SGA Enters the Electronic Age!
Sheila McAlister

Over the past several years, printing and postage costs have skyrocketed, and the trend shows no signs of stopping. Because of these escalating costs, the newsletter’s size has been curtailed from an average of seventeen pages for volume thirty-five in 2003-2004. The online environment will allow for color photographs and longer articles in the newsletter, access to both the newsletter and directory from any computer, and the ability to update the directory on a more frequent basis.

Tax-Exempt Status for SGA
Kayla Barrett, President 2004

The Internal Revenue Service has informed us that they have determined the Society of Georgia Archivists is exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to the Society are tax-deductible under section 170 of the code. The exemption was effective August 20, 2001, the date of SGA’s incorporation by the State of Georgia.

It has been a three-year effort to achieve tax-exempt status, beginning with SGA’s incorporation, through applying for tax-exempt status, changing the society’s bylaws to comply with IRS regulations, reading and re-reading IRS correspondence and publications in an effort to decipher bureaucratize, and submitting countless pieces of documentation to the IRS.

Various officers and board members have been involved over the years, but the following people were particularly active in this endeavor: Naomi Nelson, Susan McDonald, Glenn Eskew, Elizabeth Barr, Susan Hoffius, Linda Davis, Susan Broome, Nancy Davis Bray, and Jill Swiecichowski. Thanks to all of these colleagues for their untiring efforts to achieve this milestone.
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 February 1st, May 1st, August 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
EXHIBITIONS


Now through February 13, 2005 -  Arts for the Parks, the Booth Western Art Museum, Cartersville, GA, www.boothmuseum.org


EVENTS


CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS


SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE


GRANT DEADLINE


Institutional Profile

Thomaston-Upson Archives
P.O. Box 1137 Thomaston, Georgia 30286-0015
Telephone: (706) 646-2437 http://home.alltel.net/tuarch

Since 1968 the Upson Historical Society has collected and preserved items of local history. In 1987, members organized an archives in a small courthouse room to allow researchers access to newspapers, early government records, and genealogical files. The archives quickly outgrew this space and in 1994, Upson Historical Society teamed with the City of Thomaston, the County of Upson, and the Thomaston-Upson Board of Education to establish the Thomaston-Upson Archives. These four groups provide the funding for the Archives, which opened in April 1996. This cooperation has resulted in lessening local government costs while preserving vital permanent records of the citizens of Thomaston and Upson County.

The Thomaston-Upson Archives is housed in George A. Harrison Memorial Library, the former R. E. Lee Institute high school library. Approximately 2100 patrons visit the Archives each year; many of these are genealogists. Other patrons include students, from middle school to the graduate level, working on papers or theses and researchers interested in local history such as the mills, Creek American Indians, and the Confederacy.

See Institutional Profile on page 12
New Online Searching Features for Lane Brothers and Tracy O’Neal Photographic Collections at Georgia State University

Mary McMahon Dawson

While it has always been possible to browse the most important images of a box of Lane and O’Neal photographic images, improved searching capabilities are now able to return individual envelopes of images from within a particular box. And a new feature also makes it possible to search both collections at once.

Practically speaking, search terms will bring up individual envelopes of images instead of an entire box, thus narrowing the search results. As there are over 10,000 scanned photographs of the Atlanta area from the 1940’s and 50’s in these two collections, searching just got a whole lot easier!

For more information, contact photographic archivist Peter J. Roberts at libpjr@langate.gsu.edu. Atlanta Area Photographs from the Lane Brothers and Tracy O’Neal Collections can be found at http://www.library.gsu.edu/spcoll/avcoll/atlphoto.htm

Electronic from page 1

In order to provide for a smooth transition into electronic publication, a task group was formed. It is investigating the change and developing procedures and processes for SGA’s electronic publishing efforts. The committee is composed of Laura Botts, SGA’s Archivist for several years; Pam Coleman, SGA’s Web editor; Miriam Hudgins, newsletter editor; Sheila McAlister, vice president and Membership committee chair; Jody Thompson, Subscriptions manager; and Nancy Watkins, administrative assistant. The group has been meeting bi-weekly online since August. Since beginning discussions, the committee has interviewed serials librarians at Georgia State University, University of Georgia, and Georgia Institute of Technology to ascertain institutional subscriber concerns. Newsletter editors of other archival associations were queried. The committee has also investigated permanence issues by examining LOCKSS (Lot-of-Copies Keep Stuff Safe), institutional repositories, and the State Archive’s current electronic records practices. Finally, issues of authentication and workflows have been discussed. The group will continue its work into the next year and will evaluate the success of the Society’s move to electronic publications.

If you have questions or comments, please feel free to direct them to Sheila McAlister, mcalists@uga.edu. We’d like to hear your input. ☰
Ken Thomas Appears on History Detectives

Ken Thomas, historian with the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources in Atlanta, appeared on the History Detectives PBS program on Aug 2, 2004, helping the detectives with a mystery related to his hometown of Columbus, Georgia. The filming was taped at the Columbus State University Archives. All total, Ken was on TV for 3 minutes and the Columbus segment lasted 5 minutes. Look for it to be repeated in the coming season.

History Detectives often highlights archives and libraries and the use of original and microfilm resources in their solving of a problem. The one Ken was involved in related to a riding crop sent to Congressman Preston S. Brooks of South Carolina in 1856. The crop was engraved “J. E. Davis, Columbus, GA,” and Ken was asked in January to help them with the mystery. The result was his national TV appearance.

History Detectives is seeking suggestions for next season. They should be problems with a strong historical thread that are still unsolved. Send to http://www.pbs.org/opb/historydetectives/submit/index.html

Savannah Jewish Archives Highlights Savannah Experience Through Oral Histories and Vintage Photographs

Nora Galler

The Savannah Jewish Archives (SJA), on its tenth anniversary and in celebration of 350 years of Jewish life in America, proudly presents Voices of Savannah: Selections from the Oral History Collection of the Savannah Jewish Archives. Voices of Savannah, a supplement to the sold out photographic volume The Jewish Community of Savannah (Arcadia Publishing, 2002), offers previously unseen photographs from the collections of the SJA woven with narrative text from more than one hundred oral history interviews collected from and by local Jewish residents to create a unique picture of Savannah in days gone by.

Editors Valerie Frey, Kaye Kole, and Luciana Spracher carefully bring together the interviewees’ own stories in their own words covering subjects such as immigration, World War II, and growing up in Savannah. Frey, former archivist for the Georgia Historical Society, is the Education Coordinator for the Georgia Archives and co-authored The Jewish Community of Savannah with Kole. Kole is the founder of the Savannah Jewish Archives collection and author of The Minis Family of Georgia (Georgia Historical Society, 1992). Spracher is the owner and principal researcher of Bricks and Bones Historical Research and the author of Lost Savannah (Arcadia Press, 2003) and A History of Thunderbolt, Georgia (Thunderbolt Museum Society, 2003). A book signing was held at the Jewish Educational Alliance on November 21, 2004. All proceeds from this book will go to support the Savannah Jewish Archives.

The Savannah Jewish Archives, at the Georgia Historical Society, was established in 1994 to preserve and make available the history of the Jewish community of Savannah, Georgia. For more information, visit the Georgia Historical Society library or contact the archivist at (912) 651-2125.

The Lewis R. Morgan Papers, 1961-1995 document Judge Morgan’s thirty-five-year judicial career with the United States District Court (1961-1968) and the United States Fifth (1968-1981) and Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals (1981-1996). Includes case files (typically opinions, briefs, judicial memoranda, reports, administrative forms and correspondence), dockets, bench books, case indexes, correspondence, printed opinions, committee files, charge books and notes, news clippings, photographs, and maps. Of note are Judge Morgan’s files relating to highly publicized cases, such as Wallace Butts v. Curtis Publishing Company, civil rights cases heard in District Court in Georgia and the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits, and materials relating to the split of the Fifth Circuit into the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits in 1981. To view the finding aid for the papers or to learn more about the collections, programs, and services of the Russell Library please visit the Library web site at www.libs.uga.edu/russell. For more information contact the Russell Library at 706-542-5788 or russlib@uga.edu.
NAME: P. Toby Graham

SGA MEMBER SINCE: 2004


PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT: Head of Special Collections, University of Southern Mississippi

JOB DESCRIPTION: I am Director of the Digital Library of Georgia (DLG). The DLG is a GALILEO initiative based at the University of Georgia Libraries. Its mission is to collaborate with libraries, archives, and other institutions of education and culture to digitize and provide online access to key resources on Georgia history and culture.

MOST ENJOYABLE ASPECT OF YOUR JOB: I have two favorite aspects: 1) working in a collaborative environment and 2) having the opportunity to learn new and interesting things on a continuous basis.

FAVORITE PASTIME: Doting on our 6-month-old daughter, Chloe.

COMMENTS ON WORK OR PROFESSION: This is an exciting time to be a part of the archival profession. Information technology gives us new ways to connect users to primary sources, lends additional social relevancy to our work, and equips us to carry archival principles into the online environment. Our opportunities to do meaningful work are seemingly limitless.

Membership Spotlight is submitted by Sheila McAlister. She can be reached at mcalists@libris.libs.uga.edu
2005 SAVE AMERICA’S TREASURES DEADLINE AND GUIDELINES ANNOUNCED
The National Park Service, in partnership with the President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services is seeking applicants for its Save America’s Treasures 2005 grant program. Save America’s Treasures makes critical investments in the preservation of our nation’s most significant cultural treasures. Grants are awarded for preservation and/or conservation work on nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts, historic structures and sites. Grant amounts range from $50,000 to $1 million to conserve collections, and from $250,000 to $1 million for historic property and sites projects. All the awards must be matched 1:1.

Complete guidelines, applications and information, as well as a database of previous awardees, can be found on the National Park Service Web site <http://www2.cr.nps.gov/treasures/index.htm>. Deadline for applications is 1 February 2005. For general information contact Kimber Craine at the President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities <kcraine@pcah.gov> or call 202/682-5661.

PRESERVATION MATERIALS WEBSITE
A new preservation materials website called PreservArt from the Centre de Conservation du Quebec has information on all sorts of equipment and materials used in preservation. While the website is tailored for museums, it also helps archivists find suppliers, especially for exhibits, storage, and environmental control equipment and supplies. Includes information on material characteristics, where to buy, who manufactures, etc. In French and English. http://preservart.ccq.mcc.gouv.qc.ca/index.aspx

NEW TOOL FOR MEASURING TOTAL EXPOSURE
LightCheck® is a new tool that enables evaluation of the quantity of light received by an artifact during exhibition even under dim light such as 50 lux for a few months. It is light sensitive coating on a substrate that changes during exposure. A calibration has been established between the change in color and the light exposure and is measured by a color reference scale that corresponds to the color changes produced with a continuous exposure under a quartz halogen lamp at 500 lux, 23 °C, 55% RH. LightCheck is distributed in North America by Keepsafe Systems. More information can be found on the Keepsafe Systems website, http://www.keepsafe.ca/lightcheck/.

2004 Preconference Workshop: Practical Enclosures for Archival Collections
The workshop was taught by Ann Frellsen, Conservator at Emory University Libraries, and Christine Wiseman, Preservation Services Manager at the Georgia Archives. It featured hands-on exercises in making protective enclosures for a variety of materials. (Photos: Christine Wiseman)

2004 SGA Scholarship Auction Results

E. Gilbert Head

It’s me again, folks. I thought that I would break with recent tradition and actually thank those who participated in the 4th Annual SGA Scholarship Auction in the same solar year in which it transpired.

The 2004 edition of the SGA auction was held in the spacious lobby/foyer/Greenhouse of Information which constitutes the public access portal at the new, improved Georgia State Archives building in Morrow. Taking nothing away from our exceptionally generous previous hosts, I cannot say enough about how well the Archives staff treated our little financial and entertainment production, from thoughtful placement in the registration commons right on through to re-configuration of the space for the auction itself and patience at the end of the long day as we sorted out what would go home with whom. My especial thanks to all on the SGA Local Arrangements Committee and to Ms. Anne P. Smith and her valiant staff at Georgia Archives. They were splendid and unstinting in their assistance and truly helped make the event the success that it was.

Our Scholarship Committee, ably headed by Valerie Frey, were dogged in their determination to help in any and every way possible, from pre-event planning through post-auction logistics. In a hundred small ways, the success we enjoyed is due to them. In particular, Lance Watsky was diligent in attempting to get me to socialize on Thursday; thanks, Lance!

At the center of it all, of course, were the donors and the bidders. To the following 20 donors, who donated a record 88 lots, our thanks are herein tendered: to Anna Appleman for the Big Stack o CDs; to Frances Overcash and our friends at Arcadia Press for the dozen titles from their impressive catalogue of work; to Chuck Barber for his more originally creative bits of literati; again this year to the gang at Big City Bread for their continued commitment to our program; to Laura Botts for the Mini-Monkeys and the Incredible Metal Cat; to Laura Carter for the handsome volume and framed inspiration; to Penny Cliff for the Amazing Teapot; to Jim Cross for the media omnibus and pop music retrospective; to Deborah Davis for the décor accents a la duck; to Jim Dandy’s Mama, Linda Davis, for allowing one of our colleagues to give Ray J. Dandy a new home; to Valerie Frey for the handsome leaded crystal bowl; to our hosts at Georgia Archives for the map and illustrated tome; to Norleen Gooden for her handsome wooden desk clock; to Myron House for yet another round of fine

NEWS FROM JIM DANDY:

The total raised at the SGA auction was $1290.21

Carroll Hart Scholarship Deadline February 15

SGA awards a scholarship each year for attendance at the Georgia Archives Institute held each summer in Atlanta. The scholarship is named for Carroll Hart, former director of the Georgia Department of Archives and History, founding member of SGA, and founder of the Georgia Archives Institute. The scholarship covers an amount equal to noncredit tuition for the Institute, not to exceed $500, and a year’s membership in SGA. Please note that individuals must also apply separately to the Georgia Archives Institute.

ELIGIBILITY

Individuals eligible to compete for the scholarship are those engaged in compensated or volunteer archival work at any level in an institution in Georgia, SGA members employed outside Georgia, graduate students preparing for a career in archives at a college or university in Georgia, or SGA student members studying outside Georgia. Preference is given to applicants who do not have institutional support to attend the Institute. Individuals may apply or be nominated by a supervisor or instructor.

TO APPLY

Fill out and mail in the on-line application at http://www.soga.org/scholarships/hart.htm. Deadline is February 15, 2005. For more information contact: Valerie Frey, SGA Scholarship Committee, Georgia Archives, 5800 Jonesboro Road, Morrow, GA 30260, or scholarships@soga.org ✉

See Auction on page 12
NARA AND NHPRC BUDGETS: On September 14, 2004 the Senate Appropriations Committee recommended $5 million for NHPRC, $2 million more than the House recommended in July. The House recommended a budget of slightly over $318 million for the National Archives, a decrease of $2 million from the President’s recommendation but $9 million above the current budget.

ARCHIVES EFFICIENCY ACT SIGNED: President Bush signed the National Archives and Records Administration Efficiency Act on October 30, 2004. The Act reauthorizes NHPRC at current funding levels for four years; streamlines the process used by agencies to extend the length of time that they are required to hold a particular type of federal record; allows the Archives to charge for the use of its meeting spaces by outside organizations; enables the Archives to enter into cooperative agreements with state and local governments; and allows the Archives to purchase uniforms for service personnel.

NARA ELECTRONIC ARCHIVES: On August 3, 2004 the National Archives announced that Lockheed Martin and the Harris Corporation will participate in a design competition to create a technological solution to preserving electronic records over time. At the end of the one-year, $20.1 million contract, one of the two companies will be chosen to build the Electronic Records Archives that will capture electronic information regardless of format, preserve it, and make it available for research using current and future technology. The General Accounting Office released a report regarding the Electronic Records Archive on September 23, 2004, commending the Archives’ progress but warning that the Archives has not set up proper procurement policies.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ELECTRONIC RECORDS POLICY WORKING GROUP (DRPWG): On October 20, 2004 DRPWG issued its recommendations on the management of electronic records. The Group suggested policies and procedures to improve accountability for records management and support government agencies through effective leadership and clear records management guidance. It recommended creating a records management profile in the Federal Enterprise Architecture and establishing a Federal Records Council to advise and support agencies.

SECRECY AND FOIA: Department of Justice reported that the annual number of FOIA requests to the federal government last year exceeded three million for the first time, an increase of nearly 36% over 2002. Documents were classified at a higher rate last year as well—8% more than in 2002. National Archives proposed lengthening from 10 working days to 35 calendar days the time to appeal a denial of access to records on October 1, 2004. On October 9, 2004 Congress passed a limited FOIA exemption for satellite imagery. The original proposal, which would have effectively banned the distribution of commercial satellite imagery and its derivatives, was modified to cover only information protected for national security under license through the Land Remote Policy Sensing Act.

OTHER ARCHIVAL SNIPPETS: The National Archives proposed a rule on November 3, 2004 that would allow agencies to delete some short-term e-mail messages after a limited time without preserving copies. Library of Congress announced on October 11, 2004 that $15 million was being awarded to eight institutions and partners to build a digital preservation network. Each participant will match funds dollar-for-dollar. Final release of the Frederick Douglass Papers to the Library’s American Memory web site occurred on August 25, 2004, bringing the total number of items from the Papers online to 7,400. The “Meeting of the Frontiers” web site at the Library underwent a major expansion on September 29, 2004, adding 24 collections from 14 different libraries in Russia, as well as the Library of Congress. The Library of Congress also added a new collection on the career of dancer-choreographer Katherine Dunham. On August 2, 2004 scientists at the Berkeley National Laboratory announced that they are working on a digital scanning system that they hope will allow them to duplicate the only known audio recording of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The original can no longer be mechanically played because of preservation concerns.
Instruction/Special Collections Librarian

Ingram Library, State University of West Georgia, invites applications for the position of Instruction/Special Collections Librarian. Successful candidate will be a member of the Instructional Services Division staff of 8 FTE librarians and 1 support staff. Twelve-month, tenure track position reports to Special Collections Librarian and Head of Instructional Services. Target appointment: Librarian/Assistant Professor.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Assists Special Collections librarian in all areas of special collections and archives, including management, planning, collection development, and public service; participates in active library instruction program that includes teaching credit course in library research, web-based and classroom formats, and bibliographic instruction classes; provides reference service with some nights and weekends; serves as liaison for 2 or more academic departments; and performs collection development for liaison departments.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS: ALA-accredited MLS/MLIS. Second subject masters in history or political science. At least two years experience in academic archives or special collections. Outstanding communication and organizational skills. Ability to work creatively and collaboratively with others. Knowledge of and experience with a wide array of traditional and electronic information sources. Ability to create web pages. Must be eligible to work permanently in the U.S.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS: Experience with political collections. Reference experience in an academic library. Teaching experience that includes electronic design and delivery methods.

SALARY/BENEFITS:
Salary: $42,000
Standard benefits package: 21 days vacation, 12 paid holidays, retirement (including state/optional programs), health/dental insurance, 403b.

APPLICATIONS: Review of applications will begin January 15, 2005 and continue until the position is filled. The projected starting date is April 1, 2005. Send letter of application, vita, transcripts*, and names, addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses and letters of recommendation from three professional references to:

Shirley O. Lankford, Chair
Instructional Services Search Committee
Ingram Library
State University of West Georgia
Carrollton, GA 30118
(770)838-3154

The names of applicants and nominees, resumes, and other non-evaluative material are subject to public inspection under the Georgia Open Records Act. AA/EEO Employer

*Unofficial transcripts are sufficient for application, but offer of employment will be contingent upon presentation of official transcripts.
Auction from page 9

Researchers at the Archives find a variety of materials including books, newspapers, city and county records, oral histories, and manuscript collections. City and county records, many of which date to 1824, contain estate records, deeds and mortgages, tax digests, court dockets, voter lists, original wills, and aerial photo maps. Manuscript collections include the Bobby C. Smith Collection, a comprehensive collection of Upson County history that includes a large map collection; the Jack Morgan Collection, genealogical research of 180 Upson County pioneer families; the Gordon R. Holstun Collection, school and civic materials; and the Thomaston Mills Collection, which contains photographs, company newsletter, maps, and materials relating to mill operations and history.

None of this happens without the folks in the wings. Pam Coleman made sure I got fed, and Sheila McAlister was there from before the beginning of things until half past the end, even bringing our registry kicking and screaming into the 21st century with her laptop skills. She and my strong right hand, Jill Severn, are the real reasons that the event came together, and they deserve our thanks for their willingness to step once again into the breach (dear friends).

And so we turn our collective gaze towards the eastern ramparts in Augusta. November next, we will dare great things together, or at least try and raise a few dollars for scholarships and have a little fun along the way. It’s not too soon to start shaking out your closets and cedar chests, folks. Why, I myself have a few bits of stoneware and an old tuppence or two just waiting to dazzle your eyes…..

Until that time, I am, and hope to remain, for the SGA Scholarship Committee, E. Gilbert Head, Friend to Jim Dandy, Official Sock Monkey of the Society of Georgia Archivists, and all his growing tribe (including Cletus and Ray J., the newest Dandies......).

Institutional Profile from page 3

Researchers at the Archives find a variety of materials including books, newspapers, city and county records, oral histories, and manuscript collections. City and county records, many of which date to 1824, contain estate records, deeds and mortgages, tax digests, court dockets, voter lists, original wills, and aerial photo maps. Manuscript collections include the Bobby C. Smith Collection, a comprehensive collection of Upson County history that includes a large map collection; the Jack Morgan Collection, genealogical research of 180 Upson County pioneer families; the Gordon R. Holstun Collection, school and civic materials; and the Thomaston Mills Collection, which contains photographs, company newsletter, maps, and materials relating to mill operations and history.

The Archives are open 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday, and 9am-1pm on the 2nd Saturday of the month. For more information contact Archivist/Director Penny Cliff or visit the website.