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NASS

National Association
of Secretaries of State

Secretaries of State Spotlight State History and Preservation for American Archives Month

For Immediate Release

October 1, 2015

WASHINGTON, DC - The National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) is spotlighting state archives to celebrate October 2015 as **American Archives Month**.

Launched in 2006, American Archives Month is a unified effort to promote archives and the work of archivists across the nation. Secretary of State offices host the state archives in 18 states, showcasing valuable state history and artifacts. State archivists also help people locate and understand information contained in state records, such as genealogical records and historical collections.

"Secretaries of State are celebrating October as American Archives Month by acknowledging the hardworking professionals who safeguard our state history and its treasures for future generations," said NASS President **Tom Schedler**, who serves as Louisiana Secretary of State. "Beginning the month with a discussion about Hurricane Joaquin should feel familiar to state archivists, who serve as 'doomsday preppers' when it comes to catastrophe, decay, obsolescence and random acts of nature. Now is a good moment to show how states preserve valuable and irreplaceable historical artifacts through disaster and emergency preparedness efforts which must withstand the test of time."

The NASS [State Heritage Committee](#), co-chaired by Oregon Secretary of State Jeanne Atkins and Tennessee Secretary of State Tom Hargett, provides a forum for members to share

information and best practices regarding state heritage programs and venues, including: state archives, museums, libraries, historical sites and state records. Digital preservation and records management efforts are also key issues for this body.

NASS members work with the Council of State Archivists (CoSA), Society of American Archivists (SAA) and the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA), as well as the Library of Congress and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

Celebrate American Archives Month:

#AskAnArchivist Day is October 1. A full day devoted to asking archivists to answer questions.

Electronic Records Day is October 10. Now in its fourth year, [Electronic Records Day](#) (#ERecsDay) was created by the [Council of State Archivists](#) (CoSA) to raise awareness about the role that electronic records play in all facets of modern life. CoSA is promoting an entire week of e-records tips leading up to 10/10. Tip sheets, posters and more are available here: <http://www.statearchivists.org/seri/ElectronicRecordsDay.htm>.

Join NASS to showcase "Haunted History and Supernatural State Capitals" from October 19 to October 31.

Ready to show off the skeletons in your state history? Famous spirit mediums or voodoo queens in your genealogical archives? Creepy happenings inside the capitol? Share spooky stories, documents, photos and artifacts in your state repository with NASS using social media. Hashtag: #SpookyStateArchives

Social Media

Hashtags:

- Ask An Archivist Day: #AskAnArchivist
- American Archives Month: #AmericanArchivesMonth
- Electronic Records Day: #ERecsDay
- Haunted History and Supernatural State Capitals: #SpookyStateArchives
- Found It In the Archives: #FoundArch

Social media accounts to follow:

- [@NASSorg](#)
- [@StateArchivists](#)
- [@Archivists.org](#)
- [@AskAnArchivist](#)

About NASS

Founded in 1904, NASS is the oldest, nonpartisan professional organization of public officials in the U.S. Membership is open to the 50 states and all U.S. territories. NASS serves as a medium for the exchange of information between states and fosters cooperation in the development of public policy.

For media questions, contact:

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