

Humanities Council Sponsors

MUMMY!



Coffin, Dynasty 21 (1075-945 B.C.), wood and painted gesso. Courtesy of the Michael C. Carlos Museum of Emory University. Photo by Kay Hinton.

The West Virginia Humanities Council is a major sponsor of *MUMMY!* now on display at the Huntington Museum of Art. The exhibit features a beautifully embellished 21st Dynasty (1075-945 B.C.) coffin, with its mummy, on loan from the Michael C. Carlos Museum of Emory University.

Egyptian culture was greatly influenced by the idea of the cycles of life: the cycle of the sun god, who was reborn each morning; the cycle of the Nile with its annual flooding; and the cycle of human life — birth, life, death, and resurrection.

Ancient Egyptians placed great importance on funerary practices. From the earliest days of the culture kings constructed mortuary temples, and most Egyptians spent significant time and resources in preparation for eternity. The concept of the afterlife, and the average Egyptian's access to it, changed over time, but life after death was generally thought to mirror life here on earth. Their funerary practices reflected this belief.

During the 21st Dynasty, from which the Carlos Museum coffin dates, the large decorated tombs of earlier periods were replaced by small unadorned chambers containing a number of burials. In this period, when decorated chapels had almost ceased to be

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Slimming Down — We will offer this streamlined version of *People & Mountains* for the next few issues, to free up staff time to help in the final preparations for publication of the *West Virginia Encyclopedia*.

In the meantime, think of *People & Mountains* as a newsletter. We will drop only the feature articles, retaining all the news items and current information, including

Grant Guidelines, What's New in the Humanities, Booknotes, and so forth. We will continue to post timely material on the Council website, as well. Visit us there at www.wvhumanities.org.

We expect to resume publication of *People & Mountains* as a full-size magazine with the 2003 Annual Report issue.—ed.

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In Praise of the Old and Short

“Old words are best, and old words when short are best of all.”

The quotation is from Winston Churchill, and pardon me if I’ve used it in this column before. It’s just that words are at present much on our minds here at the office. We are buried in them, in fact, as we prepare the massive *West Virginia Encyclopedia* manuscript for typesetting — a million words, by our best estimate, long and short, old and new. The wisdom of the great Prime Minister (and writer of history and master of English) is becoming more apparent all the time.

The *West Virginia Encyclopedia*, as you may know, is the flagship project of the West Virginia Humanities Council, in preparation for the last five years and now approaching publication. It is to be an authoritative, one-volume, A-to-Z reference. Our slogan is “All there is to know about West Virginia.” That may not be literally true, but — with 2,200 articles by 600 expert writers — we expect our big book to have at least something to say on just about everything to do with the Mountain State.

Copy editor Judie Smith and I labor daily to apply Churchill’s advice as we work with these 600 freelancers, favoring short words over long and solid old language over jargon.

Thus, unless vigilance fails (and how would we explain *that* to the great PM?), you will not find “utilize” for “use” in the *West Virginia Encyclopedia*. We will not use “listing” when “list” will suffice, nor “thought process” when the writer is simply thinking of thought. There will be no “Huntington-based” individuals, companies, or organizations, when a simple Huntington (or Shepherdstown, Wheeling, or Bluefield) will do. We’ll not “finalize” anything at all, even as we rush to finish the book.

We will use the polysyllabic (and how’s that for a big one?) when nothing else will do, but not throw in the ten-dollar terms just to fancy things up. And we will ease our writers in the same direction.

In a word, we’ll stand firm, Mr. Churchill — if not on the beaches and in the hedgerows then at least in the sentences and the paragraphs. It’s not heroic, in particular, but it’s a darn good cause.

Ken Sullivan

People & Mountains is published quarterly by the West Virginia Humanities Council.

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We welcome reader letters, freelance manuscripts, and financial contributions. Address all correspondence to Jane J. Siers, West Virginia Humanities Council, 1310 Kanawha Blvd., E. Charleston, WV 25301 or e-mail to siers@wvhumanities.org.

The West Virginia Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, serves West Virginia through grants and direct programs in the humanities.

Your Letters

Literacy Volume Helps Inmates

Dear Humanities Council:

A few years ago the West Virginia Humanities Council supplied the West Virginia Department of Education at Pruntytown Correctional Center with *A History of West Virginia*. The book, along with the student guide, is currently out of stock. *A History of West Virginia* is the only West Virginia history book available to adult “new readers.”

The population of Pruntytown Correctional Center consists of approximately 78 women and 270 men between the ages of twenty and sixty. During the 2002-2003 school year, 134 residents did not have a high school credential or a General Equivalency Diploma (GED). The test of Adult Basic Education average reading level for the 134 residents tested was third grade, fourth month.

A History of West Virginia and the student guide are used in our Adult Basic Education Program and have proven to be a great reading motivator. The text is interesting and relevant for our new adult readers, and they take great pride in reading about West Virginia. Please consider making this text available once again.

Ronald R. Marino
Lead Teacher
Pruntytown Correctional Center

We are always happy to hear that our work makes a difference. We hope to find a financial sponsor so that we can reprint A History of West Virginia. We'll let you know as soon as that happens. —ed.

Grant Guidelines

Major Grants

Major grants have a budget over \$1,500. Applicants should allow ten weeks between the deadline and the start of the project. Maximum award: \$20,000.

Deadlines: February 1 and September 1

Number of Copies: 24

Minigrants

Minigrants have a budget of \$1,500 or less. Most proposals in this category are for smaller projects, single events, consultation needs, and planning for more complex projects. Applicants should allow six weeks between the deadline and the start of the project. Requests from schools for grants under \$500 will be referred to the West Virginia Education Alliance.

Deadlines: February 1, April 1, June 1, August 1, October 1, and December 1

Number of Copies: 6

Media Grants

Media grants have a budget over \$1,500 and support the planning, scripting, and production of projects intended to produce electronic or film materials, or a newspaper series. Maximum award: \$20,000.

Deadline: September 1

Number of Copies: 24

Publication Grants

Publication grants have a budget over \$1,500. This category is available only to nonprofit presses and recognized academic presses and supports *only* the production phase of a completed manuscript.

Maximum award: \$20,000.

Deadline: September 1

Number of Copies: 24

Fellowships

Fellowships of \$2,500 are awarded once annually to college faculty and independent scholars to support research and writing projects within a humanities discipline.

Deadline: February 1

Number of Copies: 6

Teacher Institute Grants

This category is available to college and university professors and supports a two-week teacher seminar on a humanities topic suited to the teaching needs of elementary or secondary teachers. Maximum award: \$20,000.

Deadline: September 1

All grants categories have supplemental guidelines and applications; call the Humanities Council office for a copy. All West Virginia Humanities Council grant application forms are now available on-line and can be completed on our website — www.wvhumanities.org

Humanities Council staff are always available to help you with your proposal. Pam LeRose, grants administrator, can help you formulate your idea, review drafts, even suggest additional funding sources. She can be reached by phone at — (304) 346-8500 or via e-mail at lerose@wvhumanities.org.

What's New in the Humanities

Call for Citizen Member Nominations



The Humanities Council is seeking new citizen members for its program committee. This committee is responsible for all grant funding decisions and the implementation of Council-conducted programs, such as *History Alive!* and the *Speakers Bureau*. The program committee is composed of equal numbers of citizen members and members of the Council's board

of directors. Citizen members are elected to three-year terms with the possibility of re-election for a second three-year term.

This year four citizen members will be elected: two members from schools, and two from the general public.

Responsibilities of citizen members:

1. Two one-day meetings annually, one in February and one in September, to review major grant applications and make decisions concerning Council-conducted programs
2. Two minigrant review meetings per year (by conference call).
3. One planning and evaluation meeting per year.

Nominations must include the name of the nominee, his/her address and telephone number (home and office), and a brief statement about his/her connection and contributions to the humanities.

Nominations must be received by April 30, 2003.

Send nominations to:

Pam LeRose
West Virginia Humanities Council
1310 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, WV 25301
Or e-mail: lerose@wvhumanities.org

Holmberg on Lewis & Clark

Noted Lewis and Clark scholar James J. Holmberg will speak in three West Virginia cities this year, sponsored by the Humanities Council. Holmberg is curator of special collections for the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, Kentucky, and specializes in the history of the Lewis and Clark expedition. He travels extensively, lecturing on the famous Corps of Discovery. Holmberg wrote the epilogue for the revised edition of *In Search of York: The Slave Who Went to the Pacific with Lewis and Clark* (2000) and edited *Dear Brother: Letters of William Clark to Jonathon Clark* (2002).

His Council-sponsored



lectures, entitled "Down the Ohio and into the Wilderness: The Story of the Lewis and Clark Expedition," will illustrate the important eastern legacy, as well as the western trail. In each presentation Mr. Holmberg will examine the role played by the host community in the famous expedition.

A part of the eastern route of Lewis and Clark.

Holmberg Lecture Schedule

March 29, 7:00 PM

Mather Training Center, Harpers Ferry National Historic Park

September 4, 7:00 PM

Swint Hall, Wheeling Jesuit University, Wheeling

September 20, 7:00 PM

Harris Riverfront Park, Huntington

Mary Lee Settle Spring Tour

Novelist Mary Lee Settle will present a series of free public readings from her works, focusing on the *Beulah Quintet*, at three West Virginia colleges in April. The tour is sponsored by the Humanities Council, and the Council thanks



Novelist Mary Lee Settle.

former governor Gaston Caperton for his generous financial support of the project.

Born in Charleston, West Virginia, in 1918, Settle traveled widely from childhood on. Though she spent only short periods living in the Mountain State, much of her work is centered here. Settle is best known for her *Beulah Quintet*, a series of five novels depicting various historical periods in the Kanawha Valley, or detailing the events leading to English settlers coming to the area as in *Prisons*, one of the *Quintet* novels. She received the National Book Award in 1978 for *Blood Tie*, a Turkish memoir. And one of her more recent works, *Addie: A Memoir*, published in 1998, returns to the Kanawha Valley and takes a biographical turn, focusing on the life of Settle's grandmother.

At each program this spring Settle will entertain questions from audience members after her presentations and will be available to sign books. A selection of her books will also be available for purchase at each site. Though now in her eighties, Settle remains both a vigorous personality and a prolific writer. Audiences for her spring series will enjoy a lively evening with one of West Virginia's most famous writers. The programs are free and open to the public.

Settle Spring Lectures

April 8, 7:00 PM
Fairmont State College, Turley Center Ballroom
April 9, 7:00 PM
WVU Tech, Room 118, Cobe Hall
April 10, 8:00 PM
Shepherd College, Reynolds Hall (reading),
McMurrin Hall (book signing)

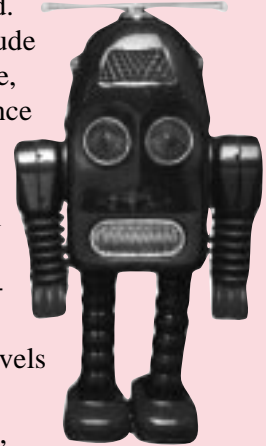
Partnering with the Smithsonian: YESTERDAY'S TOMORROWS

Yesterday's Tomorrows: Past Visions of America's Future begins its West Virginia tour in Beckley at the Raleigh County Public Library on March 22. The tour is a joint program of the West Virginia Humanities Council and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.

The exhibit presents a historical overview of expectations and beliefs about the future during the 19th and 20th centuries. From Frank Lloyd Wright to Flash Gordon, great minds and the popular media anticipated the world of tomorrow. And the tomorrow so eagerly imagined by our grandparents often differed greatly from the world we experience today. No 21st-century housewife expects to hose down her living room, but such an "instant clean" home was predicted in a 1950 issue of *Popular Mechanics*. And the horrors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki largely deterred the "atomic battlefield of the future" once predicted.

Exhibit display items include plans for homes of the future, illustrations from early science fiction and fantasy magazines, toy robots and other items of pop culture, as well as depictions of transportation, warfare, and communities of the future.

Yesterday's Tomorrows travels to six sites in West Virginia: Beckley, Mt. Zion, Madison, Moundsville, Weirton, and Berkeley Springs.



Thunder Robot,
c. 1955-1965.

Yesterday's Tomorrows Exhibit Schedule

March 22 - May 2
Raleigh County Public Library, Beckley
May 8 - June 6
Calhoun County High School, Mt. Zion
June 14 - July 18
Coal Heritage Museum, Madison
July 25 - September 12
Delf Norona Museum, Moundsville
September 19 - October 31
Mary Weir Public Library, Weirton
November 7 - December 29
Ice House Gallery, Berkeley Springs

Continued from page 1.

built, important religious texts and scenes that were once placed on tomb walls were now found on the exterior of coffins. Coffins contained a great deal of symbolism, both in their shapes and their decoration. They were seen as a vehicle for the resurrection of the body inside.

The Carlos Museum's coffin contains painted scenes of gods and goddesses, symbols of rebirth, and depictions of the deceased as a human-headed *ba*-bird, which was thought to have the ability to journey between the tomb and world of the living.

The body inside the coffin is believed to be a man, between 20 and 35 years of age at death. The mummy was X-rayed and CT-scanned at Emory University Hospital just last year. The results of this investigation are on display in the exhibition.

The mummy exhibit is supplemented by twenty small objects from the Metropolitan Museum in New York, the premier collection of Egyptian art in the United States. Funerary and daily life artifacts that range in date from about 1400 to 500 B.C. include a stela (inscribed tablet), a statuette of a family, and a pot that was excavated in a pit in the Valley of the Kings.

The exhibit opened on January 18 this year and will continue on display through January 9, 2005. Sponsors for *MUMMY!* are Fifth Third Bank, the West Virginia Humanities Council, the Huntington Mall, and West Virginia Wild and Wonderful. Other funds are provided by the Jacob G. Schmidlapp Fund. *MUMMY!* is made possible through the Museum Loan Network. For more information, contact the Huntington Museum of Art at (304) 529-2701 or visit the museum website at www.hmoa.org.

An Excerpt from

THE West Virginia ENCYCLOPEDIA

Air National Guard

The West Virginia Air National Guard was founded after World War II. Lt. Col. James K. McLaughlin organized the 167th Fighter Squadron in Charleston, and it was recognized by federal authorities on March 7, 1947. The 167th's first P-47D Thunderbolt fighter planes were delivered from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. The Thunderbolts were soon replaced with the famous P-51D Mustangs.

The squadron was called to active duty during the Korean War in 1950 and moved to Godman Air Force Base in Kentucky as part of the 123rd Fighter Group. Twelve 167th pilots served in Korea and two died there, Roma Fogelsong and Lee Harper.

Maj. Woodford Sutherland was killed after a training flight in Florida when his parked P-51 was hit by another Mustang. Tragedy struck again when a C-47 transport filled with 167th personnel going to attend Sutherland's funeral crashed near Kanawha (now Yeager) Airport, killing 21.

The 167th was reorganized during 1953 and moved to Martinsburg in late 1955, where it later received jet fighters, F-86H Sabres. Prior to this move the 130th Troop Carrier Squadron was formed from a cadre of 167th men who would remain in

Charleston. Early in its history the 130th furnished SA-16 amphibious planes and crews assigned to help invade Cuba had the 1961 Bay of Pigs landing succeeded. The 130th operated the C-119 transports from 1963 until 1975, when they received C-130Es.

The 167th in Martinsburg lost its fighter jets on April 1, 1961, and began operating C-119s as an Aeromedical Transport Squadron. C-121G Super Constellations replaced the 119s in July of 1963, and the unit flew supply missions to Vietnam using C-121Cs. Almost phased out in 1967 and 1971, the 167th was rescued by Sen. Robert C. Byrd and given C130As.

During the Gulf War the 167th Tactical Airlift Group was in charge of "Operation Volant Pine" in Europe, the command unit of the five Air National Guard units flying combat support missions in the Middle East.

The 130th now operates eight C-130Hs from Yeager Airport and has about 800 personnel. The 167th remains in Martinsburg, with about 1,200 personnel and 12 C-130H aircraft. In 1998 the 167th was named top C-130 unit in the air force.

Jack H. Smith
South Charleston

More on the West Virginia Encyclopedia at www.wvhumanities.org

Thank You, New and Renewing Members

This list represents new and renewed memberships from November 1, 2002 through February 7, 2003. A complete list of members and donors is published each year in the Humanities Council's annual report.

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Booknotes

To quote the Lycos website: “Who would have thought that a book based on the lives of women in three different eras, all connected via a book, Virginia Woolf’s *Mrs. Dalloway*, would become a best-seller and this year’s darling of the movie awards . . . ?” Humanities Council grants administrator Pam LeRose would, that’s who. Pam exclaimed about Michael Cunningham’s award-winning novel, *The Hours*, when it first came out, passing it on to other Council staff, board members, and friends. And now it seems everyone is exclaiming about it, or its movie adaptation featuring Meryl Streep, Julianne Moore, and Nicole Kidman.

Films from “literary” books seem to be all the rage now, even outside the Merchant-Ivory set. A.S. Byatt’s *Possession* was adapted recently featuring Gwennyth

Paltrow, and Tolkien fans wait eagerly for each installment of Peter Jackson’s depictions of *The Lord of the Rings*.

How have your favorite books fared on the big screen? Who can fail to be moved by the melodramatic sweep of Scarlett O’Hara down the stairway at Twelve Oaks in Selznick’s *Gone With the Wind*, but did you like the movie as well as, better than, Margaret Mitchell’s novel? Do movie adaptations inspire you to read or re-read books? Both Ken Sullivan and Jane Siers are re-reading Tolkien’s works since seeing the movies. But fans of Charles Frazier’s National Book Award winner *Cold Mountain*, set largely in the Great Smoky Mountains, will be dismayed to learn that the film is being shot in Romania, of all places. Some things just shouldn’t be tampered with!

The West Virginia Humanities Council gratefully acknowledges support from the National Endowment for the Humanities; the Office of the West Virginia Secretary for Education and the Arts; and foundations, corporations, and individuals throughout the Mountain State and beyond.

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