In This Issue

• Pay tribute to the service and sacrifice of American veterans in National Salute to Veterans

• This month on Nova, see a fresh investigation of Easter Island and follow the research leading to a 2,000-year-old Greek computer

• Mark Russell’s America pays tribute to the humorist’s work

• American Masters explores how David Geffen helped shape popular culture

• Check out this month’s complete history programming on Western Reserve PBS and Fusion

Free computer classes!

Western Reserve Public Media has partnered with Connect Ohio to offer free computer training at our offices in Kent. The three-part sessions are held every week. For more information, call us at 330-474-5005.

The Dust Bowl

Sunday, Nov. 18, and Monday, Nov. 19, at 8 PM
Repeats Sunday, Nov. 18, and Monday, Nov. 19, at 10 PM; also Monday, Nov. 19, and Tuesday, Nov. 20, at 1 AM
Also airs on Fusion on Saturday, Nov. 24, from 1-5 PM

This new two-part, four-hour documentary by Ken Burns chronicles the environmental catastrophe that, throughout the 1930s, destroyed the farmlands of the Great Plains, turned prairies into deserts and unleashed a pattern of massive, deadly dust storms that for many seemed to herald the end of the world.

Survey the causes of the worst man-made ecological disaster in American history, when the frenzied wheat boom of the “Great Plow-Up,” followed by a decade-long drought during the 1930s, nearly swept away the breadbasket of the nation.

See vivid interviews with 26 survivors of those hard times, combined with dramatic photographs and seldom-seen movie footage, that bring to life stories of incredible human suffering and equally incredible perseverance. The documentary is also a morality tale about our relationship to the land that sustains us — a lesson we ignore at our peril.

A Conversation With Ken Burns

Thursday, Nov. 15, at 10 PM

Ellen Robertson Green of KACV-TV in Amarillo, Texas, sits down with filmmaker Ken Burns for a one-on-one discussion. Burns offers fascinating, behind-the-scenes details about his newest documentary, The Dust Bowl, plus he discusses his other award-winning films, his career path and his relationship with PBS.
Mystery of Easter Island

Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 9 pm
Repeats Friday, Nov. 9, at 2 am and Sunday, Nov. 11, at 5 pm

A remote, bleak speck of rock in the middle of the Pacific, Easter Island has mystified the world ever since the first Europeans arrived in 1722. How and why did the ancient islanders build and move nearly 900 giant statues, or moai, weighing up to 86 tons? And how did they transform a presumed paradise into a treeless wasteland, bringing ruin upon their island and themselves?

Mystery of Easter Island explores controversial recent claims that challenge decades of previous thinking about the islanders, who have been accused of everything from ecocide to cannibalism. With the help of an accurate 15-ton replica statue, a Nova team sets out to test this high-risk, seemingly unlikely theory — serving up plenty of action and surprises in this fresh investigation of one of the ancient world’s most intriguing enigmas.

Ancient Computer

Wednesday, Nov. 21, at 9 pm
Repeats Friday, Nov. 23, at 2 am

An unpromising lump of metal found in a 2,000-year-old shipwreck turns out to be an extraordinary treasure: the world’s first computer.

Nova follows the ingenious detective work that painstakingly discovered the truth about the ancient Greek device: it was an astonishingly sophisticated astronomical calculator and eclipse predictor, unrivaled until the era of modern science and believed to be from the workshop of Archimedes.

National Salute to Veterans

Sunday, Nov. 11, at 8 pm
Repeats Monday, Nov. 12, at 1 am

PBS and Capital Concerts announce the premiere of National Salute to Veterans in honor of the service and sacrifice of our 22 million American veterans. Hosted by acclaimed actors Joe Mantegna and Gary Sinise, the national television event celebrates the American heroes who have served throughout our country’s history. The program will also be broadcast via the American Forces Network to our troops serving around the world.

The special includes new footage shot at the U.S. Capitol with Mantegna and Sinise, as well as the “best of the best” moments from past episodes National Memorial Day Concert.

The all-star lineup includes Gen. Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.), Forest Whitaker; Pia Toscano; Javier Colon; Kris Allen; A.J. Cook; Jason Ritter; and Yolanda Adams, accompanied by the National Symphony Orchestra.
Mark Russell’s America

Sunday, Nov. 4, at 10 PM

For three decades, humorist Mark Russell shared his insights on politics and society with public television audiences nationwide. A master of pointed one-liners and sharp-witted piano parodies, Russell remained an equal-opportunity quipster, lampooning events and newsmakers from all political persuasions.

This newly produced retrospective pays tribute to his talent and legacy of laughter. The documentary features clips from some of Russell’s more than 100 public television specials (1975-2004). Presidential campaigns, congressional antics and defining moments from the Iran-Contra affair, the first Gulf War and the Monica Lewinsky scandal provide ample comedic fodder for his poetic satire. Russell, in a present-day interview, provides context for his most memorable moments and offers humorous anecdotes.

American Masters: Inventing David Geffen

Tuesday, Nov. 20, at 8 PM

Also airs on Fusion on Saturday, Nov. 24, at 9:30 PM

David Geffen is notoriously press and camera shy, but reveals himself for the first time in this unflinching portrait of a complex and compelling man. His far-reaching influence — as agent, manager, record industry mogul, producer and billionaire philanthropist — has helped shape American popular culture for the past four decades.

Geffen launched the early successes of Joni Mitchell; Crosby, Stills and Nash; Jackson Browne; Tom Cruise; and Guns N’ Roses. He co-founded DreamWorks and produced “Cats” and “Dreamgirls.” He is one of the largest contributors to the fight against AIDS and has become an important political voice.

This dealmaker extraordinaire is witty, self-aware and candid. He and everyone from Yoko Ono to Cher to Stephen Spielberg illuminate his rich and riveting story.
NOVEMBER 2012 • HISTORY PROGRAMMING

Secrets of the Dead
Sundays at 3 PM (preempted 11/25)
Saturdays at 5 AM

Great Romances of the 20th Century
Sundays at 6:30 PM
(Fridays at 6:30 PM and 10:30 PM)

Mark Russell’s America
Sunday, Nov. 4, at 10 PM

Changing Gears: End of an Era
Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 2 AM

Faces of America
Wednesdays, Nov. 7-14, at 3 AM

Nova, Mystery of Easter Island
Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 9 PM
Friday, Nov. 9, at 2 AM
Sunday, Nov. 11, at 5 PM

National Salute to Veterans
Sunday, Nov. 11, at 8 PM
Monday, Nov. 12, at 1 AM

Rebels on Lake Erie
Sunday, Nov. 11, at 10 PM

20th Century Battlefields: Vietnam
Monday, Nov. 12, at 10 PM
Monday, Nov. 19, at 3 AM

American Masters, Woody Guthrie: Ain’t Got No Home
Tuesday, Nov. 13, at 8 PM

The Dust Bowl
Sunday, Nov. 18, and Monday, Nov. 19, at 8 PM
Sunday, Nov. 18, and Monday, Nov. 19, at 10 PM
Monday, Nov. 19, and Tuesday, Nov. 20, at 1 AM

David Gefen: American Masters
Tuesday, Nov. 20, at 8 PM

A Night With Warren Washington
Saturday, Nov. 10, at 2 PM

David Gefen: American Masters
Saturday, Nov. 10, at 9 PM

The Evolution of the Nation of Islam
Wednesday, Nov. 21, at 3 AM

Zoo Levee: To Preserve and Protect
Saturday, Nov. 10, at 9:30 PM

20th Century Battlefields: Vietnam
Monday, Nov. 12, at 9 PM

The Byron Janis Story
Thursday, Nov. 1, at 9 PM

Changing Gears: End of an Era
Saturday, Nov. 3, at 2 PM
Monday, Nov. 5, at 8 PM

Great Romances of the 20th Century
Sundays at 7:30 PM
Thursdays at 8 PM
Fridays at 9:30 PM

Rebels on Lake Erie
Thursday, Nov. 22, at 7 PM

The Evolution of the Nation of Islam
Saturday, Nov. 10, at noon

Craft in America: Crossroads
Saturday, Nov. 17, at 2:30 PM
Sunday, Nov. 18, at 3 PM

American Masters, Woody Guthrie: Ain’t Got No Home
Saturday, Nov. 17, at 9:30 PM

The Dust Bowl
Saturday, Nov. 24, at 1 PM and 3 PM

The Evolution of the Nation of Islam
Saturday, Nov. 10, at 2 PM

Zoo Levee: To Preserve and Protect
Saturday, Nov. 10, at 9:30 PM

20th Century Battlefields: Vietnam
Monday, Nov. 12, at 9 PM

Red Tail Reborn: Special Edition
Monday, Nov. 12, at 10 PM

David Gefen: American Masters
Tuesday, Nov. 20, at 8 PM

A Night With Warren Washington
Saturday, Nov. 10, at 9 PM

David Gefen: American Masters
Saturday, Nov. 10, at 9:30 PM

War of 1812 in the Old Northwest
Thursday, Nov. 29, at 7 PM

Piaf: Her Story, Her Songs
Thursday, Nov. 29, at 9 PM

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Comcast (Youngstown): Channel 813
Massillon Cable: Channels 2 and 602
Time Warner Cable: Channels 10 or 12; for more information about HD channel designations, visit twcguide.com or call Time Warner