development of the ROC Constitution and the importance of archival records, the Cabinet-level Research, Development and Evaluation Commission sponsored the Constitutional Archives Exhibition in Taipei from May 20 to June 1, 2005. The exhibition was organized by the commission's National Archives Administration (NAA).

Over a hundred documents related to the Constitution were displayed in six sections entitled, "Prologue: The Story of the Constitution in Archives", "Birth of the ROC Constitution", "Drafting and Amendment of the Temporary Provisions Effective During the Period of Communist Rebellion", "Constitutional Amendments", "Constitutional Interpretations", and "Development and Reform of Constitutional Government". The exhibition presented the Constitutional archives along with color reproductions. An online multimedia exhibition guide with recorded voice introductions to the exhibits was also available for public use.

A total of three exhibitions were held, one each in northern, central and southern Taiwan. President Chen Shui-bian delivered a speech at the opening ceremony and toured the exhibition on May 19. The exhibition attracted a strong turnout, including numerous groups, students and teachers.

The southern Taiwan exhibition is scheduled to be held in July at the Kaohsiung Museum of History, and the central Taiwan show will be held in September at the Wen Ying Hall of the Taichung City Cultural Affairs Bureau. For more information please visit the NAA website at: http://www.archives.gov.tw.



President Chen Shui-bian speaks at the May 19 opening ceremony of the Constitutional Archives Exhibition

(Photo by the National Archives Administration)

■ Kinmen and Penghu Hold Joint Exhibition on Family Genealogies

From July 22 to 24, 2005, the cultural bureaus of Kinmen and Penghu counties hosted a joint genealogical exhibition organized by the Kinmen County Genealogical Culture and Research Society and Penghu County Folk Culture Society. The exhibit aimed to encourage preservation of the traditional clan culture of the two island counties, support the development of the counties as centers for genealogical research, and develop cultural resources to support economic growth. The exhibition displayed over 100 genealogies and other related documents on more than 40 families for public browsing. The Bureau of Culture, Penghu County also provided access to the genealogies in its collection during the exhibit. The Kinmen County Genealogical Culture and Research Society had staff on hand to help county residents revise their genealogies and track down relations. In order to promote genealogical culture exchanges between the two island counties, a "Genealogy Field Survey Culture and History Workshop" was held in the courtyard of the Penghu Reclamation Hall on July 22. Local cultural and history workers and genealogical editors were invited to the event to exchange experience and tools for genealogical editing work. The Bureau of Culture also invited county residents to submit genealogical materials in order to compile a more complete genealogical record for the county.

CCS News and Activities

■ 2005 Cultural Field Trip for CCS Visiting Scholars

On May 13, the Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) organized a cultural field trip to Sanyi and the Hwataoyao Botanical Garden, Ceramic Studio, and Wood Kilns. The trip was joined by 14 people, including visiting scholars and staff at the center.

The first stop was the Sanyi Woodcarving Museum, where the group enjoyed the beauty of local woodcarving art. The visitors then continued on to Hwataoyao at base of Mt. Huotan in Yuanli, where took in the beauty of Taiwanese-style gardens, natural ecology, and cultural attractions. The group was accompanied by a professional guide who illuminated points of interest on the plants, art, and historical events of the area. Tour participants were also invited to try their hand at pottery making. After visiting Hwataoyao, the group feasted on a sumptuous Hakka-style dinner, bringing to a close a fun and highly educational tour through Chinese culture! (Chinese text by Caesar Tsai)



CCS visiting scholars pose for a group picture at Hwataoyao (Photo by Caesar Tsai)



CCS visiting scholars try their hand at pottery making (Photo by Caesar Tsai)

CCS Seminar on Tang Dynasty Officials

On May 24, the Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) held a seminar on "Tang Dynasty Official Studies: New Perspectives, New Resources, and New Questions" at the NCL.

The seminar was hosted by CCS visiting scholar, Dr. Lai Swee Fo, a former professor of Tang history at Princeton University and currently director and research fellow at the Center for Tang Studies in Johor Bahru, Malaysia. Dr. Lai recently published a book on low-level officials during the Tang period, an area that scholars have largely