

**AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER & VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT**  
**Library of Congress**  
**Annual Report, Fiscal Year 2009**  
**(October 2008-September 2009)**

The American Folklife Center (AFC), which includes the Veterans History Project (VHP), had another productive year. Over half a million items were acquired, and over 127,000 items were processed by AFC's archive, which is the country's first national archive of traditional culture, and one of the oldest and largest of such repositories in the world. VHP continued making strides in its mission to collect and preserve the stories of our nation's veterans, acquiring 7,408 collections (25,267 items) in FY2009. The VHP public database provided access to information on all processed collections; its fully digitized collections, whose materials are available through the Library's web site to any computer with internet access, now number over 7,000. Together, AFC and VHP acquired a total of 524,363 items in FY2009, of which 105,939 were Non-Purchase Items by Gift. AFC and VHP processed a total of 127,003 items in FY2009, and cataloged 21,856 items. AFC and VHP attracted well over a million visits to the Library of Congress website.

**ARCHIVAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**KEY ACQUISITIONS**

**George Pickow and Jean Ritchie Collection (AFC 2008/005; final increment):** The latest addition to this collection includes approximately 150 linear feet of manuscripts, photographs, and ephemera, as well as over 400 audiotapes. The material extensively documents the long career of Jean Ritchie, the celebrated singer of traditional Appalachian ballads. As well, it includes documentation of the folklore of the Cumberland Mountains, and related Old World traditions in the British Isles, that was created by Ritchie and her husband, George Pickow, a professional documentary filmmaker and photographer. Pickow's films and photos include documentation of Southwest and Mexican, Peruvian, and Portuguese traditions.

**Joseph E. Havranek Collection (AFC 2009/005):** Twenty-two interviews with blind blues musicians recorded in 2007 and 2008, donated by Joseph E. Havranek. Transcriptions from these tapes appear in Havranek's book, *Visions of Blind Blues Musicians*.

**Ed Cray and Shim Farrell Collection (AFC 2008/037):** Ten 16-inch BBC Radio New York Studio transcription discs containing recordings by Woody Guthrie, Tom Glazer, Huddie Ledbetter, Josh White, Edith Hilaire, Betty Sanders, Pete Seeger, Ruth Neal, and Oscar Brand, and one ten-inch open-reel audio tape of Brand's KPFA Radio program, *From Here to Sunday*, featuring Jim and Rosalie Sorrels, recorded December 12, 1960; both were donated by Ed Cray, folksong and ballad scholar. In addition, Shim Farrell donated a tape of Cray's radio program featuring Jesse Fuller from 1959 or 1960.

**Inauguration 2009 Sermons and Orations Project Collection (AFC 2009/001):** A collection solicited by the American Folklife Center from the public, which includes over 300 submissions from 39 states and the District of Columbia, as well as Nairobi, Kenya. This multi-format collection documents the response of the American people to the 2009 inauguration of President Barack Obama, and features manuscripts, audio recordings, video recordings, and photographs from numerous individuals as well as secular and religious organizations.

**Rik Palieri Collection (AFC 2009/023):** video and audiotapes from Palieri's VCAM Vermont television program, *The Song Writer's Notebook*, which includes interviews with traditional performers and folk revival musicians.

**L. Allen Smith Collection on Dulcimers and Dulcimer Music (AFC 2009/025):** Twelve linear feet of manuscript materials, 32 audio cassettes, photographic materials, and electronic media documenting this musical instrument; bequeathed to AFC by the estate of scholar L. Allen Smith.

**Tom Raymond Collection (AFC 2009/029):** 13,200 photographic images from professional photographer Tom Raymond of Johnson City, Tennessee. Raymond's work has already been showcased in one the Center's largest collections of stories and storytelling, the International Storytelling Festival Collection. Tom was the official photographer for the International Storytelling Festival for over thirty years. The Tom Raymond Collection spans the years of 1984-2003, when Tom was able to capture and document the work of over one hundred storytellers including the legendary Appalachian storyteller Ray Hicks.

**Lou Curtiss Collection (AFC 2009/032):** DVD copies of approximately 420 audiotapes from Lou Curtiss, recording engineer and record store owner, documenting the first nine years of the San Diego Folk Festival, 1967-1975, performances at the Sign of the Sun Bookstore, Folk Arts Rare Records, and other California venues. DVD copies of 57 audiotapes featuring performances by Sam Hinton, but which also include recordings of Doc Watson, Hedy West, Pete Seeger, Jimmy Driftwood, Sandy Paton, Seamus Ennis, and A. L. Lloyd, among others. DVD copies of radio programs from Mexican station XERB. Also included are databases for all of the recordings, except for the XERB tapes, as well as word document performer lists for all recordings.

**Saratoga Springs History Museum Collection of Caffè Lena Materials, and the Caffè Lena Board of Directors Collection (AFC 2009/032):** Over eighteen linear feet of manuscripts, recordings, and photographs documenting Caffè Lena, in Saratoga Springs, NY, one of the first coffee houses in the United States featuring folk performances.

**Don Hill and David Mangurian Collection of Tape Recordings (AFC 2007/018):** Analog tapes and digitized copies of the tapes, representing over 40 hours of original field recordings made between 1958 and 1961 in Baltimore, MD; Clarksdale, MS; Chicago, IL;

Delaney, AR; Los Angeles, CA; Nashville, TN; New Orleans, LA; New York, NY; St. Louis, MO, and in northern Georgia. The recordings comprise 724 songs and interviews with twenty of the musicians.

**StoryCorps Collection (AFC 2004/001):** The 2009 increment of this collection includes 35,694 digital files and 5,494 CD-Rs that contain hundreds of audio recordings of oral narratives collected from a broad cross-section of the American public, along with related photographs and logs.

**National Council for the Traditional Arts (NCTA) Collection (AFC 2001/019):** The 2009 increment of this collection includes approximately 540 manuscript pages, as well as 12,147 digital files and 205 DAT tapes that contain audio recordings of hundreds of performances by musicians and other artists who performed at the National Folk Festival and other public events sponsored by NCTA.

**David Dunaway Collection of Interviews with Pete Seeger and Contemporaries (AFC 2000/019):** The latest addition to this collection includes a number of CDs of Seeger concerts, as well as 85 linear feet of FBI and CIA files on Seeger.

**Benjamin Botkin Folklife Lecture Series Collections:** AFC acquired nine multiformat collections associated with this series, including AFC 2008/031 *A Bard of Nature's Making: Robert Burns and Scottish Traditional Culture*, Lecture by Valentina Bold; AFC 2009/003 *Revolutionaries, Nursery Rhymes, and Edison Wax Cylinders: The Remarkable Tale of the Earliest Korean Sound Recordings*, lecture by Robert Provine; AFC 2009/006 *Living and Building Between Tradition and Change: Vernacular Architecture in Northern Sweden*, Lecture by Mats Widbom; AFC 2009/007 *Warning of Global Warming? Shamanic Traditions, Politics, and Ecological Change in Siberia*, Lecture by Marjorie Mandelstam Balzer; AFC 2009/008 *We Had Sneakers, They Had Guns: The Kids Who Fought for Civil Rights in Mississippi*, Lecture by Tracy Sugarman; AFC 2009/009 *The Sound of Islamic Music: Women's Voices and the Indonesian Religious Soundscape*, Lecture by Anne K. Rasmussen; AFC 2009/010 *The High Lonesome Sound Revisited: Documenting Traditional Culture in America*, Lecture by John Cohen; AFC 2009/011 *Documenting Katrina and Rita in Houston*, Lecture by Carl Lindahl; and AFC 2009/012 *Built with Faith: Place Making and the Religious Imagination in Italian New York*, Lecture by Joseph Sciorra.

**Rediscover Northern Ireland Lecture/Performance Collections:** AFC acquired three multiformat collections associated with this series, including: AFC 2008/032 Tommy Sands with Moya and Fionán Sands, County Down, Northern Ireland concert collection; AFC 2008/033 *"It's Of My Rambles..." A Journey in the Song Tradition of Ulster*, Lecture and Performance by Len Graham; and AFC 2008/034 *"I Am a Wee Weaver": Weaving and Singing in Northern Ireland*, Lecture and performance by Maurice Leyden.

**Homegrown Concert Collections.** AFC acquired seven multiformat collections associated with this concert series, including: AFC 2008/014 Bar J Wranglers Concert

Collection; AFC 2008/015 Surati, Inc. Concert Collection; AFC 2009/014 Brendan Carey Block Concert Collection; AFC 2009/015 Ollin Yoliztli Calmecac Concert Collection; AFC 2009/016 Northern Kentucky Brotherhood Singers Concert Collection; AFC 2009/017 Sreevidhya Chandramouli and Friends Concert Collection; and AFC 2009/018 Wayne Newell and Blanch Sockabasin Concert Collection.

**AFC Symposium Collections:** AFC acquired four multiformat collections associated with AFC's symposium series, including: AFC 2009/004 *Robert Burns at 250: Poetry, Politics, and Performance*; AFC 2009/022 *Archie Green 1917-2009, a Tribute*; AFC 2009/027 *Legends and Legacies: Remembering Archie Green*; and AFC 2009/028 *Legends and Legacies: A Concert and Symposium Celebrating Joe Wilson and the NCTA Collection*.

In addition to these acquisitions, AFC acquired approximately twenty small multiformat collections, more than 2350 items of ephemera, and over 250 serial issues.

## **DIGITAL ARCHIVAL PROJECTS**

**Center for Applied Linguistics Collection (on *American Memory*):** this major collection has been placed online at *American Memory*. It is a survey of American English dialect from 43 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and parts of Canada. The presentation includes the digitization of 59 audiotapes containing 405 interviews, the digitization of textual transcriptions of the 405 interviews, as well as the capture of all necessary metadata.

**State Sampler Series:** AFC began a project to provide samples of audio and photographs from each state, which will become part of its "Folklife in Your State" pages. This feature on the AFC website will ensure that all Americans, and all members of Congress, have folklife materials from their home state available online at the AFC website. The first state, Rhode Island, went online in September, 2009.

**AFC Webcasts (on the Library's *Webcasts* site):** Twenty-one separate webcasts presenting AFC's events were added to the Library's streaming webcast service. As of September 30, 2009, AFC has a total of 95 webcasts online comprising approximately 111 hours 30 minutes of video.

**Other New Resources on the AFC Website:** AFC made significant additions to its website this year, including pages for the symposia *Baseball Americana* (October 2-3, 2009) *Legends and Legacies: An American Folklife Center Celebration of Public Folklore* (September 10-11 2009), and *Robert Burns at 250: Poetry, Politics, and Performance* (February 24-25, 2009). Each of these sites was updated several times with photos, webcasts, and other resources. New pages were created for the *2009 Homegrown Concert Series*, and the *2009 Benjamin Botkin Folklife Lecture Series*, and materials such as flyers, essays, photos, and webcasts were added throughout the year as they became available. The entire series of *Rediscover Northern Ireland 2008* events was also placed

online, with webcasts and event flyers available. AFC created a set of pages for the *Inauguration 2009 Sermons and Orations Project*, encouraging people to participate and making available the standards and release forms for the project. AFC staff wrote and posted online an obituary for Archie Green, a folklorist who was instrumental in the founding of AFC, and who was awarded a Living Legend award in 2007. AFC also placed online the *American Family History and Folklife Online Resource*, the goal of which is to encourage and assist American families in collecting folklife and oral history.

**Updated and Improved Resources on the AFC Website:** The navigation for online presentations of past events on the AFC website was substantially revised to better organize and present AFC's growing body of webcasts, photographs, event flyer essays, and other materials stemming from AFC public programs. Two new navigational pages were added: *Online Archive of Past American Folklife Center Events* and *Symposia and Related Events Online Archive*. The *Laborlore Conversations IV: Documenting Occupational Folklore Then and Now* symposium website (2007), the *SAA Pre-Conference Symposium: Ethnographic Archives, Communities of Origin, and Intangible Cultural Heritage* website (2006) were updated and improved with pages of photographs, webcasts, and other resources.

**New VHP Web Presentations:** In FY 2009, VHP placed online six installments of its popular series of web presentations, *Experiencing War*. Each presentation includes the stories of between twelve and eighteen veterans, documented in audio and video interviews, manuscript memoirs, and photographs. The presentations added in FY2009 were "Helicopters," "Buffalo Soldiers," "Disabled Veterans," "African-Americans: The Next Generation," "D-Day," and "They Also Served: Coast Guard and Merchant Marine."

**Traditional Music and Spoken Word Catalog:** This fully searchable catalog is part of the Library's Performing Arts Encyclopedia website, and is also accessible from AFC's homepage. The database consists of approximately 34,000 bibliographic records representing individual songs, tunes, or spoken performances on the field recordings in AFC's collections; most date from 1933 to 1950. The content fields in the database were designed for MARC bibliographic records, and therefore were easily converted to MODS (Metadata Object Description Schema) bibliographic records by staff in the Library of Congress Network Development and MARC Standards Office. In the past fiscal year, the AFC team continued to edit the bibliographic information in the catalog. They also worked with staff in the MARC Standards and Development office of the Library to improve the resource and integrate its MODS bibliographic records with the Library's ILS Online Catalog using METS. Approximately 50 of the collection-level catalog records were added this year to link the online resource to the ILS. In addition to access through the LC Online Catalog, the data on the individual cards from the AFC Traditional Music and Spoken Word Catalog can be found through Google and any number of other search engines, making bibliographic information on AFC's early sound recordings widely accessible. In May 2009, this resource was expanded to deliver digitized sound files of 639 recordings along with the bibliographic description of the titles. AFC plans to add access to thousands more sound files, and to add images of the texts of songs as well.

**Ethnographic Thesaurus:** AFC continued to develop and improve the Ethnographic Thesaurus (ET), a comprehensive, controlled list of subject terms created to describe multi-format ethnographic research collections. AFC staff have revised and expanded those sections of the ET related to Belief, Ritual, Health, Language, Verbal Arts & Literature, Music, Dance, and Foodways. Currently, revision of the Art and Material Culture facets is underway. The ET was created by the American Folklore Society, with significant input and guidance from AFC. Primary support for the development of the ET was provided by a major grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation from 2004-7. The ET is available on the American Folklore Society website.

**James Madison Carpenter Collection:** AFC is currently developing a presentation of its James Madison Carpenter Collection, a large multiformat collection of British traditional song, music, and drama. Significant progress has been made integrating bibliographic information and corresponding digital objects, and the digitized collection will be released in FY 2010 as part of the Library's Performing Arts Encyclopedia.

**Portraits of the Eastern Shore:** Preparations have begun for an American Memory project formally approved for development, which will be a presentation of several AFC collections related to the Chesapeake Bay, namely "Portraits of the Eastern Shore: narratives and songs about living and working on Chesapeake Bay."

**AFC Facebook Page:** The AFC Facebook Page was proposed and approved in FY2009. It is scheduled to launch in FY2010. It will provide a new way to connect audiences to AFC collections.

**Folklife Center News Back Issues:** All back issues of Folklife Center News (about a hundred) were digitized, and PDFs were created. These issues will be made accessible on the AFC website; five issues were undergoing quality review by LC Web Services as of the end of FY2009. They will be online shortly.

## **PROCESSING**

During FY 2009, the American Folklife Center's Archive had three Full-Time Employees (FTEs), one Junior Fellow, one special detail, and eight interns, while the Veterans History Project had eleven FTEs, two contractors and three Junior Fellows working on collection processing.

The American Folklife Center's permanent processing staff continued the physical and intellectual processing of collection materials, as well as the preparation of manuscripts, photographs, sound recordings, and video holdings for digitization. They collaborated with the LC Conservation staff on the treatment of materials, supply-order requests, and management of storage environments. They also worked with Collections Access, Loan

and Management (CALM) Division, planning for the eventual transfer of collections to Ft. Meade.

AFC staff continued their cooperative project with selected Network Development staff to develop StoryPortal, a browser-based search interface designed to provide a unified research tool at AFC for the contents of the twenty-three individual StoryCorps Collection databases. They also continued to add information about acquisitions, collections, and individual items to the MAVIS database in order to make basic information about collection materials available, and to track collections as they are moved to and from the NAVCC facility in Culpeper, Virginia. Another continuing project of AFC is tale typing, a classification scheme for all of the world's orally transmitted folktales, which enables one to collocate different versions of the same tale across cultures. In FY2009, over 140 tales were added to our tale-typing database.

Below are two lists with sub-categories. The first lists AFC collections that were processed in FY2009, with three subcategories: fully processed, closed collections; partially processed, closed collections; and open collections, which will remain partially processed unless and until they are closed. The second lists collection finding aids, with four subcategories: encoded with Encoded Archival Description and updated to be ILS catalog compliant; encoded with Encoded Archival Description and being revised as of 10/01/2009; completed finding aids under review as of 10/01/2009; and finding aids in draft form as of 10/01/2009.

## **1. Collection Processing FY 2009:**

### **1a. Fully Processed (8 Collections)**

- Betty Bush Winger Manuscript Collection (AFC 1946/001)
- Center for Applied Linguistics Collection (AFC 1986/022)
- David A. Taylor Collection of Literatura de Cordel (AFC 2008/001)
- Duncan Emrich Collection (AFC 1977/007)
- Eloise Hubbard Linscott Collection (AFC 1942/002)
- Inauguration 2009 Sermons and Orations Project Collection (AFC 2009/001)
- J.L. Melancon Duck Calls Collection (AFC 1981/002)
- W. Dean Edwards Collection (AFC 1995/015)

### **1b. Partially Processed Closed Collections (58 Collections)**

- A Prairie Home Companion Folk Song Book Collection (AFC 1997/030)
- Aaron Ziegelman Foundation Collection (AFC 2003/002)
- Alan Lomax Collection (AFC 2004/004)
- Au Ho-Nien Interview Collection (AFC 2007/024)
- Barry Lee Pearson Collection of Rev. O.C. Matthews Recordings (AFC 1980/005)
- Black Banjo Songsters, Volume 2 Digitization Project (AFC 9999/004)
- Cherry Tree Music Co-op Collection (AFC 2008/023)
- Chang Yu-Cheng Chinese Opera Video Collection (AFC 2005/003)

- Debora G. Kodish Collection on Robert Winslow Gordon (AFC 2004/019)
- Discoteca Publica de Sao Paolo Collection (AFC 1943/001)
- Don Hill and David Mangurian Collection of Tape Recordings (AFC 2007/018)
- Don Yoder Collection of Tape Recordings (AFC 2003/051)
- Don Yoder Collection of Wire Recordings (AFC 1970/004)
- Edward Bell Collection of Ruth Mae Gasper Bell and Margot Mayo Recordings (AFC 2004/022)
- Frances Densmore Collection of Visual Materials (AFC 1944/002)
- Ghanaian Highlife and Traditional Music Collection (AFC 2007/007)
- Herbert Halpert Collection (AFC 2004/008)
- Isabel Gordon Carter Collection (AFC 2005/004)
- Irish Folklore Commission Wax Cylinder Collection (AFC 2004/002)
- James and Judy Brow Esketemc Collection (AFC 2008/018)
- Jean Thomas Scrapbook Collection (AFC 1954/001)
- Jens Lund Ohio River Valley Collection (AFC 2004/023)
- Jens Lund Collection of Folklife Center of Ohio Valley Recordings (AFC 2004/025)
- John and Ginny Dildine Collection (AFC 1975/001)
- Joseph E. Havranek Collection (AFC 2009/005)
- Jun'ichi Yamada Collection of Bluegrass Recordings (AFC 2008/024)
- Joseph S. Hall Great Smoky Mountains Original Recordings Collection (AFC 1987/035)
- Karl Signell Collection (AFC 1997/032)
- Kay Shelemay Ethiopian Music Collection (AFC 2007/019)
- Local Legacies Project Collection (AFC 2000/001)
- Lou Curtiss Collection (AFC 2009/032)
- Luiz Heitor Corrêa de Azevedo and E. Nogueira Franca Recordings from Ceara, Brazil (AFC 1945/008)
- Luiz Heitor Corrêa de Azevedo and E. Silva Novo Collection of Folksongs of Minas Gerais, Brazil (AFC 1948/002)
- Luiz Heitor Corrêa de Azevedo and E. Nogueira Franca Recordings from Goiaânia, Brazil (AFC 1943/015)
- Margaret Mills Collection (AFC 2008/022)
- Marjory Bong-Ray Liu Collection (AFC 2003/053)
- Mars Hill College Collection of Bascom Lamar Lunsford Recordings (AFC 2005/012)
- Mike Cohen and Diana Cohen Wire Recordings (AFC 1980/003)
- Mike Seeger Collection of Audiocassette Tapes (AFC 2008/002)
- Mitsuru Yuge Collection of Shakuhachi Notation (AFC 2005/009)
- Neil V. Rosenberg Bluegrass Music Collection (AFC 2002/009)
- New Mexico Folklife Project, 1984-1985 (AFC 1991/032)
- OzarksWatch Video Magazine Collection (AFC 2000/027)
- Pete and Toshi Seeger Film Collection (AFC 2003/027)
- Robert Sonkin Alabama and New Jersey Collection (AFC 1941/018)



- Robert Winslow Gordon Songsters Collection (Un-numbered)
- Roberts, Borders, Mauney, Howell, Briggs and Related Families Reunion Collection (AFC 2005/010)
- Ryl's'kyi Ukrainian Cylinder Collection (AFC 1992/005)
- Seattle Folklore Society Collection (AFC 1995/006)
- Simon Bronner Collection (AFC 2006/018)
- Sol Biderman Collection (AFC 2006/019)
- Ted Grame and Kathy Monahan Recordings (AFC 2001/031)
- Tesfaye Lemma Collection (AFC 2007/020)
- Tom Raymond Collection (AFC 2009/029)
- Vida Chenoweth Collection (AFC 1994/003)
- Voices of Civil Rights Project Collection (AFC 2005/015)
- William Van Riper Recordings for the Linguistic Atlas of Oklahoma (AFC 1984/004)
- Zuni Pueblo Storytelling Collection (AFC 1996/073)

### **1c. Partially Processed Open Collections (15 Collections)**

Note: open collections means that new items are being added at regular or irregular intervals. These collections will remain partially processed every year until no more items are added and only then will they be considered “closed.”

- Alliance for American Quilts Interview Collection (AFC 2007/009)
- Artifacts and Gifts Collection (AFC 9999/003)
- George Pickow and Jean Ritchie Collection (AFC 2008/005)
- Henrique Vieira Leite Collection of Brazilian Literatura de Cordel (AFC 2007/025)
- Hongyi He Chinese Papercuts Collection (AFC 2006/008)
- International Storytelling Collection (AFC 2001/008)
- Joel M. Halpern Collection (AFC 1998/001)
- Literatura de Cordel Brazilian Chapbook Collection (AFC 1970/002)
- Magdalena Nowacka-Jannotta Wycinanki Polish Papercutting Collection (AFC AFC 2000/005)
- National Council for the Traditional Arts Collection (AFC 2001/019)
- National Visionary Leadership Project Interviews and Conference Collection (AFC 2004/007)
- Nora Yeh Kemeny Family Collection (AFC 2000/018)
- Rik Palieri Collection (AFC 2009/023)
- StoryCorps Collection (AFC 2004/001)
- Veterans History Project (AFC 2001/001)

## **2. Status of Collections Finding Aids:**

### **2a. EAD Updated and ILS Catalog Compliant (15 Finding Aids)**

- American Folk Blues Fest Photo Collection (AFC 2003/050)

- Duncan Emrich Autograph Album Collection (AFC 1955/001)
- Fletcher Collins Jr. Collection (AFC 1939/003)
- Four Masters of Chinese Storytelling Video Collection (AFC 2004/021)
- Italian-American in the West Project Collection (AFC1989/022)
- Juan B. Rael Collection (AFC 1940/002)
- Ken Lindsay Collection of Woody Guthrie Correspondence (AFC 2005/006)
- Kenneth M. Bilby Jamaican Maroon Collection (AFC 1983/008)
- Lands' End All-American Quilt Collection (AFC 1997/011)
- Penne Laingen Yellow Ribbon Collection (AFC1991/017)
- Sam Eskin Collection (AFC 1999/004)
- Sara L. M. Davis Collection on Tai Lüe Culture (AFC 2006/004)
- Sergei Zhirkevich Photograph Collection (AFC 2000/026)
- Woody Guthrie Manuscript Collection (AFC 1940/004)
- Working in Paterson Project Collection (AFC 1995/028)

**2b. EAD under Revision (8 Finding Aids)**

- American Dialect Society Collection (AFC 1984/011)
- Anne and Frank Warner Collection (AFC 1950/002)
- Art Rosenbaum Georgia Folklore Collection (AFC 2000/003)
- Harold C. Conklin Philippine Collection (AFC 2001/007)
- Ray M. Lawless Collection (AFC 1970/003)
- Robert Sonkin Alabama and New Jersey Collection (AFC 1941/018)
- September 11, 2001, Documentary Project Collection (AFC 2001/015)
- Vance Randolph Collection (AFC 1941/001)

**2c. Completed Finding Aids under Review (8 Finding Aids)**

- Duncan Emrich Collection (AFC 1977/007)
- Eleanor Dickinson Collection (AFC 1970/001)
- Eloise Hubbard Linscott Collection (AFC 1942/002)
- James Madison Carpenter Collection (AFC 1972/001)
- Mary Sheppard Burton Collection (AFC 2006/005)
- Peggy V. Beck Collection on New Mexican Midwinter Masquerades Collection (AFC 2005/005)
- W. Dean Edwards Collection (AFC 1995/015)
- W.P.A. California Folk Music Project Collection, 1938-1940 (AFC 1940/001)

**2d. Finding Aids in Draft Form (29 Finding Aids)**

- Adelaide de Menils Men's Lives Project (AFC 1998/015)
- Au Ho-Nien Interview Collection (AFC 2007/024)
- Alliance for American Quilts Interview Collection (AFC 2007/009)
- Captain Pearl R. Nye Collection (AFC 1937/002)
- Coal River Folklife Project Collection (AFC 1999/008)
- Curtis Cook Zuni Pueblo Storytelling Collection (AFC 2004/010)

- Chang Yu-Chen Chinese Opera Video Collection (AFC 2005/003)
- Cherry Tree Music Co-op Collection (AFC 2008/023)
- David A. Taylor Collection of Literatura de Cordel (AFC 2008/001)
- George Korson Collection (AFC 2003/011)
- Henrique Vieira Leite Collection of Brazilian Literatura de Cordel (AFC 2007/025)
- Hongyi He Chinese Papercuts Collection (AFC 2006/008)
- Inauguration 2009 Sermons and Orations Project Collection (AFC 2009/001)
- International Storytelling Collection (AFC 2001/008)
- John Dawson Blues and Jazz Collection (AFC 2003/018)
- Jun'ichi Yamada Collection of Bluegrass Recordings (AFC 2008/024)
- Julie McCullough FSGW Collection (AFC 2002/003)
- Karl Signell Collection (AFC 1997/032)
- Literatura de Cordel Brazilian Chapbooks Collection (AFC 1970/002)
- Magdalena Nowacka-Jannotta Wycinanki Polish Papercutting Collection (AFC 2000/005)
- Marjory Bong-Ray Liu Collection (AFC 2003/053)
- National Visionary Leadership Project Interviews and Conference Collection (AFC 2004/007)
- Omaha Indian Interviews Collection, 1999 (AFC 1999/014)
- Robert Sonkin Alabama and New Jersey Collection (AFC 1941/018)
- Roberts, Borders, Mauney, Howell, Briggs and Related Families Reunion Collection (AFC 2005/010)
- Robin Hiteshew Collection Of Irish-American Print Materials (AFC 1998/013)
- Simon Bronner Collection (AFC 2006/018)
- Sol Biderman Collection (AFC 2006/019)
- Voices of Civil Rights Project Collection (AFC 2005/015)

## **CATALOGING**

The two AFC catalogers added 161 collection-level records to the Library' Online Catalog in 2008-2009, and cataloged several dissertations and theses in addition. Formats cataloged include the earliest sound cylinder recordings in the Archive, instantaneous acetate discs, wire recordings, tape recordings, digital audio tapes, compact discs, and digital sound files. The focus for cataloging is the earliest collections of sound disc recordings in the Archive (circa 1933-1945). Reference staff researched the earliest John A. Lomax collections, and as a result many of these are now cataloged, including John A. Lomax's earliest cylinder recordings. The Robert W. Gordon Cylinder Recordings, which form the initial core of the 1928 Archive, were cataloged. Other recordings cataloged were collected as part of the New Deal documentation of American culture, and include Charles Seeger's South Carolina WPA recordings and the Florida WPA recordings. Especially notable are the wire recordings of oral epic songs and lyric songs

collected by Albert B. Lord from May 14-26, 1950 in Novi Pazar, Serbia and Bijelo Polje, Montenegro. A significant number of tape recordings from the 1950s to 1970s containing old-time string band music and fiddle tunes of the Appalachian region and midwestern states have now been cataloged. Folklorist Gerald E. Parsons' interviews with watermen and duck hunters in the Chesapeake Bay region have been cataloged and will be used in an upcoming AFC online presentation.

In addition, notable new collections received by the Archive were cataloged, in particular, the Surviving Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in Houston Collection (AFC 2008/006) which consists of born-digital oral history interviews with 104 survivors of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita who relocated to Houston, Texas, after the 2005 storms. Interviews were conducted from 2006 to 2008 as part of "Surviving Katrina and Rita in Houston: A Survivor-Centered Storytelling and Documentation Project," directed by Carl Lindahl and Pat Jasper in consultation with the American Folklife Center.

New cataloged collections include music from Japan, Korea, Thailand, China, Samoa, Mexico, Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, Venezuela, Bolivia, Brazil, Cuba, Trinidad, Hungary, Serbia, Montenegro, Crete, England, Iceland, Egypt, and Uganda, in addition to recordings from the United States. Music and interviews of Navajo, Seminole, Cherokee, Pawnee, and Dakota people are among the cataloged recordings.

AFC established twenty-seven name authority headings (corporate, personal names, and conferences) for AFC collection-level MARC catalog records, and for the new Center for Applied Linguistics online collection. AFC also established two LC subject headings.

### **Collection-level Catalog Records Created and Fully Processed (102 Records)**

- A.H. Stoddard Collection of Gullah Recordings (AFC 1950/019)
- "The Adam and Eve Wedding Song," sung by the United States Army Chorus (AFC 1965/016)
- Alan Lomax and Jerome Wiesner Recordings of Hobart Ricker (AFC 1940/012)
- Alan Lomax and Mary Elizabeth Barnicle Collection (AFC 1938/008)
- Alan Lomax Collection of Emory Stroop Recordings (AFC 1940/015)
- Alan Lomax Collection of Woody Guthrie Recordings (AFC 1940/007)
- Alan Lomax Ohio and Indiana Collection (AFC 1938/004)
- Alan Lomax Recording of Serbian Duduk Music from Michigan (AFC 1939/006)
- Alan Lomax Recordings of Aunt Molly Jackson, September 1935 (AFC 1936/001)
- Alan Lomax Recordings of Mariana Schaupp (AFC 1942/009)
- Alice McLerran Collection of Aunt Molly Jackson Recordings (AFC 2009/026)
- Amanda M. Burt Collection of Icelandic Folk Music (AFC 1972/015)
- Amos Burg Collection of Alaskan Recordings (AFC 1942/017)
- Annabel Morris Buchanan Recordings of White Spirituals (AFC 1958/001)
- Archie Green 1917-2009, a Tribute (AFC 2009/022)
- Arthur Miller and John Langenegger Recordings in Wilmington, North Carolina (AFC 1942/019)

- Bailey Brothers and the Happy Valley Gang Recordings (AFC 1970/029)
- "Ballad of the American Folklife Preservation Act" sung by Bruce Collins (AFC 2006/052)
- Barbara Bell Recordings (AFC 1942/010)
- Barbara Dane Collection of Jim Garland Songs (AFC 1986/044)
- Bernard Keiler Collection of Bolivian Recordings (AFC 1950/009)
- Bruce Jackson Texas Prison Songs (AFC 1965/011)
- Caldwell P. Smith Recordings of Ugandan Lango Music (AFC 1970/022)
- Charles L. Perdue Recordings of Eva Mae Samples Perdue (AFC 1965/008)
- Charles Seeger Collection of Mexican Workers' Folksongs (AFC 1948/005)
- Charles Seeger South Carolina WPA Recordings, 1939 (AFC 1940/010)
- Charles W. Carter, an Alaskan pioneer: his life story as told through his writings, newspaper articles, documents, photographs and our memories / compiled by Sarah J. Lupro.
- Corinne and Frank Fasinkski Interview on Sasquatch (AFC 1975/035)
- Dear Mr. President Collection (AFC 1942/003)
- "Death of my brother" sung by Mrs. D. A. Booth (AFC 1965/021)
- Discoteca di Stato (Italy) Canti di Lucania (AFC 1958/021)
- Dudley Spangler, J.W. Spangler, and Maggie Wood Recordings (AFC 1975/007)
- Duncan Emrich Manuscript Collection (AFC 1977/007)
- Eleanor Dickinson Collection (AFC 1970/001)
- Elmer E. Sparks Interview with Charlie Smith (AFC 1975/023)
- Eta Harich-Schneider Recordings of Japanese Music (AFC 1957/010)
- Florida WPA Recordings, 1940 (AFC 1940/011)
- Frances Gillmor Recordings of Amy Hancock Baird (AFC 1950/008)
- "Free and equal blues" Performed by Earl Robinson and Dooley Wilson (AFC 1945/004)
- Gaelic Folk Songs Sung by Calum and Annie Johnston (AFC 1950/012)
- Gordon Barnes Tygart Valley Homestead Recordings, 1939 (AFC 1940/009)
- Harry Jumper Seminole Songs (AFC 1958/024)
- James Wharton Collection of Menhaden Fishermen's Songs (AFC 1958/014)
- Jane Gillman Recording (AFC 1992/016)
- Jim Hitchcock Duplication Project (AFC 1974/014)
- Jim Scancarelli Recordings of Fiddle and Banjo Music (AFC 1970/017)
- Jimmy Campbell Duplication Project (AFC 1974/013)
- John A. Lomax African American Folksong Cylinder Recordings (AFC 1940/018)
- John A. Lomax and Alton C. Morris Florida Collection (AFC 1937/004)
- John A. Lomax Oklahoma and Texas Cylinder Recordings (AFC 1940/017)
- John A. Lomax Recordings of Cowboy Songs (AFC 1940/016)
- John A. Lomax Southern States Collection, 1937 (AFC 1937/007)
- John A. Lomax Texas Recordings, 1942 (AFC 1942/006)
- John A. Lomax Texas Recordings, Winter 1941 (AFC 1941/005)
- John and Ruby Lomax 1940 Southern States Recordings Collection (AFC

1940/003)

- John M. (Sailor Dad) Hunt Recording (AFC 1941/036)
- John Renbourn Music Manuscript Collection (AFC 2006/051)
- John Vincent Recordings of a Baptist Church Service, Nashville, Tennessee (AFC 1942/004)
- John Work Collection of Negro Folk Music from the Southeast (AFC 1941/035)
- Joseph E. Hall Collection of Calypso Recordings (AFC 1965/004)
- Juan Liscano Collection of Cuban and Venezuelan Folk Music (AFC 1950/023)
- Juan Liscano Venezuelan Folk Music Duplication Project (AFC 1948/043)
- Judge Learned Hand Recordings (AFC 1945/007)
- Kenneth S. Goldstein Collection of Folk Tales and Belief Stories (AFC 1974/012)
- Lalo Rodriguez and Maria Aurora Castillo Recordings of Mexican American Farm Workers' Songs (AFC 1974/023)
- Laura E. Ross Recordings of Spirituals (AFC 1945/005)
- Luiz Heitor Corrêa de Azevedo and E. Silva Novo Collection of Folksongs of Minas Gerais, Brazil (AFC 1948/002)
- Maggie F. Gomillion Recordings Collection (AFC 1965/001)
- Margaret MacArthur Duplication Project (AFC 1972/004)
- Margaret Valiant Southwest and California Recordings (AFC 1940/008)
- Martin Ressler Recording of an Old Order Amish Lob-song (AFC 1975/005)
- Mary Elizabeth Barnicle Kentucky Collection (AFC 1938/009)
- McCarthyism, Blacklists and Urbana-Champaign, Lecture by Dr. Courtney Cazden (AFC 2008/038)
- Melville Herskovits and Frances S. Herskovits Trinidad Recordings (AFC 1942/008)
- Mike Mirarchi Collection of Hammons Family Videorecordings (AFC 1983/004)
- Mike Wallis Recordings of Sam McCracken (AFC 1970/028)
- Mormon Epic in Song (Radio program) (AFC 1947/003)
- National Folk Festival, 1938 (AFC 1950/017)
- "Oh Where is the Girl That Will Go Out West with Me" Sung by Clara E. Heywood (AFC 1975/056)
- Paul Clayton Recordings (AFC 1957/003)
- Percy Grainger Cylinder Duplication Project (AFC 1940/014)
- Pete Seeger and Square Dance Music (AFC 1941/029)
- Peter R. Hoover Collection (AFC 1972/025)
- Rolf Jacoby Collection of Korean Folk Music (AFC 1953/014)
- Ross Lee Finney Recordings (AFC 1957/004)
- Roy Mitchell and Seamus Doyle New York City Recordings (AFC 1942/020)
- Seamus Doyle South American Recordings (AFC 1942/007)
- Selections from the 1988 Galax Old Fiddlers' Convention (AFC 1990/020)
- "Shape-Note Singing" Concert with Hugh McGraw (AFC 1998/032)
- Sidney Robertson Cowell Recordings of Carrie Grover (AFC 1941/033)
- Stana Rasin and Barbara Lee Recording of Czech and Slavic Folk Songs (AFC

1950/011)

- Surviving Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in Houston Collection (AFC 2008/006)
- Tom Dillon Recordings (AFC 1957/005)
- University of Arkansas Recording of Doney Hammtree (AFC 1972/018)
- University of Wisconsin Folk Music Recording Project (AFC 1940/013)
- University of Wisconsin Project (AFC 1948/022)
- Virgil Sturgill Recording of Julia B. Kiser (AFC 1958/013)
- Virgil Sturgill Recordings (AFC 1958/003)
- Wade Mainer Recordings (AFC 1941/030)
- Will I. Monday Recording of "The Allen Tragedy" (AFC 1970/032)
- William J. Sherrard Collection of Sea Stories and Songs (AFC 1967/002)
- With Food We Celebrate: Joyeux Noël, A French Christmas Program, demonstrator, Raymond Campet (AFC 1989/032)

### **Collection-level Catalog Records Created and Partially Processed (59 Records)**

- Albert Lord Collection of Wire Recordings of Yugoslavian Epics (AFC 1953/013)
- Amice Calverley Recordings of Cretan and Egyptian Music (AFC 1950/022)
- Art Rosenbaum Duplication Project (AFC 1975/026)
- Béla Bartók Recordings of Folk Music of Hungary (AFC 1965/007)
- Bengt Olsson Recordings of Memphis Boogie Woogie (AFC 1970/030)
- Benjamin A. Botkin Duplication Project (AFC 1970/015)
- Blanton Owen Collection of Tommy Jarrell and Fred Cockerham Recordings (AFC 1970/026)
- Blanton Owen Duplication Project (AFC 1970/018)
- Carl B. Johnson Duplication Project (AFC 1970/014)
- Carl Fleischhauer Collection of West Virginia and Ohio Folk Music (AFC 1974/011)
- Charles Faurot Duplication Project (AFC 1970/019)
- Chen-hu Cha Recordings of Ch'in Music (AFC 1968/006)
- David McAllester Recordings of a Navajo Ceremony (AFC 1965/014)
- Dewey Beard Interview (AFC 1958/017)
- Don Laycock Duplication Project (AFC 1974/015)
- Duncan Emrich Interview with Bascom Lamar Lunsford (AFC 1950/021)
- Edward D. Ives Northeast Archives of Folklore and Oral History Duplication Project (AFC 1972/024)
- Eric Olson Collection of Fiddle Tunes and Old Time Music (AFC 1970/025)
- Fox Hollow Folk Festival, 1967 (AFC 1974/020)
- Fox Hollow Folk Festival, 1969 (AFC 1974/025)
- Frank C. Brown Collection of North Carolina Folk Songs (AFC 1948/037)
- George W. Kay Collection (AFC 1965/005)
- Gerald E. Parsons and Margaret Parson Interviews with Maryland Watermen (AFC 1974/027)
- Gerald E. Parsons, Jr. Duplication Project (AFC 1975/037)
- Gerald E. Parsons, Jr. Recordings of Floyd Salisbury (AFC 1974/018)

- Gerald E. Parsons, Jr. Riddling Session (AFC 1947/017)
- Greater Washington Céilí Club Dance with Buddy MacMaster and Maybelle Chisolm MacQueen, November 23, 1986 (AFC 1986/025)
- Harry M. Hyatt Collection (AFC 1970/023)
- Henrietta Yurchenco Collection of Recordings from Mexico and Guatemala (AFC 1948/011)
- Indians for Indians Hour Collection (AFC 1944/008)
- J.M. Coopersmith Collection of Dominican Republic Folk Music (AFC 1948/054)
- John Ball, Bruce Buckley, and Harold Apel Collection of Ohio Recordings (AFC 1958/005)
- John D. Gillespie and Artus Moser Recordings of Cherokee Music (AFC 1950/016),
- John Dildine Collection (AFC 1975/024)
- John Jackson Recordings (AFC 1974/019)
- Kamol Kedesiri Recordings of Thai Music (AFC 1957/009)
- Kenneth S. Goldstein Collection of North and South Carolina Recordings (AFC 1972/ 020)
- Kenneth S. Goldstein Collection of Sara Cleveland Recordings (AFC 1972/017)
- Lester Smallwood Recordings (AFC 1974/010)
- Louis C. Jones Oral Histories at the Farmers' Museum, Cooperstown, New York (AFC 1974/028)
- Malvin Artley Duplication Project (AFC 1970/016)
- Margot Mayo Collection (AFC 1948/023)
- Marie C. Berger Recordings of Native Music of Samoa (AFC 1958/004)
- Michael Cruise Recordings of Fiddle Tunes and Miners' Stories (AFC 1942/018)
- Nick Royal Duplication Project (AFC 1975/012)
- Ola Belle Reed Duplication Project (AFC 1970/020)
- Paul Clayton Collection of Folk Songs from Virginia (AFC 1957/007)
- Paul Gilson Interview of Duncan Emrich (AFC 1948/033)
- Pioneers Foundation Oral History Collection (AFC 1970/024)
- Rafael Manzanares Duplication Project (AFC 1965/006)
- Ralph Rinzler Louisiana Recordings (AFC 1972/026)
- Raymond C. Hamrick Collection of Georgia Sacred Harp Singing (AFC 1972/019)
- Richard K. Spottswood Collection of Fiddle Music (AFC 1975/043)
- Robert Winslow Gordon Cylinder Collection (AFS 1928/002)
- Samuel Noah Kramer Reading Sumerian Love Songs (AFC 1965/010)
- Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers' Convention, Athens College, Athens, Alabama, 1968-1969, 2d-3d annual (AFC 1970/027)
- University of Texas Radio House Recordings of Folk Music and Interviews (AFC 1950/018)
- William Ferris Duplication Project (AFC 1972/016)
- William M. Doerflinger Collection of Captain Patrick Tayluer Recordings (AFC 1942/023)



## **AFC REFERENCE ACTIVITIES**

### Direct Reference Service to Researchers:

All members of the AFC's staff with training in folklore, ethnomusicology, or audiovisual archiving took shifts on the Folklife Reading Room reference desk, assisting Library patrons in person and by telephone. The four members of the reference staff handled the bulk of the Folklife Center's mail and email reference correspondence, and referred questions, as needed, to other AFC staff, as well as to Library of Congress and professional colleagues around the world. All AFC staff, however – particularly those with known subject expertise – received and handled inquiries that came to them directly. (It should be noted that, unlike the other LC reading rooms, which receive email reference queries primarily through the QuestionPoint service, the AFC reading room answers a greater amount of correspondence coming in via direct email to the [folklife@loc.gov](mailto:folklife@loc.gov) account, as well as to individual staff email addresses.)

The reference staff had primary responsibility for maintaining AFC's in-house collections database, preparing inventories of the Archive's various categories of vertical files, and maintaining access tools. The AFC Reading Room is also responsible for serving researchers who use VHP collections. AFC also receives reference inquiries via its webpage. A substantial number of these inquiries come from family members of those whose photos and recordings are in the AFC Archive; contact with these individuals provides opportunities for staff to enhance collections by requesting additional information about the performers. In FY 2009, the reference staff began adding international cross-collection finding aids to the AFC website, providing information now on Archive holdings from 75 countries outside of the United States and their diaspora.

In FY 2009, AFC reference staff served as curators of AFC collection materials included in Library exhibitions and as components of other Library websites, coordinated the AFC intern and volunteer program (which provided 3,081 hours of service to the Library), and oversaw the video and audio workstations in the AFC reading room that provide researchers with greater access to multiformat collections.

### **Reference Team Acquisitions Work**

AFC's reference staff handled the acquisition and processing of serial publications and many small collections that came directly to AFC. During FY 2009, AFC added more than 2,350 items of ephemera to the subject files and over 250 serial issues, as well as numerous unpublished monographs, posters, videos, CDs, and photos. The staff also recommended the acquisition of hundreds of published items, and handled their routing to other parts of the Library.

### **VHP Reference Report**

On April 21, 2009, the Veterans History Project went live on the QuestionPoint forum, allowing Library patrons to send questions directly to VHP. VHP also has an incoming general email address, VOHP. In FY2009, VOHP received 1,972 emails, which are included in the "Email/Web-Based" reference statistics below. VOHP email numbers have been dramatically reduced through the development of the "Frequently Asked Questions" page of the VHP website, and through the advent of QuestionPoint.

VHP tracks the numerous requests for copies of collections received from veterans and their family members. When VHP reviews or makes a copy of any collection, a reference copy is made from the master; in FY2009 VHP made 176 copies of collections.

In FY2009, VHP served 386 manuscript collections and 247 audio visual collections to 84 distinct researchers, for a total of 633 collections served. VHP served primarily established and/or independent historians, looking at particular military units or events. There was also a general trend of interest in the study of gender and minorities in the military. Materials from the Veterans History Project were reviewed for exhibitions at several museums, including the National Postal Museum, the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. VHP resources were utilized by command historians for the US Coast Guard, the US Army and the US Army Corps of Engineers, as well as other government agencies, such as the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office.

## **MEETINGS AND VISITORS**

### **Overview:**

In FY 2009, AFC and VHP hosted visitors and assisted organizations and researchers from the following foreign countries and regions: Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahrain, Barbados, Bolivia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, China, Cyprus, Egypt, England (UK), Finland, France, Georgia, Ghana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Korea, Kosovo, Lebanon, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Northern Ireland (UK), Norway, Oman, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Russia, Scotland (UK), Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Wales (UK).

In FY 2009, AFC and VHP staff met with, visited, or provided services to the following domestic educational institutions: Arizona State University, Brandeis University (MA), Brigham Young University (UT), Catholic University of America (DC), College of William & Mary (VA), Connecticut State University, Eastern Illinois University, Freedom Middle School (VA), Georgetown University (DC), Indiana University, Jesuit High School (CA), Magruder High School (MD), Manhattan School of Music (NY), McDaniel College (MD), Messiah College (PA), Montgomery College (MD), Mount Pleasant High School (DE), New Mexico State University, New York University, Northern Michigan University, Old Mill High School (MD), Park Tudor School (IN), Rollins College (FL), Simmons Graduate

School of Library and Information Science (MA), State University of New York College at Oneonta, Texas A&M University, University of Alabama, University of Arkansas, University of California at Los Angeles, University of California at Riverside, University of Central Florida, University of Maine, University of Maryland, University of Michigan, University of Mississippi, University of South Dakota.

In FY 2009, AFC and VHP staff aided or worked with the following government agencies, museums, and non-profit organizations: Alliance for American Quilts, American Battle Monuments Commission, American Federation of Teachers, American Folklore Society, American Library Association, Association for Canadian Studies in the United States, Association for Cultural Equity, Association of Recorded Sound Collectors, Caffé Lena (NY), Center for Southern Folklore (TN), Center for Traditional Music and Dance, Community Centered Family Health History Project, Congressional Military Service Members and Veterans Association, Daughters of the American Revolution, Documentary Arts, Inc. (TX), English Folk Dance and Song Society, Florida Humanities Council, Folklore Society of Greater Washington (MD), Folklore Studies Association of Canada, Genetic Alliance (DC), Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Institute of Museum and Library Services, International Association for Sound and Audiovisual Archives, Jemez Pueblo (NM), John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (DC), Lead Belly Foundation (LA), Maryland Arts Council, Michigan Oral History Association, Middle Atlantic Folklife Association, Modern Archives Institute, Music Library Association, Musical Instrument Museum (AZ), National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, National Archives and Records Administration, National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, National Council for the Traditional Arts, National Court Reporters Association, National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Humanities Alliance, National Museum of African American History & Culture, National Museum of African Art, National Museum of American History, National Museum of the American Indian, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Park Service, National Recorded Sound Preservation Board, National Storytelling Festival, National U.S. Army Museum, National Visionary Leadership Project, National World War I Museum, National WWII Memorial, Naval Historical Center, Nevada Arts Council, North Dakota Arts Council, Northern Ireland Bureau, Office of the First Lady, Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region, Oral History Association, Organization of American States, Philadelphia Folklore Project, Preserving America's Cultural Traditions, Public Broadcasting Service, Public Radio International, Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, Smithsonian Folkways, Society for Ethnomusicology, Society of American Archivists, Strathmore Music Center (MD), U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center, U.S. Army Historical Society, U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, U.S. Embassy in Hungary, U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, U.S. Navy, UNESCO, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Vermont Folklife Center, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial State Park (NM), Virginia Folklife Program, Voice of America, Voices of September 11<sup>th</sup>, Warhawk Air Museum (ID), Washington Area Music Association (DC), Washington Revels (DC), Western Folklife Center (NV), White House Commission on Remembrance, Wisconsin Arts Board, Women in Film and Video (DC),

Women's Research Education Institute (DC), Woodrow Wilson Center (DC), World Intellectual Property Organization.

### **Selected Meetings and Visitors**

**October 1:** Michael Taft arranged and presented treasures from the AFC archive to Madison Council members Michael B. and Gail Yanney, and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Scott, as part of their tour of LC treasures.

**October 3:** Michael Taft hosted a visit by Sheldon Posen, curator of folklife at the Canadian Museum of Civilization. Taft introduced Posen to staff members and explained AFC initiatives. Among other topics, they discussed the card catalog digitization project, other digitization projects, and processing methods.

**October 8:** Michael Taft and other AFC staff members met with Glen Mandigo, executive vice president of SMI Inc., and Joni Lee, associate vice chancellor for university advancement at the University of Arkansas, to discuss the University of Arkansas Sequoyah Research Center's American Native Press Archives. The main topics of their discussion were specifications for digital preservation of printed materials (including Native newspapers), granting agencies for digital projects, repositories that might give further advice, and LC policies on shared collections.

**October 27:** Michael Taft met with librarian Suzanne Mudge, associate director for recording services Mike Casey, and archivist Marilyn Graf, all of the Archives of Traditional Music, Indiana University. They discussed mutual concerns related to ethnographic archiving, including digitization, the EVIADA project, and the possibility of sharing jointly-held collections (such as those of Herbert Halpert).

**November 6:** Michael Taft held a teleconference with Brian Mathers, Director of Research Development, Anne Moore, Dean of Libraries, and Kurt Hackemer, Acting Dean of Arts and Sciences, at the University of South Dakota on advice on digitization and archiving of a large collection (5,500 open-reel and cassette tapes) of oral histories with Native and Non-Native South Dakotans. They discussed standards of digitization, permissions issues, outsourcing, costs, possible funders, networking with tribal communities, and other issues.

**November 14:** AFC staff met with Dario Nardella, president of the Commission for Education, Sport and Cultural Politics within the City Council of Florence, Italy; he was accompanied by a translator from the U.S. Department of State, Office of International Visitors. They gave Mr. Nardella a tour of the Folklife Center, and spoke to him regarding the American Folklife Center's enabling legislation, the scope of folklife in the U.S., catalog access, and other matters.

**November 18:** AFC Board member Charlie Seemann met with the Librarian of Congress and briefed him on the history and substance of American cowboy poetry. (The biggest

annual “gathering” of cowboy poets is produced by Seemann’s organization—The Western Folklife Center—and held in Elko, Nevada.) Seemann was accompanied by AFC staff member David Taylor.

**December 9:** Michael Taft and Peggy Bulger met with Michael Eamon and Helen DeRoia of Library and Archives Canada, Al Chapman of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Anna Gibbs of the Canadian Embassy, and Lisa Royse from the National Archives, to discuss ways in which AFC might cooperate with Canadian institutions on a joint conference/lecture/concert series on a topic of mutual interest.

**December 9:** Bob Patrick met with David Winkler at the Naval Historical Center to discuss several matters, including the Oral History Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR) annual meeting to be held at LC in May 2009. They discussed the possibility of a VHP presence at the future Cold War gallery in the U.S. Navy Museum. They also planned for Bob Patrick to participate in a panel regarding veterans’ oral histories at the Naval Historical Symposium in September 2009.

**December 30:** AFC staff met with M.D. Muthukumaraswamy, Director of India’s National Folklore Support Centre (NFSC) in Chennai, Tamilnadu State, India. NFSC is a non-governmental, non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of Indian folklore research, education, training, networking, and publications. Shankar received a tour of the facilities and a briefing on folklore research in India. Shankar and Dr. Muthukumaraswamy discussed several possible projects that would mutually enhance the collecting, archival and educational initiatives of their respective organizations.

**January 8:** David Taylor, Michael Taft and Peggy Bulger hosted a visit by Professor Avigdor Shinon, who is on the faculty of humanities at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Shinon is involved in planning a new national library of Israel and is gathering information about how other national libraries are organized. Shinon was a student of the prominent Israeli folklorist Dov Noy.

**January 14:** Michael Taft hosted visitors from Egypt, Iraq, and Morocco, sponsored by the International Institute of Education. He explained the history and scope of the AFC, and gave them a tour of the Great Hall.

**January 22:** Bob Patrick and other VHP staff met with Geoff Wiles and Daniel Reese of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF). The organization is raising money to construct a below-ground visitors and education center near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Discussions took place regarding how VHP could be incorporated not only in the education center but also in education and outreach efforts sponsored by VVMF.

**February 2:** Bob Patrick and other VHP staff attended a presentation by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, concerning the new Vietnam Memorial Education Center. Also in attendance were General Colin Powell, Senator Chuck Hagel, General Barry McCaffrey and Jan Scruggs.

**February 4:** Peggy Bulger held a meeting with Michael Shapiro and Karin Ferriter of the United States Patent and Trademark Office and Sezaneh Seymour of the State Department, to plan for the next WIPO IGC meeting.

**February 18:** Deanna Marcum, Associate Librarian for Library Services, visited the Center and briefed members of the staff about the status of the strategic plan for Library Services.

**February 24:** Peggy Bulger, David Taylor, and Michael Taft met with Bill Ivey, former director of the NEA and member of the Obama Cultural Transition Team, to discuss possibilities for including aid to independent folklorists in future financial stimulus packages.

**February 25:** Michael Taft and other AFC staff members met with Governor Norman J. Cooney, Head Councilwoman Shelly Chimoni, and Councilman Dixie J. Tsabetsaye of the Pueblo of Zuni, and showed them some of the AFC Zuni collections. They discussed various ways that AFC might return digital copies of AFC Zuni materials to the Pueblo.

**March 4:** Peggy Bulger and Michael Taft met with Daniel Truckey, director of the Beaumier Heritage Center, and Michael Loukinen, professor and documentary film-maker at Northern Michigan University. They discussed their work in organizing an exhibition of previous fieldwork in the Upper Peninsula, Loukinen's film-making, and future initiatives in folklore and oral history in that part of Michigan.

**March 10:** Bob Patrick and VHP staff met with Carl Minkus and Laverle Berry of the Federal Research Division, to discuss how one of their researchers might use VHP collections for a study on racial and ethnic diversity in the U.S. Navy.

**March 13:** Bob Patrick and Peggy Bulger met with Jim Lindsay and Liza Douglas of History to discuss how VHP might be spotlighted or used in an upcoming episode of the series *Modern Marvels* that focuses on the Library of Congress.

**March 25:** Peggy Bulger, David Taylor, and other AFC staff members met with filmmakers Andrea Kalin and David Taylor from Spark Media, to screen and offer feedback on a rough cut of their documentary film, *Soul of a People: Voices from the Writers' Project*. The finished film includes photographs, moving images, and sound from AFC collections.

**March 27:** Michael Taft held a telephone conversation with Professor Laurier Turgeon, director of Centre interuniversitaire d'Études sur les Lettres, les Arts et les Traditions (CELAT) at Université Laval, about folklore classification schemes for their inventory of Quebec traditions, and public sector applications of the inventory.

**April 11:** Peggy Bulger and other AFC staff met with representatives of the State

Department to discuss opportunities for AFC involvement in identifying topics and scholars that might be of interest to U.S. Embassies.

**April 16:** Peggy Bulger attended the all-day meeting of the National Recorded Sound Preservation Board.

**April 24:** Bob Patrick and other VHP staff attended the Military Social Media Network Meeting at the Naval Heritage Center for selected organizations and institutions to discuss ongoing military social networking. The purposes of the meeting were to acquaint the attendees with each other's activities, and identify opportunities for mutual support.

**April 30:** AFC staff gave a talk about the Library, AFC, and the AFC archive to twenty graduate students in Folklore at the Beijing Normal University, China.

**May 7:** Michael Taft and other AFC staff hosted Renny Smith, wife of Grant Smith, who is the former Ambassador to Tajikistan, and Alla Aslitdinova, director of the Academy of Sciences, Central Scientific Library, Dushanbe, Tajikistan, and explained the history and work of the AFC.

**May 11:** AFC's coordinator of reference provided an introduction to the Center's Native American materials to a group of thirteen people from the Native American Language Summit at the National Museum of the American Indian.

**May 13:** AFC's reference staff hosted a group of fifteen Iranian musicians who are touring the U.S. to learn about American folk music preservation and presentation. At their request, an AFC staff member visited some of the musicians the following day to pick up books and recordings they wished to donate to the Library.

**May 15:** Peggy Bulger participated in the IMLS meeting on Globalization and the Role of Libraries and Museums.

**May 15:** Bob Patrick met with Kevin Daley, a National Parks Service Official with the Ellis Island/New York Harbor National Park. They discussed the possible donation to VHP of veterans' interviews collected by Mr. Daley's office.

**May 20:** Peggy Bulger and Michael Taft hosted heritage officers from Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Chile, Cyprus, Finland, Georgia, Ghana, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kosovo, Lebanon, Mauritius, Mexico, Oman, Qatar, Russia, Suriname, and UNESCO, as part of the U.S. State Department's *Cultural Heritage Preservation: A Multi-Regional Project*. They described the scope and history of the AFC.

**May 20:** Bob Patrick and other AFC staff met with the national officers of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance (CACA) to receive veterans' interviews collected from their membership. CACA has been a long time participant and supporter of VHP.

**May 28:** David Taylor and Michael Taft hosted Marianne Fosland, cultural attaché, and Rita Aars-Nicolaysen, head of archives, of the Royal Norwegian Embassy, and explained the history and work of the AFC.

**June 4:** Michael Taft and other AFC staff met with Marinus Swanepoel, librarian at the University of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, to discuss a project by the Blackfeet of Southern Alberta to digitize their archive of recordings.

**June 17:** Michael Taft and other AFC staff hosted the New Mexico State University American Indian Educational Executive Doctorate (AIEED) Cohort, directed by Prof. Charles Townley, and including at least seventeen participants from a number of mostly southwestern tribes.

**June 23-24:** AFC staff flew to Orlando, Florida, to do a presentation on the holdings and collections of the American Folklife Center and Library of Congress related to Zora Neale Hurston. The presentation was part of a Florida Humanities Council teacher seminar held at Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida, entitled *Jump at the Sun: Zora Neale Hurston and her Eatonville Roots*.

**June 23, 24:** Bob Patrick and other VHP staff traveled to Los Angeles to meet with staff from the Creative Artists Agency Foundation (CAA). CAA is committed to conducting VHP interviews in the Los Angeles area as well as in New York City and Nashville. Two VHP presentations were conducted for CAA staff. These presentations included a VHP overview as well as instruction on interview techniques.

**July 15:** Several AFC staff members gave presentations about AFC, the Folklife Reading Room, and AFC's digitization efforts to a group of ten visitors from the National Library of China and the National Central Library of Taiwan. They were here for the entire month of July at the invitation of Deanna Marcum. This is the fourth annual training coordinated by the Asian Division.

**July 31:** Bob Patrick met with Gala True, Philadelphia Veterans Medical Center, to discuss her ongoing project of gathering Life Stories from OEF/OIF veterans. Dr. True and Mr. Patrick will be making a presentation on the subject of interviewing veterans at the University of Pennsylvania in January 2010.

**August 17:** Bob Patrick met with Major General (ret) Marilyn Quagliotti and Diann McCoy to discuss their proposed project to collect oral histories from female general officers. MG Quagliotti sees great worth in following the history of female general/flag rank officers from the early 1970s to the present. If the project is completed, there is a commitment to provide copies of these interviews to VHP.

**August 21:** VHP staff met with staff of the Library's Hispanic Cultural Society, to discuss opportunities to work together in support of VHP's congressional mandate to create Hispanic programming during FY2010.



**August 25-29:** Peggy Bulger served as a panelist for The Recording Academy's GRAMMY awards, in Los Angeles.

**September 2:** Bob Patrick and other VHP staff met with representatives of the National Park Service to discuss progress on collecting interviews with World War II veterans who served at Fort Hunt, VA, as a part of the PO Box 1142 Project. The NPS has approximately fifty interviews and will be collecting more. They are determining their best use of NPS exhibition, but still intend at some point to provide them to VHP.

**September 16:** Michael Taft gave a lecture on AFC's history and scope to a group of fourteen Ukrainian museum managers who visited the Library under the sponsorship of the World Learning Visitor Exchange Program.

**September 16:** Bob Patrick participated in a seminar for Korean executives and journalists attending a Governmental Leadership course at Georgetown University. Mr. Patrick discussed VHP's history, use, and importance to the nation.

**September 28:** Peggy Bulger met with Debra McKern, the head of the LC Brazilian Field Office, concerning ways to work together to increase folk collections from South America.

## **SERVICE TO CONGRESS**

### **Highlights**

**Senator Enzi Attends Concert:** On October 2, 2008, Senator Mike Enzi and his wife attended AFC's Homegrown concert featuring the Bar J Wranglers from Wyoming.

**Senator Hagel Meets with VHP Director:** On November 17, 2008, Bob Patrick met with Senator Chuck Hagel along with the family of Paul Warp. The Senator expressed his gratitude for the family's participation in the Veterans History Project.

**Members Attend Robert Burns Symposium Reception:** On the evening of February 24, 2009, twenty-five members of the House and Senate attended an evening reception in the Members' Room of the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building. The reception was hosted by the First Minister of Scotland, Alex Salmond, and the Scottish Government, and it featured special guest Sean Connery. The event highlighted AFC's two-day public symposium "Robert Burns at 250: Poetry, Politics, and Performance." Attendees included U.S. Poet Laureate Kay Ryan and Scottish Government Counsellor in North America Robin Naysmith; British Embassy personnel; Senators Lamar Alexander, Lindsey Graham, Kay Hagan, Orrin Hatch, Claire McCaskill, Harry Reid, Mark Warner, Jim Webb, and Roger Wicker; and Representatives Neil Abercrombie, Robert Aderholt, Henry Brown, Steve Cohen, John Duncan, Bob Etheridge, Bob Goodlatte, Mike McIntyre, Cathy McMorris-Rodgers, Jim Matheson, Brad Miller, Candice Miller, Jeff Miller, Jerry Moran,

Fred Upton, and Joe Wilson.

**Rep. Perlmutter visits VHP:** On March 10, 2009, VHP staff welcomed Rep. Ed Perlmutter, along with Community College of Aurora President Linda Bowman, and over thirty constituents from Colorado's 7th District to the VHP Information Center, where they presented Dr. Billington with interviews of local veterans.

**Rep. Kind Briefed on VHP:** On March 12, 2009, Peggy Bulger and Bob Patrick met with Representative Ron Kind to update him on the VHP.

**LC Exhibit for Congressman Brady:** On March 28, 2009, Bob Patrick, along with other Library of Congress division staff, participated in an exhibit of LC materials for Congressman Robert Brady.

**VHP Annual Briefing for Incoming Congressional Staff:** On April 3, 2009, VHP held an annual briefing for incoming Congressional staff members in the Members Room of the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building. Staff from over fifty congressional offices attended, and the briefing was filmed and archived on LCNet. Congressional staff members continue to view the briefing online. Debbie Burrell of Congressman Roscoe Bartlett's staff and Bill Holen of Congressman Ed Perlmutter's office presented details of their successful VHP programs, and they continue to answer questions for their counterparts in other Congressional offices. AFC director Peggy Bulger and VHP director Bob Patrick presented as well.

**Rep. Drier's TV Show Features VHP:** On May 12, 2009, Bob Patrick was a guest on the congressional district TV show of Congressman David Drier. Patrick discussed the Veterans History Project and the importance of collecting the interviews of older veterans as well as veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

**Speaker Pelosi participates in AFC Symposium:** On September 10, 2009, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi presented opening remarks at the first day of AFC's "Legends and Legacies" symposium. The event was held in the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building. Speaker Pelosi spoke about her late friend, Archie Green.

**Rep. Obey Participates in AFC Concert:** On September 10, 2009, at the start of AFC's "Legends and Legacies" concert, Rep. Dave Obey, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, presented remarks about folklorist Joe Wilson, and assisted Dr. Billington in bestowing the Library's Living Legend Award on Wilson.

**Senator Murkowski's TV Show Features AFC and VHP:** On September 10 and 11, 2009, the Librarian of Congress and staff members of various divisions showed Alaskan materials to Senator Lisa Murkowski for Murkowski's television interview program. Michael Taft and Bob Patrick selected AFC and VHP materials. It was decided that the presentation would be divided into two shows, with one in November 2009 centered on the Veterans History Project.

**Senator Udall Visits the Library:** On September 22, 2009, Sen. Tom Udall attended the banquet for the NEA Heritage Fellows, which was hosted by AFC and held in the Library's Great Hall

**Rep. Lee Conducts VHP Interview:** On September 24, 2009, VHP staff arranged for the Department of Veterans Affairs to record a VHP interview conducted by Congressman Chris Lee (NY).

**Members Attend Baseball Reception and Exhibit:** On September 30, 2009, nineteen members of Congress and approximately sixty of their guests attended a special reception, held in the Members' Room. The reception was organized by the Library's Congressional Relations Office, and co-sponsored by the Publishing Office and AFC. AFC arranged a special exhibit of baseball-related treasures from across the Library. The event achieved several ends, highlighting the Library's baseball-related collections, acquainting the members with AFC's upcoming symposium on the history and traditions of baseball, informing them about the Library's new publication, *Baseball Americana*, and honoring Hall-of-Famer Ernie Banks, a former Chicago Cubs player, who was presented with a Living Legend Award. The members in attendance were Senator Richard Durbin and Reps. Chet Edwards, Bob Goodlatte, Phil Gingrey, Gregg Harper, Tim Holden, Rush Holt, Ron Kind, Ron Klein, Dan Lungren, Don Manzullo, John Mica, Mike Quigley, Linda Sanchez, Mark Souder, Zach Wamp, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Bret Guthrie, and Eddie Bernice Johnson. One part of the program was an interview of Ernie Banks by Rep. Zack Wamp (TN).

**Homegrown Artists Visit Members and Staff:** On May 28, 2009, Homegrown artists Brendan Carey Block and friends met with staff from Senator Jeanne Shaheen and Senator Judd Gregg's offices. On June 18, 2009, Homegrown Artists Ollin Yoliztli Calmecac from Pennsylvania met with staff members of Rep. Robert Brady, Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library; the Congressman had intended to meet with the performers personally, but was called to the floor for a vote. On July 16, 2009, the Northern Kentucky Brotherhood Singers visited with Senator Jim Bunning and with Rep. Geoff Davis; Davis took them to the Capitol Speaker's Balcony for pictures, and later posted a picture of himself with the group in his newsletter. On September 18, 2009, Homegrown artists Wayne Newell and Blanche Sockabasin from Maine met with Senator Susan Collins and gave her a private concert. They later met with Rep. Mike Michaud.

**Congressional Staff Attend Homegrown Concerts:** On May 28, 2009, staff members from the offices of Senator Jeanne Shaheen, Senator Judd Gregg, and Rep. Paul Hodes attended the Homegrown Concert featuring Brendan Carey Block and Friends from New Hampshire. On July 16, 2009, members of Rep. Geoff Davis' staff attended the homegrown concert featuring the Northern Kentucky Brotherhood Singers from Kentucky. On September 18<sup>th</sup>, staff members from the offices of Rep. Mike Michaud and Rep. Chellie Pingree attended the Homegrown concert featuring Wayne Newell and Blanch Sockabasin from Maine.

**VHP Individual Briefings for Congressional Staff:** On October 7, VHP staff briefed Sarah Bermingham and three other staff members from Senator Charles Schumer's (New York) office. On October 14, VHP staff briefed Jackie Garrick of the House Veterans Affairs Committee. On October 16, VHP staff briefed Bradley Harrison and Tom Crosson of Rep. Robert J. Wittman's office about VHP. On October 17, VHP staff briefed Alan Mylnek of Rep. Sander Levin's staff. On October 20, VHP staff briefed Melissa Bosse Cox of Rep. Roscoe Bartlett's staff. On October 21, Jessica Souva briefed staff from Rep. Allen Boyd's office on VHP initiatives and opportunities. On October 22, VHP staff briefed Brian Sitler of Rep. Jeff Miller's office. On October 23, VHP staff briefed Ryan Nilsestuen of Rep. Ron Kind's staff. On November 12, VHP staff briefed Malinda Clark of Rep. Zach Wamp's office. On December 4, VHP staff met with Coy Knobel and Jennifer Barnes of Senator Mike Enzi's office. On December 5, VHP staff briefed Rob McCarthy of Rep. Kevin McCarthy's office. Rep. McCarthy serves on the Committee on House Administration, which is one of the LC Oversight and Appropriations Committees. On December 15, VHP staff welcomed Griffin Foster, Legislative Affairs Aide for Rep. Judy Biggert, to the VHP Information Center for a Veterans History Project briefing. On December 16, VHP staff briefed Brent Boydston of Rep. Steve King's office. On December 19, VHP staff briefed Travis Monroe of Senator Max Baucus's office. On January 6, VHP staff met with Rocky Deal of incoming Rep. Tom McClintock's office. On January 8, VHP staff met with Alan Mlynek of Rep. Sander Levin's office. On January 7, VHP staff briefed Stephanie DuBois and Francis Gibbs of Rep. Connie Mack's staff. On January 13, VHP staff briefed Wendy Gnehme and Jennifer Barnes of Senator Mike Enzi's office. On January 27, VHP staff briefed John Thomas of Rep. Walter Jones's staff. On February 3, VHP staff briefed Mary Campbell of Rep. John Adler's office. On February 9, VHP staff briefed Brigitta Johnson of Rep. Peter Roskam's office. On February 10, VHP staff briefed George Schwartz of Rep. Jeff Miller's office. On February 12, VHP staff briefed Brigid Eckhart of Sen. Diane Feinstein's office. On February 17, VHP staff briefed Matt Lahr of Rep. Steve King's office. On February 23, VHP staff briefed Deborah Koolbeck of Rep. Marcy Kaptur's office. On March 18, VHP staff briefed John Britton of Senator Jim DeMint's office. On April 7, VHP staff briefed Mara Boggs of Senator Barbara Boxer's office. On April 9, VHP staff briefed Laure Fabrega of Rep. Alcee Hastings' office. On April 9, VHP staff briefed Kristin Simmler of Congressional Military Service Members and Veterans Association. On April 10, VHP staff briefed Kevan Chapman of Rep. Vernon Ehler's office. On April 13, VHP staff briefed Peter Bean and Jim DeLapp of Senator Mark Begich's office. On April 14, VHP staff briefed Katie Ryan (Committee on House Administration, Republican Office), Andi Snow (Committee on House Administration, Republican Office), Mary Sue England (Rep. Kevin McCarthy), Sharon Johnson (Rep. Gregg Harper), and Robin Lake-Foster (Rep. Kevin McCarthy). On April 20, VHP staff briefed Clint Satherthwaite of Senator Bob Bennett's office. On April 20, VHP staff briefed Megan Mouch of Rep. David Dreier's office. On April 21, VHP staff briefed Alexandra Haynes of Rep. Geoff Davis's office. On April 22, VHP staff briefed Dan Jasnow of Senator Jeanne Shaheen's office. On April 23, VHP staff briefed Marian Grove of Rep. Joe Sestak's office. On April 23, VHP staff briefed Lane Lofton of Rep. Bobby Bright's office. On April 23, VHP staff briefed Tony Samp of Rep. Martin Heinrich's office. On April

27, VHP staff briefed Jeff Jay of Rep. Betsy Markey's office. On April 30, VHP staff briefed Andi Fouberg of Senator John Thune's office. On May 1, VHP staff briefed Norm Cannon of Rep. Ciro Rodriguez's office. On May 1, VHP staff briefed Courtney Austin and Kyle McGowan of Rep. Tom Price's office. On May 1, VHP staff met with John Britton of Senator Jim DeMint's office, to answer VHP questions and receive ten VHP interviews. On May 6, VHP staff and Stephen Kelley briefed Paolo Mastrangelo and Carrie Chess of Rep. Suzanne Kosmas' office. On May 7, VHP staff briefed Tess Mullen and Jennifer Rapach of Rep. Jason Altmire's office. On May 8, VHP staff briefed Elizabeth Brown of Rep. Tanner's office. On May 8, VHP staff briefed Nathan Bergerbest of Sen. Lisa Murkowski's office. On May 13, VHP staff met with staff from Rep. Rob Wittman's office. On May 14, VHP staff met with staff from Rep. John Tanner's office. On May 20, VHP staff met with staff from Rep. Chris Lee's office. On June 2, VHP staff briefed Josh Willis of Rep. Robert Aderholt's office. On June 10, Bob Patrick and VHP staff briefed the attendees of the House Republican Conference "Fly-In." On June 11, VHP staff briefed Karen Kunze of Sen. Tim Johnson's office. On June 12, VHP staff briefed Tery Sanchez of Rep. Kathy Castor's office. On June 12, VHP staff briefed Katie Strand of the House Republican Conference. On June 16, VHP staff briefed John Konkus and Matt McKinney of Rep. Cliff Stearns' office. On June 22, VHP staff briefed Roxane Unverrich of Rep. Shelley Berkley's office. On June 23, VHP staff briefed Tara Westby of Rep. Michele Bachmann's office. On June 24, VHP staff briefed Mary Crawford of Rep. Adrian Smith's office. On June 29, VHP staff and Junior Fellow Jaime Dicks briefed Kevin Thompson of Rep. Joe Donnelly's office. On June 30, VHP staff and Junior Fellow Jaime Dicks briefed Charles Isom of Rep. Adrian Smith's office. On July 1, VHP staff briefed Erin Gulick of Rep. Ron Kind's office. On July 6, VHP staff briefed Megan Hickey of Rep. Judy Biggert's office. On July 9, VHP staff and Jaime Dicks briefed Scott Martin of Senator Mark Warner's office. On July 9, VHP staff met with Bill Napier and Scott Whipple from Rep. Chris Lee's office. On July 20, VHP staff briefed Trevor Albertson of Rep. Dennis Cordoza's office. On July 20, VHP staff and Jaime Dicks briefed Adam Arguelles of Rep. James Clyburn's office. On July 22, VHP staff briefed Dan Armijo of Rep. Harry Teague's office. On July 24, VHP hosted a Brown Bag Luncheon for Congressional interns in the VHP Information Center. On July 28, VHP staff briefed Carol Helper and Jason Lane of Rep. Charlie Dent's office. On July 28, VHP staff briefed Nissa Hiatt of Rep. Travis Childers's office. On July 31, VHP staff briefed Margie Almanza of Rep. Aaron Schock's office. On August 10, VHP staff briefed Keith Dyer of Rep. Mary Jo Kilroy's office. On August 12, VHP staff briefed Britton Smith of Rep. Gregg Harper's office. On August 13, VHP staff briefed Susan Kodani of Rep. Mazie Hirono's office. On August 20, VHP staff briefed Bill Napier and Steve Whipple of Rep. Chris Lee's office. On September 8, VHP staff briefed Kim Brode, of Rep. Ted Poe's office, about VHP. On September 9, VHP staff briefed Christine Kontra, of Rep. Steven LaTourette's office, about VHP. On September 15, VHP staff briefed Dan Wadlington, of Rep. Roy Blunt's office, about VHP. On September 24, VHP staff briefed Jennifer Nolen, of Rep. Eric Cantor's office, about VHP. On September 24, VHP staff briefed Eric Slusher, of Rep. Niki Tsongas's office, about VHP.

## **Other Congressional Contacts**

**October 27:** VHP staff met with members of Rep. Ben Chandler's staff to coordinate a Kentucky AFS/VHP workshop and initiate an oral history event entitled "Day of Interviews."

**January 1-January 30:** VHP staff worked with Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Rep. Ander Crenshaw, Rep. Allen Boyd, and Sen. Bill Nelson toward VHP program-building in Florida.

**February 12:** David Taylor attended the annual congressional breakfast sponsored by the Maine State Society of Washington, D.C. Speakers at the event included Senator Susan Collins, Rep. Mike Michaud, and Rep. Chellie Pingree.

**March 18, 23:** Staff members of Richard Lugar's office contacted the AFC Reading Room on behalf of a constituent who was seeking a recording of Burl Ives.

**March 24:** A staff member of Rep. Ciro Rodriguez visited the AFC Reading Room.

**May 6:** Congressman Vernon J. Ehlers contacted the AFC reading room concerning the 2009 Inauguration Sermons and Orations Project.

**May 9:** Bob Patrick addressed 185 veterans at the request of Congresswoman Suzanne Kosmas. The veterans group was in town during an Honor Flight trip to visit the World War II Memorial.

**May 11:** Bob Patrick met with Emmy Huffman of Senator Richard Lugar's Indianapolis office, to discuss VHP. Senator Lugar's efforts on behalf of VHP in Indiana have resulted in approximately 8,000 interviews. This represents the most successful VHP program anywhere.

**September 25:** Bob Patrick attended the Veterans Forum sponsored by the Veterans Brain Trust of the Congressional Black Caucus. The event was part of the CBC annual conference and was attended by a number of veterans and veterans' organizations. A presentation was made by Eric Shinseki, Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

**September 30:** Bob Patrick and other VHP staff accepted a World War II veteran's diary at a small ceremony with Rep. Judy Biggert's staff and constituents.

## **PROGRAMS, PROJECTS & PUBLIC EVENTS**

**"America Works" Project Planning:** During the February 2009 meeting of the Center's Board of Trustees, trustees proposed a national project that would focus on the documentation of contemporary occupational culture in the United States, with particular

attention to stresses and changes many occupations have undergone in recent years. It was decided that the project, tentatively called "America Works," should be explored further and, subsequently, folklorist Betsy Peterson was hired under contract to draft a concept paper and convene a planning meeting to analyze it. The paper was written and discussed at a planning meeting, which was held at the Library on September 12. A summary of the results of the planning meeting was shared with the Board. Further discussion of the potential project will take place at the Board's meeting in November 2009.

**Benjamin Botkin Folklife Lecture Series** is an ongoing AFC project to provide scholarly lectures, which are free and open to the public. The 2009 lectures provided opportunities for folklorists and cultural specialists to present findings from original research. Recordings of the lectures are added to the AFC Archive, and placed on the Library's website as webcasts. Botkin lectures in FY 2009 included:

- ❖ **October 21 2008:** "A Bard of Nature's Making: Robert Burns and Scottish Traditional Culture," presented by Valentina Bold, University of Glasgow
- ❖ **January 27, 2009:** "Revolutionaries, Nursery Rhymes, and Edison Wax Cylinders: The Remarkable Tale of the Earliest Korean Sound Recordings," presented by Robert Provine, University of Maryland
- ❖ **March 24, 2009:** "Living and Building between Tradition and Change: Vernacular Architecture in Northern Sweden," presented by Mats Widbom, Cultural Counselor, Embassy of Sweden
- ❖ **April 30, 2009:** "Warning of Global Warming? Shamanic Traditions, Politics and Ecological Change in Siberia," presented by Marjorie Mandelstam Balzer, Georgetown University
- ❖ **May 5, 2009:** "We Had Sneakers, They Had Guns: The Kids Who Fought for Civil Rights in Mississippi," presented by Tracy Sugarman
- ❖ **May 13, 2009:** "The Sound of Islamic Music: Women's Voices and the Indonesian Religious Soundscape," presented by Anne K. Rasmussen, The College of William and Mary
- ❖ **June 11, 2009:** "The High Lonesome Sound Revisited: Documenting Traditional Culture in America," Presented by filmmaker John Cohen
- ❖ **August 13, 2009:** "Documenting Katrina and Rita in Houston," presented by Carl Lindahl, University of Houston and Pat Jasper, Austin, Texas

- ❖ **September 23, 2009:** "Built with Faith: Place Making and the Religious Imagination in Italian New York," presented by Joseph Sciorra, Queens University, City University of New York

**Civil Rights Oral History Project:** In May 2009, Congress passed the "Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009" (Public Law 111-19). The Act specifies that the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African American History and Culture will work together to collect, preserve and provide access to video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials of individuals who participated in the Civil Rights Movement, along with associated photographs, letters, diaries, and ephemera. The Act also specifies that the initial phase of the project will be devoted to undertaking a survey to determine what documentary recordings of this nature already exist in libraries, archives, museums and other institutions, and which participants in the Civil Rights Movements have been interviewed, so that the project can avoid duplicating work already accomplished by others. A cooperative agreement between the Library and the Smithsonian was signed on July 10, 2009, which specifies that the Library will take the lead in undertaking the survey, and the Smithsonian will take the lead in collecting the interviews that will follow. The Act specifies that \$500,000 will be appropriated to carry out the first year of the project, and such additional funds as may be necessary will be appropriated for each of the fiscal years from 2011 to 2014. The American Folklife Center will serve as the Library's lead department throughout the project.

**Department of Veterans Affairs Outreach:** During FY 2009, VHP staff worked closely with several divisions within the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), including the Office of Public Affairs, Voluntary Service (VAVS), the Center for Women Veterans, and the Center for Minority Veterans. In addition, the VHP staff continues to work closely with the Veterans Health Administration Historian and the Maryland VA Health Administration to plan VHP training within VA Medical Centers across the nation.

**Field School for Cultural Documentation.** The AFC's Field School for Cultural Documentation was held at the University of Mississippi, in Oxford, MS, May 10-15, 2009. AFC staff participated as organizers and instructors. The school was hosted by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, which supplied the fourth instructor, David Wharton. The participants were graduate and undergraduate students at the university. The focus of the field school was "Traditional Music of Northern Mississippi." This was the eleventh field school that AFC has sponsored with universities and colleges around the country since 1994.

**Genetic Health Family History Project.** AFC continued to work with the Institute for Cultural Partnerships, the American Society of Human Genetics and the Genetic Alliance on the "Healthy Choices through Family History Awareness Project." The project used ethnographic fieldwork to develop a tool to elicit health-related narratives, assisting health professionals and families in the identification of risk factors to help determine best medical care. Funding, in the amount of \$400,000, comes from the Health Resources and Services Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services.



**Homegrown Concert Series** is an ongoing AFC project to document the best folk and traditional performing artists in the United States for its archive's collections. The performers are selected in consultation with state folk arts coordinators around the U.S. This program serves the state folklife offices across the nation by offering a venue for their artists in DC, and provides opportunities for congressional outreach to constituents. Artists participated in oral history interviews that were recorded and deposited in the AFC Archive. Concerts were also placed online in webcast presentations. The concerts during FY 2009 were:

- ❖ **October 2, 2008** : Bar J Wranglers, Cowboy music from Wyoming
- ❖ **November 19, 2008**: Surati, Traditional Tamil Music and Dance from New Jersey
- ❖ **May 2, 2009**: Brendan Carey Block and Friends, Cape Breton fiddle music from New Hampshire
- ❖ **June 18, 2009**: Ollin Yoliztli Calmecac, Aztec dance ensemble from Pennsylvania
- ❖ **July 16, 2009**: Northern Kentucky Brotherhood Singers, quartet-style a cappella gospel music from Kentucky
- ❖ **August 20, 2009**: Sreevidhya Chandramouli and Friends, traditional Indian Karaikudi Vina music from Oregon
- ❖ **September 16, 2009**: Wayne Newell and Blanche Sockabasin, Passamaquoddy traditions from Maine

**International Discussions on Traditional Knowledge and Intangible Cultural Heritage.** AFC continued to participate in international discussions concerning intellectual property, folklore, traditional knowledge, intangible cultural heritage, and genetic resources. The AFC Director served on the US delegation to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and participated in meetings of US government officials on cultural policy matters involving intellectual property. AFC staff also attended meetings convened by UNESCO, and served on the Committee on Culture for the Organization of American States.

**Indigenous Documentation Training Program:** AFC staff, together with AFC Trustee Tom Rankin, Director of the Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University, traveled to Kenya in July 2009 to continue the cultural documentation training program with Maasai communities that was initiated in FY2008. The ten-day program of activities included a transfer of documentation and IT equipment to the Maasai. (Cameras, audio recorders

and laptop were purchased for them by the World Intellectual Property Organization, which was a co-sponsor of the project.) The program also involved further practice with the equipment, and fieldwork projects by Maasai trainees, focusing on herding, schooling, musical performances and oral history documentation. The training program has provided a solid base for the Maasai to continue to document their lifeways and the pressing social issues they face in a rapidly changing social and political environment. Additionally, the training team and LC Overseas Office staff in Nairobi held extremely productive meetings to discuss ways in which LC personnel could assist the Maasai in the maintenance and management of their collections.

**Jacksonville Community Hospice Collaboration:** VHP staff, including director Bob Patrick, traveled to Jacksonville, Florida, to participate in the planning of an upcoming year-long effort by the Jacksonville Community Hospice to collect VHP interviews from the many wartime veterans in the Jacksonville area. The initiative is now underway.

**Legends and Legacies Symposium and Concert:** on September 10-11, 2009, AFC sponsored a two-day event at the Library, including a tribute, a symposium, and a concert, honoring folklorists Archie Green and Joe Wilson, and celebrating the acquisition of the National Council for the Traditional Arts (NCTA) Collection by the Center's archive. The multifaceted event featured spoken tributes, musical performances, panel discussions, and rare glimpses at archival treasures, and was crowned by a magnificent evening concert in the Library's Coolidge Auditorium.

**Lioness Screening:** On March 24, 2009, VHP sponsored a screening of *Lioness*, a documentary film about the first unit of women soldiers to be involved directly with combat in the war in Iraq. Four women veterans, two still on active duty, attended the screening and participated in a panel discussion afterwards.

**OHMAR Oral History Conference:** On May 1 2009, VHP co-sponsored a conference with OHMAR (Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region) titled *Exploring War and conflict Through Oral History*. The conference took place in the Library's Jefferson Building. Nine panels were convened, covering topics from the Holocaust to the Army's oral history program in Afghanistan. VHP staff members served on a panel discussion of the challenges faced in collecting oral histories of WWII and Korean War veterans. VHP staff also attended many of the sessions, and distributed VHP literature to the attendees. Audio recordings of six of the panels will be made available on the VHP Website.

**Voices from the Days of Slavery Podcast Initiative:** AFC staff members, along with Lisa Carl, Professor, North Carolina Central University, edited and produced the podcast series *Voices from the Days of Slavery* in Summer 2009. This series, which is available through Apple's "iTunes U" portal as well as from the Library's website, features digitally enhanced recordings of AFC collections that document the personal experiences of formerly enslaved African Americans. The series is the first of several such programs that will draw upon AFC's vast collections of music, oral histories and other recorded treasures in order to reach new audiences via emerging broadcast and online technologies.

**Rediscover Northern Ireland:** AFC continued its collaboration with the Northern Ireland Bureau, sponsoring three events in FY2009 presenting the culture of Northern Ireland. They were:

- ❖ **October 9, 2008:** A lecture/performance by the prominent musician, singer, songwriter and radio personality Tommy Sands from County Down, Northern Ireland, accompanied by his children Moya and Fionan.
- ❖ **November 6, 2008:** *'It's Of My Rambles...'* *A Journey in the Song Tradition of Ulster*, presented by Len Graham, traditional singer and song collector, from County Antrim in Northern Ireland.
- ❖ **December 4, 2008:** *"I Am a Wee Weaver": Songs of Handloom Weavers from Northern Ireland* by Maurice Leyden, traditional singer and song collector from Belfast, Northern Ireland

**Retirement Community Outreach Initiative (RCOI):** This VHP program continued to be implemented in retirement communities across the nation, enlisting retirement community staff, administrators, and volunteers to collect personal recollections from wartime veterans and those who served in support of U.S. armed forces. Nationwide VHP initiatives exist at several prominent retirement communities, including those of the Holiday, Atria, Brookdale, Erickson, and Sunrise groups.

**Robert Burns at 250: Poetry, Politics, and Performance:** On February 24-25, 2009, AFC presented a free public symposium on the life and work of Robert Burns, Scotland's national poet. Presentations examined all areas of Burns's influence, especially his impact on America and American culture. The symposium marked the 250th anniversary of Burns's birth, and was produced in collaboration with the Scottish Government. Participants included Alex Salmond, the First Minister of Scotland, as well as many of the most prominent Burns scholars, librarians, and literacy experts in Scotland. The well-known actor Sir Sean Connery attended as a member of the audience. Webcasts of the entire symposium are currently available on the Library's website.

**Soul of a People:** AFC staff worked with Spark Media to facilitate the 2009 release of the documentary film *Soul of a People: Writing America's Story*. The film, produced in association with the Library of Congress, examines the work and legacy of the Federal Writers Project (FWP), one of four arts programs created by the depression-era Works Progress Administration. The FWP assigned thousands of unemployed writers to document America in guidebooks and interviews. Many of the writers documented folk traditions, and many of the FWP's folklore collections are now part of the AFC archive. As a result, the documentary features many recordings and photographs from AFC collections, as well as from elsewhere in the Library. The documentary is currently being broadcast in high definition video on the Smithsonian Channel.

**Treasures from the American Folklife Center on XM Radio:** Since January 2007, AFC staff members have participated in a series of on-air interviews with Bob Edwards of the *Bob Edwards Show* on XM Satellite Radio, for a segment entitled “Treasures from the American Folklife Center,” which airs approximately bi-monthly. Often, the programs are rebroadcast on Edwards’s Public Radio International program *Bob Edwards Weekend*, which airs nationally to an audience of millions. Each interview, which is scripted in advance by AFC staff members and XM producers, focuses on a specific aspect of AFC’s archival collections. 2008-2009 program topics included: AFC recordings “covered” by popular artists, songs of praise, recordings of unusual sounds, songs of wealth and hardship, the legacy of Archie Green, and songs about home.

**Video Conferences:** AFC staff members were active in producing video conferences via the World Wide Web, in collaboration with the Library’s Digital Reference Team. In FY 2009, several conferences were held to introduce interested audiences to AFC’s archival resources. Others were held on the theme of “Gathering Community Stories,” suggesting methods by which interested citizens can document their own oral histories and traditions. Another connected AFC with two remote locations in Kentucky, allowing an AFC staff member to interview traditional artists at one remote location, and elicit performances from them, demonstrating ethnographic interview techniques for the benefit of an audience at a different remote location, providing an exciting demonstration of the capabilities of the video conference format.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

**Folklife Center News:** Two issues (both special double issues) of *Folklife Center News* were written, edited and designed in FY2009. As in the past, the content emphasized AFC’s collections and activities, and guest articles by distinguished writers in the field of folklife. Each issue was sent to over 14,000 subscribers internationally.

**Archie Green Tribute Book:** AFC created a handmade book of tributes, reminiscences and photographs of Archie Green, collected from folklorists, librarians, and musicians. The original copy was created for the family of Archie Green, and was designed and created by staff of AFC and the Collections Care division. A second handmade copy of the book was created for the AFC archive. AFC also published a small limited edition of the book, which was distributed to all registered participants in the first day of the “Legends and Legacies” symposium.

**AFC Brochure:** AFC created a full-color glossy brochure, *Highlights of Fiscal Year 2008*, containing a summary of its activities in FY2008. Copies were sent to members of Congress and members of the AFC Board of Trustees. Copies were also employed for constituent education and outreach.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

**Interns and Volunteers:** During FY 2009, AFC benefited from the work of ten interns, two volunteers, and one Junior Fellow, who contributed a total of approximately 3,081 hours of service. Interns and volunteers assisted in processing many collections, conducted general reference assistance by creating recording logs for a variety of collections that previously had little or no documentation, retrieved collections from stacks for patrons, conducted daily reading room file maintenance, and assisted staff with researching patron questions. They also conducted research for several topical finding aids and assisted with public programs and special events.

### **AFC BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The American Folklife Center was created by the US Congress in 1976 through Public Law 94-201, the "American Folklife Preservation Act." According to the law, the Center receives policy direction from a Board of Trustees that is made up of representatives from departments and agencies of the federal government concerned with some aspect of American folklife traditions and the arts; the heads of four of the major federal institutions concerned with culture and the arts (see below); persons from private life who are able to provide regional balance; and the director of the Center. Included in the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act of 1999 are provisions for the board to be expanded to include four new members appointed by the Librarian of Congress, and, ex officio, the president of the American Folklore Society and the president of the Society for Ethnomusicology. The board meets several times a year, in Washington, DC, or in other locations around the country, to review the operations of the Center, engage in long-range planning and policy formulation, and share information on matters of cultural programming. In FY2009, the Board visited the Library twice, meeting in November 2008 and February 2009. The following new members joined the Board of Trustees: **Maribel Alvarez**, a Librarian appointee; **Rocco Landesman**, Chairman of the NEA, and **Jim A. Leach**, Chairman of the NEH.

### **ENRICHING SCHOLARSHIP**

**Gerald E. and Corinne L. Parsons Fund for Ethnography Fellowships.** The purpose of the Gerald E. and Corinne L. Parsons Fund for Ethnography is to make the collections of primary ethnographic materials housed anywhere at the Library of Congress available to those in the private sector. In FY 2009, there were two awards: \$670.00 to Gregory Hansen for a research project on the vernacular architecture and social history of Heishman's Mill, a 19th century grist mill located in central Pennsylvania; and \$330.00 to Marion S. Jacobsen for a research project focusing on the evolution and popularization of the piano accordion in America from 1920-1960, using the collections of the Library of Congress.

**Blanton Owen Fund Award:** The Blanton Owen Fund Award was established in 1999 in

memory of folklorist Blanton Owen by his family and friends. The purpose of the award is to support ethnographic field research and documentation in the United States, especially by young scholars and documentarians. In FY 2009, there was one award: \$800.00 to Stephen J. Taylor for a research project to record oral history interviews with former residents of the barrier islands of Accomack and Northampton counties on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, in connection with a study of personal narratives of “homecoming” on Portsmouth Island, North Carolina.

## **KEY PERSONNEL CHANGES**

VHP underwent a restructuring in FY2009, in accordance with its strategic plan, leading to several new hires and several changes of title and grade level. This follows FY2008, in which several senior staff positions were lost to retirements and to the expiration of NTE appointments. The staff whose titles and grade levels changed were:

Rachel Mears, Supervisory Program Specialist (Promotion)  
Monica Mohindra, Supervisory Liaison Specialist (Change of title)  
Jeffrey Lofton, Liaison Specialist (Promotion)  
Tom Wiener, Librarian (Research Specialist) (Promotion)  
Tracey Dodson, Administrative Officer (Change of title)

VHP hired two new permanent employees in FY2009:  
Alexa Potter, Librarian (Research Specialist)  
Megan Harris, Librarian (Collection Specialist)

Ariel De returned from detail to her permanent position at VHP in August.  
David Sager was detailed to MBRS from January 2009 through the close of FY2009

AFC hired two new staff members in FY2009:  
Rada Stojanovich-Hayes, Administrative Officer  
Bert Lyons, Folklife Specialist, Digital Assets Management

## **AWARDS**

VHP awarded a Group Special Act or Service Award to Donna Borden  
VHP awarded Individual Special Act or Service Awards to Yvonne Brown, Tamika Brown, Jennifer Eidson, Candace Milburn, Aron Swan, and Stephanie Weaver.  
VHP awarded individual cash awards to Jeffrey Lofton, Monica Mohindra, Gabrielle Sanchez, and Tom Wiener.  
ALLS awarded a Group Special Act or Service Award to VHP’s Ariel De  
VHP awarded an LC on-the-spot award to Tracey Dodson

AFC awarded LC on-the-spot awards to: Jennifer Cutting, Judith Gray, Todd Harvey, Ann K. Hoog, Megan Halsband, Valda Morris-Slack, Margaret Kruesi, Jonathan Gold,

Stephanie Hall, Mary Bucknum, Stephen Winick, Guha Shankar, Nancy Groce, John Barton, David Taylor, Michael Taft, Thea Austen, Peter Bartis, Cathy Kerst, Marcia Segal, Nora Yeh, and Rada Stojanovich-Hayes.

**STATISTICS:**

**REFERENCE STATISTICS**

**For the dates: October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009**

**Direct Reference Service (Combined Reference and Directional inquiries.)**

Note: While VHP collections are served in AFC's reading room, VHP also receives direct inquiries to a public email address, vohp@loc.gov. During FY2009, most of their email and web-based inquiries shifted to the QuestionPoint system. AFC receives reference inquiries through both QuestionPoint and a public email address, folklife@loc.gov. Reference and directional inquiries in all four of those categories are included in the "email/Web-based" figure in the statistics section below.

In-person	<b>3850</b>
Phone	<b>2574</b>
Letter/Fax	<b>187</b>
Email/Web-Based	<b>4869</b>
Total	<b>11480</b>

Number of items (containers) served within the Library: **2367**

Publications given out at the Reference Desk: **660**  
Other publications given out: **approximately 29,000**

**PROCESSING STATISTICS**

Processing statistics for both AFC and VHP are estimates.

**American Folklife Center**

AFC's estimate is a count of the materials known to have been arranged, accessioned, described and made available to researchers in FY 2009. Like most libraries, AFC's acquisitions and processing are moving from analog to digital. In the following list, materials that come as digital files are listed under "Digital Files," regardless of whether the content is text, audio, video, or still image. This produces a different kind of count from counts of analog items such as manuscript pages, since a single digital file may contain one or more manuscript pages, one photograph, an hour of audio, or a half-hour video.

Manuscripts: 25,697  
Published monographs: 489  
Sound Recordings: 9,820  
Graphic Images (including Photographs): 20,016  
Moving Images: 352  
Electronic Media: 426  
Digital Files: 44,936  
**Total Items processed: 101,736**

#### **Veterans History Project**

Manuscripts: 8,016  
Sound Recordings: 1,985  
Graphic Images (including photographs): 10,482  
Moving Images: 4,316  
Electronic Media: 468  
**Total Items processed: 25,267**  
**(Total VHP collections processed: 7,408)**

**Total Items processed by AFC & VHP: 127,003**

#### **CATALOGING STATISTICS**

Manuscripts: 18,262  
Sound Recordings: 3340  
Graphic Materials: 64  
Moving Image Materials: 190  
**Total items cataloged: 21,856**

#### **WEB SITE STATISTICS:**

The statistics program for the Library of Congress website was changed during FY 2009. The new system was gradually phased in over the year, and still requires adjustments so that the divisions have more data on the use of their materials. For example, we have no statistics for the use of webcasts of AFC events, and the report on the use of American Memory collections is limited to the directory, which does not account for people



searching for and using individual items from the collections without navigating through the directory structure, which is the primary way in which users find our materials. In addition, the new system measures “page views” rather than “hits,” limiting its count to pages on which a visitor lingers for some time. Predictably, this lowers the number of recorded visits severely compared to the older system.

Nevertheless, our statistics show that our pages are being well used. Visitors are using navigational aids such as the site search box and the topical index. They are finding pages well down in the directory structure, such as the two pages on Halloween, which are very popular in September and October. It appears that many of our older American Memory collections, that had high statistics in the old system but very low statistics in the new one (such as *California Gold*), may be being used by searching for items rather than entry through the main directory structure. In newer collections, people are most likely to enter through the front door, and so the new Center for Applied Linguistics collection, which had only been online for a month at the end of FY2009, was being used more heavily than any other collection at the time. It would require a more thorough report than we were provided to determine more detailed information about the use of these collections.

Total Views of AFC Pages:	778,737
Total Views of AFC American Memory Pages:	181,769
Total Views of VHP Pages (estimated from several months' figures)	354,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,314,506</b>

## **ACQUISITIONS STATISTICS**

Since some new acquisitions require a period of time before they are counted and cataloged, AFC does not have precise numbers on many FY2009 acquisitions. AFC's numbers below have therefore been estimated by the AFC Archive director and staff. In addition to the physical items in various formats listed below, 20,298 digital items have been added to MAVIS.

### **American Folklife Center**

Manuscripts: 429,160  
Sound Recordings: 6,875  
Graphic Images (including Photographs): 13,855  
Moving Images: 352  
Electronic Media: 6,130  
Digital Files: 47,841  
**Total Items acquired: 504,203**

### **Veterans History Project**

Manuscripts: 5,958  
Sound Recordings: 1,480

Graphic Images (including photographs): 9,143

Moving Images: 3,203

Electronic Media: 379

**Total Items acquired: 20,163**

**Total Items acquired by AFC & VHP: 524,363**

**Non-Purchase Items by Gift: 126,677**