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## ***Long Island Archives***

*Newsletter of the Documentary Heritage Program  
Long Island Library Resources Council*

### **Documentary Heritage Program Workshops for the Fall 2009**

Title: Appraisal of Archival Materials

Date: Thursday, September 10, 2009

Time: 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Presenter: Antonia Mattheou, Archivist-Huntington Town Clerk's Archives

Place: Harborfields Public Library, 31 Broadway, Greenlawn, New York

Title: Grant Writing Session

Date: Thursday, October 22, 2009

Time: 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Presenter: Antonia Mattheou, Archivist-Huntington Town Clerk's Archives

Place: Harborfields Public Library, 31 Broadway, Greenlawn, New York

Title: Creating a Finding Aid for Historical Materials

Date: Friday, November 20, 2009

Time: 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Presenter: Sharon Pullen, Suffolk County Archivist-Historic Documents Library

Place: Sachem Public Library, 150 Holbrook Road, Holbrook, New York

### **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Archives Month Conference**

Title: "Racing on Long Island: Horses to Horsepower"

Place: Hoffman Center, formerly the George S. Brewster Family Estate  
6000 Northern Blvd., East Norwich, NY 11732

Date: October 9, 2009

Time: 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Guest presenters at this breakfast conference will discuss the history of various types of racing on Long Island, including auto racing and horse racing. Please join us for breakfast at this beautiful venue.

Invitations will be mailed in late August. If you are not on our mailing list, please contact the Regional Archivist at 631-675-1568 or e-mail: [vantonuc@lilrc.org](mailto:vantonuc@lilrc.org)

### **October is American Archives Month!**

*The mystic chords of memory, stretch . . . from every . . .  
living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land . . .*

—Abraham Lincoln's First Inaugural Address, March 4, 1861

President Lincoln's eloquent reference to "the mystic chords of memory" resonates today as we celebrate the importance of archives. The American record has enduring value and America's archives—in all their diversity of form and function—serve as its memory.

American Archives Month is an opportunity "all over this broad land" to raise awareness about the value of archives—and archivists, according to the Society of American Archivists ([www.archivists.org](http://www.archivists.org)).

American Archives Month is intended to raise public awareness about the importance of historic documents and records. Hopefully, this project will grow over time into a fully coordinated nationwide effort to promote the value of archives and the importance of archivists.

To celebrate Archives Month in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) areas, the Steering Committee designated the month of October for activities. Although member states and institutions may promote their own themes, MARAC encourages all members and member institutions to think about the concept "Choosing Our Better History."

Information about Archives Month celebrations on Long Island will soon be gathered and a calendar of Archives Month Events will be created. Please help support your local historical society, library local history room, and archives by attending their planned celebrations and events. Our national and local history must be preserved.

### **What is MARAC?**

On June 23, 1972, a meeting organized by Mary Boccaccio, Frank Evans, and Elsie Freivogel was held in the Katherine Anne Porter Room of McKeldin Library at the College Park campus of the University of Maryland. It attracted thirty-three archivists; the agenda as the possible formation of what eventually became MARAC—the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference. By the end of calendar year 1972, this fledgling organization had held its first semi-annual meeting in Wilmington, Delaware, attracting one hundred and fifty archivists and manuscript curators. In 1972, MARAC also published the first issue of the *Mid-Atlantic Archivist (MAA)*.

The initial purpose of the group was to plan practical action-oriented conferences and workshops and to seek additional means of increasing professional competence, preserving local historical resources, and promoting cooperation with colleagues in related fields. Semi-annual meetings have continued to be a major focus of MARAC's activities from 1972 to the present. These meetings have offered a wide range of workshops and tours designed to appeal to a broad cross-section of the membership—from beginning archivists to experienced professionals and staff from both small and large repositories. To an increasing degree, sessions at the meetings are designed to relate to an overall theme. Two thematic meetings resulted in the publication of two archival symposia papers, *Constitutional Issues* and *Archives and Automation in Archives*.

Next meeting: Fall 2009– October 29-31, Jersey City, NJ. The program theme is “Bridges and Tunnels: Building Archival Connections.”

*Adapted and condensed from MARAC history written by Lauren Brown and Anne Turkos, November 1987, published in Mid-Atlantic Archivist.*

### **History Corner:**

A new historical society is being formed in the Port Jefferson Station/Terryville area named the Cumsewogue Historical Society. For information about how to join the Society, please contact Jack Smith, President at: Cumsewogue Historical Society, PO Box 585, Terryville, NY 11776.

***New members are most welcome!***

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