

SGA Newsletter

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Sheraton Birmingham. Photo: Arlette Copeland

First Edward Weldon Scholarship Recipient Attends SAA 2002

By Mandi Johnson



Mandi Johnson

At the end of August, I attended my first Society of American Archivists annual meeting thanks to the Edward Weldon Scholarship awarded by the Society of Georgia Archivists.

Held in Birmingham, the theme for this SAA meeting was "Archival Roots: Our Foundation and Our Future." Civil rights activist and leader Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth was the speaker at the opening plenary session. Reverend Shuttlesworth encouraged us as archivists to become activists for the truth because we hold the records that document the truth.

After the opening plenary, there were three days worth of sessions from which to choose. Because I am the Visual Materials Archivist at the Georgia Historical Society, I was primarily interested in sessions that related to photographs and architectural drawings. There were two such sessions, in addition to section and roundtable meetings. The sessions I attended were interesting and educational. The information ranged from a basic refresher course, to immediately useful, to recommendations that could be accomplished only in a perfect world.

See Weldon Scholarship on page 3



Former SGA Presidents (l-r) Susan Potts McDonald and Susan Broome at 2002 Society of American Archivists meeting in Birmingham, Alabama. Photo: Arlette Copeland.

Inside This Issue

Weldon Recipient attends SAA page 1

Gulley Recipient page 3

Obituary : Sarah Anna Huffaker Alexander page 3

Internet Corner page 4

Institutional Profile page 4

Washington Beat page 6

Preservation News page 7

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Specifics Regarding the *SGA Newsletter*

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

The *SGA Newsletter* is issued four times a year. All subscriptions are for the

calendar year and are based on membership dues to the Society of Georgia Archivists. Members of SGA and related associations are encouraged to send in announcements of jobs, workshops, conferences, or other information to share. Appropriate and newsworthy notices will be printed as space permits.

The *SGA Newsletter* invites advertisements for archival products and services as space permits and at the editor's discretion. Ads must be accompanied by a check made payable to the Society of Georgia Archivists.

Deadlines for submissions for articles and camera-ready advertisements are February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1.

For article submission and advertisement rate information, please contact:

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Scholarships

Larry Gulley Scholarship Recipient: Morna Gerrard

By Sheila McAlister

The Scholarship Committee was pleased to announce that Morna Gerrard is the 2002 recipient of the Larry Gulley Scholarship.

Morna, an archival management student in Clark Atlanta University's Master of Science in Library Service program, currently works as a processing archivist at Georgia State

University. She has a master in history from Edinburgh University and completed masters level coursework in Archives and Records Management at Western Washington University. Previously, Morna worked as a curator at the National Archives of Scotland.

The scholarship covered 2002 SGA annual meeting registration fee, a maximum of fifty dollars to defray



Sheila McAlister

her travel costs, and membership dues for the following year, 2003.

The purpose of the Gulley Scholarship is to enhance archival education, membership, and participation in the profession. The scholarship is named for Larry Gulley, a loyal member of the Society of Georgia Archivists who gave stellar service to the organization in many capacities. ❖

Weldon Scholarship *from page 1*

The SAA meeting was a wonderful opportunity to meet archivists from around the country. Section and roundtable meetings allowed like-minded archivists to get together. In addition to the regular section meeting, the visual materials section went to dinner. This provided a casual atmosphere to meet other archivists who work with

visual materials and gave us a chance to talk without rushing off to another session.

The non-visual materials sessions I attended expanded my understanding of archives. I learned more about the different materials and media that archival work can encompass. The sessions also introduced me to

other repositories' collections and policies.

The sessions and the archivists I met reinforced the fact that the archival world is truly a multi-dimensional one. Despite the diversity, we face the same kinds of issues and challenges, and we reap similar joys from our chosen profession. ❖

Obituary : Sarah Anna Huffaker Alexander

Submitted by her great-niece, Pamela Coleman

Sarah "Sadie" Anna Huffaker Alexander, 77, of the Morningside community in Atlanta, died Friday, September 13, 2002, at Piedmont Hospital following a stroke.

While raising her two sons with her husband William "Bill" Murray Alexander, she enrolled at Georgia State College and earned a Bachelor in English degree in 1969. In 1981, she earned a Master in Library Science degree from Emory University and was an active member of the Mu Rho Sigma Sorority. She worked ten years for the Atlanta Public Library and its Special Collections Unit at the Central Branch Library. She retired in 1991. Mrs. Alexander was a member of the Atlanta Historical Society, and her love of Atlanta history attracted her to serve for many years as a volunteer at the Atlanta History Center, assisting in its research activities. She was also a long-time member of the Society of Georgia Archivists.

A memorial service was held at Trinity Methodist Church in Atlanta on September 17, 2002. She was buried in Westview Cemetery on September 18, 2002.

Internet Corner : Internships in Archives

Jazzing Up Your Website

By Pamela Coleman

Now that most of us have jumped headlong into the Internet, we realize that this is yet one more medium with which we can compete for the attention of our target audiences. This can be done by enhancing your website. If you are in a larger shop, you may not have the ability to change what you would like. In a smaller shop, you may not have the time to read those books on XML and Javascript. Luckily for time-pressed archivists, websites are available which can quickly introduce us and help us "cut-and-paste" improvements in



Pamela Coleman

our website (or help us talk more intelligently to our tech support).

Webmonkey: The Web Developer's Resource

<http://www.webmonkey.com>

This can be your one-stop-shop for quick introductions to web development. The site includes a Javascript library, an HTML cheatsheet, color codes, browser chart, stylesheets guide, and tutorials. The articles are humorous as well as easy to understand. They encourage you to copy scripts and code to paste directly into your website, making it easier (and faster) on you. Not only do they

provide quick access to technical details, they also help in design and authoring issues. The site is constantly being updated, so you are sure to have the latest web knowledge on hand.

Web Developer's Virtual Library

<http://www.wdvl.com/>

This site acts as an encyclopedia for the latest information in web development. Books, articles, and websites are reviewed and abstracted for quick reference. Topics that are covered include code, design, graphics, software, internet issues, and WDWL resources. Beginners guides are available for the novice, and more detailed information is available for the more advanced web developer. The WDWL is one of the oldest web developer

See Internet Corner on page 5

Comments and suggestions about the Internet Corner can be directed to Pamela Coleman at Webmaster@soga.org

Institutional Profile : Liberty County Records Center

By Mandi Johnson

Liberty County Records Center
P.O. Box 829
Hinesville, GA 31313
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The Liberty County Records Center (LCRC) is a joint jurisdiction records program and storage center. The idea of such a program in Liberty County first arose in the early and mid-1990s, although it was not until May 1999 that a Records Coordinator was hired. Start up funding for the program was provided by the participants and grants from the Department of Community Affairs and the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board.

The LCRC currently works with approximately fifty-five departments, divisions, and agencies from five local government entities: the City of Hinesville, Liberty County, the Liberty County School System and Board, the District Attorney and Child Support Enforcement, and the Liberty Regional Medical Center. LCRC also handles the records of the five constitutionally elected officials of the county: Clerk of Courts, Magistrate Judge, Probate Judge, Sheriff, and Tax Commissioner. Just recently, LCRC agreed to accept records from the Liberty County Health Department.

The Records Center is located in a

renovated post office building in Hinesville. Construction on the Records Center began in December 1999 and was completed in June 2000. The full shelving capacity of the LCRC is 8850 cubic feet. Currently, the holdings are right at 6500 cubic feet, however, there is ongoing disposal of records that have passed their retention periods and have been approved for disposal by the creating agency. The building has a shredder room, which is vented to control dust. A microfilm room and vault were built during the renovation. There are also plans for microfilming and digital scanning of records.

See Institutional Profile on page 5

Internet Corner *from page 4*

web sites, founded in December 1994. The material is unbiased, vendor-neutral and standards-based. The site has won several major awards. The content is painstakingly written and cross-linked to create a unique Webmaster's Illustrated Encyclopedia.

World Wide Web Consortium <http://www.w3.org>

The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) was created in 1994 and develops interoperable technologies (specifications, guidelines, software, and tools). W3C is a forum for information, commerce, communication, and collective understanding. One of the group's long-term goals is to make the Web accessible to all by promoting technologies that take into account the vast differences in culture, languages, education, ability, material resources, and physical limitations of users on all continents. The W3C provides a validation service at <http://validator.w3.org/> where you type in your website address to find out if your website conforms to the W3C standards. This site is not as easy to read as the others, but it is considered "the site" on web standards.

WebDeveloper and WebReference

<http://www.webdeveloper.com> and <http://www.webreference.com>

These two sites are part of Internet.com, the same parent site as the WebDeveloper's Virtual Library. WebDeveloper tends to be geared towards the more sophisticated web developer, although the Web Developer's directory is a gold mine of technical and design information. WebReference contains tutorials and articles from beginners to advanced users. Both sites contain useful (and well-respected) information on website development. ❖

Institutional Profile *from page 5*

The Liberty County Records Center is not open to the public. It serves government agencies, schools, and the local medical center. The public can make requests through the creating office or agency.

The LCRC staff consists of the Records Coordinator and a full time assistant. The Records Coordinator oversees the Records Center's day to day operation and reports to an eleven-member board, which is responsible for the overall operation of the center. The LCRC averages 50-60 requests a week and have realized a 10.4% volume growth since April.

In 2001, the Georgia Records Association recognized LCRC with its award of organizational achievement for management of government records in Georgia. For more information, contact Winston E. Walker III, Records Coordinator. ❖



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Washington Beat

Washington Beat reports on federal legislation and agency initiatives and actions of interest to archivists. Resources used to write the column include "Washington Update" from NCC; THOMAS, the Library of Congress' federal legislation database; The Federal Register; Peter Kurilecz's "Records and Archives in the News;" press releases from federal agencies, including the National Archives and the Library of Congress; and postings from the Archives & Archivists Listserv, among others.

By Jim Cross

REAGAN AND BUSH PAPERS

RELEASED: Eight hundred and forty-four pages of George Bush's Vice Presidential records were released on June 14, 2002, as well as 26,653

pages of President Reagan's records that were requested through FOIA since 2000. The vice presidential material released includes items relating to NASA, terrorism, the EPA, AIDS, political prisoners in Cuba and Nicaragua, and "country" files. On July 19, 2002 one hundred and fifty pages that were held back from an earlier Reagan Papers release, reflecting mostly the "confidential advice" given to the President on political and judicial nominations, were released, as were forty pages of Bush Vice Presidential records. Several documents relate to the nomination of Robert Bork to the Supreme Court. Another 1,654 pages of recently discovered Reagan "confidential advice" material is under review.



Jim Cross

NATIONAL ARCHIVES NEWS: On July 11, 2002 a fire damaged a small portion of the roof of the Great Lakes Regional Archives in Dayton, OH; few records were

affected. An agreement to loan Delaware's ratification of the Bill of Rights to that state was announced by the National Archives on July 23, 2002. It will be on display at the Delaware Public Archives in Dover for eighty-four days each year for the next twenty-five years. When not on display it will be stored at the National Archives. The Foundation for the National Archives announced the appointment of its first Chief Administrative Officer (Director) on August 12, 2002. Thora Colot—a graduate of the University of Virginia and George Washington University, an employee of the

See Washington Beat on page 8



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Preservation News

By Christine Wiseman

New Preservation Information from SOLINET



Christine Wiseman.

The proper storage and care of magnetic media collections pose many challenges to librarians and archivists. Magnetic formats are inherently unstable and require active measures such as copying and reformatting to ensure their preservation beyond just a few decades. SOLINET Preservation Services has a new leaflet that provides tips for extending the longevity of audiotape collections. *"Preservation Recording, Copying, and Storage Guidelines for Audio Tape Collections"* is available in pdf and html formats on the SOLINET website at www.solinet.net/preservation/preservation_templ.cfm?doc_id=115.

Preservation Services has two new educational videotapes available for loan through the Audio Visual Loan Service. *"Temperature and Relative Humidity"* and *"Integrated Pest Management"* are both part of the Canadian produced series, Preventive Conservation in Museums. Each program lasts approximately thirty minutes and provides concise information about controlling environmental conditions and dealing with pest infestations. Although aimed at a museum audience, much of the information pertains to libraries and archives as well. For more information, including the full list of videos available for loan, visit www.solinet.net/preservation/leaflets/leaflets_templ.cfm?doc_id=688.

Conservation Reference Sources Now Available Online

Two invaluable research tools for conservators are now available on the Internet. The Getty Conservation Institute (GCI) in association with the International Institute for Conservation (IIC) has mounted the *Art and Archaeology Technical Abstracts* (AATA) on the web. Access to this valuable conservation resource is free of charge. More than 100,000 abstracts related to the preservation and conservation of material cultural heritage will be accessible through AATA online; new abstracts are added quarterly. To access the database, see www.getty.edu/conservation.

In addition, The Board of the Conservation Information Network's Bibliographic Database (BCIN) is available free of charge on a new website, www.bcin.ca, created by the Conservation Information Network and the Canadian Heritage Information Network. The database contains over 190,000 bibliographic citations on conservation.

New Book Repair Manual Published

One of the most comprehensive book repair manuals published in many years, *Book Repair: A How-To-Do-It Manual, 2nd edition*, by Kenneth Lavender, is a significant expansion of the original edition in breadth and scope. While the previous edition was intended for a school and public library audience,

Preservation News is a quarterly column intended to disseminate timely and newsworthy information about preservation in libraries and archives. News items are collected from printed sources (newsletters, journals, press releases), information gathered at conferences and meetings, electronic mailing lists, and websites. Priority is given to items of particular interest to archivists and librarians in the Southeastern U.S. Topics include reports on developments in the field, training opportunities, new publications and services, and information on funding sources and grant deadlines. Please submit your preservation news to Christine Wiseman at 404-656-3554, or cwiseman@sos.state.ga.us.

this edition expands the focus as well as the number and difficulty level of repairs. It incorporates many techniques not usually published in repair manuals such as lining documents, hinging torn pages, repairing split text blocks, encapsulation, and matting. An excellent addition is the section on the recovery of water-damaged books and the removal of mold. Overall, it is a useful manual for skilled repair technicians planning to learn a wider range of techniques, or to complement hands on training. Ordering information: *Book Repair: A How-To-Do-It Manual, 2^d ed.* How-To-Do-It Manuals for Librarians No.107. Kenneth Lavender. New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc. 2001. 269 pp. \$49.95. (ISBN 1-55570-408-5) ❖

Washington Beat *from page 6*

Smithsonian Institution for over twenty-five years, and most recently Director of Marketing and Business Activities at the Phillips Collection—will oversee all Foundation operations, represent the Board of Directors in daily activities, provide support to the education and outreach programs of the Archives, and manage the business and financial affairs of a new museum and learning center that will open at the Archives in 2004. Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Southeastern Regional archives were held on August 26, 2002 in Morrow, Georgia; the new building is expected to open in 2004. The murals from the rotunda at Archives I on the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution have been removed and are undergoing restoration; they will be reinstalled sometime in November 2002.

NEW COLLECTION AT LIBRARY OF CONGRESS: On August 19, 2002 the Library of Congress announced the acquisition of the Prelinger Collection, which contains over 48,000 motion

pictures. These so-called “ephemeral” films include advertising, educational, industrial, amateur, and documentary motion pictures that document everyday life in the United States in the 20th century. Because of the size and complexity of the collection, it will be several years before the Library can provide access. However, 1,500 titles may be viewed and downloaded without charge for research, pleasure or reuse through the Internet Archive at www.archive.org/movies, while stock footage for production can be acquired through Getty Images at www.gettyimages.com. Detailed information about access to the collection can be found at www.prelinger.com.

GUIDE: The Library of Congress has a new guide to its motion picture and audio holdings, *Motion pictures, broadcasting, recorded sound: an illustrated guide*, which is available from the Library of Congress and the superintendent of Documents (stock number 030-001-00162-8) for \$8.00. James E. David, of the National Air and Space Museum, recently wrote a primer on doing research in national security records titled *Conducting Post-World War II National Security Research in Executive Branch Records: A Comprehensive Guide*. For more information about the book, visit http://www.greenwood.com/books/BookDetail.asp?dept_id=1&sku=GR1986 ❖



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