

Capital Area Archivists of New York State

CAA

Fall



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NEWS

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October is Archives Month!

Throughout the country, Archives Month is celebrated to raise public awareness about the importance of historic documents and records. In the Capital District, Archives Month provides an opportunity to engage our local communities in exploring the heritage, culture and wealth of our history through historical documents, photographs and artifacts.

The Society of American Archivists has an "I Found it in the Archives!" campaign (see <http://www2.archivists.org/initiatives/i-found-it-in-the-archives>) to celebrate all the wonderful treasures our archives hold. The Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference has announced "Celebrating Advocacy for Archives" (see <http://www.marac.info/mc/page.do?sitePageId=127365&orgId=marac>) as the theme for Archives Month 2011.

Use these two themes to get you started or come up with an idea all your own. The important thing is to celebrate archives! The Capital District's Documentary Heritage Program is now collecting information on Archives Month events to advertise through their online calendar, email lists, and print posters. Institutions are invited to submit information on ongoing exhibits that last longer than Archives Month as well as events especially created for Archives Month.

Visit http://www.cdlc.org/Programs_And_Services/dhp/dhpArchMonth.shtml for more information on the Capital District's Archives Month, ideas for programs, and an online event submission form. For more information, you can also contact Susan D'Entremont, Regional Archivist, at 518-438-2500 or susan@cdlc.org.

Archives Dinner

The 16th annual Capital Region Archives will be held on Wednesday, October 5, 2011 at 6:00 PM. This year's dinner will be held at Jack's Oyster House in Albany, NY. The keynote speakers are Paul and Mary Liz Stewart, founders of the Underground Railroad History Project of the Capital Region (URHPCR). The URHPCR seeks to acknowledge the active underground railroad movement in our region, to raise awareness about and stimulate interest in this little recognized and inspiring part of our history, to understand it in its historic context, to encourage the recognition of local historic figures and the activities in which they engaged, and to preserve that history.

The cost to attend this year's Archives Dinner is \$37.00 per person, payable by check to "Archives Dinner" and mailed to Kathleen Newkirk at 331 Clapper Road, Selkirk NY 12158. For questions contact Brian Keough, bkeough@albany.edu or check out our website at http://www.cdlic.org/Programs_And_Services/dhp/2011ArchivesDinnerPage.pdf.

NYS Archives Introduces Rare Images of Ground Zero On-line

The New York State Archives, the nation's largest repository of records of a state

government, has introduced a new online exhibition entitled Ground Zero from the Air.

Based upon an archival collection of images commissioned from a private contractor by the New York State Office for Technology (NYS OFT), the website features aerial, infrared and computer generated imagery of Ground Zero, as well as photo images of recovery efforts. Also included is a directory of related websites and New York State Government records contained within the New York State Archives related to the World Trade Center attacks and subsequent response efforts.

Principally accumulated during a series of flights that occurred between September 15 and October 22, 2001, the aerial imagery collected for NYS OFT was used to direct the efforts of first responders, identify unstable areas, pinpoint stairwells and elevator shafts, and coordinate removal of debris.

"As we consider the events of September 11, 2001 and the heroic efforts of first responders and, indeed, of many levels of local, state, and federal government in the weeks and months following the attacks, we at the New York State Archives committed ourselves to putting together an online exhibition that provided a unique look at this history event for the 10th anniversary," said New York

State Archivist Christine W. Ward.

Ground Zero from the Air is the newest in a series of projects undertaken by the New York State Archives. Following the 2001 attack on the World Trade Center, the New York State Archives was instrumental in the creation of the World Trade Center Documentation Task Force, a multi-institution group committed to identification, collection and preservation of public and private records that chronicle the attack and its aftermath and to determine future steps necessary to insure that the historical record is as complete as possible for use by future generations.

Ground Zero from the Air may be found on the New York State Archives homepage at www.archives.nysed.gov.

This newsletter is supplied through the stories and news of your institutions. Please consider submitting an article for the spring newsletter planned for March 2012 to Emily Allen at eallen@mail.nysed.gov.