# SGA Newsletter

# A publication of the Society of Georgia Archivists

Volume 42 Issue 3 Fall 2010

Richard Pearce-Moses, Director of the Master of Archival Studies program at Clayton State University, discusses the program, information technology, archival studies, and what it means to be an archivist in the digital era.

We are a few weeks into the first semester of the Master of Archival Studies program at Clayton State University. How are things going? What is enrollment? What is the student body like?

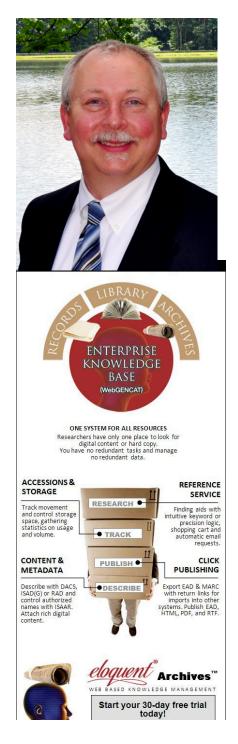
It's not quite the first semester. We had two students enrolled in January 2010, but our first full cohort began this term. We have seven students enrolled. The students are diverse group, ranging in age, education, and experience. Some have just completed an undergraduate degree, while others are returning to education after working in the profession, and some are working on a second master's.

The class schedule seems designed to accommodate students who are working full time.

Most of our students are working full time. We expect many students will take a partial course load, two courses a semester. We also want to offer the courses online, but that probably won't be possible until Fall 2011. Online courses will open the program to distant students, but it can make the program more accessible to people who would have to spend a fair amount of time driving to campus. Online education will also enhance students' experience with information technology.

Is the Master of Archival Studies at Clayton State unique among masters level education in archival studies? How does it compare with other archival education offerings?

The Master of Archival Studies program at Clayton state provides students a distinct opportunity to focus on archival practices, rather than studying them within another information discipline, such as a library and information studies program. We want Clayton State to be known



#### **Richard Pearce-Moses interview**

The emphasis on the role of information technology in the creation, preservation and access to records is a major part of this program. What content was added to the program about information technology? About archival methods?

We want students to achieve a high level of competence in archival work with digital materials. We provide a strong foundation in the core archival functions and principles. We build on that with the methods and tools needed to carry out those functions in an electronic environment. For example, appraisal and acquisition functions are the same, but for electronic records such work may require running a software program on the records in order to determine condition and order. Students learn about the complex nature of electronic records and should be able to fully answer the questions "What is a record?" and "What needs to be preserved?" in a digital environment.

Students will learn about electronic records in every course. Three courses emphasize the technical skills they'll need to work with electronic records and digital archives. They'll learn basic technical skills, such as how to create web pages. They'll also take courses for more advanced skills, such as building an SQL database

# Due to this emphasis on information technology, are graduates of this program prepared for particular roles in archives or for particular types of archives?

Since all types of archives are, or soon will be, collecting and curating records in digital format, student with this degree will be prepared to work in all types of repositories.

# How did the program get started? What was the impetus at Clayton State?

Our location next to two major archival facilities, the Georgia Archives and the National Archives at Atlanta, was, of course, important. David Carmicheal, Director of the Georgia Archives, worked to get the program started and develop archival education in this region. Georgia is a natural place for innovative archival education; for example, the Society of Georgia Archivists has an outstanding national reputation for leadership in archival education. Clayton State was forwardthinking to locate the program in the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences.

# Who are your faculty? Are they new to Clayton State? Georgia? What are their backgrounds?

I'm the only faculty member dedicated to the program full time. We draw on Information Technology faculty from the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences. Our program emphasizes practical application of theory, so it is natural to draw on working archivists to serve as adjunct instructors. For example, Sarah Quigley from Emory University is teaching arrangement and description this semester. We are actively recruiting adjunct faculty members; anyone interested







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How does your past experience as Deputy Director for Technology and Information Resources at the Arizona State Library and Archives inform your work with this program?

The "Arizona Model" provided a conceptual model for preserving documents published on the Web. That's one example of Arizona taking the lead in applying archival methods to the preservation of "born digital" documents. I also learned how technology could be used to automate archival work through the Persistent Digital Archives and Library System (PeDALS) project funded by the Library of Congress. I helped the University of Arizona develop a certificate program in digital preservation. Finally, during my tenure as President of the Society of American Archivists, I worked on a colloquium, "New Skills for the Digital Era," at which 50 archivists working with electronic records were asked, "What do you need to know in order to succeed?" All these experiences inform our program at Clayton State.

# You will be giving the keynote address at SGA's annual meeting; what are the major issues archives face concerning electronic records?

Archivists are aware of and concerned about the onslaught of electronic records. However, many don't know what they need to know in order to respond to digital formats. The first step is to dive in, to continue to learn and to draw from new disciplines. Jenkinson marveled at the information explosion after World War I, Schellenberg pointed to the information explosion following World War II, and now we have the flood of electronic communication. Information explosions seem to be ongoing, so the questions are: "How will we respond to exponential growth in records?" and "What innovations are needed to archive the electronic format?" I'll share my thoughts on this for the keynote at SGA's annual meeting.

# Is this your first time working in Georgia? If so, what surprised you about your new locale?

I've visited Georgia before, but this is my first time living here. Arizona and Georgia both have an enormous sense of history and also many contrasts. Arizona's history is concerned with Native Americans, Spanish Colonial, and the West, and so is very different. Georgia has given me new perspectives. There are so many cultural differences, I sometimes feel like I'm in another country! The people here have all been really wonderful.

# Anything else you would like to share?

The Master of Archival Studies program is accepting applications for spring term. Preferred deadline is 15 October, but the final deadline is November 15. We have some scholarship money that can help reduce tuition.

The Graduate School has an open house the second Tuesday of the month from 5:30 to 7:00 P.M. Anyone interested in the program can drop by and find out more. Or they can give me a call or drop by for a visit.

In addition, the School is presenting Jason R. Baron, speaking on "What Do I Do with a Billion E-mails? The Future of Information Retrieval in E-Discovery."







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#### **About Us**

**Calendar of Events** – Kevin Fleming <u>kfleming@gsu.edu</u> and see http://soga.org/events

Institutional Profile - Luciana Spracher,

Luciana Spracher@SavannahGA.gov

Alabama Update - Tim Pennycuff, tpenny@uab.edu

Washington Beat - Jim Cross, jcross@clemson.edu

Membership Spotlight - Nora Lewis, nlewis@georgiahistory.org

**Internet Corner - Pamela Coleman Nye** 

Preservation News - Jessica Leming, Jessica.Leming@Lyrasis.org

Scholarships - Kristy Dixon kldixon@uga.edu

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# **Submissions and Advertising**

Deadlines for submissions for volume 42 (2010) are September 30, and December 17. Material should be submitted by email to Caroline.Hopkinson@armstrong.edu or by postal mail in hard-copy format to Caroline Hopkinson, Editor. The SGA Newsletter invites advertisements for archival products and services at the SGA Board and editor's discretion. All advertisements will be featured in the margin of each newsletter page with a hyperlink to the company website or email address of solicitor's choice. Deadlines for submission are March 31, June 30. September 30, and December 17. For queries or further

Calendar of Events

Please visit SGA's Events web page (<a href="http://soga.org/events">http://soga.org/events</a>) for a comple calendar of Exhibits, Events, Lectures, Conferences and Workshops. <a href="http://soga.org/events">http://soga.org/events</a>



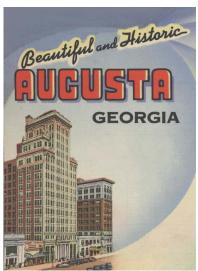




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Picture courtesy of Georgia Historical Society. Savannah Ga.

# **SGA NEWS**

#### SGA 2010 JOINT ANNUAL MEETING

Registration for the 2010 Joint Annual Meeting of the Society of Georgia Archivists and the South Carolina Archival Association, *Archives in Transition: Current Issues and Future Trends*, October 28-29, 2010, is now open. Our Keynote Speakers are Kathleen Roe and Richard Pearce-Moses. To learn more and register, visit http://soga.org/annualmeeting

# LONG-TIME SGA MEMBER SUE GARRISON RETIRES

On June 30th long-time SGA member Ellen Garrison retired as associate professor of history at Middle Tennessee State University. She will continue to work with doctoral students in the archives program and will also teach an occasional graduate history course.







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# Visit Historic Augusta for the SGA/SCAA Annual Meeting!

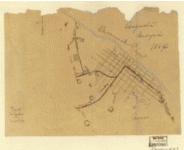
A Message from Your Outreach Committee

Haven't you heard the news by now? This year the Society of Georgia Archivists will hold a joint Annual Meeting with the South Carolina Archiva Association in beautiful, historic Augusta, Georgia (October 28-29, 2010).



James Brown Statue, Augusta, GA. Augusta Convention & Visitors' Bureau.

The City of Augusta, aka "The Garden City" was founded in 1736 by the Noble Jones, an officer serving under the explorer General James Oglethorpe It was the second town founded in the British colony of Georgia, after the Ci of Savannah. The spot along the Savannah River was already an established crossing place for the Creek and Cherokee tribes of the area.



Plan of fortifications at Augusta, Ga, 1986 Library of Congress Geography and Map Division

During the American Revolution, after the fall of Savannah, Augusta became the state capitol. Augusta was a center for industry and the production of textiles, gunpowder and paper. During the Civil War, Augusta was the site of the Confederate Powderworks, and, as it was never burned by Union troops, center for refugees from the war. After the Civil War, Augusta flourished as







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center of the cotton industry. The construction of Fort Gordon, as well as an influx of corporations, kept Augusta growing through most the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Augusta is full of historic sites to visit. Since the 1970's, Riverwalk Augusta and Broad Street have been the centers of civic revitalization. The city's first church, <u>St. Paul's</u>, was founded in 1750, and still stands in Augusta's Riverwalk. The <u>Medical College of Georgia</u> was founded in 1822; many of the original buildings still stand.



Old Medical College, Augusta, GA. Historic American Buildings Survey, Library of Congress.

Augusta was also the boyhood home of President Woodrow Wilson; his home is now a museum known as the <u>Woodrow Wilson House</u>. There is also a monument to one of Augusta's other favorite sons, <u>James Brown</u>, on Broad Street. And for some spooky fun along Broad Street, don't forget to touch the Haunted Pillar, all that remains of a Farmer's Market that was destroyed by tornado in 1878. You can learn more about the history of Augusta at the <u>Augusta Museum of History</u>.

For information on music and art events occurring during the Annual Meeting, visit Metro Spirit, a guide to Augusta arts and entertainment. In fact the joint Georgia-Carolina State Fair will be in Augusta during out joint Annual Meeting!

You can also visit the SGA blog for lists of Augusta restaurants, interviews with Augusta archivists, and more historical information leading up to the Annual Meeting.



Broad Street, Augusta, GA Vintagepostcards.org











# Georgia News

# SECRETARY OF STATE KEMP SIGNS CONTRACT TO ASSIST WITH VITAL RECORDS RECOVERY DISASTER EFFORTS

Georgia Secretary of State Brian Kemp recently signed a contract that will assist state and local agencies, public libraries, and public and private universities by stabilizing and recovering vital documents in the event of disasters. The statewide contract for Stabilization and Recovery of Damaged Records was created in cooperation with the Georgia Department of Administrative Services to protect documents and records including deeds, mortgages, court records, adoption records, marriage and birth records, and many other historical records that Georgians depend on to protect their health, property, and civil rights.

"When a disaster strikes a courthouse or any building which stores our vital records," Secretary Kemp recognized, "the consequences for Georgians can be catastrophic."

The new contract sets vendor prices for recovery work and eliminates the prospect of prices rising as the result of a widespread disaster. Setting vendor prices also ensures that a qualified recovery expert responds quickly so that essential records can be salvaged during a critical time frame.

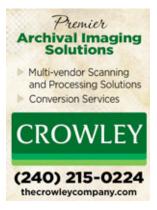
"A court clerk standing knee-deep in water doesn't have time to negotiate the best price," stated David Carmicheal, director of the Secretary of State's Archives Division said, "Most disasters create some sort of water damage, and during the first 48 hours mold can form on records, hard drives can rust, and book covers warp."

Brian Kemp was sworn in as Secretary of State in January 2010. Among the office's wide-ranging responsibilities, the Secretary of State is charged with conducting efficient and secure elections, the registration of corporations, and the regulation of securities and professional license holders. The office also oversees the Georgia Archives and the Capitol Museum. For additional information, please visit the Secretary of State's Archives Division at <a href="https://www.sos.ga.gov/archivesor.call.678-364-3700">www.sos.ga.gov/archivesor.call.678-364-3700</a>.

JIMMY CARTER LIBRARY HOSTS NEW QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER The Jimmy Carter Library began hosting The Carter Chronicle, a new quarterly newsletter. The newsletter can be sent to your inbox by sending an email request to <a href="mailto:Carter.Library@nara.gov">Carter.Library@nara.gov</a> with "Newsletter" as the subject. For the current issue, please visit:

http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov/newsletters/September 2010.pdf







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Photo: Alana Joyner

#### **GAM**

On September 9, 2010, Governor Sonny Perdue issued a proclamation designating October as the 11<sup>th</sup> Georgia Archives Month. Several institutions across the state are hosting events this October encouraging people to "Travel Back in Time," our theme for this year's celebration. A complete listing of events is listed on our web site at <a href="http://soga.org/activities">http://soga.org/activities</a>



Photo: Alana Joyner







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### WHAT DOES HE DO WITH A BILLION EMAILS?

In celebration of Georgia Archives Month, the Master of Archival Studies Program at Clayton State will be presenting Jason R. Baron, Esq.'s presentation, "What Do I Do With a Billion Emails? The Future of Information Retrieval in E-Discovery". Mr. Baron will review the challenges of an effective, compliant response in the digital era for archivists involved in litigation or the need to familiarize themselves with new federal and state rules of discovery and electronically stored information. His talk will include a discussion of Boolean and alternative search methodologies in the context of e-discovery. An internationally recognized speaker and author on the subject of electronic records in litigation, Baron has served as the Director of Litigation for the National Archives and Records Administration, having served previously as lead counsel for the Justice Department in the PROFS case (Armstrong v. Executive Office of the President). He is also an Adjunct Professor at the University of Maryland's College of Information Studies. His talk will be held Monday, 18 October 2010, 6:30 – 7:30 P.M. at the Lecture Hall, Room 14. RSVP requested, but not required. For more information, contact Richard Pearce-Moses at email rpearcemoses@clayton.edu or telephone 678-466-4427.

### ZELL MILLER PAPERS OPEN FOR RESEARCH

The Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies has announced that the Zell Miller papers are now open for research. Miller acted as Georgia's longest-serving Lieutenant Governor from 1974 to 1990 before becoming Governor in 1990. He served in this capacity for two terms before serving as U.S. Senator from 2000 to 2004.

Miller has authored several other books outside of his political career. They include: The Mountains Within Me (1975), Great Georgians (1983), They Heard Georgia Singing (1985), Corps Values: Everything You Need to Know I Learned In the Marines (1997), Listen to This Voice: Selected Speeches of Governor Zell Miller (1999), The Miracle of Brasstown Valley (2007), and Purt Nigh Gone: The Old Mountain Ways (2009).

The Zell Miller Papers consist of office files and personal papers including correspondence, speeches, press releases, clippings, subject files, position papers, memoranda, photographs, publications, memorabilia and scrapbooks from Millers career. The collection includes subject research, memoranda, and clippings documenting issues in which Miller was involved through out his career including: improving education in Georgia through the creation of the HOPE scholarship and a state-side kindergarten program, the creation of a lottery, trade missions to market Georgia overseas, advocacy for musicians and cultural heritage initiatives, promoting ethics in lobbying, changing the state flag, promoting land and water conservation, and abolishing tax on groceries. The collection also documents many of the events in which the Zell.







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and Shirley Miller took part throughout his career, from state dinners and awards ceremonies to local festivals and parades through speeches, correspondence, and photographs. Correspondence, photographs, clippings and speeches all evidence Millers work with the Democratic National Committee and relationship with President Bill Clinton. Shirley Millers work advocating adult literacy and promoting public health is documented through speeches and files maintained by her executive assistant, Beverly Messer. Miller's senatorial papers are currently closed. The finding aid for the Miller Papers is available at http://russelldoc.galib.uga.edu/russell/search.

#### IRVINE S. INGRAM PAPERS OPEN FOR RESEARCH

A Methodist, a Democrat, and a cat-lover, Irvine S. Ingram was a vital part of the Carroll County community. The papers of Irvine S. Ingram, president of West Georgia College from 1933 to 1960, have been processed and are now open for research in Ingram Library's Annie Belle Weaver Special Collections on the University of West Georgia campus in Carrollton. The Irvine S. Ingram papers contain a wealth of information not only on the educator who led the college for nearly forty years, but also on the development of higher education in Georgia during the twentieth century.

Privately known as "Izzy" to his students, Ingram led the college in offering desperately needed teacher training to the West Georgia region. Irvine S. Ingram was known for not bowing to the pressures of segregationists during the 1950s. His invitation to Atlanta editor Ralph McGill to speak at West Georgia College's 1959 commencement, the same year that McGill addressed the United Negro College Fund, was deplored by a local "states rights" organization. Ingram stood by his invitation and received numerous letters of support from lawyers, clergymen, and educators. He also smoothed over a local controversy in which a student teacher at the Sand Hill Elementary School refuted a book that made the claim that African Americans were mentally inferior to whites.

The Irvine S. Ingram Collection has been cataloged and currently contains fifty-one boxes of materials, mostly correspondence between Ingram and other educators, members of the Board of Regents, newspapermen, governors, and numerous movers and shakers in Georgia politics and education. A later accession of his collection is as yet unprocessed. Concurrent with the release of Ingram's papers is the conversion to DVD of a 1975 film entitled "I.S. Ingram a Great Georgian." Narrated by actor Lorne Greene, the film reviews Ingram's life, including interviews with Ingram himself, his family, and other educators, and also offers a good overview of the University of West Georgia's history. The thirty-minute film was part of a University of Georgia



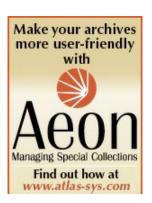




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series on "Great Georgians," including Carl Vinson, Lamar Dodd, and Benjamin Mays among others. The DVD is available in the library's general collection.

For the Irvine S. Ingram Collection finding aid, follow the Special Collections link on the Ingram Library website to the Special Collections LibGuide—University Archives

(http://libguides.westga.edu/data/files4/112809/IS\_Ingram.pdf). To make an appointment to view the collection (while the library is undergoing a renovation), as well as for additional information, contact Special Collections at (678) 839-6361 or sdurham@westga.edu.

# RECLAIMING THE PAST: CREATING ACCESS TO HIDDEN COLLECTIONS

The Georgia Historical Society successfully completed a two-year grant funded project entitled, *Reclaiming the Past: Creating Access to Hidden Collections*. Supported by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), the overall goal of GHS's *Reclaiming the Past* project is to maximize researcher access to archival resources hidden within GHS's backlog. *Reclaiming the Past* focused on completing an electronic backlog survey; reducing the existing backlog of unprocessed archival collections by 50% through the implementation of basic processing techniques; using basic processing techniques at the time of accession so collections are not added to the backlog; and identifying collections of high research value for future detailed processing projects.

Over the course of the grant term, GHS staff exceeded project goals making over 530 previously hidden collections available for research. The collections range from personal papers and organization records to photographs and postcards and cover dates from the Colonial era to the late 20<sup>th</sup> century.







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# ARCHIVISTS AWARDED THE JOSEPH CARDINAL BERNARDIN AWARD



Photo: Michael Alexander

Carolyn S. Denton, director of the Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta Archives and Records department, left, and Deacon Dennis Dorner, chancellor of the Archdiocese, hold the Joseph Cardinal Bernardin Award, which recognizes an exemplary Catholic archives program.

Carolyn S. Denton, director of the Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta Archives and Records department and Deacon Dennis Dorner, chancellor of the Archdiocese were presented the Joseph Cardinal Bernardin Award July 20 during the biennial meeting of the Association of Catholic Diocesan Archivists at the University of Saint Mary on the Lake, Mundelein, Ill.

Denton was hired in 2008 as the Archdiocese of Atlanta's first certified archivist. Prior to accepting her current position, she had been the University Archivist and Curator of Special Collections at Transylvania University, Lexington, Kentucky; Archivist and Records Manager for Blockbuster Entertainment in Fort Lauderdale, Florida; and Archivist for the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach in Palm Beach, Florida. She received her B.A. in Fine Arts and her M.S.L.S. with a concentration in Archival Management, both from the University of Kentucky.

The Archdiocese of Atlanta Archives, under her tenure, is currently being reorganized to offer better access to resources and expanding its responsibilities to include records management. While primarily serving the administrative needs of the Chancery, the Archives is open to the public for scholarly research.







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# **Georgia Offers First IPER Course**

By Christine Wiseman Georgia Archives

In September, Georgia held the first *Essential Records* webinar as part of a nationwide program intended to train government officials on essential records and emergency preparedness. The free webinar, developed by the Council of State Archivists (CoSA) and funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is offered as four live online sessions. Upon completion participants receive a certificate from CoSA that is certified by FEMA. There are spaces available for the next Georgia *Essential Records* class that is scheduled for October 13th, 15th, 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. For registration information go to <a href="http://rc.statarchivsts.org">http://rc.statarchivsts.org</a>. The second webinar, *Records Emergency Response and Recovery*, will be offered early in 2011.

Participants in the first Georgia class included county clerks, IT professionals, and records managers from local governments around Georgia. During the webinar participants learn to identify, protect, and provide access to essential government records in the event of an emergency. Participants have the opportunity to provide input through webinar features such as feedback tools, powerboards, an email chat, and verbal input through a conference line. During in-class and take home activities participants apply what they learned to their own organization. Short tests are given in sessions one and four to measure what was learned by participants. In the first webinar all participants improved their score for an average of a 34% improvement from the pre test to the post test. In addition, 70% answered 21 or more of the 25 questions correctly on the post test.

Feedback received from the first course was very positive. One comment noted, "I think the entire course was a good cornerstone in my understanding of essential records and protecting them". In addition, the reaction to the online teaching environment was positive. It may take a few minutes to get used to the technology and there can be technical glitches; however, the online format eliminates the need to travel to attend training during times of budget and staffing cuts.

In addition to certification from FEMA, the IPER staff is working on obtaining additional certifications for the courses. The International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) approved the courses for their certification program and granted Experience and Education points to the IPER webinars. Municipal Clerks who take the webinars will receive one Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) Experience point, or one Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) Advanced Education point, for every six hours of in-class contact. The IPER courses will also count toward the NAGARA local government archives and records administration certificate.

#### **About IPER**

Since 2008, the Council of State Archivists has lead the IPER project to develop and deliver Web- based training for state and local governments nationwide. This initiative is made possible by a \$2.6 million award from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The project involves







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developing the curriculum for three courses; one self paced online class, *Introduction to Records and Information Management*, and two live online webinars, *Essential Records* and *Record Emergency Preparedness and Response*. IPER is in the process of training state-based instructional teams through a series of regional train-the-trainer institutes. These training teams will go on to provide free training to government officials nationwide. For more information on the IPER project see http://rc.statearchivists.org.

# National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC)

A statutory body affiliated with the National Archives and Records Administration, NHPRC supports a wide range of activities to preserve, publish, and encourage the use of documentary sources relating to the history of the United States.

SGA Newsletter's Summer issue featured tips from Georgia archivists who received NHPRC grants. In this issue Barbara Petersohn, Digital Projects/Grants Librarian at Georgia State University shares her experiences.

Lessons from Our NHPRC Grant Writing Experience

Are you new to writing grants? I am. I've submitted only a few proposals nationally and locally, and have less experience with the process than I would like, and no experience with grant writing for historical or archival records preservation, collection digitization or description. So, completing a NHPRC (National Historical Publications and Records Commission) grant proposal this past spring, while daunting for me, was a great learning experience in how the grant writing process works at both my institution and with the NHPRC.

As the Digital Library Projects librarian at Georgia State University (GSU) Library, I consult with both archivists from the Special Collections and Liaison Librarians about potential digital collections. I also look for announcements of grant awards for digitization projects which are feasible for our staffing and resources. In early 2010, when the NHPRC announcement was circulated, our Southern Labor Archivist, Traci Drummond, proposed one of her collections, the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO) Records (1957-1985) as a likely candidate for this grant. Our proposal included digitizing eight of eighteen series from the union's national office records. Those particularly significant due to their scope and subject matter which included records that show the creation and early years of the organization through to the dissolution of the union by the United States government during the early months of the Reagan administration. The nature and size of the PATCO collection, its national significance seemed to us an excellent fit for the NHPRC grant for Digitizing Historical Records







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(http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/digitizing.html). What follows are my "take aways" from the experience which, I think, apply to the grant-writing process in general.

1) Before you begin writing, become familiar with your institution's process and time requirements for submitting a grant proposal. If you don't already know, find out which office at your institution coordinates grants. Get the name of a contact person and start asking questions. Of course, how grants are coordinated can vary greatly depending on the type and size of the institution, but even for smaller organizations, how the process works may not be obvious and you may have some detective work to do. A helpful contact person in the grants office can make all the difference in how easy or how difficult it is to complete the process and get administration to sign off on your proposal.

At GSU the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) coordinates the process for all the departments and colleges in the University. Some of my initial questions for my contact at OSP included: Who signs which documents? Who would be named as the project director? What kind of lead time is required to get administration's approval? What kind of information on the application form does OSP supply and what are they expecting me to supply? Going over the application item by item with my OSP contact seemed like the next logical step to me. But she's a very busy person (probably because of the number of grants in progress at my institution). And so, rather than a "sit down" meeting, I was asked to submit a draft application with as much information as possible, including all the narrative and budget sections, for the OSP to review. My OSP contact filled in the blanks and advised about corrections. I completed the initial draft to OSP about 2 weeks prior to the NHPRC deadline and about 3 days later my draft was returned with a list of changes.

The NHPRC guidelines required that we complete a Grants.gov application and provide certifications from university administration. These were also parts of the application that could only be supplied by our OSP. As dependent as we were on our OSP for information, input and approval, developing a good working relationship with this office was essential.

2) Early on, ask for copies of other proposals that were awarded grants, the winning proposals from the last few years. NHPRC will supply these to you on request. While winning proposals are a great way to get ideas for style and presentation, you will likely notice in looking them over that there are other important elements of the proposal that are not spelled out in the instructions. For example, while NHPRC suggested parameters of \$1 to \$4 dollars per scan is a competitive amount to budget for a scanning project, I noticed that in the in the budgets for the sample funded proposals we saw, this amount came in at somewhat less per scan. So, while cost did not drive the entire proposal, it







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did become an important consideration and prompted me to reconsider how to control costs in the budget.

- 3) Another factor to consider in laying out the proposal timeline is the time needed to submit draft versions of your grant for review and comments by the grantor. The NHPRC offers applicants the opportunity to have their grants reviewed by NHPRC staff about two months prior to the actual deadline. This pushed forward our writing deadline so that we would have a fairly coherent draft of the proposal ready to submit for this early review. ALWAYS take advantage of this kind of opportunity for feedback. The comments that came back for our proposal offered insight into what the grant reviewers might see as "red flags" in the application or where we were not fully addressing the questions asked.
- 4) Make grant writing a collaborative process and share your work. Once we parsed those sections of the narrative that each of us would complete, Traci and I shared the entire document using a networked drive so we could see each other's additions and changes. (In this era of cloud computing however, you really only need access to the internet and a free online application like Google Docs to collaborate and share versions of a lengthy document. There are many free applications out there that let you share documents: Google Docs, Yahoo! Groups, and wikis are just a few. In addition, we made sure our later versions on the shared drive were available to library administration for review and comment. My philosophy about the writing process has always been, the "more eyes that look at the document, the better" and this is true particularly for a document that represents and describes your organization: the more individuals from different areas who review and comment on the work, the better the chances of catching and correcting errors or misleading information. And, finally....
- 5) Consider the process of writing a grant as a discovery and learning opportunity-- an opportunity to learn in depth about your organization. While you're writing about your institution and your collections, even in small organizations, there's frequently a lot to learn below the surface about the history, policy, and strategic planning at your institution--topics that you may not think about until you are asked to write about them. Going through this process also builds a knowledge base of information that you can mine for other grants. In completing the grant narrative, you or your colleagues have written descriptions and discussions that may be appropriate for more than one proposal. So, even if you don't get the grant you submitted this time, you're better equipped, more knowledgeable, and more efficient at the process the next time you submit a proposal.

Good Luck!







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# **Scholarships**

Dear Society of Georgia Archivists,

I wanted to take some time to thank you for awarding me the Carroll Hart Scholarship to attend the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual Georgia Archives Institute.

When I first heard of the Georgia Archives Institute, I was still finishing up my degree, but my practicum supervisor, Sally Polhemus suggested that I should apply for it since I was moving to Georgia. She had wonderful things to say about it, and I decided that I would apply the following year. After I moved to Georgia, other archivists and members of the Society of Georgia Archivists encouraged me to apply.



Patricia Barahona and Leah Kim at the Georgia Archives for an impromptu study session

At this time, I had just started volunteering for the Southern Labor Archives with Traci Drummond who wrote the most flattering recommendation letter for this scholarship.



Getting ready to start class (pictured: Mona Vance, Melvin Collier, Leah Kim, Judy Ellis, Jenny Lowery, Hans Sprenkle) The program was amazing! While I did have some background in Archival theory, I feel that I gained more confidence in myself and in my opinions. It was amazing to work with so many people from so many backgrounds just as classmates, from people who had never stepped into an archive to those who currently

work with archival materials! I think my classmates really added to my understanding of every topic we covered as we constantly asked questions, gave examples and told stories about the organizations from which we came. Tim Ericson is the most amazing teacher! He always knew the answer, and my classmates and I often referred to him as "The King of the Archivists." He worked through case studies that were based on events in his work as an







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archivist, and there were always a number of incredible solutions offered by my fellow classmates.

We covered all the basics in this class, focusing a lot of time on appraisal since that what most of the students' question were about. But while covering topics like description, arrangement, legal issues and security, we were still able to tackle new topics like MPLP. Which is something, as a new archivist, I both like and fear. I think that the topics covered were comprehensive and gave



us a lot to discuss and think about as we returned to our own jobs.

My fellow classmates and I all felt a great bond after attending this program and that will only help increase our abilities as we now have friends to turn to when faced with any problems. We know how much just talking out each issue helps, just as it did when we were working on the case studies in class. I find that collaboration makes not only learning, but also working, more enjoyable, and I am truly thankful that

I was able to meet so many interesting and dedicated professionals. This program is an incredible opportunity, and I consider myself lucky to have attended.

I do wish there had been more to the preservation portion of the program. While I do feel I learned a great deal about preservation, in general, I was hoping for more hands on work. Christine Wiseman and Tina Seetoo knew more about preservation than I thought existed, and I was fascinated with the two ways of looking at preservation (from the management of the building to conservation). Their presentation was clear and the materials quiz was very informative, but it would have been nice to actually flatten a map or make a microform. There just wasn't time.



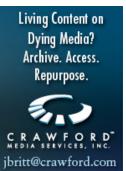
James Bryant Smith



My internship had a small problem since one of the donors involved thought the collection too important to let interns process it, but one of my classmates and I did get to help arrange the collection of James Bryant Smith, a member of the Tuskegee Airmen. Kelly Pepper, and other student







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at the institute and I spent our time opening and arranging the over 700 letters between James Bryant Smith and his wife, Florence. Wes Chenault was amazing at taking us around the building and explaining the ins and outs of, not only the buildings pros and cons, but also the new directions they are taking in moving materials around to make more space. While we didn't get to actually work on a full collection from beginning to end (that was his initial idea), he actually explained in detail how processing would be done from beginning to end. I do admit I was disappointed that we didn't get to work on the collection he intended us to work on, but his interest in teaching us what we needed to know was appreciated.

I left the Georgia Archives Institute feeling confident of not only what I learned, but about the profession. I am learning that the field changes and that we should always be thinking of new ways to process, and that knowing more and more people in the field helps us work out issues and problems. I now have a great group of friends that I can contact and talk about any archival issues I am facing and know that these people will feel confident contacting me.

I, again, want to thank you at the Society of Georgia Archivists and especially the Scholarship committee for allowing me this wonderful experience, and I hope to see you all in October, so I can thank you in person.

Thank you,

Laura Starratt



Taking intellectual control of the letters

# 10th Annual Auction for SGA Scholarship Funds

Where: The Stupendous Augusta Marriott Hotel & Suites in Historic

Downtown Augusta, Georgia

When: Thursday, October 28, 2010

Time: 6:00-7:30ish PM, somewhere after/during food and drink acquisition,

and somewhen before dispersal for general merriment...

From the desk of our aging auctioneer, the occasionally sentient Gilbert Head...







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As in years gone by, the proceeds of this auction will go towards the myriad scholarships and awards administered by the SGA, including our more recently created SGA-sponsored workshop scholarships. Additionally this year, in honor of co-hosting the annual meeting with our colleagues from the South Carolina Archival Association (SCAA), we will be making a substantial donation from the proceeds of the auction to benefit the scholarship opportunities fostered through SCAA.

As in years 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.

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 silver penny from the reign of Edward I of England (called Longshanks) 1272-1307



"Widow's Mite"; Bronze Prutah, Reign of Alexander Jannaeus, 103-76 BC. This coin represents one of the probable coins referred to in the Biblical parable of the Widow's Mite (Mark 12:41-44), as it was the smallest coin in circulation in the Holy Land at the time of Christ.











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**A Denarius of Septimius Severus** (Emperor 193-211 AD). This silver coin was the basic unit of exchange in Imperial Rome.





*Gyrate*, by Pylon (1980), First Pressing. This is a first impression of the premiere album from Pylon, one of the most influential bands to emerge from the golden age of new music in Athens, GA in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

# "Edwina the Sock Echidna and Octavia the Socktopus" Front and center in this year's "family portrait" below (and thanks to our local portraitist, Mary Linnemann):



Items can either be brought in person to the SGA Annual Meeting in October, or sent to the following address: Gilbert Head, University Archives, Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-1641. (Questions about the auction can be addressed to the same place, or to Gilbert Head at: <a href="mailto:eghead@uga.edu">eghead@uga.edu</a>). If you are bringing the item to Athens, please plan to drop it off at the auction table during registration. This table will also provide a place to make a "silent bid" for those unable or uninterested to participate in the live auction.

If you are planning to contribute something, please prepare a 3" X 5" card for each item with your name, a brief description and any details which you think might enhance sale of the item, whether you wish to target the proceeds to a specific fund (the <u>Carroll Hart Scholarship</u> to attend the Georgia Archives Institute; the <u>Larry Gulley Scholarship</u> to attend the Annual Meeting; the <u>Edward Weldon Scholarship</u> to attend







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the Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting; the <u>David B. Gracy II Award</u> [administered by the Editorial Board of *Provenance*] or our new Workshop Scholarships, and whether or not you wish to have an assigned minimum bid (though we ask that you limit this last request, as the object of the auction is to raise money for these various worthy funds). Remember also that this year, we will be donating a portion of our auction to our friends in SCAA for their scholarship programs.

And even those who do not donate can participate! Bring us your money (we'll be set up to take cash or checks, but not credit cards), and your finely honed bidding skills, and prepare to have a splendid time as we help our scholarship funds grow.

See y'all there/then.

For the SGA Scholarship committee, E. Gilbert Head, FoD (Friend of Dandy)

#### **Internet Corner**

Pamela Nye

### Watching Video Technology

For many archivists, audio and visual material are not formats that they work with often. There are audio/visual archivists out there who are familiar with these formats and manage them on a daily basis. However, lone arrangers or small work groups may not handle these formats often enough (yet). It is important to be at ease with multiple data formats, both traditional (paper) or modern (digital), especially as more information arrives at the repository digitally packaged. The websites below provide a handy guide for those unfamiliar with the intricacies of the a/v format, as well as a brief overview of new developments coming down the video format pike.

### **Digital Media Primer for Geeks**

http://xiph.org/video/index.shtml.en

http://wiki.xiph.org/A Digital Media Primer For Geeks %28episode 1%29 This first video from xiph.org covers basic concepts of how digital audio and video are encoded. The intent of the video series (in addition to general education) is to spur interest in digital encoding and get more free software hackers involved in digital audio/video. The program offers a brief history of digital media, a quick summary of the sampling theorem, and myriad details of low level audio and video characterization and formatting. It is intended for budding geeks looking to get into video coding, as well as the technically curious who want to know more about the media they wrangle for work or play. It is a very technical, yet humorous, explanation of the formats.

# **Content-based image retrieval**

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Content-based\_image\_retrieval http://cbir.info/articles/







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# **Video and Image Retrieval and Analysis Tool (VIRAT)**

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/09/01/darpa\_vid\_search\_dough/http://www.networkworld.com/community/node/65768

The US military is inundated with video from airborne unmanned aircraft, remote monitoring systems and security outposts. In an effort to speed up the processing and analyzing of all this video, researchers at Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) awarded an almost \$11 million contract to open source software vendor Kitware to help develop what DARPA calls its Video and Image Retrieval and Analysis Tool (VIRAT) program. According to DARPA, the software tools developed under VIRAT will radically improve the analysis of huge volumes of video data by: alerting operators when specific events or activities occur at specific locations or over a range of locations and; enabling fast, content-based searches of existing video archives. DARPA said it is looking for innovative algorithms for activity representation, matching and recognition which can support both indexing and retrieval. The current work is expected to be completed by February 2012.

# P2P (Peer-to-Peer)-Next integrated project

http://www.p2pnext.org/

P2P-Next is a European Union Framework 7 supported project that is intended to produce a new platform architecture for peer-to-peer digital media distribution of video on demand, via streaming media based on BitTorrent technology that is capable of supporting multiple business models. The core software is free and open source software. The P2P-Next Consortium currently covers 21 partners from 12 countries. This new technology allows everyone to broadcast a live stream, such as a webcam feed, to thousands of people, using around the same amount of bandwidth you would use to stream to one or two people. On September 27, 2010, P2P-Next announced that the latest August release of the NextShare P2P (Peer-to-Peer) based content distribution platform is now available at the project's web site. The latest features of the NextShare release can be tested globally as a part of the "labs" project in Wikimedia sites, for details see http://techblog.wikimedia.org/.







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# **WebM Project**

# http://www.webmproject.org/

WebM is an open, royalty-free, media file format designed for the web. WebM defines the file container structure, video and audio formats. WebM files consist of video streams compressed with the VP8 video codec and audio streams compressed with the Vorbis audio codec. The WebM launch is supported by Mozilla, Opera, Adobe, Google and more than forty other publishers, software and hardware vendors. It is optimized for serving video on the web, such as enabling playback on any device, including low-power netbooks, handhelds, tablets, etc., as well as providing simple container format and highest quality real-time video delivery.

#### **MPEG LA**

# http://www.mpegla.com/main/default.aspx

MPEG LA, LLC, is a Denver-based firm that licenses patent pools covering essential patents required for use of the MPEG-2, MPEG-4 Visual (Part 2), IEEE 1394, VC-1, ATSC and AVC/H.264 standards. MPEG LA is not affiliated with MPEG, the Moving Picture Experts Group.

#### MPEG LA vs. WebM Articles

"MPEG LA counters Google WebM with permanent royalty moratorium" (8/2010)

http://arstechnica.com/media/news/2010/08/mpeg-la-counters-google-webm-with-permanent-royalty-moratorium.ars

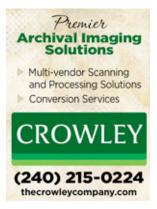
The MPEG Licensing Association—the group responsible for handling the necessary patent licensing for use of MPEG video codec standards—has announced that it will not charge royalties for AVC/H.264 encoded video that is made available to view via the Internet for free. The group earlier this year had extended its limited moratorium on licensing fees for free Internet video until the end of 2015.

"MPEG LA Extends Web Video Licensing Moratorium Until the End of Time"

http://www.webmonkey.com/2010/08/mpeg-la-extends-web-video-licensing-moratorium-until-the-end-of-time/ (8/26/2010)

The MPEG Licensing Association (MPEG LA) holds patents on AVC/H.264, the most widely-used video format on the web. The group announced earlier this year that it would extend a moratorium on royalty fees for H.264 videos on the web from 2011 until the end of 2015. Thursday's announcement extends this royalty-free period for "the entire life of [the AVC Patent Portfolio] license." This means that as long as H.264/AVC videos are around, publishers can post them on web pages and people can watch them in their browsers without having to pay any licensing fees.







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"H.264: Free forever for free video streaming"

http://news.cnet.com/8301-30685 3-20014864-264.html (8/26/2010)

The group that licenses patents for the widely used H.264 video encoding and streaming technology has committed to charge no royalties ever for use by Web sites that use it for freely available video. In February, the MPEG LA previously had declared free streaming wouldn't require royalty payments through December 31, 2015. On Thursday, it lifted that limit forever, a move that could remove some hesitation to use H.264, also known as AVC, on Web sites.

"MPEG LA tries free as in beer against WebM"

http://www.zdnet.com/blog/open-source/mpeg-la-tries-free-as-in-beer-against-webm/7238 (8/27/2010)

MPEG LA, a Denver-based company, claims members of its association hold patents that would cover Google's VP8, the heart of WebM, and any other video codec programmers might seek to create.

### **Preservation News**

Jessica Leming

Preservation News is a quarterly column intended to disseminate timely and newsworthy information about preservation in libraries and archives. Please submit your preservation news to jessica.leming@lyrasis.org

# Wet book Salvage Videos

Heritage Preservation (HP) has launched four videos about simple book salvage techniques designed for a general audience. The videos run less than 30 seconds each and demonstrate how to rinse dirty books, dry damp books, dry wet books, and freeze books to gain time.

The videos and simple tips are available at <a href="https://www.heritagepreservation.org/savewet-books/index.html">www.heritagepreservation.org/savewet-books/index.html</a>.

#### Sustainable environments

The Image Permanence Institute (IPI) will present the two-day workshop "Sustainable Preservation Practices for Managing Storage Environments" five times between October 2010 and April 2011. Supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the workshop is designed to help staff provide safe environments for the cultural objects in their care while reducing energy consumption and costs.

Upcoming dates:

October 28–29, 2010, at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut December 6–7, 2010, at the Minnesota Historical Society in St. Paul, Minnesota

February 10–11, 2011, at the Georgia Archives in Morrow, Georgia







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March or April 2011 at the University of California-Los Angeles Speakers include James Reilly of IPI and Peter Herzog of Herzog/Wheeler and Associates. The workshop is free of charge, but participants must pay travel expenses. For more information, go to <a href="https://www.ipisustainability.org">www.ipisustainability.org</a>. a

# **Storage strategies**

The Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts (CCAHA) is offering a two-day workshop, "A Space Odyssey: Storage Strategies of Cultural Collections," October 12–13, 2010, in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The workshop will cover the essentials of collections storage in institutions of all sizes, including allocating resources and funds, space planning, environmental considerations, understanding HVAC systems, selecting off-site storage, retrofitting less than ideal spaces, visible storage, and moving collections.

The workshop costs \$225 for CCAHA and Midwest Art Conservation Center members and \$250 for nonmembers. The registration deadline is September 28. For more information and to register, go to <a href="https://www.ccaha.org/education/program-calendar">www.ccaha.org/education/program-calendar</a>.

LYRASIS Preservation fall classes. All classes are in Eastern time. <a href="https://www.lyrasis.org">www.lyrasis.org</a>

UNDERSTANDING DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS (LIVE ONLINE) Friday, October 12. 2 to 4 pm

CARING FOR SCRAPBOOKS (Live Online) Wednesday, October 13. 10 am to 12 pm

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTIONS: ACCESS AND STANDARDS (Live Online)

Tuesday, October 19. 10 am to 12 pm

INTRODUCTION TO GRANTS FOR PRESERVATION (Live Online) Wednesday, October 20. 10 am to 12 pm

PRESERVATION AND SALVAGE OF AUDIOVISUAL MATERIALS (Live Online)

Monday, October 26. 2 to 4 pm

PLANNING FOR A SERVICE DISRUPTION (Live Online) Thursday, November 4. 2 to 4 pm

ARCHIVES PRESERVATION (Live Online) Thursday, November 4, 11 and 18. 2 - 4 pm

BASIC DIGITAL STEWARDSHIP (Live Online) Tuesday, November 9. 2 to 4 pm







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CARING FOR ORIGINALS DURING SCANNING PROJECTS (Live Online)

Wednesday, November 10. 2 - 4 pm

EMERGENCY 911: DISCION MAKING FOR MANAGERS (Live Online) Tuesday, November 16. 2 to 4 pm

TURNING OUTREACH INTO DOLLARS (Live Online) Thursday, December 1. 2 to 4 pm

PRESERVATION MANAGEMENT (Live Online) Wednesday, December 2, 9 and 16. 10 am to 12 pm

PRESERVING ORAL HISTORIES (Live Online) Wednesday, December 15. 2 to 4 pm

# **Institutional Profile**

by Luciana M. Spracher

The Salvation Army Southern Historical Center Evangeline Booth College

Michael Nagy, Director and Archivist

Mailing Address: 1032 Metropolitan Parkway SW, Atlanta, GA 30310

Telephone: (404) 752-7578

Email: Historical\_Center@uss.salvationarmy.org Website: www.salvationarmyhistory.org



The Salvation Army Southern Historical Center Logo. Courtesy of the Salvation Army Southern Historical Center, Evangeline Booth College.







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The Salvation Army Southern Historical Center is located on the campus of Evangeline Booth College in Atlanta, Georgia. The Southern Historical Center was established in 1986 with a mission to "COLLECT, DESCRIBE, PRESERVE and INTERPRET historical materials that document the mission of The Salvation Army and to make these resources accessible for scholarship, Salvation Army programming, and education of the public."



The Salvation Army Southern Historical Center. Photograph courtesy of the Salvation Army Southern Historical Center, Evangeline Booth College.

The Southern Historical Center includes a research facility and museum, staffed by one archivist and one assistant. The collections include about 7,000 square feet or 1,500 linear feet of Salvation Army organizational records, visual materials, artifacts, publications and ephemera with a main focus on the American South. There are also regional historical centers in the Northeast (West Nyack, New York), the Midwest (Des Plaines, Illinois), and the West (Rancho Palos Verdes, California). About 95% of the reference and research requests handled by staff are received remotely. 75% are internal research requests, while 25% are public and scholarly inquiries.







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The Salvation Army Southern Historical Center archives storage. Photograph courtesy of the Salvation Army Southern Historical Center, Evangeline Booth College.

Archivist William Nagy enjoys the freedom and flexibility that comes with being a "Lone Arranger," but acknowledges it poses a challenge to not become isolated and requires extra effort to keep ahead in professional development. Working for a non-profit keeps him in contact with people who enjoy their work and whose primary goal is helping others. He says the non-profit world is not that much different from the corporate one, internal requests still come with deadlines (usually already past) that call on him to be archivist, researcher and historian.

The Center's most common reference question relates to a supposed one-word telegram said to have been sent out by Salvation Army founder William Booth to all his officers that simply said "OTHERS." Nagy says, "Do we have it? No, never seen a copy. If so many telegrams were sent by the leader all over the world, don't you think one would survive? It didn't happen – but we can't get anyone to believe it didn't."







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Salvation Army Museum hall and exhibits. Photograph courtesy of the Salvation Army Southern Historical Center, Evangeline Booth College.

The museum area features several permanent and temporary exhibits. "Pilgrimage to Discovery" is a 3,670 square foot permanent historical exhibit which interprets the Victorian English origins of the Salvation Army and traces its arrival and development through the United States and the South. Additional exhibits include, "From Help to Hope" about Salvation Army social work, and "International Issues" about Salvation Army stamps.

# Planning a visit?

The Salvation Army Southern Historical Center is open to the public, generally Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., appointments are recommended.

Special thanks to Michael Nagy for his cooperation in the preparation of this institutional profile.

# **Membership Spotlight**

Nora Lewis

Name: Courtney Chartier, CA







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SGA Member since: 2007

Job Title: Assistant Head, Archives

Research Center

Place of Employment: Atlanta University

Center Robert W. Woodruff Library

Years in Current Position: 5 months

Job Description:

Basically, I am responsible for overseeing the processing of collections. Of course, the reality is that I also do reference, help with appraisal, plan and execute programming, and collaborate with our digital services unit and committee throughout the library. I also still administer a CLIR processing grant.

#### Education:

MS, Information Studies, University of Texas at Austin, 2006 MS, Southern Studies, University of Mississippi, 2003 BA, American Studies, University of Texas at Austin, 2001

# Other Work Experience:

Project Archivist, Voter Education Project Organizational Records, Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library, 2009-2010 Processing Archivist, Morehouse College Martin Luther King, Jr. Collection, Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library, 2007-2009 Archives Assistant, Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin, 2003-2007

#### Professional Memberships:

Academy of Certified Archivists Society of American Archivists Co-Chair, Archives and Archivists of Color Roundtable Steering Committee/Webmaster, Issues & Advocacy Roundtable Society of Georgia Archivists Chair, Outreach Committee

Most Enjoyable Aspect of Your Job:









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Working reference again! I do love processing, but taking calls and pulling books is not only a nice change of pace, but also a good reminder of who I'm processing for.

Alternative Career Path (not in archives):

I initially trained as a historian. Had I not moved to Archives, I would have sought a PhD entered academia.

Favorite Pastimes:

Eating and drinking Any novel with a hard-drinking detective Texas Longhorn football

Comments on the Profession Today:

I have a love/hate relationship with the profession. I'm frequently inspired by the work of others, but frustrated by a culture of lethargy and what I perceive to be a lack of volunteerism in the profession. Advocacy is everyone's responsibility.

### ALABAMA UPDATE

Tim L. Pennycuff, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Meeting of the Southern Archives Conference

Over 100 archivists, librarians, and museum professionals met recently at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens for the biennial meeting of the Southern Archives Conference (SAC). In addition to Alabama, the conference had participants from Tennessee, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Georgia, and Illinois. Meeting attendees enjoyed the city's beautiful gardens – despite an unusually late September heat wave – and a visit to the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame where the Alabama Museums Association hosted a reception in their honor.

Thursday's keynote luncheon address was presented by Dr. John Floyd, Jr., editor and senior horticulturalist with *Southern Living* magazine. Friday's farewell address was presented by Fred Spicer, Jr., executive director of the Friends of the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. Docent guided tours were offered of the grounds and the garden's Japanese Tea House, and the library and the Archives and Rare Book Room were open for tours. For more information on the Archives and Rare Book Room, see <a href="http://www.bbgardens.org/library-rare.php">http://www.bbgardens.org/library-rare.php</a>.







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Representatives from the four member organizations of SAC, the archival societies of Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Alabama, held a business meeting, as did the Society of Alabama Archivists.

The next SAC meeting will be held in Mississippi in 2012.

# **Washington Beat**

By Jim Cross

NATIONAL ARCHIVES BUDGET: The Senate Appropriations Committee cleared the bill that includes funding for the National Archives and NHPRC. The House Financial Service and General Government Appropriations Subcommittee cleared it version of the bill the same day. The Senate version would cut NARA's budget by 5.4% to \$432 million for FY2011 and is \$13.5 million less than the amount requested by President Obama. ERA would be cut by \$13.5 million and NHPRC would be funded at \$10 million, \$3 million less than this year. The House version of the bill cuts NARA's budget by 6.7% (\$30.6 million) and is \$20 million less than the President's request. In addition the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee's mark up of the NHPRC reauthorization bill has been postponed indefinitely. OTHER ARCHIVES NEWS: The National Archives announced on June 30, 2010 that the 1297 copy of the Magna Carta on loan from David Rubenstein of the Carlyle Group would be given a new exhibit area that would include a \$322,800 state-of-the-art encasement. The new case will be a collaboration between the Archives and the National Institute of Standards and Technology and will be based on information gleaned during their 2001 re-encasement of the Charters of Freedom. ... On July 2, 2010 the Nixon Presidential Library released nearly 100,000 pages for research, most of which came from the White House office files of Daniel Patrick Movnihan and deal with welfare reform, population control, civil rights, environmental policy and drug control. Also released were formally classified security records relating to the 1973 Arab-Israeli War as well as material relating to United States-United Kingdom relations, Soviet-Israeli relations, Berlin, Soviet strategic weapons, and the Vietnam War. In addition, 47 video oral histories were released which include interviews with Robert Bork, Bob Dole, Richard Cheney, Charles







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Colson, Trent Lott, Jeb Stuart Magruder, Daniel Schorr, and William Safire. ... On July 12, 2010 the Employee Viewpoint Survey conducted by the Office of Personnel Management was released. NARA tied for last (with the Department of Housing and Urban Development) in the overall rankings of employee satisfaction and commitment. ... A number of Web-related initiatives were announced in July. The Archives web site is undergoing revision, a more user-friendly version of the online Federal Register was released, and a new wiki to allow members of the public, researchers, and staff to share their knowledge of NARA's holdings was opened for use. On September 20, 2010 the Archives unveiled DocTeach, an interactive online tool that helps teachers teach specific historical thinking skills using documents from the Archives. ... The Huntington Library transferred the original Nuremberg Laws to NARA on August 25, 2010. The Laws, given to the Huntington by General George S. Patton in 1945, provided the legal blueprint for the persecution of Jews in Germany. They join other materials relating to the Holocaust that were collected for the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials and then deposited in the Archives. They will be on display from October 6-18, 2010 at Archives I. ... On September 21, 2010 NARA released a report looking at the use of Web 2.0 tools in the U.S. government. The report concluded records created should continue to be evaluated using traditional archival values. It suggested that there should be a clarification of the legal definition of a record, indicated that there was a need for records management to be integrated into agency social media policies, and that there also needed to be policies and procedures for the transfer of permanent Web 2.0 records to the Archives. The following day NARA issued its guidelines for the use of cloud computing in the federal government.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NEWS: On July 2, 2010 the Library of Congress announced that hyperspectral imaging of Thomas Jefferson's rough draft of the Declaration of Independence showed that he had substituted the word "citizens" for "subjects" in the draft. The sentence in the draft was not used in the final version of the Declaration but the idea of the people of the United States being "citizens" rather than "subjects" did. ... Photographer Carol Highsmith has launched her 21<sup>st</sup> Century America Project, an effort to document the cities, towns, countryside and people of present day America on state-by-state basis. Her first group of digital images documenting Alabama was made available to the public via the Library's Prints and Photographs Online Catalog starting August 11, 2010. The results of this project will be donated to the Library to join the others that she has given to the Library copyright free—since 1992. ... The National Recording Preservation Board released a report on recorded sound preservation in the United States on September 29, 2010. It outlines problems facing the preservation of sound recordings, among them lack of programs to train sound recording preservation professionals, copyright restrictions on making preservation copies, a lack of holdings knowledge on the part of repositories, and







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insufficient resources. The report will be the basis for a national preservation plan to be published later this year.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS: On July 27, 2010 Congressman Jason Chaffetz of Utah introduced H.R. 5865, the Stop Wasting Archive Grants Act of 2010. It would forbid the Archivist of the United States from making any grants to preserve or publish non-Federal records. There were eight co-sponsors including Congressman Joe Wilson from South Carolina.

DECLASSIFICATION AND FOIA: The National Declassification Center issued its first status report on July 23, 2010. It covers the first six months of 2010. Almost 8 million pages were declassified and made available for research during this period. A draft declassification prioritization plan was offered for public comment and the Center is currently working on the final version. They have also established a website to provide information and a blog to encourage comments at <a href="www.archives.gov/declassification">www.archives.gov/declassification</a>. ... ISOO released a report on security classification activity expenditures for FY2009, finding that the estimated \$8.81 billion spent on such activities was an increase of 2% over that spent in FY2008. The increases came in the areas of Personnel Security and Information Security. It should be noted that this estimate does not include the costs estimates of the intelligence agencies, which are classified.

OTHER NEWS: The National Library of Medicine's History of Medicine Division released a prototype of its History of Medicine Finding Aids Consortium (<a href="www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/consortium/index.html">www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/consortium/index.html</a>) on August 31, 2010. It allows researchers to search across finding aids relating to the history of medicine at NLM, Columbia University, Johns Hopkins, the University of California-San Francisco, the University of Virginia, and Virginia Commonwealth University.







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