

SGA Newsletter

Volume 39, Issue 3, Fall 2007

A Publication of the Society of Georgia Archivists

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Archivists Invade Columbus!

The 2007 Society of Georgia Archivists Annual Conference will take place on November 8th and 9th at the Columbus Marriott Hotel, located in downtown Columbus, Georgia. The events begin on Wednesday November 7th with the pre-conference workshop, to be held at the Columbus Marriott. The workshop will explore the hot topics of digitization and digital preservation, and will be conducted by Toby Graham and Sheila McAlister of the Digital Library of Georgia. This year's Annual Meeting theme is *Description, Access, and Outreach: Improving Archival Avenues to Collections* and the meeting will offer an exciting group of sessions that focus on archival standards, new archival software, grants, digitization, and education. To register, visit <http://www.soga.org/am/2007/index.php>

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

9:00-5:00 Pre-Conference Workshop: Building Sustainable Digital Collections
Cunningham Conference Center, Columbus State University
Columbus, Georgia

Thursday, November 8, 2007

8:30-9:00 Registration

9:00-9:15 Opening Remarks and Welcome

9:15-10:00 Keynote Speaker: Loretta Parham, Library Director, Atlanta University Center Library

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15-11:45 Concurrent Sessions

A. Integrated Archival Systems: A Comparison of Archivist's Toolkit and Archon

Speakers: Scott Schwartz, University of Illinois; Brad Westbrook, University of California, San Diego; moderator, Christine D. de Catanzaro, Georgia Institute of

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Technology

The Archivists' Toolkit and Archon are two information management resources currently being developed for archivists. From inventory location management to publishing finding aids on the Web, these systems for manuscripts and archives integrate administrative tasks and make content available to users. Brad Westbrook and Scott Schwartz, project leaders for Archivists' Toolkit and Archon, respectively, will demonstrate these systems and answer questions about the suitability of each for institutional needs.

B. Grant-Writing Primer

Speakers: Arden Williams, Georgia Council for the Humanities; Kaye Minchew, Troup County Archives; moderator, Toby Graham, Digital Library of Georgia

As resources are not always forthcoming for archival projects, it is up to us to seek alternatives. In this session learn about available grants for archival

preservation, arrangement, and description; typical elements included in the grant application; and the evaluation process.

1:00-2:30 Concurrent Sessions

A. Preservation Outreach: The People's Stuff

Speakers: Tina Mason, Georgia Archives; Ruta Abolins, University of Georgia; moderator, Kara McClurken, SOLINET

Do your patrons come through your doors laden with family treasures in great disrepair or call to find out what they can do to preserve their treasures? Learn the answers to some typical preservation questions and how to offer practical solutions and guidance without straining your time and budget.

B. Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS)

Speakers: Susan Potts McDonald, Emory University; Daniel Santamaria, Princeton University; moderator; Renna Tuten, University of Georgia

DACS, adopted by the Society of American Archivists in 2004, prescribes rules for the description of archival materials. This session features an overview of the new standard and discusses how the Princeton University Archives has implemented DACS into their program.

2:30-3:30 Valdosta State University Library and Archives Program: Deborah Davis

Come hear information about the new library program at Valdosta State and how YOU can help educate a future generation of archivists. A discussion session will follow a brief presentation by Deborah Davis, Archivist at Valdosta State University. Please attend to learn about how to become involved in this important new venture.

3:30-5:30 Tours of Columbus (guided and on your own)

See Visitor Center volunteers in the hotel lobby for details and things to see and do.

5:30-7:30 SGA Reception and Auction

Columbus State University Theatre on the Park (on Woodruff Park, contiguous with the Corn Center for

the Visual Arts). Join us for food, relaxation and networking. Feeling lucky? Help raise money for SGA scholarships, including the new Education Scholarship and put in your bids at the SGA Auction. Who knows what treasures you may come home with!

Friday, November 9

8:30-9:00 Registration

9:00-10:30 Concurrent Sessions

A. Digging in the Archives

Speakers: Reagan Grimsley, Columbus State University; Pam Baker, Columbus State University; moderator, Randy Gooden, Clayton State University

Active learning is increasingly used as a classroom method at the undergraduate level. Seeking a method to actively engage students in American history survey courses, archivist Reagan Grimsley and Columbus State University professor Pam Baker collaborated on a course assignment in 2006 to introduce students to local primary source documents housed in the Columbus State University Archives. In this session learn about their experiences and the Digging in the Archives resource that resulted from the project.

B. Best Practices for Digitizing Material

Speakers: Kate Murray, University of Maryland, College Park; Erika Farr, Emory University; moderator, Christine Wiseman, Georgia Archives

Although there is no perfect method for digitizing images and audio-visual material, a number of "best practices" are evolving in the archival community to guide projects. This session will discuss recommendations and resources for the digitization of audio-visual and print material.

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45-12:15 Concurrent sessions

A. Who, What, When, Where, Why? All About Wikis

Speakers: Max Anderson, SOLINET; Sarah Ricker, Digital Library of Georgia; moderator, Abby Griner, University of Georgia

The latest online tool for sharing information quickly, wikis present a tool for archival organizations to manage projects, communicate internally and externally, and consolidate information resources in one easily accessible location. In this session learn what exactly a wiki is, the technology involved, and how this tool can be implemented into practice.

B. In Conversation with Manuscript and Rare Book Dealers

Speakers: Cliff Graubart, Old New York Book Shop; David McCord, Out of Print Books

Have you ever wondered how to tell the difference between a palm card, a broadside, and a flier? Two manuscript and rare books dealers from Georgia discuss their profession and decode the mystery of dealer terminology with items from their own collections. Come get your questions about anything you've ever wanted to know about dealers answered!

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Calendar of Events



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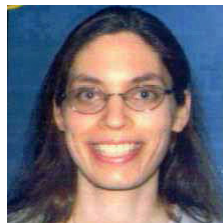
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Membership Spotlight



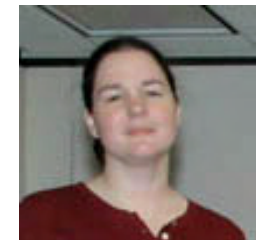
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Preservation News



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Editor



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New Membership Spotlight Writer

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Nora Lewis of the Georgia Historical Society, who is taking over the Membership Spotlight column. Thanks for volunteering, Nora.

Specifics Regarding the SGA Newsletter

The Society of Georgia Archivists is a nonprofit organization established to provide an effective means of communication and cooperation among all individuals employed in archives and manuscript repositories in the state; to promote the preservation and use of the manuscripts and archival resources of the state; to increase the knowledge of archival theories and practices; to encourage the publication of finding aids; and to cooperate with professionals in related disciplines.

The SGA Newsletter is issued four times a year. All subscriptions are for the calendar year and are based on membership dues to the Society of Georgia Archivists.

Members of SGA and related associations are encouraged to send in announcements of jobs, workshops, conferences, or other information to share. Appropriate and newsworthy notices will be printed as space permits.

The SGA Newsletter invites advertisements for archival products and services as space permits and at the editor's discretion. Ads must be accompanied by a check made payable to the Society of Georgia Archivists. Deadlines for submissions for articles and camera-ready advertisements are **March 30th, June 29th, September 28th, and November 30th.**

For article submission and advertisement information, contact:

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Calendar of Events

This calendar includes exhibits and events at archival repositories and other institutions that could interest SGA members. Remember that schedules can and do change. Call ahead to confirm dates, times, fees, etc. Please send calendar items to Marie Force marie.force@delta.com

EXHIBITIONS

Through November 3, 2007. **Southern Renaissance: Black Art at a Cross Roads**, Lucy Craft Laney Museum, Augusta, GA, <http://www.lucycraftlaneymuseum.com/home.htm>

Through November 17, 2007. **"This Great Nation Will Endure": Photographs of the Great Depression**, National Archives Southeast Region (Atlanta), Morrow, GA, <http://www.archives.gov/southeast/>

Through November 20, 2007. **Beyond the Presidency: 25 Years of The Carter Center**, Jimmy Carter Library and Museum, Atlanta, GA, <http://jimmycarterlibrary.org/>

Through December 30, 2007. **Portraits in Gray: A Civil War Photography Exhibition**, Southern Museum of Civil War & Locomotive History, <http://www.southernmuseum.org/>

EVENTS

October 2007. **Georgia Archives Month**, <http://www.soga.org/aw/index.php>

October 13, 20 & 27, 2007. **New Manchester History Hike**, Sweetwater Creek State Park, Lithia Springs, GA. <http://www.gastateparks.org/>

October 20, 2007. **Airline Collectibles Show and Sale**. Delta Air Transport Heritage Museum . www.deltamuseum.org/

October 20, 2007. **Cherokee Homecoming**. Chief Vann House, Chatsworth, GA. <http://www.gastateparks.org/>

October 20, 2007. **1860s Halloween Carnival**. Fitzgerald, GA. <http://www.gastateparks.org/>

November 5, 2007. The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation's **Preservation Classic**, East Lake Golf Club, Atlanta, GA. <http://www.georgiatruster.org/>

November 8, 2007. **Artifact Identification Day**, Etowah Indian Mounds, Cartersville, GA. <http://www.>

gastateparks.org/

October - December 2007, second Tuesday of each month, **Lunch and Learn Series**, Georgia Archives, Morrow, GA. For more information call 678-364-3700 or visit http://www.sos.state.ga.us/archives/want_to_be_involved/Public_Programs/default.htm

- October 9 - **Writing Our Lives: Diaries, Letters and Memoirs**, Valerie Frey, The Georgia Archives
- November 13 - **The Great Locomotive Chase**, Harper Harris, Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History
- December 11 - **Teacakes and Grits: Historic Georgia**, Valerie Frey and Greg Jarrell, The Georgia Archives

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

November 4-30, 2007. **Online Workshop: Care of Textiles**, Northern States Conservation Center, <http://www.museumclasses.org/>

November 7, 2007. SGA Workshop, **Building Sustainable Digital Collections**, Columbus, GA, <http://soga.org/>

November 8-9, 2007. SGA **Annual Meeting**, Columbus, GA, <http://soga.org/>

SOLINET CLASSES

See Preservation News for information regarding SOLINET class offerings.

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Woodruff Library of the AUC Preparing Morehouse King Collection for Research

New Processing Team Hired to Organize Collection for Scholarly Access

By: Adrian B. Carver, Atlanta University Center

The archival staff of the Robert W. Woodruff Library (RWWL) of the Atlanta University Center (AUC) is steadily progressing toward making the Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection available for scholarly research. Through the work of a four-member processing team, the papers could be available to researchers as early as the fall of 2008.

In September 2006, the Woodruff Library of the AUC became the custodial home of the 7,000-10,000 items belonging to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., following their rescue from auction the previous June. The Morehouse King Collection, which includes many of Dr. King's original manuscripts, writings and sermons and his personal library, was purchased on behalf of King's alma mater, Morehouse College, for which Woodruff serves as the sole academic library.

Upon the collection's arrival at the Woodruff Library of the AUC, consultants and archival staff inventoried the materials shipped and developed a plan for processing, preserving, conserving and preparing the collection for scholarly access. Full implementation of that plan began in May with the closing of *I Have A Dream: The Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection*. Staged January 15-May 13, 2007, this recording-breaking Atlanta History Center exhibit of 600 items from the collection was viewed by more than 72,000 visitors.

The staff of the Archives & Special Collections Department of the Woodruff Library of the AUC has been supplemented with a team of two archivists, a cataloger, graduate assistant and project manager hired exclusively to process the Morehouse King Collection. Brenda Banks, the chief consulting archivist for the collection, is project manager for the team charged with completing the arrangement and description process necessary for public access. At present, the team is re-housing items in appropriate and uniform alkaline boxes and folders, surveying the physical condition of collection materials that may need conservation treatment, sorting items into appropriate organizational structure (by subject and/or format) and preparing the collection's finding aid and catalog records.

Scholarly access will be enhanced with the creation of a digital (online) finding aid that will be available to anyone with Internet access. Items are not being digitized at this time, but that is a consideration for future plans. Staff salaries, supplies, conservation fees and training associated with the preliminary work for this project is being funded by a grant to the Woodruff Library from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

“We have assembled a dedicated and talented group of professionals to accomplish the challenging task of organizing the King Collection for scholarly access,” said Woodruff Library CEO & Director Loretta Parham. “We're thrilled with the progress they are making and confident that the high archival standards exhibited by staff working with the collection thus far will continue.”

Parham said the new staff also will positively impact work on other collections housed within the Woodruff Library archives. With staff dedicated solely to processing the Morehouse King Collection, other RWWL archivists, curators and technicians can now focus their efforts on the variety of other collections within the department.

Also of significance is a collaborative planning partnership formed with the Howard Gotlieb Archival and Research Center of Boston University and The Martin Luther King Jr. Research and Education Institute at Stanford University, which also hold King collections. The Woodruff Library and the AUC's ongoing dialogue with these institutions is focusing on the collaborative development of digital finding aids that would allow researchers to simultaneously search the holdings of each King collection. A proposal to fund full implementation of plans being discussed is now under consideration.

For more information on the archival work associated with the Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection, contact the Woodruff Library of the AUC at archives@aucr.edu or 404-978-2052.

About the Library

Constructed in 1982, the Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center is an independent entity organized and operated for the exclusive benefit of its member institutions— Clark Atlanta University , the Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse College and Spelman College. With a combined enrollment of nearly 10,000 students, these colleges and university represent the world's largest consortium of historically black institutions of higher learning.

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Georgia Archives Institute 2007

Members of 2007 GAI find that for appraisal: "It Depends"

By: Greg Markley, Auburn University

As they graduated from the 40th Georgia Archives Institute June 22 at the Georgia Archives in Morrow, the 19 graduates were handed something besides certificates of successful completion: blue buttons with black letters reading "It Depends." The buttons were presented on the last day of class by Timothy L. Ericson, senior lecturer emeritus at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, who served as primary instructor for this year's Institute.

During the first week, when he was lead instructor, Ericson often answered students' questions with the noncommittal "It Depends." But Ericson noted there were many situations in archival practice where the appropriate actions to be taken by the archivist were not so clear and definitive. The archivists' best response in such cases truly do depend on the details of the situation and the circumstance related to the task. Ericson said his more than thirty years as an archivist taught him the "It Depends" lesson.

"I wanted to leave students with the idea that there are not always clear-cut answers to questions regarding archival practice," said Ericson, the 59th president of the Society of American Archivists (2003-2004). "You cannot, for example, reduce appraisal to 'Keep the red books and throw away the blue books.'



Graduates of the 2007 Georgia Archives Institute. Office, Secretary of State, photograph, 2007.

Decisions about archives should be based on the institution's mission, available resources, and the clientele that an archives serves. Sometimes it is necessary to employ temporary or makeshift solutions to problems, but you do the best you can, balancing the ideal against the possible.”

Renee Sharrock, archives assistant, Robert B. Greenblatt, M.D. Library, Medical College of Georgia, found the Institute educational and fun. “The best thing I came away with from the Institute is a much clearer and deeper understanding of archival theory and practice,” declared the Augusta-based Sharrock. “Tim Ericson's method of applying theory to practice through case studies, based on real-life experiences, brought to life archival theory and procedures. And then to go work as an intern at a well-established Archives, in my case, Georgia State University's Special Collections and Archives, re-enforced what was learned in the first week, and exposed me to practices and procedures that would benefit me at the Greenblatt Library at the Medical College of Georgia.”

The Georgia Archives Institute was founded in 1967 by Carroll Hart, longtime director of the Georgia Department of Archives and History. Hart brought leading archivists to Georgia to teach archival theory and the practical techniques of archives. She developed the Georgia-based program after noticing her department could not afford to send staff members to the National Archives Institute in Washington, D. C. The Georgia Archives Institute was designed for beginning archivists and was quickly expanded beyond the Georgia Archives staff. The first official session was in August 1967, and featured trips around Georgia by students, visiting repositories and other institutions which kept archival records. The two-week program in 2007 attracted 13 students from Georgia, three from Florida, two from Texas, and one from Alabama. Among attendees job titles were special collections librarian for an African-American Research and Cultural Library, archivist for a small history museum, archivist for an Episcopal church, and library manager for a large Atlanta law firm.

In week one, Ericson gave a comprehensive introduction to all aspects of historical archival theory and contemporary practice. Among the topics were starting an archives program, selection and appraisal, acquisitions and accessioning, arrangement and description, reference and access issues, electronic records, and legal and administrative aspects bearing on archives. In week two, Christine Wiseman, preservation services manager, The Georgia Archives, taught a day-long class focusing on general preservation strategies, causes of deterioration, storage environments, disaster preparedness, security, and basic preservation maintenance procedures. Also included was a close look at the Georgia Archives' large, state-of-the-art conservation lab, as well as a demonstration of basic holdings maintenance techniques. The nineteen 2007 class members next spent three days on quickie internships at Atlanta-area repositories.

Among internships for the 2007 GAI were those at Atlanta University Center Archives, Auburn Avenue Research Library, Coca-Cola Archives, Federal Reserve Bank, Georgia Institute of Technology Archives, Jimmy Carter Presidential Library, and the National Archives-Southeast Region.

Sharrock found the Institute to be well-rounded and her classmates' diversity refreshing. “To me, the one thing that ties all of the Institute's learning opportunities together is the exposure to other people working at or near the same level in archives as yourself,” she said soon after graduation. “I am honored to be in the Class of 2007. We were a variety of experiences-paralegal; academic, school, and public librarians and para-professionals; volunteers for churches and historical societies and museums; history professors and instructors; and undergraduate and graduate students. Sharing our personal stories and experiences uncovered to each of us the depth and significance of archives and archival work. Our eyes were opened to the archives universe beyond our own little archives world. When combined, our varied experiences added complexity and insight to the overall learning experience of the Georgia Archives Institute.”

The Georgia Archives Institute is a non-profit organization administered by a five-member Board of Directors that presently includes Brenda S. Banks, chair, an archives consultant; Morna Gerrard, archivist at Georgia State University; Michael Rose, director of archives and research services, Atlanta History Center; Anne P. Smith, assistant director for public services, The Georgia Archives; and Kerrie Cotton Williams, associate administrator, Auburn Avenue Research Library.

Ericson compared the Western Archives Institute, based in Sacramento, California and where he has served as an instructor, to the Georgia Archives Institute where he instructed this year and is set to teach in 2008. "The Western Archives Institute is the same length as the GAI, but it does not have the substantial internship component that the GAI has," he reflected. "The Western Archives Institute makes more use of site visits and tours and also employs more guest instructors who are specialists in a given area of archival work. Some day it would be nice to teach at an Institute (for at least part of the time) using a computer lab where students have access to the Internet or electronic files. I have a really great appraisal exercise using electronic documents!"

"I especially enjoy teaching at institutes because students come with some background and experience," Ericson continued. "That makes it easier to develop interesting and helpful discussions about different aspects of archival work. Invariably, some student will propose a new way of doing something, or share information about a new software program and this helps to keep the class lively and interesting -- for the instructor as well as the students!"

Students at the Georgia Archives Institute say they heard about the Institute through traditional word-of-mouth, publicity in journals and on archival listservs, and through graduates from previous years. Sharrock, for example, learned about the Institute from her former supervisor, Lisa Westrick, who was a member of a recent GAI class; from SAA membership; from Karen Tschanz, chair of the department where she works at the Medical College of Georgia; Tamera Lee, director of the MCG Libraries, and her colleagues. Sharrock said attending was highly rewarding, and that she could not speak highly enough of both Tim Ericson and Christine Wiseman, preservation services manager at the Georgia Archives. "The preservation class taught by Christine Wiseman was wonderful, and the only enhancement it needs is more time to allow some hands-on simple preservation techniques."

As the 40th Georgia Archives Institute class laughed about their blue and black "It Depends" buttons, Ericson himself also received a gag gift. He opened the envelope the class presented him and found a Christmas card "signed" by former FBI director J. Edgar Hoover. It seems Ericson had said one day that in terms of appraisal, an ordinary Christmas card might not be worth saving for posterity. But, he remarked, a Christmas card signed by an historic personage such as J. Edgar Hoover would probably have high retention value. So several members of the 2007 GAI class found a Christmas card and copied the late FBI director's signature from one found on the Internet. So this class ended with both instructor Ericson and the 19 graduates having a good laugh.

For more information about the 2007 Georgia Archives Institute, visit the Scholarships section of the *SGA Newsletter*.

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SGA Pre-Conference Workshop

“Building Sustainable Digital Collections”

By: Christine de Catanzaro

The SGA Education Committee is pleased to announce this year's Pre-Conference Workshop, “Building Sustainable Digital Collections,” which will be held on Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at the Cunningham Conference Center at Columbus State University. Two well-known experts in the field of digital libraries and archives, Patterson Toby Graham, Director of the Digital Library of Georgia (DLG), and Sheila McAlister, Assistant Director of DLG, will be the instructors for this full-day workshop. Both presenters bring a wealth of experience in educating library and archival staff on issues relating to digitization, digital preservation and archival description.

The workshop will cover the life cycle of digital projects, from conversion through preservation. The program will offer participants hands-on sessions on metadata creation, reviews of existing digital asset management systems, and exposure to the concepts and principles of digital preservation and implementation options. Topics will include conversion issues related to a wide variety of media, including photographs, manuscripts, print documents, moving images and sound, and microfilm.

All staff responsible for the development, management, and administration on new digital projects in archives will find this workshop an invaluable educational experience. The workshop is being offered to SGA members for \$60 (\$50 for full-time student members). The non-member price is \$90.

To register for this workshop, complete and mail the registration form at <http://www.soga.org/ce/preconference.pdf> or use the form provided in the Annual Meeting mailing. For further information, contact Christine de Catanzaro, Education Committee Chair, at decatanzaro@gatech.edu.

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Auction

7th Annual Auction for SGA Scholarship Funds

- . Where: The CSU Theatre on the Park
- . When: Thursday, November 8, 2007
- . Time: 6:00-7:00 p.m., somewhere after/during food and drink acquisition, and somewhere before dispersal for general merriment...

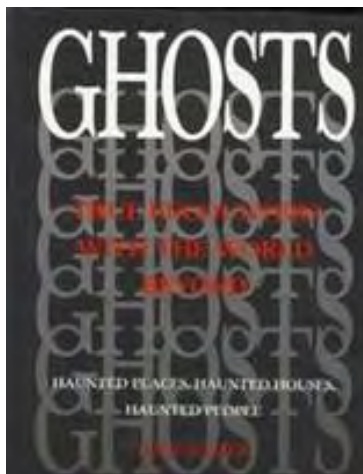
From the virtual desk of our (mostly) honorable auctioneer, the ubiquitous Gilbert Head...

Once again, Ladies and Gentlemen, we near the autumn of the year, and with the falling leaves we also plan to harvest the bounty of the 7th annual auction for SGA scholarships. Yet again, I represent the Scholarship Committee for the Society of Georgia Archivists, and by virtue of this auction having originally been my idea, find myself yet again in the position of serving for spokesman for this, the seventh edition of the SGA Scholarship Auction. As in years gone by, 100% of the proceeds of this auction will go towards the myriad scholarships and awards administered by the SGA, though this year, *40% of that 100% will be going towards the newly created SGA-sponsored workshop scholarships. This new funding opportunity will help underwrite the workshop costs of scholarship recipients, as we continue to broaden out efforts to support continuing education in our community.* As in year past, we once more submit a few examples of the sorts of treasures one might be expected to bid upon or perhaps donate in this worthy enterprise. Some of these items will look familiar, and yet others will be new, in our never-ending quest to broaden the scope of delights from the overburdened chifferobe of culture's bounty. Monkeys will be abounding, not unlike the paired Disco Chalice which seem to crop up in each new offering.



It should be remembered that these sample items are intended to suggest possibilities for donation, and to whet the appetite of potential bidders but not necessarily to limit the scope of those things to be placed upon the block...

- A U.S. Silver Dollar ("Morgan" Type); 1896; Philadelphia Mint.
- A silver penny from the reign of Edward I of England (Longshanks) 1272-1307
- A "Widow's Mite"; Bronze Prutah, Reign of Alexander Jannaeus, 103-76 BC.
- A Denarius of Severus Alexander (222-235 AD). This silver coin was the basic unit of exchange in Imperial Rome.
- 2007 set of Statehood Proof Quarters. This set is in mint/Proof condition; indeed, it is supplied in the original U.S. Mint packaging...
- *Ghosts: True Encounters with the World Beyond*, by Hans Holzer. First Edition, Black Dog & Leventhal, New York, 1997.



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Announcements

Medical University of South Carolina Welcomes New Archivist

I am pleased to announce that Ms. **Brooke Fox** joined the staff of the Waring Historical Library as University Archivist on August 6th. Ms. Fox comes to the Waring after five years as archivist at the NIH Office of History, where her duties included administering archival collections, reference, records management, and outreach activities such as speaking engagements and exhibits. Prior to her work at NIH, Ms. Fox worked as a contract archivist for History Associates, Inc. She is a member of numerous professional organizations including Academy of Certified Archivists, American Association for the History of Medicine, Archivists & Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (for which she serves as Secretary/Treasurer), Society of American Archivists, and Society for History in the Federal Government. Ms. Fox received her MS in Library and Information Science from Simmons College in Boston.

Susan Hoffius, Curator, Waring Historical Library, Medical University of South Carolina

Woodruff Library of the AUC Announces New Staff Appointments

The Archives & Special Collections department of the Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center announce the following new staff appointments:

Courtney Chartier, Archives and Special Collections Processing Archivist - Ms. Chartier most recently served as Librarian with the Center for American History and research assistant with the Mississippi Encyclopedia. As the Processing Archivist, Chartier will assist in arranging, describing and preserving the Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection in preparation for research and scholarly access.

Bridget Lerette, Archives and Special Collections Processing Archivist - Ms. Lerette previously served as an archivist at the Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library at Columbia University, the American Express corporate archives and the Bronx County Historical Society. As the Processing Archivist, Chartier will assist in arranging, describing and preserving the Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection in preparation for research and scholarly access.

Gail Spears, Archives and Special Collections Cataloger - Ms. Spears is a former cataloger and project librarian with Cadence Group, cataloging librarian with the Atlanta History Center and reference librarian with Georgia State University's College of Law Library. She

will catalog the books within the Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection in preparation for research and scholarly access.

About the Library

Constructed in 1982, the Robert W. Woodruff Library is an independent entity organized and operated for the exclusive benefit of its member institutions—Clark Atlanta University, the Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse College and Spelman College. With a combined enrollment of more than 10,000 students, these colleges and university represent the world's largest consortium of historically black institutions of higher learning.

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SGA Newsletter

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A Publication of the Society of Georgia Archivists

Internet Corner

by Pamela Coleman Nye

Wikipedia and Archives

Wiki is a piece of open-source server software that allows users to freely create and edit Web page content using any Web browser. It supports hyperlinks and has a simple text syntax for creating new pages and crosslinks between internal pages on the fly. Wikipedia, the free, online encyclopedia, uses wiki technology to create a collaborative reference work, available to the masses. Anyone can edit or add links to the articles. There are more than 75,000 active contributors working on some 5,300,000 articles in more than 100 languages. Allowing users to edit content can bring to mind images of patrons "fixing" errors in books and collections. Since Wikipedia is one of the more popular reference works on the Internet, are archivists using this technology to increase foot (and cyber) traffic, to post links to digital finding aids or collections, and to create new, authoritative content for users? On another note, some individuals, associations, and institutions are using the wiki technology to gather information on a particular topic of interest, such as The Samurai Archives Wiki Project (<http://wiki-samurai-archives.com>).

Wikipedia talk: Project Spam

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia_talk:

[WikiProject_Spam/2007_Archive_Jul#Library_links_discussions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia_talk:WikiProject_Spam/2007_Archive_Jul#Library_links_discussions)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia_talk:WikiProject_Spam/2007_Archive_Aug#http:.2F.2Fwww.secstate.wa.gov.2Fhistory.2Fpublications

Wikipedia's guidelines states that a site owner may not simply post links to their own site, as this will be considered external link spam. In order to avoid being blacklisted, a contributor must provide substantive content for articles in addition to including external links.

Discussions by various editors show that there is still not a fool-proof way for archivists from institutions to update or modify their own Wikipedia entry, and many of the editors hope to bring in librarians and archivists to study this policy, especially as it concerns non-profit research entities. Editors also mention that creating a user account will help to lessen the "red flags" assigned by editors of anonymous posters.

Using Wikipedia to Extend Digital Collections

<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/may07/lally/05lally.html>

This article, appearing in D-Lib Magazine (May/June 2007), illustrates how librarians from the University of Washington used Wikipedia to expand their visibility. The project consisted primarily of adding links in Wikipedia to point towards the UW Collections. First, the staff extensively analyzed the subjects of their digital collections and how it would fit in with existing content on the encyclopedia. Interestingly, they found out that adding multiple links anonymously lead to the editors believing it was external link spam. Registering as users and creating new content, when warranted, helped their case, and ultimately, greatly increased their traffic coming from Wikipedia.

WikiProject:Librarians

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiProject_Librarians

This project page consists of librarians who think that it's time they "stepped up and contributed to Wikipedia." Their goals are not just to provide content, but also to enhance its structures and technologies. They are actively involved with the Wikipedia Reference Desk, and have created a list of articles that need to be referenced and fact-checked.

Selected Wikipedia Guidelines

Conflict of interest (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WP:COI>)

External links (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WP:EL>)

Citations (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WP:CITE>)

Neutral point of view (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Neutral_point_of_view)

Spam (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WP:SPAM>)

Archives-wiki: A Proposal

<http://blog.historians.org/resources/31/archives-wiki-part-i-a-proposal>

<http://blog.historians.org/resources/32/archives-wiki-part-ii-how-it-will-work>

In October 2006, the American Historical Association proposed using wiki technology in a project called "Archives-wiki." This project is to serve three functions: assisting historians in their research, developing a new network of community within the discipline and with related research fields, while also allowing the Association to work with and promote a new type of technology. The second part of the article discusses how it will work and the steps toward implementation. According to Mr. Robert Townsend, the project's director, it should go live in mid-October 2007.

Your Archives (beta version)

<http://yourarchives.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

This online community was created by the National Archives (UK) in May 2007 to assist its users share information about the records sources held at the National Archives and other archives throughout the UK. It is still in "beta version," meaning that it is still under development and ongoing evaluation. Users can edit pre-existing pages, submit articles about the records, expand upon a catalog entry, or publish a transcription of an online document.

<blatant self-promotion>

SGA and GAM now in Wikipedia!

<http://georgiaarchivists.blogspot.com/2007/06/sga-and-gam-now-in-wikipedia-society-of.html>

Society of Georgia Archivists and Georgia Archives Month have now been added as entries in the online

encyclopedia, Wikipedia. Add your institution, too!
</blatant self-promotion>

Fun fact: Wiki wiki means "quick" in Hawaiian.

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Scholarships

Announcements

The SGA Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that Audrey Cook, a public history graduate student at the University of West Georgia, has been selected as the 2007 recipient of the Larry Gulley Scholarship to attend the SGA annual meeting.

New SGA Workshop Scholarship Established

In an effort to increase their commitment to archival education in Georgia and the surrounding region, and as a result of suggestions and areas of improvement identified by the 2006 SGA membership survey, the SGA Board has established a new scholarship fund dedicated to providing tuition scholarships for SGA-sponsored workshops. Two scholarships will be awarded annually, one for the Spring/Summer SGA Workshop and one for the Pre-Conference Workshop held in conjunction with the fall annual meeting. The scholarships will cover the cost of tuition only and will be open to all SGA members and those working or studying in the archival field in Georgia.

An endowment fund has been established for the new scholarship, with monies from SGA's Education Fund and Checking Account. In addition, members are encouraged to donate to the Workshop Scholarship Fund through their annual membership renewals and at the annual meeting. 40% of the proceeds from the 2007 Annual Scholarship Auction will be dedicated solely to building up the Workshop Scholarship endowment. The Auction will be held on November 8th, at 6:00 p.m. at the CSU Theatre on the Park in Columbus. To help this endeavor, make sure you donate items to be auctioned off and attend the auction and bid on your favorite items. You are guaranteed to have a good time, while raising money for a worthy cause—Archival Education! For more information on the auction and instructions for donating items, please visit <http://www.soga.org/am/2007/auction.php>

The two workshop scholarships will be named for significant SGA members or SGA supporters through a nomination and voting process by the SGA membership. The names, as selected by the members, will be announced at the fall SGA meeting in Columbus. The first scholarship will be offered for the 2008 Spring/Summer Workshop. For more information about SGA scholarships, please visit <http://www.soga.org/scholarships/intro.php>

Reflections on the 2007 Georgia Archives Institute

by Keith S. Hébert, 2007 SGA Carroll Hart Scholarship Recipient

The Georgia Archives Institute is a truly unique experience for newcomers to the archival field as well as seasoned professionals. The institute, held on an annual basis at the Georgia Department of Archives and History in Morrow, provides its participants with an intensive two-week course of instruction covering such critical topics as archival management, ethics, preservation, description, arrangement, reference, and other related items. This year's institute included a wide array of participants representing university archives, county records centers, local museums, graduate students, professional librarians, genealogists, and historians. Geographically, the institute participants traveled from Texas, Florida, Alabama, and across the state of Georgia for this year's session. The diversity of the group added much to the institute's daily discussions leaving few perspectives unrepresented. Returning for a second year, institute instructor Timothy L. Ericson, Senior Lecturer Emeritus at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and former president of the Society of American Archivists, displayed his superb teaching talents blending his extensive firsthand experiences with the structured institute program. Institute participants enjoyed a candid look at an experienced archivists work at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and University of Wisconsin-River Falls university archives.

The G.A.I. benefits from its close association with its host institution, the Georgia Archives. Archives director David Carmichael and assistant director Anne Smith welcomed participants to their beautiful facility in Morrow. The Institute was also treated to a unique behind the scenes tour of the state archives, led by education coordinator Valerie Frey, which included some hands-on instruction in their state-of-the-art preservation lab. Christine Wiseman, preservation services manager, delivered a one-day crash course in archival preservation that was filled with insightful material reflecting her extensive experience. The G.A.I. was also invited to attend an evening gathering at the Auburn Avenue Research Library held by the Society of Georgia Archivists. The event gave institute members an opportunity to meet a number of archival professionals in a social atmosphere. G.A.I. participants also benefited from a three-day internship. This year the following institutions participated: NARA-SE, Georgia Archives, Atlanta History Center, Georgia Institute of Technology, Emory University, Auburn Avenue Research Library, the Federal Reserve, Coca-Cola, and Georgia State University. The internship gives institute members a chance to learn from archival professionals while applying some of the skills acquired through the G.A.I.

Every year a G.A.I. participant is selected to receive the Carroll Hart Scholarship awarded by the Society of Georgia Archivists. As this year's recipient, I received a full tuition waver for the G.A.I. and a one-year Society of Georgia Archivists' membership. The scholarship was created to honor Carroll Hart who as director of the state archives established the G.A.I. in 1967 as a program dedicated to providing archival training. The Georgia Archives Institute is truly a worthwhile experience for anyone interested in learning more about the archival profession. The lessons learned here can be applied in a number of different fields. The state of Georgia and current and aspiring archivists from across the nation are fortunate to benefit from such a pioneering institution.

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Membership Spotlight

If you know someone who should be profiled in the Membership Spotlight or if you want a piece of the spotlight for yourself, email newsletter (at) soga (dot) org

Membership Spotlight by Nora Lewis

Many thanks to Nora Lewis for taking over the Membership Spotlight. Welcome, Nora!

Name: Deborah Harper Rouse

SGA Member since: Fall 2006

Job Title: Archives and Special Collections Librarian

Place of Employment: Savannah College of Art and Design, Jen Library

Years in Current Position: since January 2006

Job Description: I am, at present, a lone arranger here in Archives and Special Collections, but that is about to change. We have been interviewing for an Archives Assistant and hope to hire one soon. My main duty is to process and make accessible the ***Don Bluth Animation Collection***, which arrived in fall of 2005 in 857 extremely oversized boxes. The ***Don Bluth Animation Collection*** contains the cels, drawings, storyboards, and administrative papers of the studio and materials for feature productions and games as well as concepts and ideas. Don Bluth produced a number of video games such as ***Dragon's Lair*** and animated features including ***The Secret of NIMH***, ***An American Tail***, and ***All Dogs go to Heaven***. I also process and provide access to the rare books, serials, and other collections. These include the published



records of SCAD, including Design Press; collections of artist's and art press books; Pop-up books; items of local interest; and rare or fragile materials. There are small but growing collections of stereo views, postcards, and memorabilia of Savannah and of the old Hotel De Soto. The department also houses the papers and some visual materials of Myrtle Jones, a local Savannah artist. A number of other manuscript collections are housed here, including the *Dr. Theresa Anthony Collection of Fashion* and a collection of articles about and catalogs on Georgia artist Benny Andrews. There are two large collections totaling over 10,000 issues of comic books and graphic novels: the *Shirrel Rhoades Collection* and the *Esteban Fuertes Collection*. We also have a collection of Ashantilly Press correspondence and publications and a set of Central of Georgia Railway Architectural Drawings. Many periodical titles are also housed here. These include older issues of serials in the circulating collection as well as newer titles that are housed only in Special Collections. Student Theses written prior to 2001 are also housed in the Archives and Special Collections department.

Other work experience: Library related experience includes Assistant Librarian in Special Collections at Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida; Genealogy and Local History Librarian at Rowan Public Library in Salisbury, North Carolina.

Education: BA in Art History University of North Florida , MLS from Florida State University

Professional Memberships: SGA right now, formerly member of Society of Florida Archivists, Society of North Carolina Archivists, North Carolina Library Association, Special Libraries Association

Most Enjoyable Aspect of Your Job: The collections here at SCAD are among the most unique I have worked with. It is always interesting to open a box of the Bluth collection, because you never know what you will find. I didn't have any experience with archiving animation cels, and I was surprised to find that no one seems to have published guidelines. So, I made up my own. However, I am open to suggestions from a more experienced source. I also love the comic book collections and was happy that I had worked with a comic book collection at Florida State so I could make informed decisions about processing them. It has also been a lot of fun looking for items of local interest on Ebay. I have found such treasures! But, the best part is when I have classes come in to study the Bluth Collection. It is wonderful to be able to share the amazing art work with students eager to study Bluth's methods of classical animation.

Alternate Career Path if not in Archives: Prior to becoming a librarian and archivist, I was a chef for 18 years, with a specialty in Country and Bistro style French cuisine. I also worked for an Interior Design firm, as a docent and tour guide, and in a book store. If I was not an archivist/ librarian, I would love to be the owner of a book store with a pastry shop on the side.

Favorite Pastimes: Reading , baking, gardening, jewelry making, knitting, Yoga, and spending time with family, who are, unfortunately, far away.

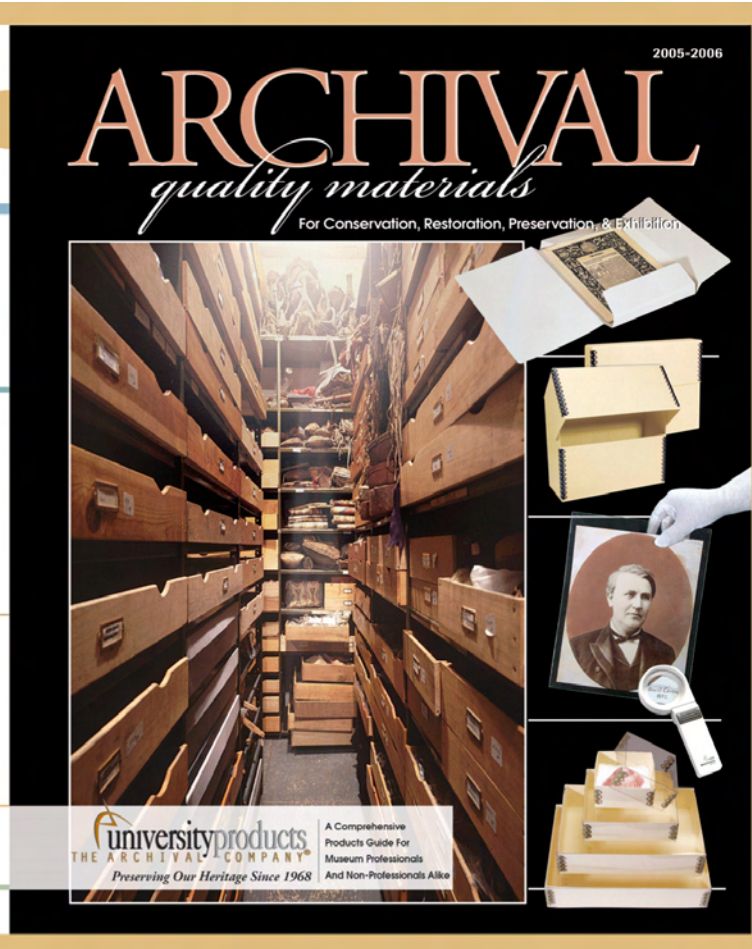
Comments on the profession today: Our profession is changing rapidly. We are thinking more globally, considering access a priority, and standardizing our methods of practice. I hope we will all continue to seek creative and innovative solutions to the problems of access and preservation. Whether we archive historical documents, literary manuscripts, business and financial papers, photographs, electronic records, or works of art on paper, we can learn from each other when we keep communications open. These days, when I tell people I am an archivist, most have some idea of what that means. It is a great time to be an archivist!

The largest, most comprehensive
collection of archival materials available
is illustrated in our
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Georgia News

Beyond the Presidency: 25 Years of The Carter Center A Special Exhibit at The Jimmy Carter Library and Museum June 30, 2007 - November 25, 2007

<http://www.cartercenter.org/news/features/anniversary/exhibit.html>

This exhibit will give visitors a look behind the scenes and on the front lines of efforts undertaken by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, to advance peace, health, and hope worldwide through The Carter Center, the nonprofit organization they founded in 1982.

Valdosta State University Archives Release Georgia Folklife Website and "Hidden History of VSU Exhibit"

The Valdosta State University Archives has recently released a new website and collection that is a major acquisition for our archives. The South Georgia Folklife Collection represents ten years of work of the South Georgia Folklife Project done across South Georgia by folklorist Laurie Sommers. The collection is documented on a website at <http://www.valdosta.edu/library/find/arch/folklife/index.html>

It is also available directly from our main page at <http://www.valdosta.edu/library/find/arch/index.shtml>

This site gives access to over 40 audio files from Georgia Public Broadcasting radio shows created by the South Georgia Folklife Project on topics as varied as shape note singing to turpentine to ethnic holiday celebrations. Over 40 video clips document the details of working with turpentine in South Georgia. Four new online exhibits are part of this site: Collection Highlights, Folklife of Wiregrass Georgia, Sacred Harp, and Radio Show images to go with audio files. 1045 images were scanned and help to create the exhibits and the website. In processing this collection several hundred audio and video and umatic tapes were digitized for preservation purposes. We have also mounted an extensive 2500 record database that documents the collection via MYSQL. Using PHP code it is searchable under the button "search the collection."

This work was funded partially by the Georgia Council for the Arts through two grants in 2005-2006 and 2006-2007.

On a lighter note, we are getting ready to put on a Centennial Activity: "The Hidden History of VSU" a

tour through historical buildings and other areas on our main campus where people are not usually allowed, such as basements and rooftops. To spice it up we are adding about 40 large images (about 8 feet by 10 feet) mounted to wood like giant cards all over the tour and pedestrian area and will have costumed "actors" playing certain parts at stops on the tour. It will be the week of Halloween and it's going to be a real zoo, but I hope the students will have fun. We're using "weird" and in the case of the streakers, slightly off color, pictures of students in the past to connect with our students today.

- *Deborah Davis*

Russell Library Launches New Website

The Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies at the University of Georgia would like to announce the launch of its new Web site at <http://www.libs.uga.edu/russell>. The Web site provides access to over 80 finding aids for Russell Library's collections of manuscripts, photographs, artifacts, and audiovisual materials which document the broad spectrum of political activities of modern Georgia. The Web site now offers a variety of dynamic improvements including fill-in PDF forms, advanced search capabilities, and a weblog that reports current news and events at Russell. The Web site also offers users an opportunity to give suggestions or subscribe to Russell's new listserv.

Archives Month 2007

The purpose of Archives Month is to celebrate the value of Georgia's historical records, publicize the many ways historical records enrich our lives, and recognize those who maintain our communities' historical records. This is the ideal time to call attention to your organization or local government and its work in preserving Georgia's documentary heritage. We encourage you to think of ways in which your organization or local government can celebrate Archives Month in your community. Your activity does not have to be directly related to the theme, but does need to focus on the importance of archival records. Ideas include creating exhibits, hosting receptions, giving tours, writing articles, or developing special programs. For more information, visit <http://www.soga.org/aw/index.php>.



Georgia History: Stay Tuned

Georgia Archives Month 2007

What is Archives Month? The purpose of Archives Month is to celebrate the value of Georgia's historical records, publicize the many ways historical records enrich our lives, and recognize those who maintain our communities' historical records. This is the ideal time to call attention to your organization or local government and its work in preserving Georgia's documentary heritage.

Publicity The celebration will be publicized across the state through proclamations, a poster, newspaper articles, and events at various repositories. If you will provide information on your planned activity, we will be happy to help publicize your event on the Society of Georgia Archivists' (SGA) web site. See information below on how to submit information about your event.

Events We encourage you to think of ways in which your organization or local government can celebrate Archives Month in your community. Your activity does not have to be directly related to the theme, but does need to focus on the importance of archival records. Ideas include creating exhibits, hosting receptions, giving tours, writing articles, or developing special programs. The scheduled activities for 2007 and images from activities will be posted on the Web site. For ideas, please see the 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, or 2000 activities pages. In addition, other states' Archives Week or Archives Month activities can be found on the Council of State Archivists' (COSA) Archives Week directory.

Need help? To help you, an Event Planning Guide (last updated in 2001) has been created. The guide is available in PDF (Portable Document Format), and can be read using the free Adobe Acrobat Reader. If you do not have access to the Internet or are unable to view the Event Planning Guide, a copy may be printed out for you. Please contact Sara Saunders at 404-865-7155; or send an e-mail to: archivesweek at soga dot org.

For Additional Information For additional information or to provide information on your planned activity, please contact: Sara Saunders at 404-865-7155 or Sallie Loy at 770-421-2117 ext. 107; e-mail: archivesweek at soga dot org.

Georgia Archives Month is Sponsored by:

The Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board | The Georgia Archives |
The Office of Secretary of State Karen Handel | The Society of Georgia Archivists |
The Georgia Historical Society | The Georgia Library Association |
The Georgia Records Association | The Walter Hopkins Company |
The Digital Library of Georgia | The Metal Edge, Inc. Company |

Image credit: Photograph of one of Ed. L. Cowan's homemade radio sets, Conyers, Rockdale County, Georgia, between 1920 and 1922. Ed Cowan was an amateur radio operator and inventor, and is said to have had the first radio in Conyers.
Courtesy of the Georgia Archives, 5800 Jonesboro Road, Morrow, GA 30260.

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Preservation News

Preservation News is a quarterly column intended to disseminate timely and newsworthy information about preservation in libraries and archives. News items are collected from printed sources (newsletters, journals, press releases), information gathered at conferences and meetings, electronic mailing lists, and websites. Priority is given to items of particular interest to archivists and librarians in the Southeastern United States. Topics include reports on developments in the field, training opportunities, new publications and services, and information on funding sources and grant deadlines. Please submit your preservation news to Kara McClurken at 404-592-4876, or kmcclurken@solinet.net.

by Tina Mason Seetoo
(temporary sub for Kara McClurken)

New Print and Web Resources

- *Rescuing Family Records: A Disaster Planning Guide*, by David W. Carmichael

Many tools exist to help identify and protect vital records in our institutions. What about at our homes? To help families prepare for potential disaster, the Council of State Archivists (CoSA) will release *Rescuing Family Records: A Disaster Planning Guide*. This practical manual describes the records that protect a family's finances, health, civil rights, and family history. Some, such as deeds and mortgages, may be obvious to readers, but others, such as leases, proof of intellectual property, and certain tax records, are easily forgotten in the moment of crisis. The manual prompts readers to think through all the records that may help their family survive disaster and return to normal afterwards. See the COSA website for ordering information.

<http://www.statearchivists.org/prepare/families.htm>

An information leaflet, *Essential Records for Families*, is available on the Georgia Archives website. http://sos.georgia.gov/archives/how_may_we_help_you/emergency_advice/evacuation_records.pdf

- *First Aid for Art: Essential Salvage Techniques*, edited by Jane Hutchins and Barbara O. Roberts

This small book is designed to be quick, concise advice on response and salvage techniques for artwork. It contains 12 chapters on salvage; each one is devoted to a specific media (includes sections on books, paper, and photographs). Chapters are short 4-5 pages and contain triage, freezing, and packing advice. It is designed to be a ready-reference in the event of a disaster. Written by many experts in the preservation field and published by Hard Press Editions, Lenox Massachusetts.

<http://www.hardpresseditions.com/collecting.html> Available for Purchase on Amazon.

- **Video Preservation Website**

Got Video? This website is an aggregate of information on how to preserve and reformat this challenging medium. Get advice and assessment tools from leading video and film preservation experts.

<http://videopreservation.stanford.edu/index.html>

- **Saving Family Treasures Videos from Nebraska Public Television**

This website hosts short online videos that demonstrate how to take care of family heirlooms. Below are links to preservation leaflets on the Gerald R. Ford Conservation Center website. Information covers types of damage and tips on storage and cleaning of collection items organized by type/format.

<http://www.netnebraska.org/extras/treasures/index.htm>

- **Heritage Preservation: Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Resources**

New tools to aid libraries, archives, museums, historic sites, and historic preservation and arts organizations in disaster preparedness and recovery. Includes *Tips for Working with Emergency Responders*, a guide to finding and building relationships with local emergency responders, and *Guide to Navigating FEMA and SBA Disaster Aid for Cultural Institutions*, an outline of the process of applying to the Small Business Administration (SBA) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance after major disasters with links to necessary paperwork.

<http://www.heritagepreservation.org/lessons/>

Workshops and Conferences

- **New Preservation Workshops at SOLINET**

SOLINET has added three new topics to their distance education class offerings: **Understanding Digital**

Photographs (2 hour, live online session), **Digital Photograph Collections: Access and Standards** (2 hour, live online session) , and **Under Construction! Preservation Concerns during Construction and Renovation** (self-paced, online course) . Both of the digital photograph topics are 2 hour, live online sessions. For full descriptions and registration information see the Preservation section of the SOLINET website, www.solinet.net/preservation

- **North Carolina Preservation Consortium, 2007 Annual Conference, “The Great Migration: Audio Preservation in the Digital Age”**

This year's North Carolina Preservation Consortium Conference will address current standards and best practices in audio preservation. A panel of experts will discuss the reality of managing both small and large audio preservation projects in the digital age. Personnel performing, managing, or advocating for the preservation and conservation of collections, particularly sound recordings, are encouraged to attend this conference. Faculty and students in library and information science, archives, public history, museum, and conservation graduate schools are also welcome. The conference is November 2, 2007 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill , see NCPC website for details.

<http://www.ncpreservation.org/>

- **Heritage Emergency Response Alliance (HERA)**

HERA is a newly form alliance of professionals from the cultural and emergency response communities of Georgia whose mission is to preserve the cultural heritage in the Metro Atlanta area and serving as a resource to cultural institutions around the state. The primary aim of HERA is to mitigate the loss of cultural heritage materials in the event of a disaster. As preparedness is the key to any successful disaster mitigation, HERA's strategy is to enhance disaster preparedness through the following activities: networking, information sharing, increased awareness and encouragement of disaster planning, providing opportunities for disaster recovery education, interaction with local and state emergency management, preparing and responding collectively to disasters in the region, identify existing resources needed after a disaster. This group was formed as a result of the Atlanta Alliance for Response Meeting held in February 2007. Want to join? Look out for information about the next HERA meeting on the SGA list serve.

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Alabama Update

Alabama Update reports on notable events involving the Society of Alabama Archivists for the benefit of interested readers of the Society of Georgia Archivist's newsletter. If you are interested in learning more about archival work in Alabama, or any of the news items mentioned in this column, please contact the author, Tim Pennycuff, at tpenny@uab.edu.

Tim Pennycuff Join SALA in the Wiregrass!

SALA Annual Meeting Conference Schedule (PDF)

The annual meeting of the Society of Alabama Archivists (SALA) will be held October 25-26 on the campus of Troy University - Dothan in Dothan, Alabama. The meeting is being hosted by Dr. Marty Olliff, director of the Archives of Wiregrass History & Culture at the Troy University-Dothan campus. The AWHC was established in 2002 to document the history of the 25-county wiregrass region found within three states, in southeastern Alabama, northwestern Florida, and southwestern Georgia, including the Georgia counties of Baker, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell and Seminole.

One of the special events of this year's annual meeting is a keynote address by Elizabeth W. Adkins, director of Global Information Management for the Ford Motor Company in Detroit, Michigan. Adkins is the immediate past president of the Society of American Archivists, having just stepped down from that position during SAA's annual meeting in August.

This year, a Thursday afternoon pre-conference workshop will be presented on Arts and Humanities Grants in Alabama. The workshop is free to meeting registrants, as is an opening wine reception that evening. On Friday various sessions will be presented and the annual SALA business meeting will be held during the afternoon.

SALA welcomes colleagues from Georgia and Florida to join us for the meeting in Dothan, especially since this year's meeting is being hosted by a repository that documents the history and culture of the three-state Wiregrass Region. For additional details on the annual meeting, including the program, lodging information, and a registration form, visit the meeting site on the SALA webpage at <http://www.alarchivists.org/>. Please note that you must pre-register for the annual meeting in order to make your reservation for Friday's luncheon and the free events on Thursday.

We hope to see some of you, our Georgia colleagues, in Dothan in October!

*Tim L. Pennycuff,
University of Alabama at Birmingham*

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Washington Beat

Washington Beat is a collection of news items gathered by Clemson Archivist Jim Cross for the benefit of interested readers of the Society of Georgia Archivist's newsletter. If you are interested in learning more about archival work in our nation's capitol, or any of the news items mentioned in this column, please contact the author at jcross@clemson.edu.

By Jim Cross

NATIONAL ARCHIVES BUDGET: The Senate Appropriations Committee finished marking up its version of the General Government Appropriations Bill on July 12, 2007. It provides \$313.9 million for the National Archives—\$1.1 million more than what the President requested but \$1.1 million less than what the House appropriated in its bill. All three provide \$58 million for the Electronic Records Archive program. \$25.1 million is allocated to repairs and restoration which is \$9 million more than the House bill. More than 50% of this sum would go to construction projects at the Roosevelt, Johnson, Kennedy, and Nixon libraries and \$2 million would go to the Anchorage, Alaska Regional Archives and Records Center. Like the House, the Senate provided \$10 million for the NHPRC but did not indicate how the money was to be split between grants and administrative functions.

OTHER ARCHIVES NEWS: The National Archives is seeking comment on its plan to digitize archival material over the next ten years. Comments are due by November 9, 2007; the report can be found at www.archives.gov/comment/digitizing-plan.html and comments can be sent to Vision@nara.gov. ... The Archives is planning to enter into a non-exclusive agreement with FamilySearch to digitize and expand access to its holdings, according to an August 3, 2007 press release. ... The Archives announced on July 30, 2007 that it had signed a non-exclusive agreement with CustomFlix Labs to make many of its films available for purchase from Amazon.com through the company's DVD on Demand service. The initial group of films to be released on DVD will be from its Universal Newsreels collection, which includes films from 1929-1967. ... On July 12, 2007 Denning McTague, a former intern at the National Archives' Philadelphia branch, was sentenced to 15 months in prison for stealing Civil war era documents worth \$30,000 from the branch and selling them on eBay. All but three of the documents have been recovered.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NEWS: The Library of Congress was embroiled in a controversy regarding false claims to ranks and medals—including the Congressional Medal of Honor—in the oral history interviews undertaken as part of the Veterans History Project at the American Folklife Center. In a September 19, 2007 press release the Center noted that the interviews are meant to supplement, not replace, official military records and that it does periodically attempt to verify the accuracy of Medal of Honor claims.

... On August 2, 2007 the Library announced the purchase of the Tony Schwartz Collection. Schwartz produced and collected a large archive of sound recordings and moving images in his role as a New York City documentarian, producer, and media consultant. He is best known for creating and producing the "Daisy" television commercial for Lyndon Johnson's presidential campaign in 1964. ... The Library took formal possession of the Packard Campus for Audio-Visual Conservation on July 26, 2007. It will consolidate audio-visual collections now scattered across four states and the District of Columbia and provide space for conservation and the storage of 5.7 million items. ... In July 2007 an additional 247 items from the Library were added to the "France in America" bilingual presentation on the Library's Global Gateway web site. These included rare books on the role of France in the Caribbean; the correspondence of John Slidell, the Confederacy's commissioner to France; and material that documents the contacts between the United States and France in the fields of motion pictures and aviation.

OTHER NEWS: A collaboration between NASA's Johnson Space Center and Arizona State University is making high-resolution scans of the original Apollo flight films available on the web; they can be found at <http://Apollo.sese.asu.edu/>. ... On July 9, 2007 the Smithsonian Institution officially accepted objects and archival records from the Nordic Ware company that will help document the history of cookware manufacturing in the United States.

DECLASSIFICATION AND FOIA: In September 2007 the Ninth Circuit Court of appeals decided against the disclosure of two Presidential Daily Briefs (PDB) from the Johnson administration. However, it refused to allow the CIA to effectively create an FOIA exemption for all PDB's. ... On August 3, 2007 the Senate passed the OPEN Government Act of 2007 (S.849); the House had passed its version earlier this year. It is unclear whether a conference committee will be appointed or the House will just pass the Senate's version of the bill, which includes fee waivers, deadlines for agency action on an FOIA request, the creation of an ombudsman to mediate agency-level FOIA disputes, and enhances agency reporting and tracking requirements. ... Just before Congress' August 2007 adjournment a Republican Senator put an anonymous hold on the Presidential Records Act Amendments of 2007, thus preventing it from reaching the Senate floor.

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