

Taken from IAMPETH's The Penman's News Letter, Volume 14, Number 1, October 1980.

Joe Vitolo

-----

#### Mc Cray's 1,011 Penholders A Gift to Cultural Center

During his 83 years, Dr. Kelvin McCray of Elkins has been called a lumberjack, farmer, railroader, miner, teacher, bookkeeper, accountant, personnel manager, road construction worker, minister, song writer and penman.

He will be honored with the Distinguished West Virginian award on Thursday, Oct. 7, when Gov. Rockefeller bestows the honor in ceremonies at the Cultural Center in Charleston.

The ceremony is also designed to open a new State Museum exhibition of Dr. McCray's gifts of oblique penholders and penmanship materials. The collection of 1,011 penholders - a portion of which will be exhibited - is thought to be the largest in the world.

Dr. McCray, whose skilled' loops, swirls and turns of the pens have been learned from top names in the field, is the past-president of The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrossers and Teachers of Handwriting.

In discussing today's writing, Dr. McCray noted, "One of my greatest satisfactions would be to see more emphasis on penmanship in American schools now. People nowadays don't take the time to write!"