



Spring 2017

Issue 116

Save the Date

DANJ 2017 Conference
Honoring New Jersey's Military History
Thomas Edison State University
Trenton, NJ
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DANJ Fall Conference Recap

DANJ held its annual conference on October 28, 2016 “Celebrating the National Parks Service Centennial” at Rider University.

- Conference speakers included historians, archivists, and librarians from New Jersey area national parks: John W. Roberts (Senior Archivist, Museum Management Program of the National Park Service); Jude Pfister (Morristown National Historical Park); George Tselos (Ellis Island) ; Leonard DeGraaf (Thomas Edison National Historical Park); and Lara Flint (Government Publishing Office).



The conference program and selected slide presentations are available on the conference web page at (<http://danj.org/conf2016.html>).

- The winners of this year’s DANJ awards were announced at the conference:

[Best NJ Website](#): Thomas Edison National Historical Park

[Best NJ Document](#): Morristown Muster Newspaper

[Best Government Documents Paper](#): Susanne Kosempel, *Review of U.S. Government Programs and Resources Aimed at the Prevention of Childhood Obesity: A Bibliographic Essay*

- The 2017 Executive Board was voted in during the annual meeting:

President: Rebecca Kunkel

Vice-President/President Elect: Rick Mikulski

Treasurer: Wen-Hua Ren

Secretary: Susan Bucks

Member-at-Large: Caitlyn Cook

Announcement

DANJ will be offering two grants to members of the New Jersey Government Documents community in the amount of 300 dollars each to offset the cost of travel to the Depository Library Council Meetings and FDLP Conference on October 16-18, 2017 in Arlington, VA. Details on how to apply for a grant will be posted on the DANJ website and mailing lists starting in mid-June.

FDLP Regional Discard Policy

In fall of 2015, the Joint Committee on Printing approved a proposal of the Superintendent of Documents that would allow regional depositories to discard materials in their collections under certain circumstances. The policy requires that before any items may be discarded, those publications must be available in authenticated form on FDSys, that regionals obtain prior approval from the Superintendent of Documents, that regionals offer the items first to their selectives, then to the national needs and offers list, and that at least four tangible copies be available and “distributed geographically” throughout the country (<https://www.fdlp.gov/news-and-events/2403-jcp-approves-regional-discard-policy>).

While no regionals have as yet been permitted to discard any documents under the new policy, critics have pointed out a number of potential concerns with the planning and policy documents that have been released to date (<https://www.fdlp.gov/news-and-events/2648-regional-discard-policy-informational-resources-virtual-discussion>). Those concerns include risk of loss of public access to material if copies in FDSys are damaged or inaccurate, and the lack of permanence of draft agreements with “preservation stewards” who would provide the geographically distributed copies of tangible documents (<http://freegovinfo.info/node/11247>).

For those who may be wondering what the new policy will mean for New Jersey depositories, little is expected to change, at least in the short term. Laura Saur, regional depository librarian at Newark Public Library, notes that of the 687 entries in the “Titles Eligible for Discard” (<https://www.fdlp.gov/file-repository/about-the-fdlp/policies/superintendent-of-documents-public-policies/2742-regional-discard-eligible-titles-list-september-2016>) most are congressional hearings, Federal Registers, and daily Congressional Records. Her immediate plans are to continue to maintain print and/or microform collections of these documents.