

# SGA Newsletter

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Fall 2004

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pwcoleman@mindspring.com

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Miriam C. Hudgins  
newsletter@soga.org

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Susan G. Broome  
provenance@soga.org

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## Georgia Archives Week October 3-9

submitted by Penny Cliff

“Mapping Past to Future” is this year’s theme for Georgia Archives Week, which will take place October 3-9, 2004. The purpose of Archives Week is to celebrate the value of Georgia’s historical records, publicize the many ways historical records enrich our lives and recognize those who maintain our communities’ historical records. This is the ideal time to call attention to your organization or local government, and its work in preserving Georgia’s documentary heritage.

The celebration will be publicized across the state. Governor Perdue will be asked to proclaim the week as Georgia Archives week. Plans also call for a poster, newspaper and newsletter articles, and events at various repositories. We encourage you to think of ways in which your organization or local government can celebrate Archives Week in your community. Your activity does not have to be directly related to the theme, but does need to focus on the importance of archival records. Ideas include creating exhibits, hosting receptions, giving tours, writing articles, or developing special programs.

For additional information please contact Shari Jackson at 404-676-4197 or [archivesweek@soga.org](mailto:archivesweek@soga.org) or visit the web site at <http://www.soga.org/aw/gaw> ❖

## SGA Annual Conference November 4-5

submitted by Frances Overcash

The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society of Georgia Archivists will be held at the Georgia Archives in Morrow, Georgia on November 4 and 5, 2004.

This year’s meeting will focus on the changes in archives given the changes in our society post September 11. Some of the sessions we are working on will take a look at how institutions are dealing with changing technology, security and

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access to collections, and preservation issues. Tours of the Georgia Archives facility will be offered on Thursday afternoon. So mark your calendars and join us at the Georgia Archives on November 4 and 5. ❖

## Specifics Regarding the *SGA Newsletter*

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

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

the calendar year and are based on membership dues to the Society of Georgia Archivists.

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

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

payable to the Society of Georgia Archivists. Deadlines for submissions for articles and camera-ready advertisements are March 1st, June 1st, September 1st, and November 15th.

For article submission and advertisement information, please contact:

Miriam C. Hudgins  
Mercer University School of Medicine  
Medical Library & LRC  
1550 College Street  
Macon, GA 31207-0001  
Telephone: 478-301-2318  
Email: [newsletter@soga.org](mailto:newsletter@soga.org) ❖

### SGA Newsletter

Editor

Miriam C. Hudgins  
[newsletter@soga.org](mailto:newsletter@soga.org)

Associate Editor

Penny Cliff  
[tuarch@alltel.net](mailto:tuarch@alltel.net)

Alabama Correspondent

Tim Pennycuff  
[tpennycu@lister2.lhl.uab.edu](mailto:tpennycu@lister2.lhl.uab.edu)

Calendar of Events

Wesley Chenault  
[wchenault@atlantahistorycenter.com](mailto:wchenault@atlantahistorycenter.com)

Institutional Profile

Mandi D. Johnson  
[mjohnson@georgiahistory.com](mailto:mjohnson@georgiahistory.com)

Internet Corner

Pamela Coleman  
[pwcoleman@mindspring.com](mailto:pwcoleman@mindspring.com)

Membership Spotlight

Sheila McAlister  
[mcalists@libris.libs.uga.edu](mailto:mcalists@libris.libs.uga.edu)

Preservation News

Tina Mason  
[tmason@solinet.net](mailto:tmason@solinet.net)

Washington Beat

Jim Cross  
[jcross@clemsun.edu](mailto:jcross@clemsun.edu)

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## Membership Spotlight

**Name:** Jody Lloyd Thompson

**Institution:** Georgia Institute of Technology archives

**SGA Member Since:** 1999

**VITAE:** M.A. in History, Georgia Southern University (2000); B.A. in History, Georgia Southern University (1995)



**JOB DESCRIPTION:**

Currently, I am the Acting Head of the Georgia Tech archives and the Visual Arts Archivist. I oversee all operations of the archives and the visual materials, which keeps me pretty busy.

**MOST ENJOYABLE ASPECT OF YOUR JOB:** Since becoming the Acting Head of the Archives, I am responsible for dealing with donors, and, surprisingly, this has been a great enjoyment for

me. When alumni donate materials, many of them have stories they want to share. I have learned so much from them.

**FAVORITE PASTIME:** running (I was on the cross county team at Georgia Southern) and spending time with my husband and cats.

**COMMENTS ON WORK OR PROFESSION:** I decided to become an archivist because I enjoy collecting and preserving history. It fascinates me to know that something I process will be around for years to come. ❖

**Membership Spotlight** is submitted by Sheila McAlister. She can be reached at [mcalists@libris.libs.uga.edu](mailto:mcalists@libris.libs.uga.edu)

## Calendar of Events

### EXHIBITIONS

June 30-September 5, 2004 - **Bernard D'Andrea: Five Decades of Evolution**, Savannah, GA, [www.telfair.org](http://www.telfair.org)

July 3-September 26, 2004 - **Hale Woodruff in Atlanta**, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA, [www.high.org](http://www.high.org)

July 27-September 5, 2004 - **The Wise and Powerful Wizard: John Stockton de Martelly (1903-1979)**, Georgia Museum of Art, Athens, GA, [www.uga.edu/gamuseum](http://www.uga.edu/gamuseum)

July 29-September 26, 2004 - **Augustus Saint-Gaudens: American Sculptor of the Gilded Age**, Georgia Museum of Art, Athens, GA, [www.uga.edu/gamuseum](http://www.uga.edu/gamuseum)

September 1- December 1, 2004 - **I Am A Man: 1968 Sanitation Workers Strike in Memphis, TN**, Georgia State University Library Special Collections

gallery, Atlanta, GA, <http://www.library.gsu.edu/spcoll/>

September 4, 2004 - January 2, 2005 - **After 9/11: Messages from the World and Images of Ground Zero**, Jimmy Carter Library and Museum, Atlanta, <http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.org/events/>

### CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

August 18, 2004 - **Introduction to Grants for Preservation**, a SOLINET workshop, Web-based training, [www.solinet.net](http://www.solinet.net)



### Calendar of Events

is submitted by Wesley Chenault. He can be reached at [wchenault@atlantahistorycenter.com](mailto:wchenault@atlantahistorycenter.com). Call ahead to confirm dates, times, and fees.

September 16, 2004 - **Archives Preservation: Holdings Maintenance**, a SOLINET workshop, [www.solinet.net](http://www.solinet.net)

September 14, 2004 - **Collection Development for Hispanic Populations**, a SOLINET workshop, Fort Lauderdale, FL, [www.solinet.net](http://www.solinet.net)

October 6 - October 8, 2004 - **Business Archives: Establishing and Managing an Archives** (SAA workshop), Washington, DC, [http://www.archivists.org/prof-education/seasonal\\_schedule.asp](http://www.archivists.org/prof-education/seasonal_schedule.asp) ❖

## Georgia News

### News from Emory University Special Collections

submitted by Nancy Watkins

**Elizabeth Russey** has been appointed to the position of Manuscripts Processing Archivist in the Special Collections and Archives of Emory University's General Libraries. Prior to coming to Emory, she served for 18 months as project archivist in the Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary. Previous to that, Elizabeth was a graduate assistant at the National Trust for Historic Preservation Library and an intern at the National Archives and Records Administration. She has an MLS with archives administration and a M.A. in American history, both from the University of Maryland.

**Teresa Burk** has been appointed Research Services Archivist in the Special Collections and Archives of Emory University's General Libraries. Teresa received her MLIS from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 2002 and a BA in Art History from Reed College. She served a 9-month Librarian Fellowship in Special Collections and Archives, and as Circulation and Reserves Desk Supervisor for five years, also at the General Libraries. ❖

### Newly Processed Collections at the Georgia Historical Society

submitted by Nora Galler

**Savannah Municipal Airport Records, 1924-1945** (MS 2114, 2 cubic feet): The development of the Savannah Municipal Airport began in 1928 when the City of Savannah and Chatham County jointly purchased the 730 acre Belmont tract previously own by J.C. Lewis. The airport opened in 1929 and was officially named Hunter Field by city resolution in 1932. The two cubic feet of material in the Savannah Municipal Airport Records contain administrative records, bids and specifications, correspondence and financial papers.

**Colonial Dames, 17<sup>th</sup> Century, Adam Brinson I Chapter Records, 1968-1985** (MS 2107, 4 folders). The Adam Brinson I Chapter of the Colonial Dames XVII Century was founded in Savannah, Georgia on February 2, 1968. Eligibility for membership in the society requires tracing one's lineal ancestry to seventeenth century America. The four folders of the Colonial Dames XVII Century Records contain meeting minutes from 1968 to 1977, as well as the chapter's year books for 1981 to 1985.

**Mackay Family Papers Addenda, 1828-1854** (MS 531, 3 folders). The Mackay Family Papers consists of correspondence from various family members of the Robert Mackay (1772-1816) branch of the family. The three folder addenda to this collection are the letters of John Mackay (1805-1848) to his mother, Eliza Anne (McQueen) Mackay (1778-1862). His letters discuss Georgia politics, plantation life, and family news.

**John P. Rousakis Papers, 1962-2001** (MS 1678, 5.58 cubic feet). John P. Rousakis (1929-2000) was a Savannah native of Greek descent who served as mayor of Savannah, Georgia for 21 years. The Rousakis Papers include mayoral papers, personal papers and correspondence, and newspaper clippings of a professional and personal nature.

**Altrusa Club Records, 1938-2002, undated** (MS 2011, 10.9 cubic feet). The Altrusa Club of Savannah was founded in 1938 to serve as the local branch of the national organization. The Altrusa Club is an organization geared toward professionals who wish to engage in public service and foster personal achievement. The Altrusa Club of Savannah is currently dormant due to lack of membership. Records consist of administrative records, program materials, publications, newspaper clippings and scrapbooks. ❖



## A. Venable Lawson 1922-2004

submitted by Nancy Books

A. Venable Lawson, director of the Division of Librarianship (later Division of Library and Information Management) at Emory University from 1965-88, died May 14 in Atlanta.

Lawson graduated from the University of Alabama in 1947 and received his master's degree from Emory University Division of Librarianship in 1950.

After a temporary position at Atlanta Public Library, he joined Harvard University Library as assistant librarian. In 1953, he returned to Atlanta as head of reference service at Atlanta Public Library and was promoted

in 1957 to Coordinator for Public Service. He served as part-time instructor at the Atlanta University and Emory University library schools. In 1960, he accepted a position on the faculty of the library school at Florida State University, and in 1965 became Director of the Emory University Division of Librarianship. He received his doctorate in Library Service from Columbia University in 1969 and was appointed full professor at Emory.

Lawson was noted for his strong advocacy for libraries and for library outreach and public service programs. Under his leadership, the Emory program worked with the Georgia Department of Archives and History to begin the Georgia Archives Institute.



Venable Lawson, photo by Jon Rou

Lawson was active in church and community work in Atlanta and received numerous awards in the field of library and information science. In 2002, he received the Emory Medal in recognition of his outstanding service to the University during his more than 50 year association with Emory.

*See Lawon on page 6*



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## Institutional Profile

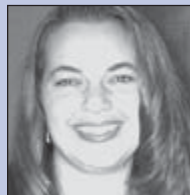
### Columbus State University Archives

Simon Schwob Memorial Library  
Columbus State University  
4225 University Avenue  
Columbus, Georgia 31907  
706-568-2247  
<http://archives.colstate.edu>

The Columbus State University Archives began in 1974. John Lupold and Richard Hanks, history faculty of the then Columbus College, saw the need to preserve the history of Columbus and the Chattahoochee Valley and began collecting archival materials and written works relating to the area. The Archives now serves a dual mission: to collect materials

which relate to Columbus and the Chattahoochee Valley; and to collect materials documenting the history of Columbus State University.

The Archives occupy the third floor of the Simon Schwob Memorial Library on the main campus of Columbus State University. The facility, which was recently remodeled, comprises approximately 5000 square feet. The main reading room contains workspace for 28 patrons. The Archives contains over 1600 linear feet of manuscript material, over 2000 monographs which focus on Columbus and the surrounding region, and nearly 1000 rare



### Institutional Profile

is submitted by Mandi D. Johnson. She can be reached at [mjohnson@georgiahistory.com](mailto:mjohnson@georgiahistory.com)

books, the oldest of which dates to 1562.

Two discrete collections reflect the Archives' dual focus: the Columbus State University Collection and the Chattahoochee Valley Historical Collections. Major collections include the papers of United States Congressman Jack Brinkley and a growing collection of secondary materials relating to the life and work of

*See Institutional Profile on page 8*

## Scholarships

### Larry Gulley Scholarship

**Purpose:** Attendance at the organization's annual meeting on November 3-5, 2004 in Morrow, Georgia and one year's membership in SGA.

**Coverage:** 2005 membership dues (\$25), the 2004 meeting registration fee (\$65), and a maximum of \$100 for other expenses. The registration fee and 2005 membership fee will be waived by SGA, while other travel-related expenses will be reimbursed upon submission of a statement with accompanying receipts turned in by December 1, 2004.

**Eligibility:** Individuals eligible to compete for the scholarships are those engaged in compensated or volunteer archival work at any level in an institution in the state of Georgia, SGA members employed outside the state of Georgia, graduate students preparing for a career in archives at a college or university in Georgia, or SGA student members studying outside the state of Georgia.

**Preferences:** Applicants without institutional support for attendance. Individuals may apply or be nominated by a supervisor or instructor.

**Deadline:** August 15, 2004

For more information, see the SGA site at [www.soga.org](http://www.soga.org) or contact: Valerie J. Frey Georgia Archives  
5800 Jonesboro Road  
Morrow, Georgia 30260  
[scholarships@soga.org](mailto:scholarships@soga.org) ❖

**Lawson** *from page 5*

He is survived by daughters Janet Lee Lawson of Asheville, N.C., and Mary Viv Lawson of Alamosa, Colorado, son A. Venable Lawson III of Decatur, Ga., granddaughter Julia Claire Guest of Asheville, N.C., and grandson Jacob Clark Lawson of Decatur, Ga. ❖

## Washington Beat

### ARCHIVIST OF THE UNITED STATES NOMINATION:

On April 8, 2004 the White House announced the nomination of historian Allen Weinstein as the next Archivist of the United States. At the time John Carlin, the current Archivist, had not announced his resignation and had indicated he intended to stay until 2005 (he will continue as Archivist until a successor is named). The nominee, as well as the timing and manner of the nomination—which occurred without consultation with archival and historical organizations—have proved controversial. Nearly two dozen historical, library, and archival organizations, including SAA, sent a letter to the Senate

Government Affairs Committee requesting that they hold hearings on the nomination; ARMA sent a similar letter. A second letter from SAA, NAGARA, and the Council of State Historical Records Coordinators asks the Committee to consult with the archival and history communities on the nomination and to inquire about the circumstances behind Carlin's replacement. Sent along with this letter were lists of questions for Archivist nominees and selection criteria for the position.

**COURT CASES:** The U.S District Court for the District of Columbia ruled on March 28,



### Washington Beat

is submitted by Jim Cross. He can be reached at [jcross@clemsun.edu](mailto:jcross@clemsun.edu)

2004 that a lawsuit challenging President Bush's November 2001 Executive Order 13233 concerning the Presidential Records Act, which resulted in the withholding of Reagan presidential documents scheduled for release, "was not justiciable at this juncture," thus dismissing the suit. Since most of the Reagan records withheld had been subsequently released and no other records were in dispute, the judge found that

*See Washington Beat on page 8*

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**Institutional Profile** *from page 6*

Columbus-born author Carson McCullers. The Archives also house the Benning-Jones Collection, which contains the papers of Seaborn Jones, Jr. and Henry L. Benning— both prominent Georgians, integral in the formation of Columbus and active in the Confederacy.

Patrons of the Archives are usually conducting research for student papers, master's theses, dissertations, or other published work. Nearly 800 researchers contacted or visited the Archives last year. The Archives employ one archivist, one archival staff member, and currently have three student workers.

The Columbus State University Archives have received several grants over the past two years. A GHRAB grant in 2002 helped fund the preservation of over 2000 local history images and the creation of a searchable online database which provides access to the collection. Also in 2002, a grant from the Historic Chattahoochee Commission provided the Archives with funds to create an Archival Digitization Lab. This grant also funded a pilot project which placed three digital collections on the web, including a series of letters from the nineteenth century, some twenty oral history interviews with local textile mill workers, and the Civil War diary of a young woman from Hamilton, Georgia. In 2004, the Archives was awarded a NEH Preservation Assistance Grant.

The Columbus State University Archives are open to the public from 11 a.m. - 5:00 p.m Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday; from 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays; and from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on Fridays. For additional information contact archivist Reagan L. Grimsley at the number above or by email at [grimsley\\_reagan@colstate.edu](mailto:grimsley_reagan@colstate.edu). ❖

**Washington Beat** *from page 7*

the plaintiffs lacked standing to bring suit and were not likely to suffer "impending injury." On March 30, 2004 the Supreme Court ruled in *National Archives v. Favish* that the privacy rights of public figures under the Freedom of Information Act can be extended after death to members of the individual's family. The case revolved around the crime scene photographs of Clinton aide Vincent Foster's suicide.

**SNIPPITS:** On April, 13, 2004 the National Archives accepted its first electronic records from the State Department. Scientists from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory's Physics Division have developed a method of mapping the grooves on a sound recording disc's surface with a beam of light and using the results to digitize the content. The Library of Congress recently added thousands of catalog records and images to its Prints and Photographs Online Catalog; new material includes the National Child Labor Committee Collection and the U.S. News and World Report Magazine Photograph Collection. ❖



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Society of Georgia Archivists

P.O. Box 133085  
Atlanta, Georgia  
30333