



Porter Henderson Library

Library Newsletter



Vol. 9, No. 3

Angelo State University

November 2004

Word from the Director

Maurice Fortin, Library Director

The Library is preparing for the final weeks of the semester. Please review the Library's holiday break schedule below. I want to particularly remind everyone about the extended hours for the week of final exams. The Library will again stay open to 2 a.m. This semester the Library will add one extra day so the extended hours will be from Sunday to Wednesday evenings (December 12th to the 15th). The Friends of the Library and ASU's Career Development Office will again team up to provide students with free coffee and cookies (while the supply lasts) beginning at 7 p.m. each evening of the extended hours. At least this year, it should be a little quieter in the Library.

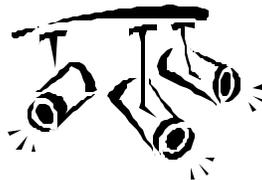
November 24.....	7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
November 25-27	CLOSED (Thanksgiving Holidays)
November 28 - December 11.....	Regular Fall Schedule
December 12-15	Extended hours for final exams
December 16-17.....	Regular Fall Schedule
December 18-19.....	CLOSED
December 20-23.....	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(The West Texas Collection will be CLOSED December 20-January 10)	
December 24-January 2	CLOSED (Christmas Holidays)
January 3-7.....	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
January 8-9.....	CLOSED
January 10-14	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
January 15-17	CLOSED (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
January 18-March 11	Begin Regular Spring Schedule

(The Library's complete schedule for this academic year is available online at <http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/libhours.htm>.)

In this issue, you will learn more about the Library's online tutorials, *GPO Access*, and Veterans Day. On page 2 Mark Allan spotlights the online tutorials, which are available from the "Library Guides" page at <http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/handouts/index.htm>. Janetta Paschal presents information on *GPO Access*. Over the next year the Government Printing Office is adding three new databases to this service. For more information see "GPO Access Turns 10" on page 2. And in honor of Veterans Day, November 11, we present some statistical information on our nation's veterans, compiled by the Census Bureau.

Please have a great holiday break. We will see you again in the spring when the *Newsletter* resumes publication in February 2005.

Inside	
Spotlights on the Tutorials	2
<i>GPO Access</i> Turns 10	2
Veterans Day 2004: November 11 . . .	3



Spotlights on the Tutorials

The Reference Department is proud to spotlight the Library's online tutorials in this issue of the *Library Newsletter*. The tutorials, which were developed specifically for lower-division, undergraduate courses in English, Biology, and Nursing, allow the Library to support the needs of ASU students and faculty in a more flexible manner. According to statistics provided by Information Technology, over 48,000 Library tutorial web pages were accessed in the month of September alone.

Faculty will find the tutorials useful to supplement or replace basic Library orientations for a variety of disciplines. The stable, organized information content lends itself to being incorporated into day-to-day course instruction, as well as providing material for student assessment.

Students can use the tutorials as a means of refreshing their overall knowledge of library research, or can look up specific skills using the tutorials' table of contents for "information on demand." Students absent from class the date of a scheduled library instruction session might "make-up" the missing session by utilizing a tutorial. Distance education students, as well as transfer students, may find the tutorial to be the only BASIC introduction to the Library they receive.

It should be noted that the tutorial is not intended to teach research on the level needed by upper-division students, nor does it include an introduction to the specialized research needs of various elements of the University curriculum. The Library plans to continue offering instruction regarding library use and information literacy for all students at ASU.

If your Department has a large student population that you feel may benefit by a general or specialized online tutorial, please contact the Library Director, Maurice Fortin, at 942-2222, ext. 222, or Maurice.Fortin@angelo.edu.

GPO Access Turns 10

The roots of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) go back to 1813 when Congress established the program to ensure that the American public had access to its government's information. Since then



depository libraries have safeguarded the public's right to know by collecting, organizing, maintaining, preserving, and assisting users with information from the federal government. In 1895 the Government Printing Office (GPO) assumed responsibility for the FDLP and has been working to keep America informed ever since.

In 1993, Congress authorized GPO to begin online distribution of U.S. government information. *GPO Access*, launched in June of 1994, has now passed the 10-year mark. This service provides free electronic access to a wealth of important information products produced by the federal government. The information provided on the site is the official, published version and can be used without restriction, unless specifically noted. *GPO Access* is funded by the Federal Depository Library Program and has grown out of Public Law 103-40, known as the Government Printing Office Electronic Information Enhancement Act of 1993.

GPO Access includes resources from all three branches of government, such as the *Federal Register*, the Congressional bills, documents, hearings, and reports; the *Budget of the United States*; and the *Economic Report of the President*.

Since its inception, users have retrieved more than 2 billion documents from *GPO Access*. Usage has increased from an average of 20,000 retrievals a month in 1994 to an average of 34 million a month in 2004. Users have also downloaded a total of 195 terabytes of information, which is equivalent to more than 98 billion typewritten pages.

For fiscal year 2004, 11,932 online titles and 9,141 links to agency titles were added to *GPO Access*, for a total of 21,073 new online titles. The total number of titles added to the Federal Depository Library Program (including tangible titles in paper, microfiche, CDs, and maps) was 32,348 of which 65% were made available online. As of September 2004, a grand total of 275,970 titles are available through *GPO Access*.

Earlier this year GPO surveyed depository libraries to prioritize titles for digitization. When GPO completed the survey the most requested title was the bound *Congressional Record*. It is one of three major publications produced by GPO that have never been made available as a *GPO Access* database – until now.

Most of the 1999 volumes of the bound *Record* have been converted from typesetting files to a WAIS database. The web interface and documentation have been completed, and the database functionality has been tested. GPO will continue to update the database as additional volumes of the bound *Record* are published.

GPO staff members are also working on a database for *Statutes at Large*. The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) will finish proofreading the *Statutes at Large* of the first session of the 108th Congress shortly. Once that is done, and the files are corrected, it will take a month or two to create the database, develop and test the web interface, and prepare the documentation. Estimated release of this database is in December or January. As with the bound *Congressional Record*, staff will continue to update the database as additional volumes of the *Statutes at Large* are published.

The third new database will be the *U.S. Reports*. This title is in the queue behind the bound *Record* and the *Statutes at Large*.

GPO Access is accessible via a link on the Library's main "Government Documents & Maps" web page at <http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/govdocs/index.htm>. Announcements will be made as these new databases are made available for use. If you have any questions about using this service contact Janetta Paschal at 942-2300, ext. 230, or Janetta.Paschal@angelo.edu.

(The preceding statistical and database information has been compiled from Superintendent of Documents Judith C. Russells' remarks at the 2004 Fall Federal Depository Library Conference held in Washington, D.C., on October 18, 2004. A complete transcript with additional information is available online at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/about/speeches/DLCFall2004.pdf>.)

Veterans Day 2004: November 11

Designed to commemorate the end of World War I, "the most destructive, sanguinary, and far reaching war in human annals,"¹ Veterans Day originated as "Armistice Day" on November 11, 1918. Congress first proclaimed "Armistice Day" in 1926, resolving that "the recurring anniversary of this date should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations."² "Armistice Day" became "Veterans Day" in 1954 as a result of legislation signed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. The name was changed to honor all who served the nation in wars or conflicts. Veterans Day has been observed annually on this date since 1978, except for a brief period when it was celebrated on the fourth Monday of October.



Many people confuse Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Memorial Day is a

¹ Concurrent resolution (44 Stat. 1982) enacted by Congress on June 4, 1926.

² Ibid.

day for remembering and honoring military personnel who died in the service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle.

While those who died are also remembered on Veterans Day, Veterans Day is the day set aside to thank and honor *all* those who served honorably in the military – in wartime or peacetime. In fact, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank *living* veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served – not only those who died – have sacrificed and done their duty.

The Veterans Day National Committee, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, has produced the Veterans Day 2004 Teachers Resource Guide to assist teachers in grades 4-12 with lesson planning to help students gain an understanding of and appreciation for American veterans' contributions. *Honoring All Who Served* is available online at http://www1.va.gov/vetsday/docs/Teacher_Guide2004.pdf.

The United States has 24.9 million military veterans: 1.7 million are women, 9.7 million are age 65 or over, 8.2 million are Vietnam-era veterans, and 4.4 million are World War II veterans. The number of Vietnam veterans account for the largest share of any period of service, more than 3-in-10. The next largest share of wartime veterans, nearly 2-in-10, served during World War II.

Sixteen percent of Persian Gulf War veterans are women. In contrast, women account for 5 percent of World War II vets, 3 percent of Vietnam vets, and 2 percent of Korean War vets.

There are 2.4 million black veterans. Additionally, 1.1 million veterans are Hispanic; 272,000 are Asian; 159,000 are American Indian or Alaska native; and 30,000 are native Hawaiian and other Pacific islander. (The numbers for blacks, Asians, American Indians and Alaska natives and native Hawaiians and other Pacific islanders cover only those reporting a single race in the 2000 Census.) (Retrieved from American Community Survey data sets via American FactFinder: <http://factfinder.census.gov/>)

Many veterans served during more than one period.

- o 381,000 served during both the Vietnam era and the Desert Storm era (August 1990 or later).
- o 429,000 served during both the Korean War and the Vietnam conflict.
- o 143,000 served during three periods: World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam conflict.
- o 498,000 served in World War II and the Korean War.

(Retrieved from American Community Survey data sets via American FactFinder: <http://factfinder.census.gov/>)

Six states have 1 million or more veterans: California (2.3 million), Florida (1.8 million), Texas (1.7 million), New York (1.2 million), Pennsylvania (1.2 million) and Ohio (1.1 million).

The 2.5 million veterans receiving compensation for service-connected disabilities received \$20.8 billion annually. The federal government spent \$56.9 billion for veterans benefits programs in fiscal year 2003.

(Statistical data compiled by the Census Bureau and released September 23, 2004. Unless otherwise noted, the preceding statistical information comes from the upcoming *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 2004*.)



More than 4 million wartime veterans — almost 2-in-10 — served during World War II. Overall, nearly 10 million veterans are age 65 or over. (Photo provided by the Defense Visual Information Center.)