. Since 2007, the Illinois State Archives has participated in this day of action. Staff at the State Archives uses MayDay as an opportunity to conduct tornado, fire, earthquake and active shooting drills, test the Margaret Cross Norton Building’s alarm systems, and review and update the Archives’ internal disaster recovery plan.

Being prepared for a disaster or an emergency also means knowing where to turn to for resources and help. With the recent flooding in the Midwest, the SAA has released a list of recovery resources for Midwest institutions. The full list of resources is available at https://www2.archivists.org/news/2019/midwest-flooding-recovery-resources.

For immediate assistance, contact the National Heritage Responders at 202-661-8088 or the Northeast Document Conservation Center’s 24/7 Emergency Hotline at 855-245-8033.

Archives hosts student groups

In March, the Illinois State Archives gave tours of the Margaret Cross Norton Building to archival students from Illinois College (left) and the University of Illinois (right). Students took a behind-the-scenes tour of the building and learned about paper conservation, the history of the Illinois State Archives and careers in the archival field.

Illinois Archival Repositories Directory

The Illinois Archival Repositories Directory is an online resource that provides Illinois archivists with a way to locate other archivists in the state to exchange ideas and concerns. It also serves as a useful tool for researchers to use when trying to locate appropriate research centers. The directory is available online at http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/ISHRAB/archival_repositories_directory/home.html. The ISHRAB uses this directory to send news about upcoming grant opportunities and funding possibilities. The directory is searchable by name of repository, region, or name of county or city. To add your organization to the directory or update an existing listing, use either the online Submission Form (http://www.ilso.gov/archivalrepositories/emailForm) or the printable Submission Form (http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/ard143.pdf) in Adobe PDF format.

Professional development scholarships available to Illinois archivists

The Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board (ISHRAB) is offering professional development scholarships to Illinois archivists and archival volunteers to attend an archival workshop/seminar of their choice in Illinois (or an online professional archival development course). Awards are available for up to $200 per applicant, per year, and may be used toward the cost of registration, housing, and/or travel to the event. This is a reimbursable award and scholarships will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis until the funding is exhausted. Complete scholarship information and an application form can be found at www.cyberdriveillinois.com (click on Departments, Illinois State Archives, Illinois Historical Records Advisory Board).
On Tuesday, April 23, archivists from the Indiana State Archives visited the Illinois State Archives so both staffs could learn about each other’s operations and swap stories. Pictured in the reference room of the Margaret Cross Norton Archives Building in Springfield are, from left to right: Robert Boots and David Joens of the Illinois State Archives; Keenan Salla, Claire Horton, Molly Herring and Chandler Lighty of the Illinois State Archives; and Cathy Popovitch of the Illinois State Archives.

Joshua Kesinger of the Illinois Secretary of State Police recently gave emergency response training to the staff of the Illinois State Archives as part of its annual MayDay emergency preparedness training. Among the issues he discussed were what to do in case of a fire, a flood, a tornado, an active shooter or mail containing a suspicious substance.

**Select Archives Publications**

- Abraham Lincoln in Illinois: A Selection of Documents from the Illinois State Archives (2008), teacher’s manual (87 pp.) and 35 document facsimiles with transcriptions – $10.00*

From the Archives, 1872-1900: A Selection of Documents from the Proceedings Files of the Chicago City Council (1990), teacher’s manual (123 pp.) and 50 document facsimiles with transcriptions – $10*

Early Chicago, 1833-1871: A Selection of City Council Proceedings Files from the Illinois State Archives (1898, 1999), teacher’s manual (115 pp.) and 50 document facsimiles with transcriptions – $14*

*Teaching packets are available FREE to Illinois educational institutions by submitting a request on letterhead stationery. All other requests are filled for the fee listed. To order publications, please contact: Illinois State Archives, Publications Unit, Norton Building, Springfield, IL 62756, 217-524-6700. Please make checks payable to Secretary of State. For a complete list of Illinois State Archives publications, please visit: [http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/publications.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/publications.html).

**For the Record**

The Illinois Regional Archives Depository (IRAD) system is a program that provides for the storage, preservation and public accessibility of Illinois’ local government records. Started by the Illinois State Archives in 1976, IRAD consists of depositories at seven Illinois Universities: Eastern Illinois University, Illinois State University, Northern Illinois University, University of Illinois at Springfield, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago.

Among the types of records housed at the IRADs are birth, marriage and death records; meeting minutes; poll books; naturalization records; and land and tax records. The depositories receive visitors from all over the United States who utilize these records for various types of research; however, the IRAD system is more than a place to house historical local government documents. The depositories are staffed by interns, who are graduate and doctorate level students at the respected universities where the depositories are located. The IRAD program gives interns hands-on training to learn how an archives works, how to handle and conserve historical documents, and how to work with the public.

While not all interns seek a career in the archival profession, many do. In fact, the Illinois State Archives currently employs six former IRAD interns. Interns have also gone on to work in museums, historical societies and corporate archives. The current chair of the Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board is Neil Dahlstrom, a former IRAD intern and the manager of the John Deere Corporate Archives.

After 43 years, the IRAD system is still successful at giving its interns the experience needed for a successful career post graduation.