

The Filson

A publication of The Filson Historical Society, a privately-supported historical society dedicated to preserving the history of Kentucky and the Ohio Valley Region.



Recent Acquisitions	Browsing in our Archives	Annual Fund	Shantyboat Exhibit	Jewish Hospital Exhibit	Buckner Papers	Gift Memberships	Gertrude Polk Brown Series	Staff Profile	Irish Genealogy Seminar	The Filsonians
3	5	9	10	11	12	14	15	16	17	18

FROM THE PRESIDENT

At the Filson, we like to say that history has a future. To give you a sense of what we mean, let's look ahead at what's in store for 2019.

In our public programming, we have two special lectures in the Gertrude Polk Brown series on tap, one on "The Age of Eisenhower," with William Hitchcock (January 10), and one on the "Heirs of the Founders: The Epic Rivalry of Henry Clay, John Calhoun and Daniel Webster," with H. W. Brands (March 28). Two special workshops will focus on tracing Jewish (January 29) and Scots-Irish (March 19) family histories. The Filson's public academic conference for 2019 will address "The Long Struggle for Women's Rights in the Ohio River Valley, 1780-1920" (October 18-19).

Our *Ohio Valley History Quarterly*, published jointly with the University of Cincinnati and the Cincinnati Museum Center, will offer two special themed issues in 2019. The spring issue will focus on Zane Miller who was for 35 years a professor of history at the University of Cincinnati. Articles will focus on environmental history of the Ohio River, zoning struggles in the 1950s, and opposition to nuclear power plant construction. The fall issue on Kentucky tourism will address the Kentucky Derby, Mammoth Cave, the Bourbon Trail, and My Old Kentucky Home.

Two exhibits of materials from the Filson's collections will tie into community-wide history celebrations, one on shantyboat life on the Ohio River (opens in January), and one on sculptor Enid Yandell (June). An exhibit from our archives of historic Jewish Hospital will open in April, and works of Louisville artist Julius Friedman will be exhibited beginning in September. Our popular exhibit on tracing family history continues through February.

It looks like 2019 should be a banner year for the Filson. Glad to have you with us.



Craig Buthod, *President and CEO*

FROM THE CHAIR

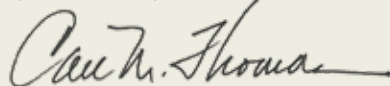
The holiday season is a perfect time for all of us to reflect upon our many blessings and to be thankful. With regard to The Filson Historical Society, I have immense gratitude for the following:

- We have a highly intelligent, committed, dedicated staff that oversees our extensive collections and delivers high-quality programming and exhibits.
- We enjoy a beautiful campus that allows us to host scores of speakers, share our collections, and stage special events.
- The Filson has increasing acceptance and acknowledgement as a "premium brand," committed to life-long learning and understanding the lessons that the past can give us as we confront the challenges of our times.
- We have a growing, faithful membership that regularly attends our programs, exhibits and events.
- We have a solid financial foundation. We have disciplined budgets and excellent financial performance.
- We have a diverse board of directors that effectively governs the organization.
- We are a historical society that is open and welcoming to all, having successfully transitioned over the past decades from a history club.
- Individual, corporate, and foundation donors have embraced and supported our mission.
- We appreciate our many colleagues in the educational and non-profit sectors with whom we often collaborate.

Lastly and importantly, we have been so fortunate to have Craig Buthod as our President and Chief Executive Officer. Craig has led The Filson through a period of enormous change and transition, including the successful completions of the \$12 million Cornerstone Capital Campaign, and the renovations of the Ferguson Mansion and the Carriage House and the construction of the magnificent Owsley Brown II History Center. Craig and his team have been outstanding stewards of the Society's finances and have installed solid financial controls. They have delivered a positive "bottom line" annually.

Craig has announced his decision to retire from his position as of the end of the year. We commend him for a job very well done! He has our best wishes for the next chapters of his life. The Board has embarked on a search to find his successor.

From all of us at The Filson, we hope that your holidays are joyous and that the New Year brings you and your loved ones good health, good fortune, and happiness.



Carl M. Thomas, *Chairman of the Board*

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The Filson

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Louisville, KY 40208
We welcome your feedback
and story ideas.
Phone: (502) 635-5083
www.filsonhistorical.org
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OUR MISSION:

To collect, preserve, and
tell the significant stories
of Kentucky and Ohio
Valley history and culture.

Recent Acquisitions

The last few months have seen further interesting and welcome additions to the Filson's collection. Acquisitions were made across all areas of the collection. From a ca. 1885 photograph of the Grauman family of Louisville to a ca. 1930s advertisement for the Oertel Brewing Company's music program carried on WHAS radio to the papers of journalists and executives Charles Whaley and Carol Sutton to a collection of the art of Julius Friedman, the collection continues to grow, documenting ever more thoroughly the history and culture of Kentucky and the Ohio Valley.



Philip Speed and daughters Mary, Peachy, and Ella, ca. 1854 (Historical Acquisition Fund)



Pen and ink sketch by illustrator Aaron Sopher of Helen Garth at practice with the Louisville Handel Choir, 1960 (gift of Susan Wilburn)



The Edward and Doris Grauman family of Louisville, ca. 1885 (gift of Ann and Harvey Tettlebaum)

Recent Acquisitions (cont.)



Charles Whaley and Jim Holmberg perusing some of his papers and those of his late wife Carol Sutton. Mr. Whaley served as Education Editor and a critic for the *Courier-Journal* and an executive with non-profits; Ms. Sutton worked at the *Courier-Journal* and was the first female managing editor of a major daily newspaper in the country. Mr. Whaley is a true bibliophile and has a large collection of books, especially regarding Bloomsbury and the arts. His rather unique—but logical—filing system is to file letters, reviews, clippings, etc. in the books relating to them. His donation of his and his late wife’s papers expand the Filson’s journalism and arts collections.



Oertel Brewing Company’s “Here’s to You” radio show advertisement, ca. 1930s.
(Anonymous gift)



One of Julius Friedman’s “deconstructed book” works. (gift of Carol Friedman Seifer) [See the “Browsing” article in this issue for more about the Friedman collection donation.]



Original Christmas cards by Jacques Albert
(gift of Robert Simpson)

The Julius Friedman Collection

BY JAMES J. HOLMBERG | CURATOR OF COLLECTIONS

If you enjoy art and cutting edge, creative graphics you undoubtedly recognize the name Julius Friedman. An artist, photographer, and graphic designer, his works span a range of mediums and are in collections around the world. Ever creative and curious, Mr. Friedman explored nature, urban landscapes, the human form, and books for inspiration; experimenting with the physical and visual for unique and thought-provoking results. A study of his works created over more than fifty years tracks the evolution of his art and design and reveals the genius that in many ways was uniquely that of Julius Friedman. Sadly, Mr. Friedman passed away in July 2017, but his legacy will live on in the countless works he created. Whether it is a unique one-of-a-kind creation or one of his iconic posters (“Toe on Egg” for example) reproduced in the thousands, the works he created have immortalized his name in the art and graphic design world. He once told a friend, “I hope I touch a few people with my art.”¹ Julius Friedman touched more than a few—he touched millions.

In September 2018, Mr. Friedman’s sister, Carol Friedman Seifer, donated a collection of his works to the Filson. The collection spans the length of his career, from his early days as a young graphic designer and photographer to “rock” art, the project he was engaged in at the time of his passing. This is an important addition to the Filson’s collection. Having representative works of this creative genius renowned for his art and design broadens the nature and time frame of our art collection.

The images shown here are examples from the collection donated by Ms. Seifer. They are beautiful, creative, and thought provoking; and we want others to enjoy and learn from them. To that end, in September 2019 the Filson plans on opening a Julius Friedman exhibit showcasing items from this collection. Enjoy the images shown here and come view the exhibit when it opens next fall. In the meantime, visit www.juliusfriedman.com as well as other sites to learn more about and view other works of this life-long Louisvillian whose imagination and creativity was boundless.

“Julius Friedman found inspiration in unlikely objects, making memorable art,” July 18, 2017, <https://jewishlouisville.org/julius-friedman-artist>, p. 2.



Julius Friedman with friend and graphic design partner Nathan Felde. ca. 1980.



One of the “Tree” series; digital photographic print on aluminum.



Three pieces from Julius Friedman's "Book" series; paper.





One of the “Ballerina” series featuring Erica De La O; digital photographic print on aluminum.



Sampling of Julius Friedman related books.



Love-Hate wood sculpture.



"The Unexpected" poster for Snyder's Department Store.



One of the "Rockopolis" miniature sculptures done in partnership with Martha Puckett; raku fired ceramics.



The Filson Historical Society
preserves our past, promotes learning, and
supports research. Your gift provides historical
context to the events, people, and culture
that shape our community.
Make history. Give to the Filson!

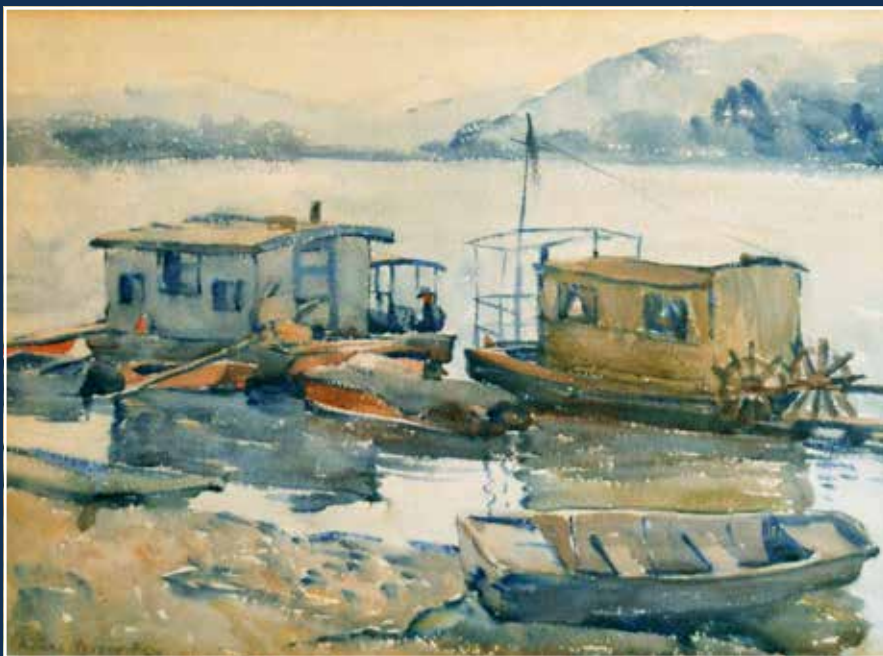
Photograph from the Clara Gibson Photograph Collection preserved at the Filson. Group of Louisville Girls High School (LGHS) students promoting the 1918 play "Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines." Clara Gibson is on the left front row in a suit and cap. The LGHS opened as Female High School in 1856 and consolidated with duPont Manual High School in 1950. [013PC46.18]

Upcoming Exhibit

Shantyboat Life on the Ohio

In the winter 2016 issue of *The Filson*, former director Mark Wetherington wrote an article about "shantyboat Louisville," a vibrant waterfront community for nearly 100 years which had disappeared by the 1960s. In 2019, the consortia project "Afloat: An Ohio River Way of Life" will take place in Louisville. Focusing on aspects of Ohio River history and life, "Afloat" is a partnership among area institutions and organizations to present programs and exhibits regarding this subject. As one of the partners, the Filson will open *Shantyboat Life on the Ohio* in early January based on Wetherington's research.

Shantyboat Life on the Ohio will focus on the largely extinct shantyboat culture. Drawing from the Filson's manuscript, photograph, print, and museum collections, the exhibit will present images, artifacts, and information documenting that history and culture. Life on the Ohio River is as old as the earliest residents of the Ohio Valley. The earliest documented "shantyboaters" were pioneers floating down the Ohio. They lived on the boats until reaching their destination in Louisville or elsewhere. The boats were usually sold or dismantled to reuse their lumber, but a few families likely put to shore and lived on their craft for extended periods. As the 19th century passed into the 20th, these boat-based communities tended to cluster near or on the waterfronts of cities such as Louisville and Cincinnati. Their residents made their living on both the water and shore, fishing and working in factories and other businesses. Changing times changed the "permanence" of these communities and today they are essentially a thing of the past.



Shantyboats on the River, Agnes Prizer Fay (2014.14.4)



"Louisville, KY Life on the Ohio." Rogers Clark Ballard Thruston Photograph Collection (TC-630)

If you are interested in learning more about this "lost" history, visit *Shantyboat Life on the Ohio* and keep an eye out for additional programming by the Filson and our other partners participating in "Afloat: An Ohio River Way of Life."

Shantyboat Life on the Ohio

Bingham Gallery

January 4–May 10, 2019

Weekday tours at 2:00 p.m.

Curated by Jim Holmberg,
Mark Wetherington, and Jennie Cole

Opening reception:

Friday, January 4, 2019, 5:00–6:30 p.m.

Continuity of Care

Transforming Jewish Hospital for Modern Louisville, 1945–1980



Louisville's Jewish Hospital opened in 1905 as a charitable institution with a joint mission of patient care and education. Funded entirely by Louisville's Jewish community, it provided culturally sensitive treatment to new Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe, as well as training and practice opportunities for aspiring Jewish doctors facing professional restrictions. Forty years later, Jewish Hospital began planning a major leap: leaving the original Kentucky and Floyd Street location for a state-of-the-art new facility in downtown, at the center of a planned comprehensive, ecumenical, and multi-specialty medical center.

After World War II, rapid socio-economic changes began remaking cities across the country and medicine presented a hopeful frontier for technological and civic progress. The struggling Jewish immigrants of prior generations had managed to gain a foothold in their new home and were now eager to serve their larger community. "Our goal is a *new Jewish Hospital*," wrote Jewish Hospital Board President Milton Trost in 1945, articulating not just a vision for improved facilities but also a broader scope of service. Such an institution, he argued, "is our only expression of providing the city of Louisville with an institution dedicated to service for all religions and citizens of this great city."

The expanded and thoroughly modernized new Jewish Hospital opened on Chestnut Street to much fanfare in the winter of 1955. By 1980 it had become a renowned multi-specialty medical center serving patients throughout the region. These intervening decades were full of challenges and growth as the hospital worked to uphold its original mission while serving ever more diverse staff and patient populations. Drawing on the Filson's recent acquisition of Jewish Hospital records, this exhibit features images and artifacts that highlight entwined mid-twentieth-century transformations in the city of Louisville and the entire field of health care.



Curated by Abby Glogower and Lynn Pohl
April 4, 2019–August 30, 2019

Opening reception:
Thursday April 4th, 5:00–6:30 p.m.



A Kentuckian on the Great Plains

BY JAMES M. PRICHARD | MANUSCRIPT CATALOGER

The Simon Bolivar Buckner papers document the long, eventful life of one of the most prominent Kentuckians of the 19th century. West Point graduate, Mexican War veteran, Confederate general and 30th Kentucky governor, Buckner (1823-1914) also served as an officer in the United States Army from the end of the Mexican War until he resigned his commission in 1855.

Throughout this chapter of his military career Buckner, a native of Hart County, was frequently stationed at frontier posts such as Fort Snelling in the Minnesota Territory and Fort Atkinson in the Kansas Territory. A well-read man, Buckner was also an entertaining writer. In letters to his parents, Aylett and Elizabeth (Morehead) Buckner, Simon, a lieutenant in the 6th U.S. Infantry, provides detailed accounts of his tenure as commander of Fort Atkinson which was located on the Santa Fe Trail.

In a letter to his father dated Nov. 5, 1851, Buckner describes his journey from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Atkinson. He wrote that Council Grove, near Fort Gibson, provides “the last glimpse of a white man in journeying westward”, adding, “on account of the timber and water it has been converted into a trading post for the Indians and an outfitting and repairing depot for (wagon) trains which travel this road.”

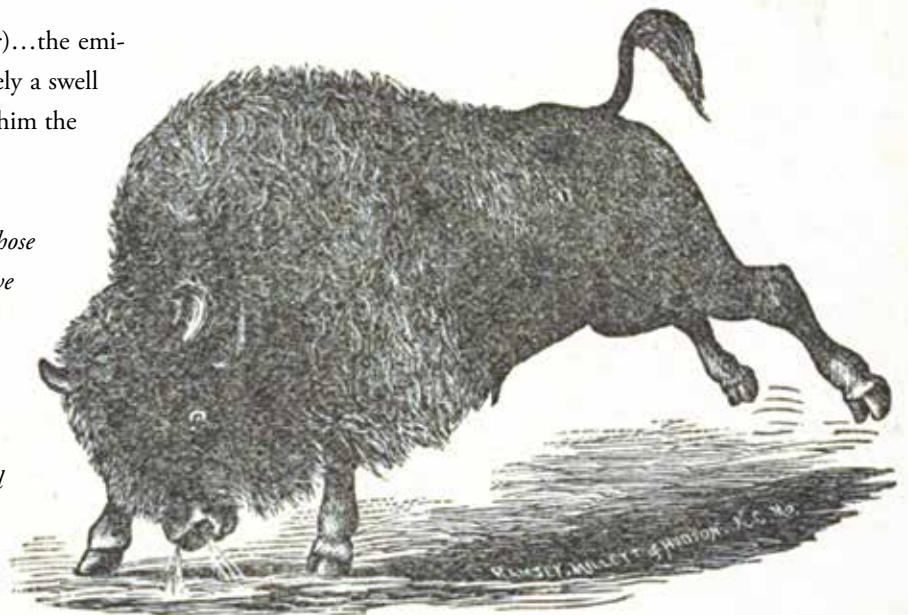
He recounts, “As we approach the Arkansas (River)...the eminences have subsided (and one broad plain with scarcely a swell in it spreads around us.)” He boasts that the trek gave him the opportunity to hunt:

Well I have shot buffalo and pursued the herds of those uncouth monsters which roam over the plains. For five days I travelled amongst them and during two of those days, in which I traveled a distance of about eighty miles, I was not for one moment out of sight of (the) immense herds. I will not venture upon a statement of the probable number I saw. The ground was literally blackened by the immense herds which were grazing over the plains.

On November 23rd, Buckner continued to describe his western adventure to his father. According to the young officer, Fort Atkinson “was merely an assemblage of sod huts, covered partly with such lumber as could be manufactured out of the stunted growth of cottonwood which is found along the Arkansas (River).”

He noted that he had yet to see an Indian although the post was often visited by bands of “Kansas or Kaws, the Kiowahs, the Arapahoes, the Cheyennes, the Pawnees and occasionally the Comanches.” At the time of his writing the post was only besieged by the onset of winter which began “on the 11th instant in a most terrific snow storm which continued three days.” He reported that “It overtook the Sante Fe mail on the Cimmaron, about 100 miles west of here (and) they lost all their mules.”

A letter to his mother-in-law, Jane Kingsbury, dated March 7, 1852 reveals that Lt. Buckner left the post in January on a 200-mile trek westward to the Rocky Mountains. He described the range as “less imposing in appearance as the Cordilleras of Mexico” yet “they presented a very imposing appearance.” He related, “I marched several days over ice and snow, when the thermometer



Buffalo, Image from "Stories of the Old Santa Fe Trail," by Henry Inman (Kansas City, Mo: Ramse, Millett, and Hudson, 1881). Courtesy of the Library of Congress.



Map of Santa Fe Trail, Courtesy of the U.S. National Park Service.
Illustration by Robert McGinnis.

was constantly many degrees below zero, and the cold winds which swept from the ice clad mountains across the far-spreading plains."

On March 10, 1852 he informed his mother that he would not be able to obtain a leave of absence to visit her because, "There will be several thousand Indians here in the course of a few weeks, and it is thought they may exhibit some unfriendly disposition." While not mentioned in his letters, official military documents reveal that over 10,000 Native Americans gathered around the fort that June for a meeting with Major Thomas Fitzpatrick, a U.S. Indian agent. Fitzpatrick, who was bringing gifts and supplies, was delayed and some tribesmen began to threaten they would seize supplies from the fort. Buckner, who commanded only 23 men, called for reinforcements but fortunately the threat was never carried out.

Captain Buckner's western adventure came to an end when he left Fort Atkinson on August 24, 1852 on a six month leave of absence. His next post, New York City, would be far removed from the scenes he witnessed on the Great Plains. But further adventures and distinction awaited the young Kentuckian.



Indians, Image from "Stories of the Old Santa Fe Trail," by Henry Inman (Kansas City, Mo: Ramse, Millett, and Hudson, 1881). Courtesy of the Library of Congress.



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The Age of Eisenhower *American and the World in the 1950s*

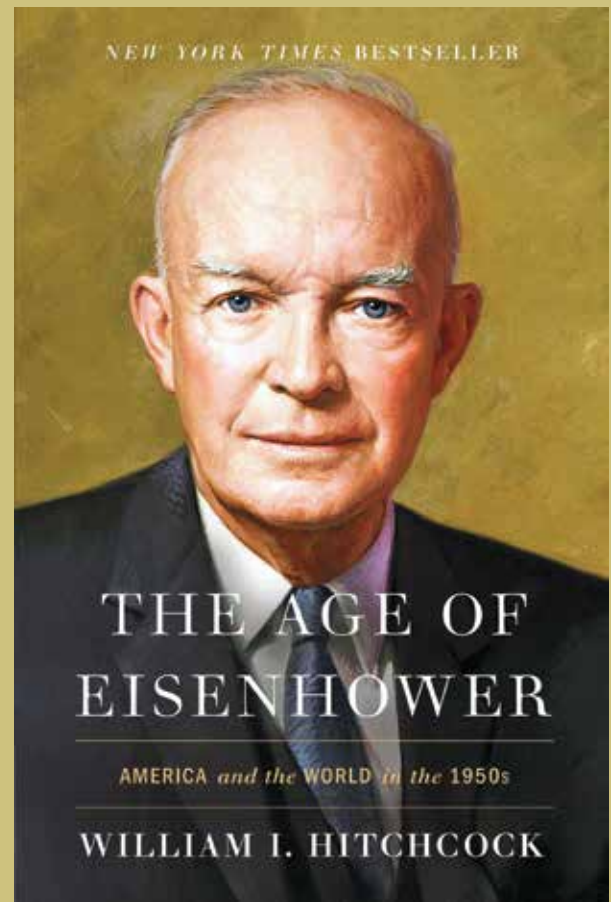
by William I. Hitchcock

In a 2017 survey, presidential historians ranked Dwight D. Eisenhower fifth on the list of great presidents, behind the perennial top four: Lincoln, Washington, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Teddy Roosevelt. Historian William Hitchcock shows that this high ranking is justified. Eisenhower's accomplishments were enormous, and loom ever larger from the vantage point of our own tumultuous times.

A former general, Ike kept the peace: he ended the Korean War, avoided a war in Vietnam, adroitly managed a potential confrontation with China, and soothed relations with the Soviet Union after Stalin's death. He guided the Republican Party to embrace central aspects of the New Deal like Social Security. He thwarted the demagoguery of McCarthy and he advanced the agenda of civil rights for African Americans. As part of his strategy to wage, and win, the Cold War, Eisenhower expanded American military power, built a fearsome nuclear arsenal and launched the space race. In his famous Farewell Address, he acknowledged that Americans needed such weapons in order to keep global peace—but he also admonished his citizens to remain alert to the potentially harmful influence of the “military-industrial complex.”

From 1953 to 1961, no one dominated the world stage as did President Dwight D. Eisenhower. *The Age of Eisenhower* is the definitive account of this presidency, drawing extensively on declassified material from the Eisenhower Library, the CIA and Defense Department, and troves of unpublished documents. In his masterful account, Hitchcock shows how Ike shaped modern America, and he astutely assesses Eisenhower's close confidants, from Attorney General Brownell to Secretary of State Dulles. The result is an eye-opening reevaluation that explains why this “do-nothing” president is rightly regarded as one of the best leaders our country has ever had.

William I. Hitchcock is a professor of history at the University of Virginia and the Randolph Compton Professor at the Miller Center for Public Affairs. A graduate of Kenyon College and Yale University, he is the author most recently of *The Bitter Road to Freedom: The Human Cost of Allied Victory in World War II Europe*, which was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.



Praise for *The Age of Eisenhower* *American and the World in the 1950s*

“Expansive.... Hitchcock discusses the full range of challenges that occupied Eisenhower across the eight years of his presidency.... [A] rich narrative.”

— Richard Rhodes, *The Wall Street Journal*

“The Age of Eisenhower is history and biography at its finest. With power and elegance, William Hitchcock brings America's 34th president brilliantly alive, and shows just how consequential the Eisenhower years were—for the U.S. and for the world.”

—Fredrik Logevall, Pulitzer Prize-winning
author of *Embers of War*

Thursday, January 10 | 6:30 p.m.

The Temple, Congregation Adath Israel Brith Sholom | 5101 US Hwy 42, Louisville, KY 40241

Free for Filson members, \$10 for non-members

Tickets available online at filsonhistorical.org/events or by phone at (502) 635-5083.

The Filson WINTER 2018 15

Jamie Evans

Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator



I graduated in 2007 from Morehead State University with a degree in Communications, emphasis in Advertising and Public Relations. I minored in Sociology because I am interested in socioeconomic class structure and American Minority Relations.

My first job post college was as a hostess at a restaurant. The recession had just started, and my husband was in graduate school, so I took whatever job I could find until I could break into graphic design/advertising. In 2008, I was fortunate enough to land a job at *The Morehead News*, the newspaper in my college town. I held a few different positions there, from graphic designer and paginator to sales representative and advertising coordinator. I think my favorite position was paginator. I was assigned pages to lay out in every issue, including the obituary page. I always tried to make it look as balanced as possible to honor those who had passed in some small way.

I had never heard of the Filson before I applied for my current job. People in Eastern Kentucky don't often talk about things in Louisville, and none of my professors really mentioned that all sorts of different organizations needed marketing staff. My program was geared toward an agency career. I've been at the Filson since May 2011, and I've learned so much about our region's history by being around our staff and looking through our collections. This has really driven me to make sure I sound the Filson's praises and tell everyone I know about the Filson. It's a great organization and fills a need that I didn't know we had. I also take much better care of my personal papers as a result, because they could end up here one day.

Outside of the Filson, I do a lot of different things. Prior to having kids, I was a distance runner. I still dabble in that, but it's more for fun and less about time or distance. At this point in my life, I can't take three or four hours on a Saturday to run 15-20 miles. I do try to take my girls with me when I can, because I want them to grow up seeing their mom doing amazing things and know that it takes work to get there.

Sewing is another hobby of mine. I started sewing because I needed a curtain and a yard of fabric is often cheaper than a curtain panel. Over time, I started quilting. In the past few years, I've participated in quilting swaps and started sewing my own clothes. I even made my daughter's uniform for school this year. My goal is to have an entirely handmade

wardrobe, but that is still several years away. I need to get over my fear of sewing pants.

Social media is a big influencer for me when it comes to my sewing. It's a great way to see how certain patterns look on a variety of body types before I try to make it myself. I also learn a great deal about construction from captions and blog posts. It's definitely helped me find the courage to tackle more daunting projects and to not accept a bad fit from ready to wear clothes.

I had a blog series on the Filson's blog called *Quilting in the Collection* for a while. It was fun to seek out these beautiful textiles in our collection and then recreate the quilt blocks, so you could see them up close. I learned a lot about the patterns and the history behind them, and it was a lot of fun. One day, I'd like to sew all my blocks up into a mini quilt for my desk.

Marketing and Public Relations coordinator is more than doing the calendar, the magazine, or press releases. I coordinate the edits for both *The Filson* and *Ohio Valley History*, help with events, promote the Filson at outside events, and a lot of other things. "Other duties as assigned" is what I tell people who ask me about it. I love all of it though, because it encourages me to stretch myself and learn new things. My favorite thing so far this year was getting to install a window display at the Visitor's Center downtown. It was a new venue for the Filson and reached a lot of different people.



Tuesday, March 19

9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

The Filson Historical Society, 1310 S. 3rd St.

Free for members, \$20 for non-members

Irish and Scots-Irish Family History Research Workshop

Do you want to learn practical and detailed information on how to trace your Irish and Scots-Irish ancestors? Ulster Historical Foundation has been helping people in North America trace their Irish and Ulster ancestors for 60 years. The presenters are from one of Ireland's foremost genealogy research organizations and publishing houses and they will give advice on what to do and where to go next to trace your family roots.

Workshop topics will include:

- Introduction to Irish and Scots-Irish Family History Research
- Using Land Records: Griffith's Valuation, Tithe, and Estate records
- Census substitutes and other important sources for the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries: Strategies for Success.
- General Questions, Answers and Brick Walls

These sessions will help the beginner and the seasoned genealogist alike.

Fintan Mullan is the Executive Director of the Ulster Historical Foundation, an educational non-profit organization which specializes in historical research and publications. Gillian Hunt is a Research Officer with the Foundation. This program is made possible with the generous support of Jerry Miller.

The Filsonians

September 2018 – October 2018



The Thruston Legacy Circle is an honorary society established in 2015 to recognize those who have followed the example of R. C. Ballard Thruston by including the Filson in their estate plans. Since our founding in 1884, the Filson has been privately supported and planned giving is an ideal way to continue that tradition of private support.

If you have made a planned gift to the Filson and have not so advised us, we thank you and ask that you let us know so we can welcome you to the TLC. If you have not made a planned gift but would like more information about doing so, please call our Development Department at (502) 634-7108 or email Brenna Cundiff at brenna@filsonhistorical.org.

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(\$120–\$249)

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