



The U.S. Embassy Information Resource Center

Yerevan Times

U.S. Memorial Day

Traditional: May 30

Observed: last Monday of May

Memorial Day is the fourth Monday of May. It originally honored the people killed in the American Civil War, but has become a day on which the dead of all wars, and the dead generally, are remembered in special programs held in cemeteries, churches, and other public meeting places. Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11, and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The flying of the American flag is widespread.



For more information on Memorial Day please visit: <http://www.usmemorialday.org/>

Yerevan American Corner, in Partnership with U.S. Embassy, Launches Website



On April 19, the Yerevan American Corner, in partnership with the U.S. Embassy in Armenia, launched its website: yerevan.americancorners.am. The bilingual English-Armenian webpage provides information about the American Corner's mission, services, and upcoming events. It also includes an electronic database of the resources available at the American Corners in Armenia, allowing patrons to search for materials on the web.

U.S. Charge d'Affaires Anthony Godfrey, Director of the Yerevan City Central Library Hasmik Karapetyan, and Information Resource Officer Bill Middleton welcomed guests and Yerevan American Corner patrons who came to celebrate not only the

website inauguration but also the second anniversary of the American Corner in Yerevan.

American Corner Yerevan officially opened on April 20, 2005. This Corner currently houses four computers with Internet access and over 800 books. Over 20,000 patrons visited the American Corner in Yerevan within the last two years. The Corner also holds a variety of public events, including movie showings, presentations by Armenians who have lived or studied in the United States as part of the "Armenian at the American Corner" series, and lectures by an American every third Saturday of the month as part of the "American at the American Corner" series.

About 80 invitees participated in the event from various public and research libraries, NGO's, educational and cultural organizations. Reporters from seven TV stations including Armenian Public TV 'Haylur' News, Armenia TV, Kentron, Shant, ALM, Avetis and AR TV stations highlighted the event.

For more information, please visit www.americancorners.am.

What's New at The American Corners?

Each month, the U.S. Embassy Information Resource Center organizes "American at the American Corners," and "Armenian at the American Corners" lectures. All presentations are free of charge and open to the public.

Upcoming Presentations:

American Corner Yerevan

"Dams in the Desert, Developing America's West," by James Carlson, May 19, at 14:00.

American Corner Gyumri

"History of New York City," by Douglas Peterson, May 16, at 15:00.

For more information please visit Yerevan and Gyumri American Corner Websites at:
www.americancorners.am

Partnership Project—Gift Book Program

Since September 2005 South East Florida Library and Information Network (SEFLIN) member libraries provided Armenian libraries with high quality English language books/media for children & young adults. As of January 1, 2007, the independent school libraries have provided more than 2,600 library books to the U.S. Embassy in Armenia for distribution to Armenian libraries.

Lynn University has given the New York Times (1964-2002) on microfilm to the American University in Armenia (AUA) Library through the SEFLIN Gift Book Program. Palm Beach Community College facilitated a gift from the Lake-Sumter Community College Library of the Harvard Business Review (1981-1997) on microfilm to the AUA Library through the SEFLIN Gift Book Program. In support of the microfilm gifts, SEFLIN provided the AUA Library with a microform reader.



Letters from IRC Partner Libraries

Microfilm Reader For AUA Papazian Library

The AUA Papazian Library acknowledges SEFLIN's generous contribution to our library by receiving a brand new Microfilm Reader with its extra parts. I would like to thank you for all your efforts to help us in expanding academic resources. Through this device the library community will be able to read the articles from journals published in 1960s up to recent years.

Harvard Business Review as well as the New York Times in microfilms will be used by the scholarly community of Yerevan in addition to AUA students.

I would also like to thank Tom Mitnacht and Nerses Hayrapetyan for providing delivery of Microfilm Reader and the microfilms to AUA Papazian Library.

Best regards,

Satenik (Bella) Avagyan
Director of the AUA Papazian Library



Monday Movies at the Information Resource center

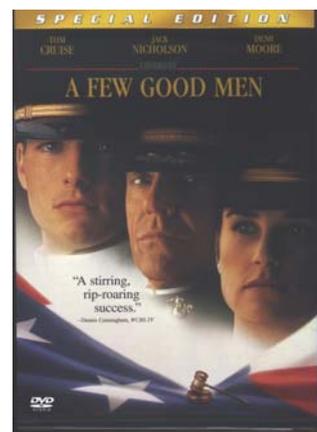
As part of its movie series, an English-language movie is shown at the U.S. Embassy Information Resource Center every third Monday of the month.

Please mark your calendars and RSVP to ircyerevan@usa.am if you would like to attend any of the movies listed below.

An approximately 30 minute English-language discussion will follow each movie.

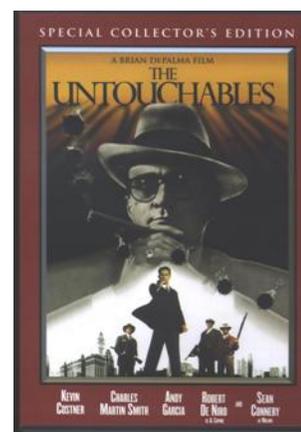
**“A Few Good Men,” 1992, Directed by Rob Reiner
May 21 at 16:00**

Defence lawyers, Kaffee (maverick) and Galloway (dutiful) are assigned the case of defending two US soldiers, accused of murdering a fellow soldier who was deemed to have 'broken the code'. Kaffee and Galloway soon run into a brick wall (Jessup), who sees himself as a military 'untouchable.' The accused claim they were obeying orders (Jessup's), and that the death was an accident. In the conclusion of the film, the fireworks are set off by a confrontation between Jessup and Kaffee.



**“The Untouchables,” 1987, Directed by Brian De Palma
June 18 at 16:00**

The Prohibition-era reign of mob kingpin Al Capone is dramatized in *The Untouchables*, a colorful, stylishly violent drama graced with a superb script by David Mamet and flamboyantly directed by Brian De Palma (*Scarface*). Young Treasury Agent Elliot Ness arrives in Chicago and is determined to take down Al Capone but he learns that it's not going to be easy, because Capone has the police in his pocket. But Ness meets Jimmy Malone a veteran patrolman and probably the most honorable one in the force. He asks Malone to help him get Capone but Malone warns him that if he goes after Capone, he is going to war. They recruit academy cadet, George Stone and Treasury agent Oscar Wallace, who is also an accountant, who wants to prosecute Capone for tax evasion. When they make headway, Capone tries to get them but they are untouchable.



The IRC Yerevan has many other movies which have been made available for future viewings. These exciting films include *Moonstruck*, by Norman Jewison (*comedy, 1987*); *The Exorcist* by *William Friedkin* (drama/horror/thriller, 1973), *Seabiscuit* by *Gary Ross* (*drama, 2003*); and many, many more.

Do you Know Who came First, Superman or Batman?

Superman first appeared in Action Comics No. 1, June 1938. Batman first appeared in Detective Comics No. 27, May 1939.

Two Presentations for Yerevan and Gyumri Publics

In April 2007 U.S. Embassy Information Resource Center hosted Bill Middleton, U.S. State Department's Information Resource Specialist. Mr. Middleton delivered two presentations on the topic "Web Resources for Academic Librarians" at the Mail Library of Yerevan State University and "Web Resources for English Language Teaching and Learning" at Gyumri American Corner.

The presentation at YSU provided concrete, live examples of web sites that can be trusted and advice on how to find reliable sites among the literally billions of choices. In particular, the lecturer presented about a dozen internet sites which are very powerful tools for every librarian and information specialist, like Internet Library for Librarians (<http://www.itcompany.com/inforetrieve/>), which is an information portal designed for librarians to locate Internet resources related to their profession; LibrarySpot (<http://www.libraryspot.com/>), which was created to break through the information overload of the Web and bring the best library and reference sites together; Librarian Central (<http://librariancentral.blogspot.com/>), official source for Google tips, news and updates; Answers.com (<http://www.answers.com/>), one of the leading information portals on the internet; Librarians Index to the Internet (<http://lii.org/>); American Library Association (<http://www.ala.org/>); Resource Shelf (<http://www.resourceshelf.com/>); Ducu Ticker (<http://www.docuticker.com/>); Internet Public Library (<http://www.ipl.org/>), etc.

The lecture topic in Gyumri was "Web Resources for English Language Teaching and Training." The participants were very interested in the topic and mentioned that it was very useful for teachers. The lecturer described in detail different web resources specially designed for English language learning and teaching.

Both presentations were warmly received by librarians coming from almost all of the governmental, academic and public libraries and as a consequence, IRC plans to hold a series of workshops and seminars on internet searching and grant writing. The dates of seminars will be announced later.



More than 40 librarians and information specialists participated at the YSU lecture



Bill Middleton and Tigranuhi Baghdasaryan



Letters from IRC patrons: I want to thank the IRC staff for their ongoing support of my efforts as an English Language Fellow in Armenia. They have been extremely helpful in providing me with materials for my teaching at Brusov University. Most recently I was given copies of OUTLINE OF THE US ECONOMY to distribute to students in support of my lessons on the topic at the school. The book is a fine resource. Once again, I and my students are grateful for their assistance.

*Jim Teepen,
English language fellow*

New Resources at the Information Resource Center

Please check out the status of select books and newly arrived materials on our IRC web page at:
<http://www.usa.am/irc/search.php>.

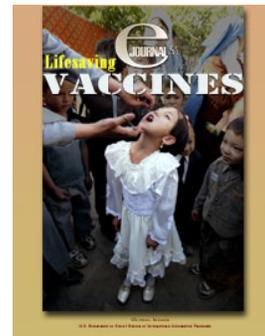
IRC SUBSCRIPTIONS

Currently IRC has access to the following EBSCO databases: *ERIC, Academic Search Premier, Business Source Premier, and Professional Development Collection*. ERIC, the Educational Resource Information Center, provides access to education literature and resources. The database provides access to information from journals included in the Current Index of Journals in Education and Resources in Education Index. ERIC provides full text of more than 2,200 digests along with references for additional information and citations and abstracts from over 1,000 educational and education-related journals. *(To be continued)*

New Electronic Journal Lifesaving Vaccines

Vaccines can prevent disease, prolong life, and even eradicate scourges that have plagued people since prehistory. Knowledge of vaccine effectiveness is decades old, but children in developing nations are still dying from vaccine preventable diseases. The United States and international partners have been working together for more than 30 years to expand the benefits of vaccines to children everywhere. The story of their efforts is told in this edition of eJournalUSA.

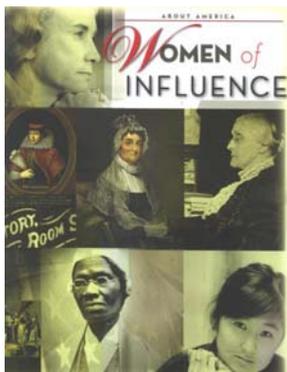
This e-journal is available at the following web address:
<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/itgic/0307/ijge/ijge0307.htm>



Printed copies of the e-journal are available in the Information Resource Center

Facts and Figures: Since the Global Polio Eradication Initiative began in 1988, polio cases have dropped by more than 99 percent from an estimated 350,000 in 1988 to fewer than 2,000 cases in 2006. More than 5 million cases of polio paralysis and more than 250,000 polio-related deaths have been prevented due to the eradication initiative. Only four countries—Nigeria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India—remain polio-endemic, and the United States remains a partner in the ongoing effort to end this crippling disease in these last remaining nations.

NEW PUBLICATION Women of Influence



This publication offers a glimpse at how women in the United States have helped shape their society. Notable women - from Sojourner Truth, who fought for the end of slavery and equal rights for all; to Rosalyn Yalow, winner of the Nobel Prize in medicine for her research into a new technique for measuring substances in the blood - believed that they had a contribution to make and did not shrink from obstacles in their way. Their accomplishments are a reminder that all societies benefit from the talents and expertise of their women.

<http://usinfo.state.gov/products/pubs/womeninfln/womeninfln.pdf> (pdf, 1.6.MB)

SELECTED WEBSITES for AMERICAN STUDIES ONLINE

This websites focus on the most important resources for American Studies as a discipline.

1. Georgetown University: Crossroad Project
<http://crossroads.georgetown.edu/>
2. American Studies Web through Georgetown's Crossroads project
<http://lumen.georgetown.edu/projects/asw/>
3. Theory and Method in American Cultural Studies:
<http://www.wsu.edu/%7Eamerstu/tm/bib.html>
4. American Studies Associations Worldwide
<http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/asworld.html>
5. A Selection of Free Online Courses available through Crossroads
<http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/webcourses.html>
6. Other Websites with Extensive collections on American Studies: VOICE OF THE SHUTTLE.
<http://vos.ucsb.edu>
7. AMDOCS: Crucial ONLINE Documents for the Study of American History, European University Institute, Florence, Italy <http://vlib.iue.it/history/USA/>
8. Humbul Humanities Hub: <http://www.intute.ac.uk/artsandhumanities/american/>



For more website addresses please apply directly to IRC for assistance. **Call now at: 494265 or 494411**

DO YOU KNOW?

How did Chanel N°5 get its name?

It is not because it was the fifth formulation of the mixture. Coco Chanel considered five a lucky number, and when she introduced the perfume in 1921, she did so on the fifth day of May, the fifth month. She called the fragrance Chanel N°5.



What was the First American Novel?

In 1789, *The Power of Sympathy* by William Hill Brown was published. This first American Novel, written by the son of a Boston clockmaker, concerned seduction, incest, rape, and suicide.

What is the Book Written without Using the Letter E?

It is a 1939 novel called *Gadsby* by Ernest Vincent Wright (1872-1939). The novel runs 267 pages and has about 50,000 words.



What are the Five Most Frequently Used Letters?

In order of frequency of use, they are: **e, t, o, a, and n.**

The U.S. Embassy Information Resource Center is open to the public Monday through Friday from 13:00 to 18:00.
1, American Ave., Yerevan 0082, Republic of Armenia
Tel: (374-10) 49-44-11, 49-42-65
E-Mail: ircyerevan@usa.am <http://www.usa.am/irc3.html>