

# SGA Newsletter

*A newsletter of the Society of Georgia Archivists*



## Good News from the Georgia Archives Staff!

After moving from the Secretary of State to the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, the Georgia Archives is very pleased to report that total full-time staff has increased since this transition in July, 2013. Sixteen people have been hired in the past year.

Reference staff increased by five members—

Allison Hudgins, Alec Hawthorne, Jill Sweetapple, Caroline Crowell, and Becky Sherman.

Reformatting staff increased by four members—

James Irby, Ephranette Brown, Tracey Hughes, and Randy Fullington, returning staff member.

Dr. Lamar Veatch transitioned from Director of the Georgia Public Library System to the Georgia Archives.

Linda Pickering returned to the Archives staff.

Christine Garrett joined the staff as the Electronic Records Manager.

Kim Norman is the Preservation Manager/Conservator.

Kory Wilson and Annette Walker will join the full-time facilities staff as of October 1<sup>st</sup>.

New staff additions allow the Georgia Archives to remain open to the public Tuesday-Saturday, 8:30am-5:00pm, plus resuming scanning and outreach services. What a difference a year makes!



The Society of Georgia Archivists:  
preserving the past  
for the future.

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## Mayoral Records of Ivan Allen, Jr. Available at the Atlanta History Center

By Paul Crater

The Kenan Research Center at the Atlanta History Center has acquired the policy and program records of former Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr.

Spanning twenty-two linear feet, the records include memos and letters from Allen, his administrative assistants, and his political advisors. These documents, as well as reports, budgets, minutes of meetings, and news releases, provide details about the activities of the Mayor's office, city departments, and the Atlanta Board of Alderman during a notable time in Atlanta's history.

The bulk of the records pertain to the events that took place in Allen's second mayoral term; however, documents included from Allen's first term cover important moments, such as the

1962 plane crash at the Parisian Orly Airport that killed over 100 Atlantans, the Peyton Road barricade, and Allen's testimony in front of a Senate Committee in defense of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Other events in the series include the 1966 Fire Department strike, the inaugural seasons of the Atlanta Braves and the Atlanta Falcons, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s funeral. As a whole, the records illustrate how the Allen administration dealt with issues, such as housing, equal opportunity, community relations, public safety, urban renewal, and public transportation.

The records are available to the public at the Kenan Research Center at the Atlanta History Center and online at <http://ahc.galileo.usg.edu/ahc/search>.



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### Carroll Hart Scholarship Winner

by Greer Martin

As the winner of the 2014 Carroll Hart Scholarship, I was thrilled to attend the Georgia Archives Insti-

tute this summer, and came away informed and invigorated about the field of archives. The Georgia Archives Institute (GAI) is a two-week instructional course on the basic concepts and practices of archival management. The 2014 GAI took place June 9 - 20 at the Georgia Archives in Morrow, Georgia. There I was joined by professionals from Georgia and elsewhere (such as New Zealand!) who work in diverse information environments, including corporate archives, state archives, federal institutions, small academic institutions and non-profit organizations. As an early career professional working with



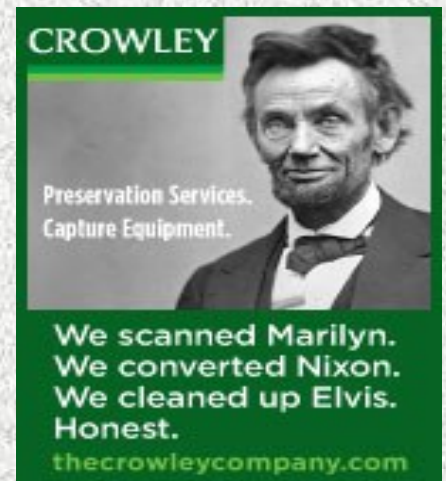
digital collections for the Digital Library of Georgia, I was eager for formal training in traditional archives administration and management.

Our instructor was Randall C. Jimerson, Professor of History and Director of the Archives and Records Management MA program at Western Washington University. Rand was an excellent teacher, and infused his presentations with anecdotes taken from his considerable experience as a practicing archivist. As a long-time expert in the field of archives, he was able to present multiple perspectives and opinions, and did so with interest and engagement. Most notably, he stimulated discussion, which gave us an opportunity to voice challenges and share suggestions for archival management at our individual institutions. In addition to discussion time, Rand worked in opportunities for group activities, which presented real-world examples of the topics covered in class, and asked us to brainstorm within a small group and plan solutions. By requiring an (albeit hypothetical) execution of archival management, the activities really tested my understanding of arrangement, description, appraisal, and other topics. Better still was hearing the other groups' proposed solutions, as there was usually more than one correct "answer."

The Georgia Archives Institute's curriculum covered many topics of archives management, such as acquisition, appraisal, accessioning, arrangement and description,

automating access, managing special formats, reference, access and outreach, copyright, digitization, preservation, and archives careers. In the second week, we were visited by guest instructors Christine Wiseman and Cliff Landis. Christine, Unit Head of Digital Services at Atlanta University Center, spoke with us about conservation and preservation. We toured the conservation lab at the Georgia State Archives, spoke with Conservator Kim Norman, got up-close with fragile materials and obsolete formats, and discussed treatment options. Cliff Landis spoke with us about archival technologies, such as archival management software, digital collection software, and tools for presentation and access. Cliff and Christine gave excellent presentations that provided focused instruction in their area of expertise. They were forthcoming with examples of challenges and solutions undertaken by their units and institutions with regards to preservation, conservation and archival technologies, and their advice and experience was extremely beneficial for me and my fellow students' varied levels of familiarity with these topics.

In our last week, each student completed a three-day internship at an archive in the Atlanta area. I was matched with Emory University, and along with two other students processed a collection under the guidance of Sarah Quigley, Manuscript Archivist at the Manuscript, Archivist, & Rare Books Library (MARBL). The internship was greatly rewarding, as





## Hart Scholarship (cont.)

I was able to work through and observe the challenges, questioning and collaboration that can be involved in processing a collection. From sorting and inventorying to consulting with conservation staff on treatment options, processing quickly expanded to include many other tasks beyond arrangement and description (as was promised in the course!). I am grateful to Sarah and the staff at the Robert W. Woodruff Library for giving us room to explore and inquire while providing the structure needed to make meaningful progress with processing our collection.

Finally, I am extremely thankful to the Society of Georgia Archivists for providing an opportunity for tuition coverage in the form of the

Carroll Hart Scholarship. The scholarship allowed me to attend the 2014 Georgia Archives Institute despite limited resources, and I am so glad that I was able to attend. I would whole-heartedly recommend the GAI to anyone seeking to establish skills in archival management, develop connections with local archivists, and obtain practical experience in processing collections. It was a deeply positive experience, and immediately enriched my work at the Digital Library of Georgia upon my return. Moreover, the Georgia Archives Institute made me excited about the challenges and opportunities -- and people! -- associated with the field of archives.



## 2014 SGA Scholarship Awards

With much appreciation to the SGA Scholarship Committee, we have awarded all scholarships and concluded a very successful year. Please join me in thanking the following SGA members who volunteered for this committee:

Jill Sweetapple, Georgia Archives

Carol Waggoner-Angleton, Georgia Regents University

Muriel Jackson, Washington Memorial Library

Renna Tuten, Anderson University

Angelique Richardson, Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta

David Owings, Columbus State University

Katharine Rapkin, Georgia Historical Society

Virginia Blake, City of Savannah Research Library & Municipal Archives

Josh Hogan, Atlanta History

Center

Congratulations to the following recipients of these scholarships, awarded throughout 2014:

*Brenda Banks Scholarship*—

Ryan Smith, The Black Archives (Miami, FL)

*Carroll Hart Scholarship*—Greer Martin, Digital Public Library of America

*Edward Weldon Scholarship*—Meredith Torre, Columbia Theological Seminary (previously)

*Larry Gulley Scholarship*—



## Scholarship Awards (cont.)

Ephranette Brown, Georgia Archives

*Anthony R. Dees Scholarship*—

Tracey Hughes, Georgia Archives  
*Taronda Spencer Award*—

JoyEllen Freeman, Clayton State University (MAS program)

SGA scholarships are renewed

annually. Please visit our website for specific details about each award, and note that new deadlines will be publicized early in 2015 (<http://soga.org/scholarships>).

Kim Norman, Chair

2014 SGA Scholarship Committee

## Washington Beat

By James E. Cross

### NATIONAL ARCHIVES NEWS:

As part of its 2014-2016 Open Government Plan announced in June 2014, the National Archives has made uploading digital content to Wikipedia one of the core initiatives of the Archives

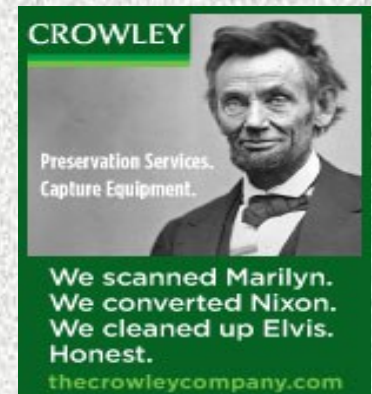
On June 30, 2014 the Archives announced that the digitization of Nebraska homestead records was complete and made the files available to the public. Three days later, on July 3, 2014, the Archives announced that the digitization of records for Arizona was underway. Both initiatives are part of the Homestead Digitization Project, which started in 2001. It is a collaborative effort between NARA, the Homestead National Monument of America, FamilySearch International, Fold3.com, Ancestry.com, and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to digitize all of the Homestead Final Certificate Land Entry Case Files at the Archives. The material will be available online at the Homestead National Monument, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, any NARA research center, any

FamilySearch Family History Center, at Fold3.com or Ancestry.com. There are twenty-seven states whose records still need to be digitized

The Alaska State Archives took custody of 3,000 cubic feet of records from the National Archives branch in Anchorage on July 25, 2014. The bulk of the records are from the Alaska Railroad and the Territorial Court. The records were moved in early August to a recently-completed vault at the State Libraries Archives and Museum complex which is under construction in Juneau. The NARA facility in Anchorage will close in September and all other records will be sent the NARA facility in Seattle, Washington.

### LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NEWS:

On June 20, 2014 the Library launched a Pinterest site at [www.pinterest.com/LibraryCongress](http://www.pinterest.com/LibraryCongress) which will allow the Library to share online content with users. The initial offerings include those relating to the Library





## Washington Beat (continued)

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and to the summer season (vintage travel posters, baseball and “The Star-Spangled Banner”).

The Library released a list of recommended formats for long-term preservation of a wide variety of creative works on June 23, 2014. The list covers the categories of textual and musical compositions, still images, audio, moving images, software and electronic gaming and learning, and datasets and databases. It can be found at [www.loc.gov/preservation/resources/rfs/](http://www.loc.gov/preservation/resources/rfs/).

On June 24, 2014 The HistoryMakers donated a video archive consisting of 9,000 hours of content on 14,000 analog tapes (along with digital copies), 3,000 DVD's, 6,000 born-digital files, 70,000 paper documents and digital files and more than 30,000 digital photographs. The 2,600 interviews in the archive document African-American history, life and culture and include not only notable individuals such as baseball player Ernie Banks, actors Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, historian John Hope Franklin, musician B. B. King, and President Barack Obama but lesser known figures such as Arthur Burton, one of the last Pullman porters and civil rights activist Ann Cooper.

The love letters between Warren G. Harding and his mistress, Carrie Phillips, donated to the Library in 1972, were opened

to the public on July 29, 2014. Access to the letters had been closed until this time by court order in 1964.

On August 7, 2014 the American Ballet Theater donated its more than 50,000 item archive to the Library of Congress. The collection includes business papers; clipping files; memorabilia; notes, scores, and other music manuscripts; programs; photographs; touring files; and other material documenting its seventy-five year history.

### **COPYRIGHT:**

Efforts to create an international copyright instrument for archives and libraries collapsed at the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights held in Geneva, Switzerland June 30-July 4, 2014.

On September 9, 2014 the judge for the New York Southern District Court ruled that a media monitoring company distributing clips and snippets of transcripts to customers has not violated broadcasters' copyrights by letting those customers search its database. The judge ruled that its keyword search function were fair uses of broadcast content. However, the judge will look at additional evidence before ruling whether features that allow searches by date and time and the archiving, downloading, emailing and sharing by social media also fall under the heading

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## Washington Beat (continued)

of fair use. The case is *Fox News Network, LLC v. TVEyes, Inc.*

### DECLASSIFICATION AND FOIA:

Senator Patrick Leahy of Vermont introduced S.2520, the FOIA Improvement Act on June 24, 2014. It would establish a presumption in favor of disclosure and prevent the application of exemptions based on technicalities, require that agencies identify records of public interest that could be disclosed, and make all disclosed records available in electronic format, limit the ability for an agency to charge fees if it misses a deadline to comply with an FOIA request, expand the authority and duties of agency Chief, FOIA Officers and establish a Council of those Officers to make recommendations for increasing FOIA compliance. It would also require agency heads to issue regulations for information disclosure and include procedures for dispute resolution through the FOIA Public Liaison and the Office of Government Information Services. Interestingly, the proposed law prohibits the appropriation of funds to carry out the provisions of the law.

On July 7, 2014 the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) released its FY2013 report. For the first time the report included not only information on government-wide security classification activities among departments and agen-

cies but the agencies' cost estimates associated with those activities (including, for the first time, the costs for the intelligence community) and an update on the Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) program as well. The report found that the number of persons granted original classification authority continues to decrease and is at its lowest recorded level and that agencies reported a 20 percent reduction in original classification activity.

There were 58,794 original classification decisions and 80,124,389 derivative classification decisions during FY2013. Under automatic, systematic, and discretionary declassification review, agencies reviewed 59,332,029 pages and declassified 27,524,342 pages of historically valuable records. Under mandated declassification review (MDR) agencies reviewed 1,122,502 pages and declassified 943,035 pages in their entirety and 150,857 pages in part, and retained classification of 28,610 pages in their entirety. There were more requests and appeals received under MDR in FY2013 than in FY2012 and fewer requests and appeals closed. There were also more requests unresolved for over a year. However, the average number of days to resolve requests and appeals did decline. The total classification cost for the federal government in

FY2013 was \$11.63 billion.

Cause for Action filed an FOIA suit on August 18, 2014 in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia against the Departments of Homeland Security, Justice, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, State, Veterans Affairs, Defense, Health and Human Services, Energy and Treasury as well as Office of Management and Budget and the Internal Revenue Service. The suit alleges that the agencies were "stonewalling" FOIA requests by refusing to disclose communications concerning documents they shared with the White House as a result of a 2009 memo which directs agencies to consult with the White House on any document request that might involve documents with "White House equities."

### PRESIDENTIAL RECORDS:

On September 10, 2014 the Senate passed H.R. 1233, the Presidential and Federal Records Act. The bill has some minor differences from the House version passed in January, so it will either need to go to a conference committee or be passed again by the House in its current form. The bill codifies procedures for exerting executive privilege concerning the release of Presidential or Vice Presidential records; prohibits sending emails that are federal records using non-official email accounts unless a copy is sent

## Washington Beat (continued)

to an official account; and gives guidelines for procedures that NARA is to develop to prevent the unauthorized destruction or removal of classified records from the Archives. The bill also changes the definition of a record to include all recorded information regardless of form or characteristics; provides for the transfer of records of historical significance to the Archives no later than 30 years after their creation or receipt by an agency; expands the authority of the Archivist regarding the creation and preservation of audio and visual records; transfers the responsibility for records management from the General Services Administration to the Archives; and requires agency transfers of

records to the Archives be in digital or electronic form to the greatest extent possible.

### OTHER:

On July 17, 2014 the United States Holocaust Museum made the records of the United Nations War Crimes Commission available to researchers. The collection had been largely inaccessible during the past seventy years. The 370,000 pages of digitized investigative files can be accessed in the Museum Library.

The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History accepted the donation of archival material from the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Community Center of Baltimore, MD on

August 19, 2014. Ephemera, newspapers, and photographs documenting Baltimore's LGBT community over the past fifty years will join other LGBT materials at the Museum which date back to the nineteenth century.

On August 22, 2014 the Federal Bureau of Investigation announced that it would complete the digitization of thirty million of criminal history files and civil identity records and eighty-three million fingerprint cards in September. The project is part of the agency's Next Generation Identification system and will replace the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS).

## The Savannah Historic Newspapers Archive

By Donald Summerlin

The Digital Library of Georgia is pleased to announce the availability of a new online resource: The Savannah Historic Newspapers Archive.

<http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/savnewspapers>

The Savannah Historic Newspapers Archive provides online access to three newspaper titles published in Savannah from 1809 to 1880. Consisting of over 83,000 newspaper pages, the archive provides historical images that are both full-text searchable and can be browsed by date.

The website includes the following Savannah newspaper titles: Savannah Georgian (1819-1856), Savannah Morning News (1868-1880), Savannah Republican (1809-1868). In addition, the archive is now compatible with all current browsers and no longer requires users to download a plug-in to view the newspaper images.

The Savannah Historic Newspapers Archive is a project of the Digital Library of Georgia, as part of the Georgia HomePLACE initiative. The Digital Library of





## Savannah Historic Newspapers (cont.)

Georgia is a project of Georgia's Virtual Library GALILEO and is based at the University of Georgia. Georgia HomePLACE is supported with federal LSTA funds administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Georgia Public Library Service, a unit of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

Other newspaper archives available through the Digital Library of Georgia include the Atlanta Historic Newspapers Archive (1847-1922), the Macon Telegraph Ar-

chive (1826-1908), the Athens Historic Newspapers Archive (1827-1928), the South Georgia Historic Newspapers Archive (1845-1922), the Columbus Enquirer Archive (1828-1890), the Milledgeville Historic Newspapers Archive (1808-1920), the Southern Israelite Archive (1929-1986), the Red and Black Archive (1893-2006), and the Mercer Cluster Archive (1920-1970). These archives can be accessed at <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/MediaTypes/Newspapers.html>



## Preservation News submitted

by *Alix Benrud*

### The 2014 Great Southeast ShakeOut

October 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:16am.

The ShakeOut is an opportunity to practice how to protect ourselves during earthquakes.

This is a time to practice "Drop, Cover, and Hold On!" For explanations and demonstrations of just what that means, go to.

<http://www.shakeout.org/southeast/dropcoverholdon/>

**For more information, to see what others in your area are doing, or to register your event go to**

<http://shakeout.org/southeast/>

If the 16<sup>th</sup> doesn't work for you,

"you can hold your drill any time [within](#) two weeks."

### October is Fire Prevention Month

Fire prevention month is a great time to review your emergency procedures and have a fire drill. You can also check out the National Fire Protection Association's website (they promote Fire Prevention Week 10/5-11/14) to see safety tips, "Fast Facts about fire," and to take the 2014 Fire Prevention Week Quiz. <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/fire-prevention-week>

### Preservation Beat

Preservation Beat is the blog

from the University of Iowa Libraries. <http://>

[blog.lib.uiowa.edu/preservation/](http://blog.lib.uiowa.edu/preservation/) If you haven't read it or haven't visited it for a while, I just wanted to bring it to your attention. Topics vary from discussions of book arts and interesting items from the University of Iowa's collections to disaster recovery techniques for collections and training.

Also found at this blog site are Additional Resources including a historical run of Gary Frost's "Future of the Book" blog from January, 2000 to April, 2014. Mr. Frost is now a contributor to Preservation Beat.

## Preservation News (cont.)

### #5DaysOfPreservation

This past June, Kevin Driedger posted in his blog, Preservation2, the idea that during 5 working days in July “anyone (or any institution) with any bit of preservation responsibility take at least one picture each day of something that depicts what preservation looks like for them that day...” The resulting photographs can be found at <http://5daysofpreservation.tumblr.com/> The project is over for now, but the contributed images and text are fascinating.

### Environmental Monitoring Equipment Loan Services from LYRASIS

The use of environmental monitoring equipment provides crucial information about the storage conditions of library, archives, and museum collections. Providing adequate storage environment is the most cost-effective per-item strategy for protecting your assets. The best way to detect potential problems with temperature, humidity, and light levels in collection storage areas is through an environmental monitoring program and the use of environmental monitoring equipment, which can provide the needed data. LYRASIS Preservation Services offers a

loan service for monitoring equipment for institutions that recognize the need to monitor environmental conditions yet do not own the equipment.

Data loggers to capture temperature and relative humidity readings can be borrowed for a period of one month. UV light meters are available for a period of one week.

For more information, contact Alicia Johnson, Preservation Administrative Coordinator. [alicia.johnson@lyrasis.org](mailto:alicia.johnson@lyrasis.org)

### Heritage Health Information 2014 from Heritage Preservation

It has been ten years since Heritage Preservation did their Heritage Health Index survey. This October, they are doing it again. The goal of the Heritage Health Information survey is to collect data on the condition and preservation needs of our nation’s collections. It will measure progress, assess needs and validate success. This survey will also place new emphasis on preservation of digital collections. If your institution is one of the over 14,000 collecting institutions to receive the survey, please fill out the survey as completely as you can and participate in the data collection. <http://www.heritagepreservation.org/hhi/>



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## Internet Corner: Flipped Learning

By Pamela Nye

One of the trends in education in the last several years is the concept of a “flipped classroom” or “flipped learning.” Traditionally, a teacher would lecture to the class during the classroom period, and then assign homework problems for the students to work on at home. In a flipped classroom, the teacher posts videos of the lectures online for the students to view at home first. Then, in the classroom, the students work on the problems, and the teacher is readily available for guidance and extra help. Programs such as Moodle (<https://moodle.org/>) and Schoology (<https://www.schoology.com/home.php>) help facilitate this classroom model by providing a digital platform for the course, including places to upload videos, create online assignments/tests, and join collaborative areas in various subjects.

There is debate within the education community about the terms “flipped classrooms” and “flipped learning.” Flipped classrooms (or inverted classrooms) have been around for quite some time—students were expected to read assignments ahead of time and use the classroom for discussion of the assignments. A new definition of Flipped Learning focuses on the student becoming more of a self-regulated learner:

*“Flipped Learning is a pedagogical approach in which direct instruction moves from the group learning*

*space to the individual learning space, and the resulting group space is transformed into a dynamic, interactive learning environment where the educator guides students as they apply concepts and engage creatively in the subject matter.” – Flipped Learning Network (<http://www.flippedlearning.org/definition>)*

While most of the resources are geared towards the K-12 teacher, there are more college and university professors who are using this model in their classroom. I’m curious to know if any library or archives program is currently using this model in one or more of their classrooms. Please let me know at [pamelanye @ westminster.net](mailto:pamelanye@westminster.net).

### Flip Your Classroom Day: A Global Initiative (October 1, 2014)

<http://www.flippedlearning.org/domain/43>

Flipped Day is a day when educators across the globe flip one lesson. Instead of delivering content for a particular lesson from the front of the room, educators will:

- *Create* a recording of that content ahead of time or
- *Curate* a recording someone else has created
- *Assign* the recording as homework for students to interact with before they come to class October 1

*Engage* students in class with a creative activity to deepen their un-

## Internet Corner (cont.)

derstanding of the lesson

Flipped Day is an international event—during the first Flipped Day last year, there were over 400 educators in 25 countries taking part in the event.

### Flipped Learning Network

<http://www.flippedlearning.org/domain/9>

The mission of the Flipped Learning Network is to provide educators with the knowledge, skills, and resources to successfully implement Flipped Learning. The website includes news, resources—including examples of videos, and events relating to flipped learning. In March 2014, the FLN Board released the “Four Pillars of F-L-I-P”: <http://fln.schoolwires.net/site/Default.aspx?PageID=92>.

### Flipping the Classroom

<http://cft.vanderbilt.edu/guides-sub-pages/flipping-the-classroom/>

This is a good overview with resources made available through Vanderbilt University’s Center for Teaching.

### Turning Learning on Its Head: Jon Bergmann’s Blog

<http://jonbergmann.com/>

Jon Bergmann, along with Aaron Sams, is considered a pioneer in the Flipped Class Movement. He spent 24 years as a middle and high school science teacher before becoming the lead technology facilitator for a school district in the Chicago suburbs. Today Jon is dedicated to writing, speaking and

otherwise promoting the flipped classroom concept. Jon helped found the [Flipped Learning Network](#), a non-profit organization which provides resources and research about flipped learning.

### Extension of a Review of Flipped Learning (2014)

[http://researchnetwork.pearson.com/wp-content/uploads/613\\_A023\\_FlippedLearning\\_2014\\_JUNE\\_SinglePage\\_f.pdf](http://researchnetwork.pearson.com/wp-content/uploads/613_A023_FlippedLearning_2014_JUNE_SinglePage_f.pdf)

From the overview: “As a relatively new model of instruction, educators understandably desire evidence that the Flipped Learning model has a positive impact on important student outcomes, including achievement and engagement. To meet this need, the Flipped Learning Network™ (FLN), with the support of Pearson and researchers at George Mason University, completed a comprehensive review of relevant research—both theory and empirical evidence—in June 2013. Currently, the amount of rigorous, empirical research on the effectiveness of the Flipped Learning model is limited but growing. In this 2014 extension of the literature review, we review studies published recently to provide educators with the most up-to-date information about the Flipped Learning model. PDF copies of the 2013 literature review, along with a shorter-form white paper and two-page executive summary, are available at [www.flippedlearning.org/research](http://www.flippedlearning.org/research)”



## Membership Spotlight on Margie Compton

*By Mary Katherine Barnes*



### **Name:**

Margaret (Margie) Compton

### **How long have you been an SGA Member?**

I'm actually a new member this summer.

### **What attracted you to the archives profession?**

I was always interested in film history and old movies; my parents always let us kids stay up late to watch old movies on TV. I got very interested in preserving films when American Movie Classics ran its film preservation festivals spotlighting film archives, archivists, and lab technicians preserving the Hollywood classic films; many of those people profiled in those shows are my friends and colleagues now. When living in Washington, D.C. in the 1980s, I asked someone at the American Film Institute how to get a

job in a film archives and she said she was getting a library science degree, so I started focusing on that. I eventually got my MLIS at The University of Texas at Austin under the tutelage of the great David B. Gracy, II, and am I ever grateful (daily!) to have studied with him. And I wouldn't be where I am today without having joined the Association of Moving Image Archivists and without my internship at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History's Archives Center.

### **Where do you work, and what's your current position?**

I am the Media Archives Archivist for the Walter J. Brown Media Archives & Peabody Awards Collection at the University of Georgia Libraries.

### **How long have you been at your institution, and what roles have you had there?**

I started work here in late July 2001 in this position and have just stayed put and held on. It's been a great job with a lot of variety. I've been involved in Home Movie Day events, in screenings around campus, in assisting colleagues with their film collections, and partnering with our development officer to bring in new collections from around the state. I've brought in over \$45,000 in National Film Preservation Foundation grants

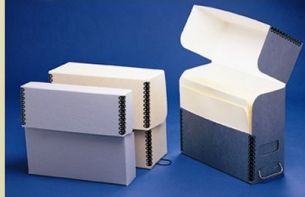
to preserve unique films. And, of course, there was the big move in 2012 into our new Special Collections Building.

### **What is your favorite part of your job?**

I love the mystery and the archaeology of the work, finding interesting things among films I know next to nothing about until I can get them cleaned and inspected. Sometimes I surprise the donors with what's among their films, sometimes I surprise myself. I've learned never to assume I know what's coming in the door when someone wants to donate material to us. Invariably, there will be a surprise element.

### **What's the most interesting piece that you have come across while processing?**

There are lots of interesting items among our holdings. Finding what turned out to be the earliest film of African Americans playing baseball dating to around 1919 (Pebble Hill Plantation Film Collection--earliest known surviving home movies shot in Georgia) is pretty special, but until the news of the baseball footage got out and experts started looking at it and saying it was the earliest, I didn't know it was going to be THAT special. I just thought it was a great piece of film highlighting a Georgia plantation's



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## Membership Spotlight on Margie Compton (cont.)

employees. We've also recently acquired home movies shot by two brothers who had traveling movie tent shows in the South and Midwest; those are wonderful films dating back to the 1920s. There are some interesting color films here on Kodacolor lenticular film and one on Dufaycolor, a British color process, we have 9.5mm film with sprocket holes down the middle of the film and 28mm film (which I never thought I'd see), and we store nitrate film we've had preserved in the vaults of colleagues who are certified to store it. I've seen more kinds of film and videotape formats than I ever thought I would when I got into the profession and that's been rewarding.

### Did you have an alternative career path (if so please elaborate)?

Right after college, when I didn't really know what I wanted to do, I got a job as a secretary at NASA HQ, then became a legal secretary/assistant in Maryland and Arizona until my early 30s. I was good at the work and I got to travel around with the knowledge that I could always easily get a job no matter where I lived. But I got bored with it and knew it was time for a change. After getting my MLIS, I worked at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences' Margaret Herrick Library in their photo archives. I was there three and a half years before moving here for this job. You know it's time to leave when even attending the Oscars doesn't make you want to

stay in the job.

### What are your hobbies or favorite past times?

I read a lot, enjoy watching movies, I like to travel, I do a bit of knitting, and I'd like to get back into some gardening if I could find the time.

### What advice do you have for new members just coming into the profession?

Learn a lot about cataloging, digitization, workflow, and digital storage—the growth sectors. You can't find what's preserved if it isn't properly cataloged, and it's even better when viewable online.

### Education

- M.L.I.S., The University of Texas at Austin, 1997

B.A. in English with Honors, Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas, 1984

### Work Experience

- Media Archives Archivist, Media Archives & Peabody Awards Collection, University of Georgia Libraries, Athens, GA, July 2001 – present
  - Assistant Photo Curator, Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, Margaret Herrick Library, Beverly Hills, CA, January 1998 – June 2001
- Film Archives Intern, National Museum of American History, The Archives Center, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, June – August 1997

## Membership Spotlight (cont.)

### Professional Memberships & Committees

- Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) 1996 – present
  - Conference Committee Member: 2000, 2001, 2005 and 2008
  - Member of Elections Committee, 2006-2008
  - Interim Secretary, Board of Directors, April 2002-November 2002
  - Awards Committee, Chair, 2001-2003
  - Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL)/ American Library Association (ALA), 2006-2007
  - UGA Libraries' Committee on Professional Development & Research, 2005-2007
  - UGA Libraries' Ergonomic and Safety Committee, 2003-2004
  - Society of American Archivists (SAA), 1995-2002, Visual Materials Section Member
  - Faculty Judge, Annual Peabody Awards: 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009
- Screening Committee Member, Athens Jewish Film Festival, 2011

### Publications

Wrote press release ([http://news.uga.edu/releases/article/earliest-known-plantation-](http://news.uga.edu/releases/article/earliest-known-plantation-baseball-game-film-discovered/)

[baseball-game-film-discovered/](http://news.uga.edu/releases/article/earliest-known-plantation-baseball-game-film-discovered/)) and acted as point person/ interviewee for publicity surrounding Pebble Hill film, which is the earliest known footage of African Americans playing baseball c. 1919

Wrote press release (<http://news.uga.edu/releases/article/uga-libraries-media-archives-preserves-only-known-films-annie-russell-/>) and handled subsequent publicity surrounding Pebble Hill films of actress Annie Russell

- "Collecting Georgia's Home Town Movies: Acquisition, Ownership, Preservation, and Access," *The Moving Image*, 10:1, 2010
- Introduction to transcription of Arnold Michaelis interview with Richard Rodgers, *American Music*, 27:3, 2009
- "The Archivist, the Scholar, and Access to Historic Television Materials," *Cinema Journal*, 46:3 (Spring 2007).

### Presentations

- "Earliest Known: Pebble Hill Plantation Baseball" at the 2014 Cooperstown Symposium on Baseball and American Culture, National Baseball Hall of Fame, Cooperstown, NY, May 27-30, 2014.
- Presentation on Pebble Hill c. 1919 baseball film to Magnolia Chapter of Society of American Baseball Research (SABR), Turner Field, Atlanta, GA, May

11, 2013.

Conceived of and organized, with assistance of Art Dept. (Georgia Strange and Kinzey Branham) and GMOA (Dr. William Eiland, Paul Manoguerra, and Carissa DiCindio), a screening and panel discussion on April 14, 2013, discussing archival film of artist Abbott Pattison's marble sculpture and Lamar Dodd in a 1961 tv show. <http://news.uga.edu/releases/article/archival-film-screening-to-feature-uga-artists-2013/>

- Speaker at the Annie Russell Theatre, Rollins College, Winter Park, FL, presenting the debut of our 96-year old home movie footage (Pebble Hill Plantation Film Collection) of early 20th-century Broadway star Annie Russell, previously unseen by the public, before a performance of "She Stoops to Conquer," April 19, 2013.
- Panelist on "100 Years: 28mm, A New Look at Old Films", AMIA Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, Dec. 4-7, 2012.



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The deadlines to submit content and advertisement for volume 46 (2014) are:

- March 17
- June 16
- September 15
- December 15

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