

SOCIETY OF GEORGIA ARCHIVISTS MAGAZINE

Vol. 1, Winter 2023
www.soga.org



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- Nominating Committee members:** Cathy Miller (Past President Chair), Alex McGee, Laura Starratt



The 2023 SGA Board

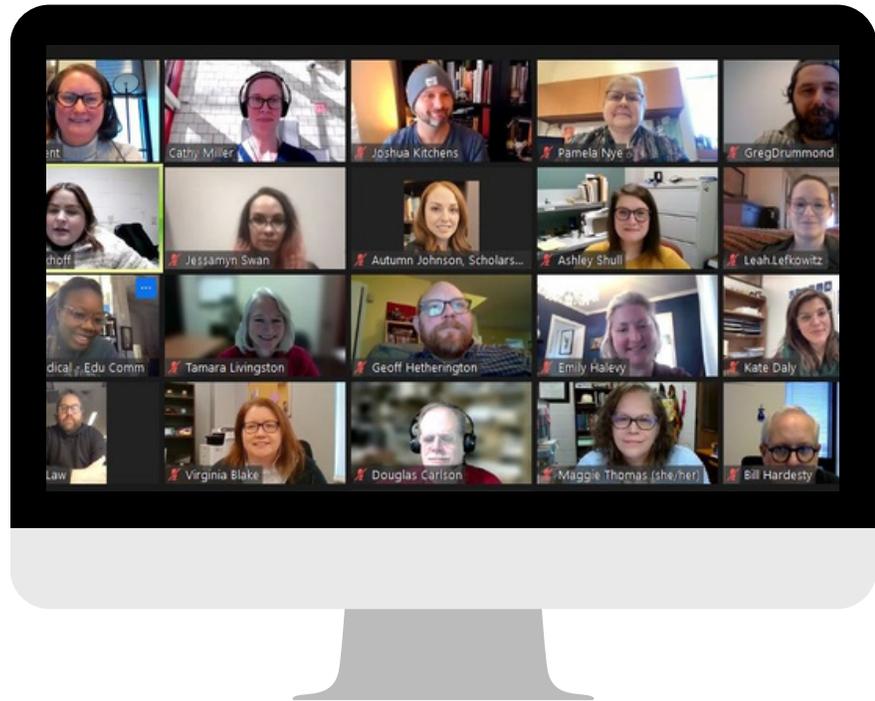


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SGA ADVOCACY AND CHANGE IN 2022

BY CATHY MILLER
2022 SGA PRESIDENT

Last year as president of the Society of Georgia Archivists (SGA), I was invited to the Fox Theatre’s “Archives Night” event. This was a compelling event that highlighted the Fox Theatre’s archival collections and raised awareness for the work of archives and archivists in general. I open this annual SGA Magazine past president’s address by sharing this vignette from 2022 as it highlights one of the most important components of the work that we do. Without advocacy and awareness of archives, which is what this event at the Fox Theatre brought to the fore, so much of the work that we do as archivists is cloaked in the shadows. It was so refreshing to see the word “Archives” on the Fox Theatre marquee on Peachtree Street, advertising to the Atlanta community that something special was happening inside and hopefully making some passersby wonder “Huh, what is an archives?” and maybe proceed to Google that very same question.



SGA ADVOCACY IN 2022 CONTINUED

As we dive into the year 2023, the work of advocacy and awareness of archives remains paramount here in Georgia and beyond. Where the FY2023 Federal budget is concerned, advocacy on the part of the National Coalition for History, the National Humanities Alliance, other groups, and everyday archivists appears to have paid off. Across the board, Federal agencies involved in archival work saw increases in their [budgets](#). Here in Georgia, as of November 2022, the Attorney General's office was notified that several [education and civil rights groups intend to sue](#) to overturn the Protect Students First Act that was signed into law last April. The SGA Board issued a [statement](#) in opposition to this law, which prohibits the teaching of what it terms "divisive concepts" pertaining to race and racism in public kindergarten through 12th grade classrooms. I am unaware if a lawsuit has actually been filed but regardless, this is a story we should all keep an eye on in 2023. Also, if you are looking to sharpen your legislative outreach and advocacy skills in 2023, SGA has a dedicated [webpage](#) with information and resources that will help you in communicating the importance of the work that archivists do to your legislators.

Alongside archival advocacy happenings, 2022 saw SGA embracing change. In many ways, the changes were small. Our ["Georgia Archival Repositories" page](#) on our website has been edited in order to provide more up-to-date contact information for archival repositories around the state. We are continuing the "pay-what-you-can" model of [membership](#) implemented in 2022 in response to the ongoing impacts of the pandemic on library and archives workers. For contingent & part-time employment and the precariously employed, we hope the "pay-what-you-can" option allows you to consider (and continue) membership with SGA. Last year, the SGA Board eliminated our P.O. Box for mailing. Instead, the mailing address of our Treasurer is made available at the point of payment for new member applications, membership renewals, and for any event registrations. We hope that this change in mailing procedure has not detrimentally impacted any members and welcome you to [contact us](#) to let us know if you have had any problems with mailing checks/invoices/etc.

Alongside these small changes, we had big ones. Where our annual meeting was concerned, the change was seismic. We successfully pulled off our very first hybrid meeting, holding both virtual and in-person sessions and livestreaming some of the in-person content for our virtual attendees. The planning process for this meeting was one that came with a heavy learning curve for our Program and Local Arrangements Committee Chairs & committee members. I cannot say enough fine words about the work of both of these committees in making our 2022 annual meeting happen. In another exciting change, 2022 saw the first offering of a [digitization grant](#) opportunity through the Georgia Archives Month Subcommittee in partnership with the Digital Library of Georgia. I hope that this marks the first year of many more digitization grant opportunities that SGA will be able to offer. From our [strategic plan](#) goal of fiscal sustainability, we will need to see what 2023 holds for us financially, but I sincerely hope that we will see this opportunity returning in the fall as part of our Georgia Archives Month activities.

SGA ADVOCACY IN 2022 CONTINUED

Behind all of the changes discussed above is the hard work of the [2022 SGA Board members](#) and [committee volunteers](#). There will never be enough good words in the dictionary to express my thanks to the Board. Our Education Committee brought three innovative and new educational workshop opportunities to the table. The Scholarship Committee selected amazing award recipients, many of them new professionals who I am excited to see continue their contributions in the archival field. Membership Committee absolutely rocked it with amazing tour offerings at the L.P. Grant Mansion, the Booth Western Art Museum and Bartow History Museum, and the Delta Flight Museum. The Outreach Committee carried the bulk of creating our statement of opposition to the Protect Students First Act. They also held an awesome [virtual brown bag lunch](#) highlighting the work of several archival repositories in Middle Georgia. Alongside the digitization grant mentioned above, the Georgia Archives Month Subcommittee awarded not one but two [“Spotlight on Archives”](#) grants! Also mentioned above, the Annual Meeting Program and Local Arrangements Committees did the hard work of making our hybrid annual meeting happen – kudos to them! Alongside our annual meeting committees, our Vendor Coordinator also deserves recognition for their hard work in bringing knowledgeable archives vendor professionals to the annual meeting for us to all benefit and learn from. In these pandemic years where we are all exhausted and stretched thin, recruiting for professional service has become an immense challenge. However, the Nominating Committee prevailed and we have a full SGA Board heading into 2023 as well as a new SGA Fellow.

All of our Board members stepped up to the plate last year, no questions asked. Our Communications Director single handedly put together the 2022 SGA Magazine and it was a masterpiece. The Archivist is working hard to see that our organization’s archives is in order as well as implementing better records management practices. The Website Manager kept you all up-to-date and informed with timely website updates. Our Administrative Assistant, one of the more behind the scenes roles on the Board, kept SGA going strong with their membership management responsibilities. The Treasurer helped to streamline our budget process and implement basic financial literacy training for Board members. The activities of the SGA Board would be a mystery to all without the work of our Secretary who takes our [meeting minutes](#) and posts them on the website – thank you! Our Mentoring Program Coordinator did amazing work in continuing to build SGA’s [mentor program](#) – I’m excited to see where we go from here. Our RAAC Liaison kept you informed of discussions happening via the Regional Archival Associations Consortium’s listserv. [Provenance](#), SGA’s journal, saw the successful delivery of two volumes this year under the leadership of the Provenance Editor and editorial board members. And to all of the assistant roles on the Board, thank you for engagement and shared perspectives during our Board meetings. Last but not least, the SGA members who volunteered to serve on our committees deserve a call out for their commitment to service. Thank you for your time and your willingness to help make SGA the best organization it can be for its members.

This laundry list of Board roles and their accomplishments given above is written out in part as a love letter by me to express my gratitude to the 2022 Board. It is also enumerated so as to demonstrate to all SGA members the hard work that goes into what the SGA Board does. As archivists, we are all familiar with the majority of our work being invisible labor. That’s also the case for the professional service of archivists in archival associations. Just as we need to advocate and raise awareness for our archives, we must also remember to advocate for ourselves as workers and amplify messaging to our respective employers’ administrations about all of the work that we do. I will always celebrate my fellow Board members and committee volunteers so as to let them know that their work is seen and that they are appreciated. I hope you will join me in that celebration as we embark on another year of exciting SGA educational and networking opportunities.

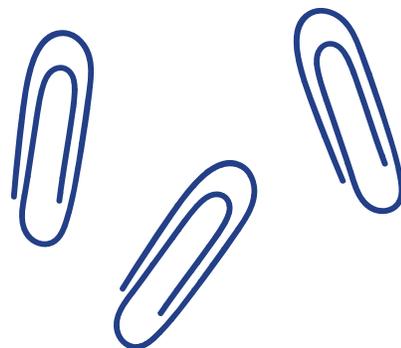
RECONSTRUCTING SGA IN 2023

BY CHRISTINA ZAMON, 2023 SGA PRESIDENT

After emerging from a nearly three-year long pandemic into 2023, it is time to reflect on how SGA has survived and thrived through this unique challenge. As we move into the next year the organization is now looking at a “post-pandemic reconstruction” era where we need to seriously assess what has happened over these last few years within the organization, the adaptations that were made, and how we take the good changes, and perhaps shed some of our old traditions and ways of doing things in the wake of such sudden and traumatic change.

Before the pandemic hit, way back in 2017, there was discussion about SGA’s finances with a suggestion that we talk with a financial advisor to help guide us in how to best use our finances while keeping our membership and meeting costs reasonable for our members. During our two years of online only conferences, which helped to significantly reduce our costs, we went all in this year on the hybrid conference model knowing full-well that it would be a budget buster and oh-boy was it! Even beyond the cost, the vast amount of energy and effort expended by our board members and volunteers took quiet an emotional toll. As a result, we will be looking towards 2023 as an opportunity to revisit how we do things.

Originally the plan for 2023 was to hold a joint conference with the Georgia Library Association, however, with several board positions unfilled, the SGA board decided that it was best to hold off. This leaves us with two major issues to resolve: board recruitment and the annual meeting. As we know, “quiet quitting” is all the rage and many of us are burnt out even if we aren’t participating in quiet quitting. Taking on more responsibilities that are unpaid, even if they are for the good of the profession, aren’t top of mind for most folks. The result is that we are seeing primarily academic archivists filling those vacant board roles because as part of their faculty status they are required to do some sort of service to the profession. While it may fill the board positions, this trend doesn’t fulfill our strategic goals of diversity and inclusion but rather further restricts our leadership.



Reconstructing SGA in 2023 Continued

As our board slowly comes together for 2023, we also need to seriously consider what our annual meeting will look like this year, and perhaps, into the future. On top of the less-than-affordable location, inflation and technology needs significantly increased our costs beyond pre-pandemic levels. All of this is causing us to revisit the annual meeting structure and needs in an effort to reduce our costs for venues, catering, and technology needs. We need to figure out how to best balance these needs and costs while meeting our members expectations. Several ideas have been floated such as shorter in-person annual meetings with virtual options at other times of the year to break up the hybrid model as well as joint meetings with other allied organizations within and outside of Georgia.

Getting back to the money side of things, it is now time for SGA to act on its original intention to work with a financial advisor to put our money to work for us while providing our members with what they need and expect from their membership organization. As a result, you may see a variety of surveys this year seeking input from the membership asking how best to move forward with board reorganization to increase participation and inclusion as well as serving your professional goals through education and networking opportunities. I look forward to working with the board as well as the membership to guide SGA through this post-pandemic reconstruction. While this year may be a bit bumpy, and once again, unusual, just know that working together we will create a stronger and better organization in the end.



2022 Year in Review

Congratulations to the 2022 SGA Scholarship Recipients!

Camilla Stegall, Kennesaw State University
Carroll Hart Scholarship
For attendance at the Georgia Archives Institute

Madison Mosely, Digital Library of Georgia
Brenda S. Banks Educational Workshop Scholarship
For attendance at the SGA-sponsored Spring/Summer Workshop

Monet Lewis-Timmons, University of Delaware
Taronda Spencer Award
To provide a non-member or out of state archivist to attend the SGA Annual Meeting

Nina K. Guzman, Athens-Clarke County Library
Larry Gulley Scholarship
For attendance at the SGA Annual Meeting

SGA has a vibrant and active scholarship program to enable students and archivists to attend workshops, local and national conferences, and the Georgia Archives Institute. Monetary donations to SGA's scholarship funds are always welcome. For information on how to apply or donate to a scholarship, please visit the [SGA Website](#).

SGA's 2022 Annual Meeting

October 26-28, 2022
Jekyll Island Club Resort, Georgia

Sustaining Archives: Practical Solutions for the Future

SGA hosted its' first hybrid conference in 2022. Sessions were conducted online and in-person.



SGA Remembers Edward LaRue Weldon (1936-2022)



Edward Weldon speaking at SGA's
2009 Annual Conference,
Savannah, GA

It is with a heavy heart that we mourn the passing of Edward Weldon, former director of the Georgia Archives, Founding President of SGA, and 37th president of SAA from 1981-1982. He was also an SGA and SAA Fellow.

Edward Weldon attended Oberlin College, earning his BA in economics. He went on to earn MA and PhD degrees in history from Emory University and studied archives administration at American University and the Georgia Archives Institute. He taught history at Converse College, Emory University, and Georgia State University. Weldon was a pioneering leader in government archives for the states of Georgia and New York as well as the National Archives more broadly. He was the first southeastern regional archivist for the National Archives at its federal records center in East Point, Georgia. From Georgia, Weldon moved to Washington, DC, to become head of the appraisal division at the National Archives. After this, he was appointed first archivist of the State of New York, where he oversaw the archives' move to a new facility. Returning to Washington as Deputy Archivist of the United States, Weldon also acted as a delegate for the US State Department to Paris for a UNESCO conference on archives. After completing his work in Washington, Weldon became head of the Georgia Department of Archives and History. There, he established the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board.

Among his other accomplishments, Weldon received a Governor's Award in the Humanities from the Georgia Humanities Council, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board, and, with his wife Lilla Jane Powers Weldon, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries. The Society of Georgia Archivists' Edward Weldon Scholarship, was created in his honor in 2000, it covers registration for an SGA member to attend SAA's annual meeting.

Weldon served as editor of *American Archivist* from 1972–1975, SAA Council member from 1975–1979, and president from 1981–1982. His presidential address, "[Archives and the Challenges of Change](#)," was given in Boston's historic Faneuil Hall on October 19, 1982 and called for archivists to consider and plan for the impacts of the information revolution of the 1980s on the archival profession. He became an SAA Fellow in 1974. Weldon is survived by his wife, Jane; sons Richard Lawrence Weldon and his wife, Angelia; and Edward Samuel Weldon and his wife, Arianne; grandsons Daniel Parsons and his wife, Rachel; Samuel Lawrence Weldon and his wife, Ariana; and Dellar Edward Weldon; a great-granddaughter, Emily Parsons; a niece, Patricia Hall; and a grandniece, Viera Jane.

Funeral services will be held on Feb. 4, 2023 in Calhoun and Feb. 11, 2023 in Atlanta. Further information regarding his obituary and service can be found [here](#).

Please consider donating to the Edward Weldon Scholarship fund in honor of his legacy, [learn more here](#).

Digitize Habersham

By Peter Madruga

Background

The work of Habersham Education & Research requires extensive research for historic projects and documentaries produced by the organization. In addition, residents or those with connections to the county often request information about ancestors or even an important event or historic building. There is a gold mine of such information in Habersham County that can be found in the Clarkesville public library, the Habersham County courthouse, and the bookshelves of homes throughout the county.

The Clarkesville Library has dozens of bound periodicals of historic newspapers that date back to 1912, but these books are deteriorating. Those from the 1910s can tear, no matter how carefully the pages are turned, and the paper itself is starting to crumble. The library has some older copies of newspapers on microfilm, but currently there is only one operational microfilm reader. It is connected to an old computer, and it takes a very long time to locate anything on the film. Finally, the only way to capture an article is to print it to the library's printer. The microfilm is often scratched from years of use, so the print quality is poor. Printing anything from the microfilm also comes at a cost per page to library patrons. It is an antiquated resource that is far from optimal.

The main problem with these reference materials is that nothing is indexed. Unless users already know the specific edition of the newspaper where an article is located, they must search page by page through each edition to find a particular article. There is no search capability whatsoever other than the date of the newspaper. Habersham Education & Research does not employ full time or part time paid staff, so research is performed by volunteers after work hours on weekdays and weekends. This allows for very limited time in public facilities such as libraries and the courthouse, making it even more difficult to do extensive research.

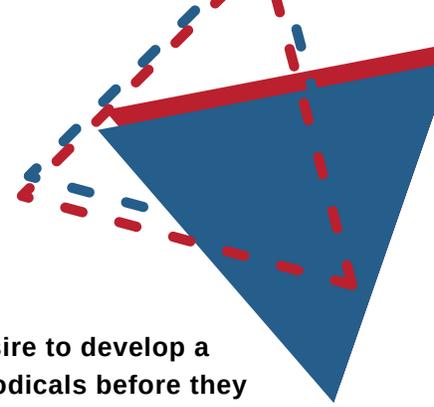
There are some newspaper research tools used by our organization that are indexed, such as Newspapers.com and the Digital Library of Georgia. However, newspapers native to Habersham County are not included in those databases. (The Georgia Historic Newspaper Project does have one local newspaper that was in print for a short time in the 1890s, plus a single edition of another newspaper, but together those represent less than a half of one percent of all Habersham County newspapers.) Occasionally a major news event that happened in Habersham County can sometimes be found in neighboring counties' periodicals through these digital tools, but the results are sporadic.



An old newspaper page that is deteriorating.



Bound periodicals at the Clarkesville Library.



Inspiration for Digitize Habersham

Each successive visit to perform research at the public library fueled the desire to develop a way to find information faster, as well as to preserve the pages of these periodicals before they completely deteriorate.

How do you capture it all with almost no budget and limited equipment? The ambitious project was kicked off in June 2021 and began with photographing the earliest bound periodicals, i.e., a photo was taken of each page with an iPhone. Later, the photos were loaded on a computer where each page was straightened and cropped. Next, each page was digitized, and the metadata was loaded into a database, manually by hand. As one can imagine, this process was extremely slow and tedious. It quickly became apparent that this method was not a viable way to digitize a large volume of material. There had to be a better way.

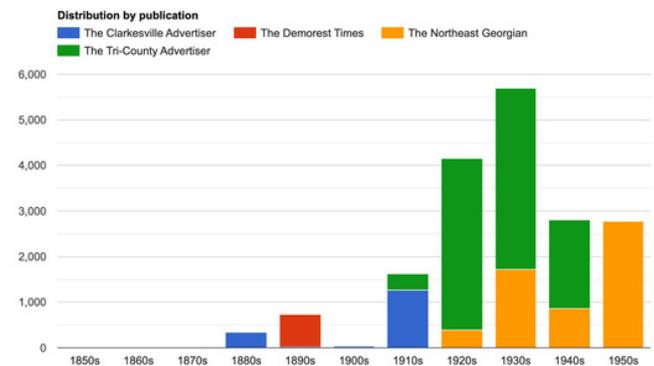
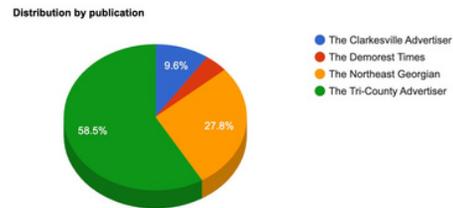
More volunteers mean the project would go faster, right? We soon learned that is not necessarily the case. Habersham Education & Research asked for volunteers from the community, and two groups of students were the first to step up to assist with the project. Members from the local high school Key Club and middle school FFA Club volunteered to assist with photographing newspapers maintained at the library. While their hearts were in the right place, additional work was needed to correct crooked images, or a return visit to the library was sometimes required to retake images of pages that were not completely captured. Compound that with the fact the clubs could only occasionally volunteer for a short time, it then became clear that additional volunteers was not the solution to speeding up the process.



Habersham Central High School Key Club volunteers.

A Happy Revelation

Habersham Education & Research has diligently sought out any resources that may be of assistance in the effort to develop some type of digital archives for important documents relating to Habersham County. That ongoing search for resources includes an email subscription to updates and announcements made by the Digital Library of Georgia (DLG), an online public collection of documents and media about the history and culture of the state of Georgia. DLG is administered by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia and provides free advice and guidance relative to digital archives. During a meeting with DLG to discuss online resources available for researchers, it was revealed that the Georgia Newspaper Project (GNP) had more than 100 reels of microfilm of periodicals all published in Habersham County. These reels were in mint condition since they had never been circulated. In speaking to David Constantine Wright from GNP, he shared that our organization could purchase a copy of these reels. He also shared the name of a major digitizing company utilized by the University of Georgia. This was finally the solution to having an indexed, digitized version of local newspapers published in Habersham County!



Statistical distribution of newspapers by decade.

The Process

GNP provided a list of all newspapers originally published in Habersham County that are available on 124 reels of microfilm. The earliest newspapers date back to 1857 and include *The Clarkesville Advertiser* (1873 – 1918), *The Tri-County Advertiser* (1919 – 1990), *The Demorest Times* (1891 – 1896), and *The Northeast Georgian* (1857, 1892 – 2007). Each reel averages between 700 – 1000 pages and costs \$85 to duplicate. Once the reels are duplicated, GNP sends them directly to Creekside Digital in Maryland to be digitized.

Creekside Digital then digitizes each newspaper page and generates a high-resolution searchable PDF, a high-resolution TIFF and a text file containing the metadata. Metadata is descriptive text used for searching for information. In the case of a newspaper, it is the individual words on the page. The gold standard of digitization methods utilizes the NEH-compliant format for metadata. Due to the cost of the digitization and our organization’s limited funds, that format is not an option. Instead, the choice was made to use only the metadata provided by OCR, which was the most cost-effective solution and still provides outstanding results. These digitized files are mailed to Habersham Education & Research on an external hard drive.

Next Step: Custom Software

The president of Habersham Education & Research, Peter Madruga, works as a software engineer for the Georgia Tech Research Institute. Using his computer programming skills, he developed custom software that reads the external hard drive, creates thumbnails of the digitized newspaper editions, generates a low-resolution version of the PDF files, cleans the metadata, pushes it into a database, and then pushes all the files to the web server. He then designed a website and a search engine to locate pages of the digitized newspapers based on keywords and date range.

Partnering with the Northeast Georgian

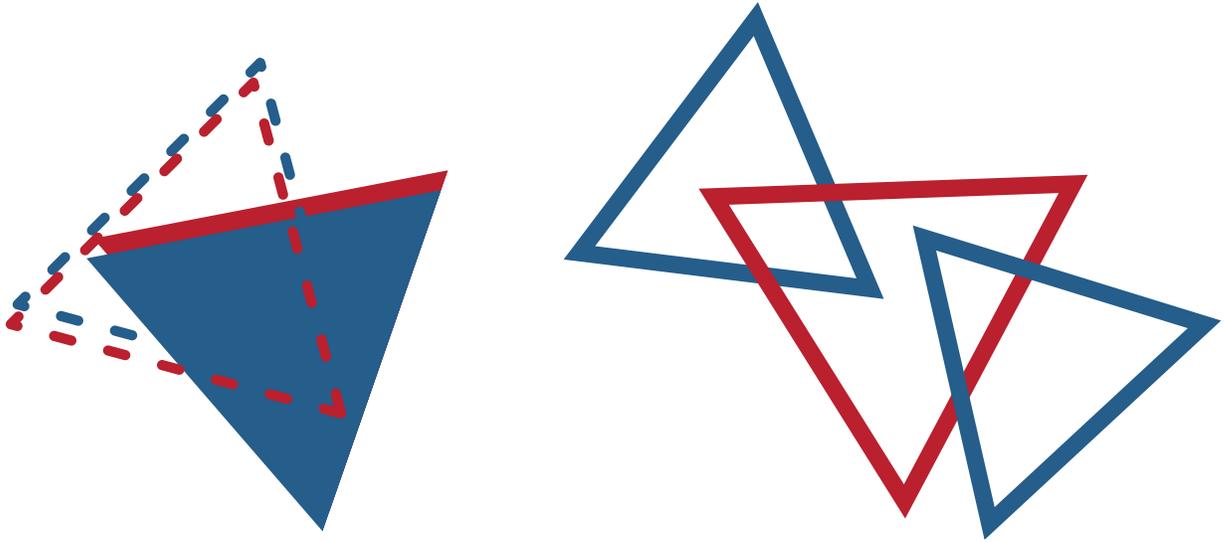
Copyright law states that newspapers published 95 years ago or longer are in the public domain. After that date, the newspaper publisher holds a copyright on the published works. In an effort to gain access to editions of the local newspaper still under copyright, Habersham Education & Research held a series of meetings with officers of Community Newspapers Inc (CNI). CNI is the parent company of the Northeast Georgian, and the meetings were held to request permission to make newspapers after 1927 available to the public. CNI ultimately agreed to allow an additional 30 years of newspapers to be published up through 1957; in addition, they made a donation to the Digitize Habersham project.

Official Launch

In October, Habersham Education & Research was awarded a [\\$500 grant from the Society of Georgia Archivists \(SGA\)](#) to help promote **Digitize Habersham**. After almost two years of work since its original inception, **Digitize Habersham** was officially launched on November 9, 2022 at Piedmont University's Stewart Auditorium in front of a live audience as well as several participants who joined by Zoom. Habersham County now has its very own digital archives with about 20,000 newspaper pages currently available to the public.



Habersham Education & Research President Peter Madruga presenting Digitize Habersham at its official launch.



Not just Newspapers

The potential for **Digitize Habersham** goes well beyond newspapers. The site has been designed to store historic photos, deeds, minutes of public governmental meetings, historical documents, memoirs, books, and links to videos as well. Several Habersham County residents have already provided a number of items suitable for inclusion on the website. Ultimately, the goal is for Digitize Habersham to be a leading resource for anyone who wants to discover information on people, places and events in Habersham County's history.

Project Cost

Currently, the archives contain approximately 20,000 newspaper pages and there are plans for more will be added. There are well over 100,000 pages of historic local newspapers still available to be digitized, and the only limiting factor is funding. Expenses for the project include the cost of the reels, payment for the digitization services, the cost of the hard drives, cloud storage, web hosting, and other related expenses. Each 10,000 pages costs about \$4,000. As of this writing, \$10,000 has been raised toward the total project cost of approximately \$50,000.

Summary

Finding information in Habersham County's historic newspapers used to be very time consuming since none of the content is indexed. Now, finding the information is as simple as typing in a keyword and clicking a search button. Results appear in the form of searchable PDF files, and that information is available worldwide, 24-hours a day. The goal is to permanently capture and preserve local historic newspapers before they disintegrate and are lost forever, and, to make that information available for free to the public.

Please visit archives.habershamhistory.org. and try out **Digitize Habersham**. To make a donation, please visit www.habershamhistory.org/donate. For more information, please email info@habershamhistory.org.

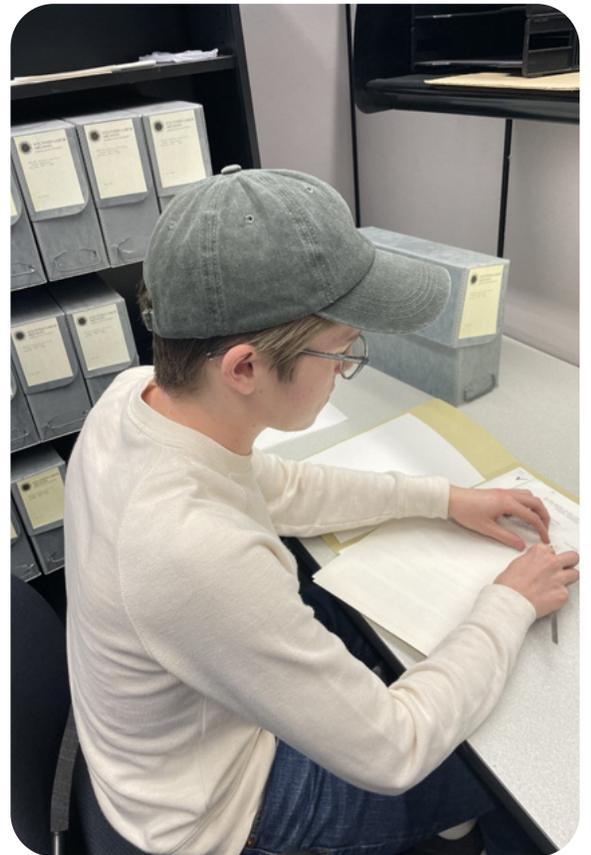
Digitizing the AFL-CIO Civil Rights Department Southeast Division Records at Georgia State University

By Brice Bongiovanni, Digital Projects Assistant
Georgia State University Library

In 2021 Georgia State University (GSU), in partnership with the University of Maryland (UMD), received a Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) Hidden Collections grant to digitize records related to the AFL-CIO Civil Rights Department Southeast Division. These records comprise a unique resource on the history of organized labor and civil rights activism in the United States, and we are excited to make them available to the public online in 2023.

The AFL-CIO Civil Rights Department operated its Southeast Division office out of Atlanta between 1964 and 1989. Headed by veteran labor activist E.T. Kehrer, the Southeast Division was at the forefront of the AFL-CIO's engagement with civil rights issues. It played an important role in promoting the expansion of trade apprenticeship and training programs for African Americans and helping to enforce equal opportunity and pay standards regarding race, gender, and disability in union contracts. The department also served as a liaison between labor and civil rights activists, collaborating with organizations such as the A. Philip Randolph Institute, Southern Regional Council, and National Urban League on political organizing and research efforts, as well as supporting many local causes in the Atlanta area.

In 1973 the Southeast Division became one of the first donors of materials to GSU's Southern Labor Archive, and by 1989 had made six gifts of records to GSU, totaling 78 linear feet of documents and a small number of photographs and audio recordings. In 2020, GSU Special Collections and Archives Head Christina Zamon, Southern Labor Archivist Lisa Vallen, and Digital Projects Coordinator Rachel Senese began developing a Hidden Collections grant proposal to digitize the collection. At CLIR's suggestion the project expanded into a formal collaboration with UMD, the official archival repository of the AFL-CIO. The funded project includes the digitization of the Southeast Division records at GSU, related records from the AFL-CIO Civil Rights Department and Civil Rights Committee at UMD, and the creation of additional educational and promotional materials to improve the visibility of the collections.



Digitizing a collection with the broad scope and variability of the Southeast Division records has been a painstaking process, especially when it comes to creating the rich metadata needed to raise the collection from its existing level of description to one suitable for a digital collection. Rachel Senese and Digital Projects Assistant Brice Bongiovanni, in charge of project digitization at GSU, have been particularly concerned with creating metadata that accurately reflects the diversity of minority and working-class people and organizations represented in the collection, rather than an overly narrow descriptive focus on E.T. Kehrler and other AFL-CIO leaders. We have also worked to create inclusive metadata by avoiding outdated and discriminatory terms and including notes on biased content.



Beyond digitization, in 2022 Lisa Vallen and Graduate Research Assistant Meg Fancher began work on the educational resource component of the project. These include a digital exhibit on the history of the AFL-CIO and civil rights, developed with the support of Digital Library of Georgia (DLG) and New Georgia Encyclopedia (NGE), a curated primary source set for DLG, and an initiative to incorporate links to collection materials into K-12 curriculum resources for Georgia educators. As with our collection metadata, we are developing an emphasis on inclusivity and accurate representation of the role of minority and working-class people in this history, and a proper acknowledgement of the problems of racism in organized labor.

The AFL-CIO Civil Rights Department Southeast Division records will become available online in late Summer 2023 through GSU Digital Collections, DLG, and the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). The project's digital exhibit and other educational materials will also be hosted by DLG beginning in Fall 2023. Project staff will be working to promote the digital collection in Georgia and nationwide, and we welcome questions about the project and its subject matter. We look forward to making this "hidden" collection visible to all with an interest in civil rights and labor history.

Contributors to this project from Georgia State University include Christina Zamon, Lisa Vallen, Rachel Senese, Brice Bongiovanni, and Lin Davies. Contributors from the University of Maryland include Joanne Archer, Douglas McElrath, Catherine Mayfield, Benjamin Blake, Jennifer Eidson, Robin Pike, and Pamela McClanahan. Special thanks to Digital Library of Georgia Director Sheila McAlister and Assistant Director Nicole Lawrence and New Georgia Encyclopedia Managing Editor Edward Hatfield.

NEWS FROM THE DIGITAL LIBRARY OF GEORGIA

**SUBMITTED BY SHELIA MCALISTER
DIGITAL LIBRARY OF GEORGIA
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**

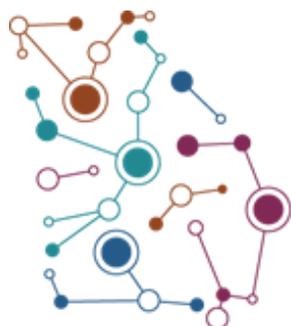
DLG 2023/2024 Subgrant Call For Proposals

Subgrant Applications Due ***April 5, 2023***

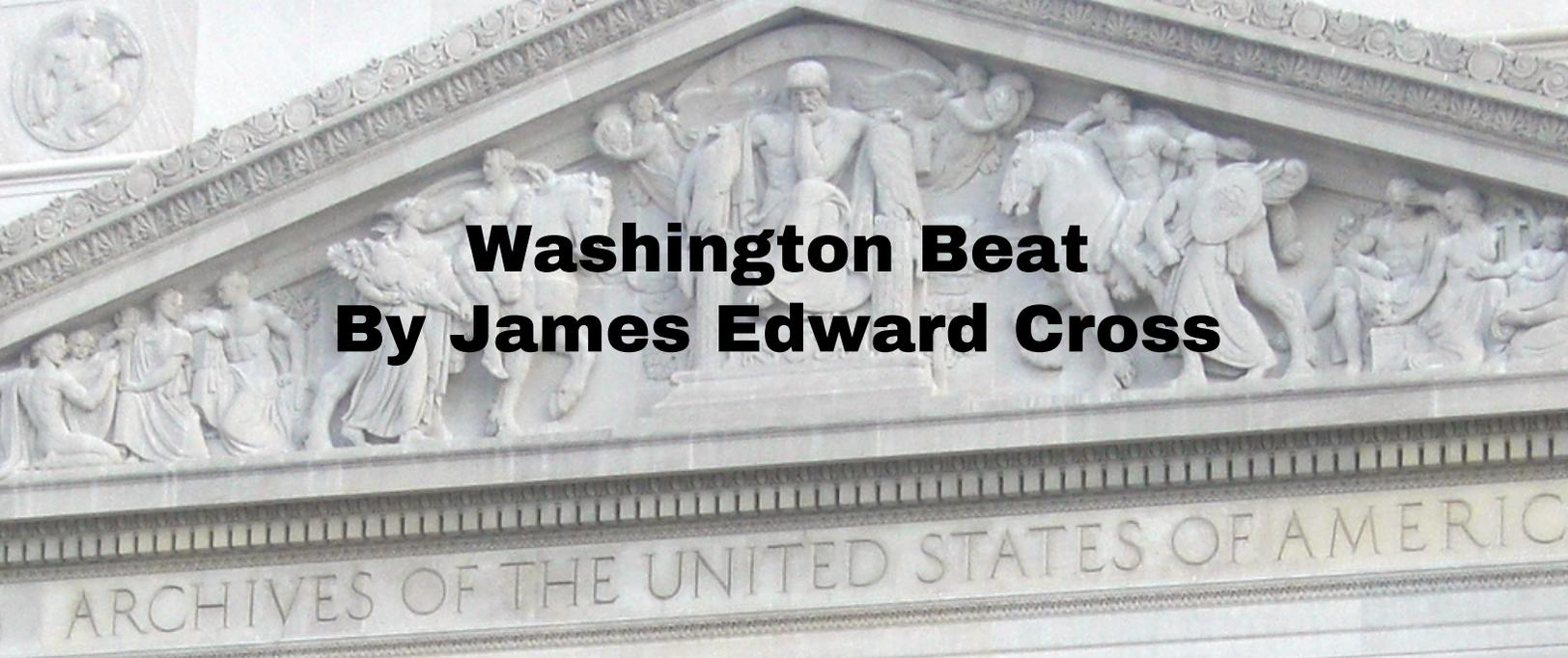
DLG is soliciting proposals for historic digitization projects costing up to \$7500 in DLG services from non-profit Georgia cultural heritage institutions. To encourage applications from community-based archives, we have removed the requirement that applicant organizations be open to the public, and that their collections be available for public research either by appointment or through regular hours. Project metadata will be included in the DLG portal and the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). Projects may include the reformatting of textual materials (not including newspapers), graphic materials, or audio-visual materials. Applicants should have materials prepared for a project start date of July 1, 2023. For more information about the program and application materials, go to the [program homepage](#).

Important dates:

- February 16, 2 pm [webinar](#) (slides|recording)
- February 21, 9 am-noon, [virtual office hours](#)
- February 22, 1-4 pm, [virtual office hours](#)
- April 5, Proposals due
- May 11, Committee reviews proposals
- May 17, Recipients notified
- June 16, Service agreements signed ([Sample MOU available here](#)) and project schedules agreed
- July 1, Program start date



Digital Library of Georgia
Sharing Georgia's History & Culture Online



Washington Beat

By James Edward Cross

NATIONAL ARCHIVES BUDGET: President Biden signed H.R. 2471, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022 on March 15, 2022. NARA received \$388 million for operating expenses, an \$11 million increase from the FY 21 level of \$377 million. \$2 million was designated to fund the Civil Rights Cold Case Review Board and \$29 million was allocated for NARA to continue its records digitization initiative. The NHPRC received \$7 million, up from \$6.5 million last year. However, the Commission received an additional \$5.3 million in congressionally earmarked projects, bringing the total up to \$12.3 million. ... On March 28, 2022, the Biden administration released its proposed federal budget for Fiscal Year 2023. NARA would receive \$426.5 million for operating expenses, a \$38.2 million increase from FY2022. This amount includes \$6 million for the NARA Office of Inspector General and \$7.5 million for the repairs and restoration of NARA-owned buildings. The NHPRC would receive a \$2.8 million reduction from the \$12.3 million it received last year. However, \$5.3 million of that total was the result of congressional earmarks which fluctuate from year to year. The \$9.5 million in base funding proposed by the administration is an increase of \$2.5 million over FY2022. ... President Biden signed H.R. 2617, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 on December 23, 2022. NARA received \$427.5 million for operating expenses, a \$39.2 million increase, or 10 percent, from the FY 22 level of \$388 million. \$2 million was designated to fund the Civil Rights Cold Case Review Board, \$5.98 million for the NARA Office of Inspector General, and \$7.25 million for the repairs and restoration of NARA-owned buildings. In addition, \$30 million was allocated for NARA to continue its records digitization initiative. The NHPRC received \$12 million in base funding, up from \$7 million last year. However, the Commission received an additional \$23,772,500 in congressionally earmarked projects, bringing the total up to \$35,772,500. By comparison, the NHPRC only received \$5.8 million in congressional earmarks in FY2022. This is by far the highest level of funding the NHPRC has received in its history. Of this amount, \$2 million was designated to preserve and make publicly available the congressional papers of former Members of the House and Senate.

Washington Beat Continued

OTHER ARCHIVES NEWS: NARA announced the appointment of Dr. Jay Barth as the new Director of the William J. Clinton Presidential Library on March 9, 2022. Dr. Barth spent 26 years as a member of the Department of Politics at Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas and the past three years as Chief Education Officer for the City of Little Rock. Dr. Barth received a bachelor's degree in American Studies from Hendrix College and a master's degree and a doctorate in political science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. ... On March 28, 2022 NARA shared its 2022-2026 Strategic Plan. The Plan includes increasing access to underserved communities; setting quantitative targets for reparative description; addressing pandemic related backlogs and improving customer service; modernizing Federal records management while incorporating equity considerations; advancing the preservation of all records formats and continuing to develop a trustworthy electronic records repository; and improving the workplace. It can be found at <https://www.archives.gov/files/about/plans-reports/strategic-plan/nara-2022-2026-strategic-plan-march-2022.pdf>. ... The Technology Modernization Fund awarded \$9.1 million to NARA to upgrade two legacy systems to cloud-based platforms on May 24, 2022. The Archives and Records Centers Information System is used physical space, holdings management, and inventory control processes nationwide, while the Case Management and Reporting System is used to process military records requests from veterans, their families, and others. ... On August 3, 2022 President Biden nominated Dr. Colleen Joy Shogan as Archivist of the United States to replace David S. Ferriero, who retired in April 2022. On September 28, 2022 the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee voted 7-7 in a party-line vote on the nomination which means it was not able to be favorably reported. The nomination was returned to the President on January 3, 2023 and would need to be resubmitted to the current Congress. ... NARA announced the appointment of William A. Harris as the new Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum on October 20, 2022. Harris began his career in 1996 at the George H. W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum, served in a senior role within the Office of Presidential Libraries, and recently was Deputy Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum. He received a bachelor's degree in English and History and a graduate degree in History from Auburn University. ... On November 16, 2022 NARA announced the transfer of the George W. Bush Museum operations to the George W. Bush Foundation. NARA will retain all responsibility for the legal and physical custody of the records and artifacts at the Library and will control all access to them. NARA will provide records and artifacts to the George W. Bush Foundation for display in the museum through NARA's loan program. In addition, NARA will continue to lead the education program at the Library and will digitize the presidential records. No NARA staff will lose their jobs or change duty stations. ... On December 15, 2022 NARA posted 13,173 documents containing newly released information subject to the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992. NARA and the agencies responsible for withheld documents conducted an intensive review of each remaining redaction withheld under section 5 of the JFK Act. This was the first review under the JFK Act that was done in an interagency manner at the redaction level. NARA and the Department of Justice are working together to determine whether information in five records withheld in full under court seal or for grand jury secrecy under section 10 of the JFK Act can be released. ... Because of delay caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, NARA and the Office of Management and Budget on December 23, 2022 extended the deadline for all federal agencies to transfer permanent records to NARA in electronic formats to June 30, 2024.



Washington Beat Continued

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NEWS: The Kitchen Sisters archives, containing audio recordings, handwritten journals, photographs, podcasts, storybooks and videos, was acquired by the Library on January 10, 2022. ... The Library announced on January 26, 2022 that it would be archiving digital designs of the American Society of Landscape Architect's Professional Award winning projects. ... On February 2, 2022 the Library made its Coronavirus Web Archive available to the public at <https://www.loc.gov/collections/coronavirus-web-archive/about-this-collection/>. The Archive currently contains 450 web archives. ... On April 13, 2022 the National Recording Registry added 25 new recordings. Among them are James P. Johnson's "Harlem Strut" (1821); Franklin Roosevelt's complete Presidential speeches (1933-1945); "Jesus Give Me Water" by The Soul Stirrers (1950), which helped launch the career of Sam Cooke; "The Christmas Song" by Nat King Cole (1961); "Moon River" by Andy Williams (1962); "Bohemian Rhapsody" by Queen (1975); "Don't Stop Believin'" by Journey (1981); "Nick of Time" by Bonnie Raitt (1989); "Enter the Wu-Tang (36 Chambers)" (album) by the Wu-Tang Clan (1994); "Livin' La Vida Loca" by Ricky Martin (1999); "Songs in A Minor" (album) by Alicia Keys (2001); and radio station WNYC broadcasts for the day of September 11, 2001. ... The Library of Congress announced on April 25, 2022 that it had acquired the papers of playwright and screenwriter Neil Simon. The collection consists of approximately 7,700 items including, scripts, notes, outlines, personal notebooks, and drafts of letters and speeches. ... The National Film Registry added 25 films on December 14, 2022. Among the films added this year were Mardi Gras Carnival (1898) the earliest known existing film of the carnival parade in New Orleans; Cyrano de Bergerac (1950); Charade (1963); Superfly (1972); Carrie (1976); The Ballad of Gregorio Cortez (1982), a key work in the Chicano film movement; Itam Hakim, Hopiit (1984), which translates Hopi oral traditions into video art; Hairspray (1988); Disney's The Little Mermaid (1989); When Harry Met Sally (1989); House Party (1990); Iron Man (2008); and Pariah (2011), a Black, lesbian, coming-of-age film by black director Dee Rees. A number of documentaries also were added this year, including Manzanar (1972) on the Japanese-American concentration camp in California; Attica (1974) on the 1971 prison uprising; and Union Maids (1976) on attempts to create industrial unions in 1930s based on interviews with three female union organizers from Chicago.

DECLASSIFICATION AND FOIA: On June 2, 2022 President Biden issued a "Memorandum for Initiating a Process to Review Information Management and Classification Policies" directing the National Security Council (NSC) to form an Information Management and Classification Interagency Policy Committee to revise or replace the executive orders relating to classified national security information and controlled unclassified information (CUI). Agencies and departments are to consider whether to place on hold any efforts to significantly revamp information management, classification, and declassification policies while the Committee does its work and are directed to coordinate with the NSC in any such decisions. ... On July 26, 2022 the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) released its FY2021 annual report. COVID-19 continues to impact the use of both classified and controlled unclassified information. ISOO continues to work with agencies to make specific recommendations for authorities governing national security information and the National Industrial Security Program but notes that a broader effort is needed because the authorities no longer reflect the systems they are governing. CUI implementation also remains a challenge. The full report can be found at <https://www.archives.gov/files/isoo/reports/isoo-2021-annual-report-to-the-president-final.pdf>.



New Member Spotlight



KENDALL BARKSDALE

DIGITIZATION TECHNICIAN, ATLANTA
UNIVERSITY CENTER ROBERT W.
WOODRUFF LIBRARY

WHY DID YOU JOIN SGA AND WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Admiring the work of my manager who served as SGA president encouraged me to join SGA. The way she would advocate for fair membership dues, share opportunities for poster talks, recruit new members, extend invitations to annual meetings, post job postings, and speak about SGA opportunities in every conversation made me realize that SGA plays an integral role in the lives and careers of archivists. Her passion for archives is contagious and the way she aims to help aspiring archivists within and outside of SGA truly speaks to her professional and personal identity as an archivist and how she inspired me. I joined SGA to become part of what others consider “the small world of archivists”, to learn best practices from other archivists, to be exposed to professional opportunities within the archives field, and to build a community of people who are passionate about archives. I also joined SGA to learn how I can blend my passion for history, poetry, social justice, story-telling, advocacy, and teaching into archival work.

Visit our website to join SGA today!
<https://soga.wildapricot.org/membership>

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO THE ARCHIVES FIELD?

In 2021, after eight years of teaching, I transitioned to the archives field. What attracted me to the archives field was my fascination with finding and working with primary documents older than me. I grew up watching documentaries on the civil rights movement and always wondered how filmmakers were able to insert decade and century old pictures, videos, and artifacts into a documentary and where they got their materials from. It wasn't until I interned at the Coca-Cola Company archives that I learned about preserving artifacts like Coca-Cola bottles, using context clues in photographs to date materials, and rehousing reels, marketing ads, and documents. I realized that each archival material is a puzzle piece of a larger picture and that I could use materials within archival collections to share stories with the world.

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES DOES SGA OFFER THAT YOU ARE EXCITED TO PARTICIPATE IN OR TAKE ADVANTAGE OF?

SGA offers a variety of workshops, volunteer, and training opportunities that I am excited for. I am always eager to learn how to improve my digitization and archival skills and I know that SGA's workshop opportunities will introduce me to new approaches and techniques. I am also excited to participate in the mentoring program that SGA offers. As a new professional in the archival field, I used to feel alone and inexperienced, but my manager patiently trained me, answered all my questions, and shared with me her best practices and experiences from being an archivist. I would like to continue this mentorship to use SGA to stay connected and cultivate a group of mentors so that I may one day become a mentor to other aspiring archivists. I am also excited to contribute to blog posts and publications as a form of creatively advocating for collections and bringing awareness to the importance of archives and access to information. I look forward to being an active SGA member to professionally and personally grow.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR JOB?

I love that I have the opportunity to vicariously be a part of the Civil Rights Movement through the Joseph and Evelyn Lowery Collection. Every time I watch a video of a protest from the 1960s, I feel like I am marching for miles through Alabama streets, sweating profusely, protesting with picket signs, singing freedom songs, with my heart pounding from pride of fighting for my people and fear of the unknown but the courage to continue marching. Every time I listen to a Joseph E. Lowery sermon from the 1980s I feel like I am sitting in a pew, taking notes on how “We need to turn to each other and not on each other.” In photographs that I scan, I see myself anxiously waiting in Voter Registration lines, tutoring young women in “Bridging the Gap” meetings, brainstorming ideas for the “Gun Buyback” program, and clapping at Drum Major for Justice Awards Ceremonies. I love being a detective when circa dating and identifying people and events. I love the daily inspiration to fight for what and who I love. I love the “aha” and awe moments when making connections of systematic patterns from the 60s to the present. I love witnessing love between a power couple with the same visions and passions. I love being reminded on a daily basis to continue to fight for love, justice, and peace. I love the people that I work with and the genuine support they give me. I love my job because archives allow me to connect with my ancestors and keep legacies alive to build even more legacies.

Georgia Archives Institute

Accepting Applications Now

June 5-16 2023 Morrow, GA

The Georgia Archives Institute is a two-week program held at the Georgia Archives, located at 5800 Jonesboro Road in Morrow, Georgia.

HISTORY

The Georgia Archives Institute was founded in 1967 by Carroll Hart, Director of the Georgia Department of Archives and History (1964-1982). Lacking the funds to send staff to the National Archives Institute in Washington, D.C., Ms. Hart brought in prominent archivists to teach archival theory and the role of the modern archivist. She saw the need for basic instruction for beginners in the profession. At first the program was intended for the Georgia Archives staff, but it was soon expanded to include attendees from other institutions. The first official session was in August of 1967, with students traveling around the state visiting repositories, courthouses, and other institutions housing records. Today, the Georgia Archives Institute is recognized throughout the archival community as one of the primary vehicles through which beginning archivists and students can learn theoretical and practical knowledge of modern archives. Many types and sizes of archival and educational institutions continue to be partners in the Georgia Archives Institute, ensuring that students are exposed to a broad range of perspectives and thus will be adaptable in the workforce. In 2017, the Georgia Archives Institute received the Society of American Archivists' Distinguished Service Award at their annual meeting in Atlanta. This prestigious award recognizes an archival institution, education program, nonprofit organization, or government organization that has provided outstanding service to its public and has made an exemplary contribution to the archives profession.

FACULTY

Pam Hackbart-Dean, Primary Instructor
Tina Mason Seetoo, Preservation Instructor
Katherine Fisher, Digital Preservation Instructor

CURRICULUM

Week one of the Institute provides a comprehensive introduction to the concepts and practices of managing all formats of documentary materials in archival repositories.

Week two begins with a class focused on the management of born-digital archival materials and digital preservation. To link archival theory with real world applications, the second week also includes three-day internships in local repositories.

Tuition is \$500 and enrollment is limited to 20 students. The application will go live on January 1, 2023 with a deadline of midnight on March 15. There is an application fee of \$75, but if your application is not successful, your fee will be refunded.

Four tuition scholarships are available from several organizations and institutions. All details can be found here, <https://www.georgiaarchivesinstitute.org/support>

For an application to the Institute and additional information, please visit www.georgiaarchivesinstitute.org or contact them at georgiaarchivesinstitute@gmail.com.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN 2023

CONFERENCES

American Historical Association Annual Online Meeting

January 5-8, 2023

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

<https://www.historians.org/annual-meeting>

Best Practices Exchange 2023

June 12-14, 2023

University of Georgia Special Collections Libraries, Athens, Georgia

<https://bpexchange.wordpress.com/2023-conference/>

Digital Preservation Conference

November 12-16, 2023

St. Louis, Missouri

<https://ndsa.org/conference/>

GALILEO Annual Conference

June 14, 2023

Middle Georgia State University, Macon, Georgia

<https://about.galileo.usg.edu/conference>

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Spring Virtual Conference

April 26-28, 2023

Virtual

<https://www.marac.info/spring-2023-conference>

National Council on Public History Annual Meeting

April 12-15, 2023

Atlanta, Georgia (virtual options pending)

<https://ncph.org/conference/2023-annual-meeting/>

Society of American Archivists and Council of State Archivists Joint Annual Meeting

July 22-29, 2023

Washington, DC

<https://www2.archivists.org/am2023>

Society of Florida Archivists Annual Meeting

May 10-12, 2023

Tallahassee, Florida

<https://www.florida-archivists.org/2023-SFA-Annual-Meeting>



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED

WORKSHOPS/WEBINARS

NEDCC

How to Host a Community Scanning Day Webinar

April 11, 2023

<https://www.nedcc.org/preservation-training/training-currentlist>

NEDCC

Community Driven Archives: Empowering Historically
Marginalized Communities Webinar

March 21, 2023

<https://www.nedcc.org/preservation-training/training-currentlist>

Georgia Archives Institute (see page 21)

June 5-16, 2023

Georgia Archives, Morrow/Atlanta, GA

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



GRANTS

CLIR Recordings at Risk Funding

Applications due April 19, 2023

<https://bit.ly/3jcnswx>

Digital Library of Georgia

2023-2024 Digitization Subgrants (see page 16)

<https://sites.google.com/view/dlg-docs/resources/programs-and-projects/subgranting-program?pli=1>

National Film Preservation Foundation

Basic Preservation Grants Spring Round

Registration Deadline: March 24, 2023

<https://www.filmpreservation.org/nfpf-grants/basic-preservation-grants>



SCHOLARSHIPS

Society of American Archivists Student Scholarships

Four scholarships available

Applications due February 28, 2023

<https://www2.archivists.org/awards/scholarships>

Society of Georgia Archivists

Six scholarships available to attend conferences and education workshops

Applications due TBD

<https://soga.wildapricot.org/scholarships>

AWARDS

Society of American Archivists Awards for Excellence

Fifteen awards for advocacy, publishing and contributions to the archival profession

Nominations due February 28, 2023

<https://www2.archivists.org/awards/awards-for-excellence>

Society of American Archivists Travel Awards

Four awards are available for travel to SAA's annual meeting

Applications due February 28, 2023

<https://www2.archivists.org/awards/travel-awards>

GHRAC Outstanding Archives Awards Program

Thirteen different award categories for individuals and organizations

Nominations due June 1, 2023

https://www.georgiaarchives.org/ghrac/awards_program

SGA President's Award

Nominations due TBD (Fall 2023)

<https://soga.wildapricot.org/presidents-award>





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