Gracy Challenge a Great Success!

SGA's Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that Dr. David Gracy's challenge was met with great enthusiasm and generosity. Through the giving and support of many individuals, we received a total of $1098.88 in donations toward the endowment of the Provenance best article award.

Thank you so very much for your generous investment in the future of this excellent journal. Our members are what make SGA such a thriving, dynamic organization. We also want to express our deep gratitude to Dr. Gracy for issuing this fantastic offer.

Again, this is Dr. Gracy's challenge: "To support and encourage the SGA's enterprise in publishing Provenance, I pledge $1,000 to match dollar for dollar new gifts of up to $1,000 given before March 1, 2010, toward endowment of the award made for the best article in each volume of Provenance. Through publication of Provenance, the SGA makes a very special contribution to the archival profession in general and our membership in particular. Launched in 1972 as Georgia Archive, our journal was the first professional journal of archival scholarship published by a state or regional organization in America and only the fourth such journal published in English in the world. I make this pledge with the goal of ensuring the long and useful life of SGA's Provenance." ~David Gracy

Submitted by Kristy Dixon, Scholarship Committee Chair
Dr. Gracy initiated his fund-raising challenge at SGA's annual meeting on November 4, 2009. That day he also gave a rousing keynote address, a call for archivists to study their history, entitled "History Making History." Gracy's address is included in the 2009 issue of *Provenance* recently mailed to SGA members. *Provenance*, volume 27 (2009) also features the following articles:

"Society of Georgia Archivists Timeline, 1969 to present."

"Statement by the Archivist of the United States." David S. Ferriero

"Company History': Corporate Archives' Public Outreach on Fortune 100 Company Web Sites." Marie Force

"Functional Analysis and the Reappraisal of Faculty Papers." Gregory Schmidt and Michael Law

For more information on *Provenance*, link [here](#).

**Nominations for 2010 SGA Fellows**

SGA is very pleased to announce that nominations are now open for SGA Fellows for 2010! SGA members and current Fellows are welcome to nominate someone who deserves to be recognized for their outstanding contributions to our society and our profession. The revised [procedures](#) and [nomination form](#) are available on the SGA website (see http://soga.org/resources/Documents/FellowsProcedures201002.pdf and http://soga.org/resources/Documents/FellowsNominationForm201002.pdf). Nominations are due to the Chair of the Nominating Committee, [Christine de Catanzaro](mailto:decatanzaro@gatech.edu), by April 30, 2010. Submit your nomination today!

**SAA 2010 Election: Are You Ready to Vote?**

Online voting for the Society of American Archivists’ 2010 Election will take place March 11–April 11, 2010. All individual members, student members, and primary contacts of institutional members who were in good standing as of February 28, 2010, are eligible to vote. Read candidate statements and biographies [here](#).
About Us

**Calendar of Events** - Renna Tuten, rtuten[at]uga[dot]edu

**Institutional Profile** - Luciana Spracher, Luciana_Spracher[at]SavannahGA[dot]gov

**Alabama Update** - Tim Pennycuff, tpenny[at]uab[dot]edu


**Membership Spotlight** - Nora Lewis, nlewis[at]georgiahistory[dot]org

**Internet Corner** - Pamela Coleman Nye

**Preservation News** - Jessica Leming, Jessica[dot]Leming[at]Lyrasis[dot]org

**Scholarships** - Kristy Dixon, kldixon[at]uga[dot]edu

**Associate Editor** - Meredith Torre, torre[at]ctsnet[dot]edu

**Editor** - Caroline Hopkinson, caroline[dot]hopkinson[at]armstrong[dot]edu

**Copy Editor** - Laura Botts

**Submissions**

Deadlines for submissions for volume 42 (2010) are March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 17. Material should be submitted by email to Caroline.Hopkinson@armstrong.edu or by postal mail in hard-copy format to Caroline Hopkinson, Editor.

**Advertising**

The SGA Newsletter invites advertisements for archival products and services at the SGA Board and editor's discretion. All advertisements will be featured in the margin of each newsletter page with a hyperlink to the company website or email address of solicitor's choice. Deadlines for submission are March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 17. For queries or further information, contact Caroline Hopkinson at Caroline.Hopkinson@armstrong.edu.
Calendar of Events

By Renna E. Tuten

Exhibits
Through April 25, Let Your Motto Be Resistance: African American Portraits, Atlanta History Center, www.atlantahistorycenter.com
Through September 12, Four Seasons in Yellowstone: Photographs by Tom Murphy, Booth Museum of Western Art, http://www.boothmuseum.org/index.html
Through September 25, Voices Across the Color Line: The Atlanta Student Movement, Atlanta History Center, www.atlantahistorycenter.com

Events

**Lectures**

Georgia Archives Lunch and Learn Series  
April 13 – DNA and the Research Trip, Mark Finley  
May 11 – Researching Salt Lake City, the World’s Largest Genealogical Library, Nathan Mathews  
June 8 – Postcards and Historical Research, Georgia Postcard Club  
June 12, John Burrison, *From Mud to Jug*, Atlanta History Center, [http://www.atlantahistorycenter.com/cms/Lectures+at+Atlanta+History+Center/300.html](http://www.atlantahistorycenter.com/cms/Lectures+at+Atlanta+History+Center/300.html)  

**Conferences and Workshops**


**Grants**

May 21, Save America’s Treasures, IMLS, National Park Service, [http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/treasures/](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/treasures/)  

**Lyrasis Classes**

**Live Online**

Volunteer Management: Selecting, Screening and Training . April 1, 10:00 – 12:00  
Advocacy: What is it? April 6, 10:00 – 12:00  
Mass Digitization Collaborative Information Session, April, 8 2:00 – 3:00, April 20, 10:00 - 11:00, May 11, 10:00 - 11:00, June 15, 10:00 - 11:00
Archives Preservation, May 12, 19, 26, 10:00 - 12:00
Metadata for Digitization and Preservation, April 13, 10:00 - 12:00
Understanding Digital Photographs, April 13, 2:00 - 4:00
Introduction to Grants for Preservation, April 14, 10:00 - 12:00
Developing a Disaster Plan, April 15, 22, 29, 10:00 - 12:00
Advocacy: Community, April 20, 10:00 - 12:00
Caring for Scrapbooks, April 21, 10:00 - 12:00
Advocacy: The Media, April 27, 10:00 - 12:00
Digital Photograph Collections: Access and Standards, April 27, 2:00 - 4:00
Preservation and Salvage of Audiovisual Materials, April 28, 10:00 - 12:00
Preservation of Photographic Materials, May 3, 4, 2:00 - 4:00
Advocacy: Public Officials, May 4, 10:00 – 12:00
Establishing Emergency Response Networks for Cultural Collections, May 5, 10:00 - 12:00
Basic Digital Stewardship, May 11, 10:00 – 12:00
Preserving Oral Histories, May 13, 2:00 - 4:00
Advanced Digital Stewardship, May 25, 10:00 – 12:00
20 Questions: Genealogy Basics, June 3, 10:00 – 12:00
Twitter Basics, June 8, 10:00 – 12:00
Preservation Management, June 10, 17, 24, 10:00 – 12:00
Digital Collections: Where to Begin? June 16, 2:00 - 4:00
Caring for Originals During Scanning Projects, June 23, 2:00 - 4:00
Sustainability for Digital Projects & Programs, June 29, 10:00 – 12:00

SGA News

SGA's 2010 Budget was approved by the Board in February. Questions? Contact President Jody Thompson or Treasurer Sheila McAlister.

Save the Date, October 27-29, 2010!

The Society of Georgia Archivists-South Carolina Archival Association joint annual meeting will be held in Augusta, Georgia, on October 27-29, 2010 at the Augusta Marriott Hotel and Suites. Our keynote speaker will be Kathleen Roe, Director of Archives at the New York State Archives, on the topic of advocacy. Conference details will be updated on SGA’s website as they develop: http://www.soga.org/. We look forward to seeing you there!
SGA’s Spring Workshop is co-sponsored with the Society of American Archivists.

Implementing More Product, Less Process  
May 17, 2010, 9AM - 5PM  
Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia

Jennifer Meehan, Accessioning Archivist at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library is workshop instructor.

Backlogs don’t have to weigh as heavily as they do! Focus on implementing concrete strategies for increasing processing rates and reducing backlogs as outlined in the Greene-Meissner article, “More Product, Less Process: Revamping Traditional Archival Processing,” and learn as you share information and experiences with your fellow workshop participants. Topics include appraisal, arrangement, description, digitization, and preservation, as well as development of processing plans, policies, and benchmarks. This array of topics is addressed through lecture, case studies, and group discussion.

Upon completing this workshop, you’ll be able to:  
Understand the concepts and arguments outlined in “More Product, Less Process”;  
Implement strategies for increasing processing rates in a variety of institutions;  
Apply techniques for managing efficient processing programs, including developing processing plans, policies, and benchmarks;  
Understand how descriptive standards such as DACS can assist in the creation of descriptive records that adhere to “minimum” requirements and assist in the reuse of data in a variety of outputs; and  
Develop strategies for integrating processing with other archival functions, particularly accessioning.

Who should attend? Archivists who process archival collections or manage archival processing programs and administrators interested in processing procedures within their repositories (introductory to intermediate levels).

Attendance is limited to 35.

Workshop Schedule:  
9:00-9:30 Introductions and overview of workshop  
9:30-10:00 "More Product, Less Process" research methodology and findings  
10:00-10:45 Review "More Product, Less Process" and its recommendations/implications for the different aspects of processing  
10:45-11:00 MORNING BREAK  
11:00-11:30 Descriptive standards (DACS, MARC, EAD, etc.)  
11:30-12:00 Processing and other functions  
12:00-1:30 LUNCH  
1:30-2:00 Case studies from instructor  
Princeton University Archives
Council on Foreign Records
Small individual collection
2:00-2:30 Benchmarks and planning
2:30-3:15 Case studies from workshop attendees and group discussion
3:15-3:30 AFTERNOON BREAK
3:30-4:15 Continued case studies and discussion
4:15-4:45 Supervision and management
4:45-5:00 Conclusions/review, questions, and discussion

Workshop fees are: (Early Bird deadline: April 17th 2010)
SAA Member $185 / $235 (Early Bird / Regular)
SAA Student Members Promotion: $92.50 / 117.50 (Early Bird / Regular)
Employees of Member Institutions $210 / $260 (Early Bird / Regular)
Nonmember $235 / $285 (Early Bird / Regular)
Nonmember Students Promotion: $117.50 / $142.50 (Please submit proof of enrollment to servicecenter@archivists.org or via fax to 312-606-0728)

Current SGA members use promotional code MPLPSGA10 when registering. Registrants will be verified as SGA members and will save $25 on non-SAA member registration.

Registration for the SGA Spring Workshop is now open via the SAA website.

The SGA Scholarship Committee also offers the Brenda S. Banks Scholarship to cover workshop registration fees for one lucky SGA member. Visit the Scholarship Committee's Brenda S. Banks Educational Workshop Scholarship page at http://www.soga.org/banks for more details.

The first 10 SGA members to register for the workshop receive a $100 discount on their registration cost.

If you have any questions or registration problems, please feel free to contact education@soga.org.
Papers of Salman Rushdie, critically acclaimed novelist and international figure, now available to the public

By Laura L. Carroll

The Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL) at Emory University is pleased to announce that the Salman Rushdie papers are fully processed and open to the public. The papers document Rushdie's entire professional career, beginning with the publication of his first novel in 1975 through his most recent writings, and demonstrate the wide range of his literary endeavors, as novelist, essayist, travel writer, political commentator, defender of free speech, and literary critic.

Of particular note to scholars will be selected portions of Rushdie's journals from 1974-1988, which extensively document his creative process and often reveal the development of his writings, particularly *Midnight's Children*, *The Satanic Verses*, and several unpublished works. The collection also contains writings by others, selected personal papers, subject files, photographs, printed material, memorabilia, and audiovisual material.

In addition to the opening the paper portion of the collection, MARBL is pleased to announce that a significant portion of the digital material included in the original accession also will be available to researchers. Users will be able to access Rushdie's digital files from one of his first computers, a Macintosh Performa 5400, through a full text searchable database. The library has developed an emulation of the original machine that will allow researchers to see and experience the files just as Rushdie did when he used them. The majority of the digital files date from 1992-2002, and consist of notes and drafts of Rushdie's writings and selected correspondence. Of particular interest is a small cache of email correspondence, representing Rushdie's first foray into this emerging form of communication in the late 1990s.

The finding aid is available by accessing the MARBL finding aids database. Browse under "R" for "Rushdie, Salman."

Resource Building through Collaboration: a Conversation with Dr. Ronald Bailey about African American Museums in Savannah

Savannah State University has been awarded a 2008-2010 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a federal agency, for $149,700. The grant project entitled Building Capacity: the Southeast Georgia Collaboration of African American Museums is the first step in a long-term effort to add to the capacity of seven museums of African American history in Southeast Georgia. The goals of the project are to enhance interpretive skills, to increase access of museum staff to professional development opportunities, to institutionalize a sustainable regional network, and to engage students with museums.

Seven museums agreed to participate in the collaboration, including five in Savannah: the Archives at Savannah State University (founded 1890), the Beach Institute African American Cultural Center and the King-Tisdell Cottage, the Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum, and the First African Baptist Church Museum. Two museums serve largely rural communities: the Dorchester Academy (1871) Museum of Midway, Georgia, and the Willow Hill Heritage and Renaissance Center of Portal, Georgia (1874). The Beach Institute (1867) is the site of the first school for African Americans in Savannah. The First African Baptist Church (established in 1777) is one of the oldest Black churches in the United States.

The editor interviewed Dr. Ronald Bailey, Visiting Distinguished Professor of Africana Studies and History at Savannah State University and project director for the grant, about the project and a role for archivists.

Editor: Such an exciting idea for a grant project, how did it get started? Dr. Bailey: Attending events at the Beach Institute and other venues and volunteering here in Savannah, we saw wonderful heritage sites that were under-resourced and met people with similar concerns. The idea of “building capacity” came from the research interests of Dr. Saundra Nettles, who became project coordinator for the grant. Dr. Nettles and I began a dialog with leaders of the local museums and gained their support. We wrote the grant and, with strong letters of support from all collaborators, submitted it to the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Editor: What are some of the grant activities associated with professional development? Dr. Bailey: While we initially planned to create original exhibits, we decided to utilize existing exhibits and ongoing activities and make them more widely available as a way of strengthening existing practices. With grant project support, museum personnel attended state and national professional meetings, including the Association of African American Museums and the Southeastern Museums Conference. At many of these meetings, we presented details about the project. Based on our nomination, Bill Austin and Deborah Robinson of Dorchester Academy were named “2010 Volunteers of the Year” by the
Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries. Museum personnel and grant project leaders attended SGA’s annual meeting in Savannah in Fall 2009 and the pre-conference workshop on museum exhibits.

Editor: How about educational events and outreach?
Dr. Bailey: The grant project made possible guest speakers, exhibits, and museum tours. It brought Dr. Clayborne Carson of Stanford University, editor of Dr. Martin Luther King’s papers, to speak at the Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum and at the Dorchester Academy. The Civil Rights Museum hosted an exhibit on Anne Frank in conjunction with “Eyewitness to the Holocaust,” an exhibit by Atlanta-based African American photojournalist, the late William A. Scott. This was supported by Savannah’s Department of Cultural Affairs and the Hodge Foundation. It also hosted Ms. Amelia Boynton, a civil rights icon and Savannah native involved in the historic Selma, Alabama, movement. A Gullah/Geechee cultural heritage exhibit at Savannah State was also made possible. In cooperation with the Southern Arts Federation, we hosted “The Photographs of Tuskegee’s P.H. Polk” at Beach. Student visits to the Penn Center in Beaufort, South Carolina, Sapelo Island, and the Civil Rights Museum were funded. Taking advantage of the National Park Service’s Teaching with Historic Places curriculum, the project is developing a standard format for high school and college students visiting local African American history museums and sites.

Editor: You all have been busy, what is next for the project?
Dr. Bailey: A collaborative project on the Civil Rights movement in Southeast Georgia, with each of the museums telling their part of the civil rights story. We are being assisted by one of the authors of a fine resource book, Putting the Movement Back Into Civil Rights Teaching. We also envision a website that describes the African American museums and their histories and includes an active calendar of events.

Most important is the work that our collaborating museums are continuing to do on their own initiative. Two examples are the recent DVD “A Journey of Faith: the History of First African Baptist Church” and the book Defining Their Destiny: the Story of the Willow Hill School. Along this line, Dorchester Academy was named as one of the nation’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

In general, our goals are to further develop resources for African Americans to tell their own story. The story belongs to all citizens and is embodied in these museums that are literally owned by the African American community. Of course, we are building on the work and legacy of others. Mr. W.W. Law, the civil rights leader who also founded several Savannah museums, is a great local example. And he was building on the legacy of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, founded by Dr. Carter Woodson in 1916.
We seek to create a forum for dialog, communication, and ongoing collaboration that also produces resources for the region.

**Editor: How about collaboration with archivists?**

**Dr. Bailey:** All of our museums have items in need of conservation and archiving. We’d like to host a roundtable discussion with professional archivists, especially from the Southeast, to get their input on the best ways to address these needs, and to perhaps seek joint funding for such projects. Our African American museums are heritage rich, but often resource poor. Connecting with established archives and professional archivists for training, guidance, and project implementation is an example of the project’s capacity-building mission.

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**Scholarships**

Submitted by Kristy Dixon for the Scholarship Committee

**Carroll Hart Scholarship Winner**

Congratulations to Laura Starratt, the 2010 recipient of the Carroll Hart Scholarship!

Ms. Starratt is currently a volunteer at the Southern Labor Archives, Georgia State University Library, working on their Legacy Finding Aid Project. She is also a circulation clerk at the Athens-Clarke County Library.

The Hart Scholarship covers tuition to the Georgia Archives Institute.

**Brenda S. Banks Educational Workshop Scholarship**

**Purpose:** To provide a SGA member with the registration fee to attend the SGA-sponsored Spring/Summer workshop.

This year’s workshop is entitled “Implementing More Product, Less Process.” The workshop, co-sponsored with SAA, held on May 17 at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur.

**Deadline to Apply:** Applications must be received by **April 19th, 2010.** Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply online or email or fax their applications. For more information on the Banks Scholarship and on how to apply, please visit [http://www.soga.org/banks](http://www.soga.org/banks)
The Future of Storage

We do permanent storage. That is our niche. However, computers and their storage capacity is something that we worry about, both as consumers and professionals. The data that is “saved” during a session is somehow magically transformed into a file that can be retrieved at a later date. This data is not eye-readable if you open up that little box, but you take it on faith that it still lives somewhere in there. How exactly does it all work? How can scientists and other researchers manage to get more and more data in smaller and smaller spaces?

Reading through some of the articles out there is like reading a philosophy manual, unless you are already technologically inclined. If you haven't delved into the more geeky literature in a while, there are new buzzwords of which every archivist should be aware. Our researchers and patrons may ask us at the reference desk if some of the records are being stored on SSDs or if we have “cloud-storage” platforms.

In addition, archivists may be wary of storing so much information in such a small space. Scratch a vinyl record, and you have lost some data, but not too much. Scratch a CD, and even more data is lost. The damage may not be discovered until too late if no backups or redundancies have been built in to the process. Migration and backups, perhaps with cloud-storage systems, should be automatically considered when working with electronic media.

Some common terms will be described to help today's busy archivist understand what is going on in this field without having to be a scientist. As information professionals, it's helpful if we know what is being developed and used. There is not enough space in this article to go too much into depth about each storage medium, so please see the “Further Reading” section.

Perpendicular Recording (Magnetic)

At this point, magnetic storage and magnetic recording are familiar mediums. What is new is the way that data will soon be stored. Up until now, the information (storage layer) had been stored horizontally to the surface (called longitudinal recording), but scientists note that at a certain density, the magnetization repelled each other. From the Gizmodo article:

“Seagate saw longitudinal recording limiting their hard drives to somewhere around 100 gigabits (12.5 gigabytes) per square inch, and at the rate things were going, without perpendicular storage, hard drive makers would be up against a wall. With perpendicular...
recording, though, they think they can eventually hit somewhere around 1 terabit (about 128 gigabytes) per square inch. Today, in 2010, they're maxing out at about 400 gigabits per square inch in stuff you can buy off the shelf...Seagate's hazy prediction for what this actually means for hard drives: Upwards of 50 terabits (6.25 terabytes) per square inch.”

Apparently at a certain point, the magnetization of the bits on a horizontal layer start to repel each other. If the data is stored perpendicular to the surface, the magnetization wants to be closer together. Storing the data perpendicular to the surface, then, allows a much greater mass of data is a much smaller space.

Solid State Drive
A solid-state drive (SSD) is a data storage device that uses solid-state, or flash memory, to store persistent data. There are no internal moving parts inside the device, so retrieval times tend to be much faster than a traditional hard drive. Flash memory can be found in your computer's BIOS (basic input/output system) chip, digital cameras, portable memory sticks, and video games. The original usage of the term "solid-state" (from solid-state physics) refers to the use of semiconductor devices rather than electron tubes but, in the present context, has been adopted to distinguish solid-state electronics from electromechanical devices. Much of the development has been geared not only to try to lower the per GB cost, but also to create them for use in mobile devices, such as ultra-light laptops and smart telephones.

Optical Media and Holographics
While optical storage devices are familiar, what's going on them may not be. Right now, the data is stored on the surface, in one or two layers. Companies such as GE are working on storing data in multiple holographic layers throughout the entire disc. From the GE Website:

“To read out the data, the original laser beam that had no data in it is bounced off of the stored pattern and recreates the data pattern, which can then be detected with a camera. The key to getting enormous amounts of data stored is that the patterns are very sensitive to things like the angle of the mixing beams. In fact, by adjusting the angle of one of the recording beams, a second pattern can be recorded directly on top of the first, and this process can be repeated as many as 10,000 times. Then we move to a new location on the disc and there might be as many as 1000 locations on the disc. So 1,000,000 bits per hologram, with 10,000 holograms recorded per location, and 1000 locations per disc.”

While this technology may not be commercially available until 2011, GE is working on marketing the technology to companies needing long-term storage solutions, such as medical companies needing access to the records for 70 years.

Cloud Computing
Offsite storage is standard practice, but what if the storage facility burns? What if you had information backed up in multiple buildings that you could retrieve at any given moment? Cloud computing is Internet-based computing, with files and resources on multiple servers. It can be as simple as housing files at a data center, or as complicated as mirrored sites with no down time for the client, even if one of the mirrors fail. The term cloud is a metaphor for the Internet, based on the cloud drawing used in the past to represent the telephone network, and later to depict the Internet in computer network diagrams as an abstraction of the underlying infrastructure it represents. Amazon S3 (Simple Storage Service) is one of the larger commercial providers. The pricing includes $0.15 per GB up to 50 TB. Amazon claims that S3 uses the same scalable storage infrastructure that Amazon.com uses to run its own global e-commerce network. Amazon S3 is reported to store more than 102 billion objects as of March 2010.

For further reading:

Good overview of technical news: http://www.slashdot.org/


Institutional Profile
by Luciana M. Spracher

Smyrna Historical and Genealogical Society and History Museum
Mailing Address: 2861 Atlanta Road, Smyrna, Georgia 30080
Telephone: (770) 431-2858
Email: SmyrnaMuse@aol.com or Museum@SmyrnaHistory.org
Director: Harold Smith
Website: www.smyrnahistory.org

In 1985, the Smyrna Historical and Genealogical Society was established to preserve the history of the City of Smyrna and its surrounding area. An early goal of establishing a local museum to display Smyrna’s history was achieved when the Smyrna Museum opened to the public in April 1992 during the annual Jonquil Festival. Originally located in the old Smyrna Health Clinic building, the Museum relocated as part of a major redevelopment of downtown Smyrna into a replica of the former Western & Atlantic (NC & St. L. and L. & N.) Railroad Station. The original station, near Atlanta and Springs streets, had been demolished in 1959.
The Museum’s new location placed it conveniently adjacent to the Smyrna Welcome Center in the restored Aunt Fanny’s Cabin Restaurant building (Aunt Fanny’s operated as a local restaurant from 1941 until 1992). The Museum draws visitors from next door, as well as local school groups, senior citizens, and area clubs. The new facility provides the Museum with a 30 by 65 foot main floor space for exhibits and a genealogical research room. Current exhibits include one displaying Civil War artifacts found in the area and one on music technology. A full basement provides meeting space for up to forty people and accommodates the Society’s audio visual equipment for preserving film, video, and photographs.

With a mission to collect and preserve artifacts, memorabilia, photographs, documents, family histories, publications, videos, oral histories and more that document Smyrna, Cobb County and its residents, and no paid staff, the Museum is lucky to have dedicated volunteers from the Historical Society, the local Golden K Kiwanis Club, and others interested in history. Director
Harold Smith, a former Smyrna mayor, was a founding member and continues to be a driving force for the Society and Museum. Cooperation amongst local groups and volunteers has led to several successful endeavors including a 1999 grant-funded archeological survey of the 1838 Smyrna Memorial Cemetery that resulted in the identification of 395 previously unknown graves.

Atlanta Road, Smyrna, circa 1925. Photograph courtesy of the Smyrna Historical and Genealogical Society and History Museum.

Strengths of the Museum’s collection include a series of video interviews with local World War II veterans regarding their experiences in the war supported with a collection of photographs. The Museum received a $20,000 grant towards this effort. The research room includes genealogical publications and newsletters, books related to the local history of Smyrna, Cobb County, and Georgia, as well as family history compilations. The Society contributes to the written documentation of Smyrna by publishing a bimonthly newsletter called Lives and Times, now in its twenty-fifth year. The regular column “Visiting the Past” reprints excerpts from Cobb County and Smyrna newspapers in ten year segments, relating town happenings and genealogical information including births, deaths and marriages.

Smyrna, 1955. Photograph courtesy of the Smyrna Historical and Genealogical Society and History Museum.

Planning a visit?
The Smyrna Museum is open to the general public for free Tuesday
through Saturday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. If you can’t visit in person, check out the Museum’s website at www.smyrnahistory.org for information about the Museum and Historical Society and historical sketches and images of the Smyrna area.

Special thanks to Harold Smith for his cooperation in the preparation of this institutional profile.

Membership Spotlight
By Nora Lewis

Name: Jenny Olmsted Herring

SGA Member since: 2008

Job Title: Curator

Place of Employment: Coastal Georgia Historical Society on St. Simons Island

Years in Current Position: 1.5

Job Description: It’s a wide-ranging position – not only managing the historical society’s archival holdings, but planning exhibits, managing school tours, caring for historic structures. The variety keeps it interesting – what other job involves climbing a lighthouse every day?

Education: University of St. Andrews 2004, MA with Honours in Art History and Italian, concentrating in Medieval and decorative arts.

Other Work Experience: I first came to Georgia as the Museum Specialist for the Jekyll Island Museum. Before that, I worked in the northeast as an intern with the Trustees of Reservations in Massachusetts and the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh.

Professional Memberships: SGA, AAM

Most Enjoyable Aspect of Your Job: Getting a chance to learn and share the wonderful, hidden stories of historic objects and buildings

Alternative Career Path (not in archives): Except for a short stint selling snowboards during college, I’ve been lucky enough to work in museums and historic sites in some capacity since high school.
Favorite Pastimes: Playing with my six-month-old daughter, and catching up on some reading whenever she gives me a chance!

Comments on the Profession Today: I love the collegial atmosphere you see whenever two or more archives professionals are in the same room. Everyone I’ve met in the field has been so obviously passionate about what they do and dedicated to sharing knowledge and expertise. Especially in this economy, it is so heartening to know that the museum and archives community is truly a community.

ALABAMA UPDATE
Tim L. Pennycuff, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Trenholm State Technical College, Montgomery
The “Movement Trunk Traveling Exhibit” made its debut at the Rufus A. Lewis Public Library in Montgomery, Alabama. The trunk contains a sleeping bag, brogan shoes, patched overalls, plaid work-shirt (items purchased in the 1950s and donated to Trenholm Tech Archives by a Butler County farmer), a roll of toilet tissue, toothbrush, bandanna, Afro-pix comb, and movement buttons. The exhibit was a tremendous success as young people learned how itinerant movement organizers lived in 1960s rural Alabama. This “show, tell and touch” exhibit is a part of the outreach program of the Archives.
Gwen Patton

Troy University Dothan Campus
The Archives of Wiregrass History and Culture at Troy University Dothan Campus announces the opening of the William Church Photograph Collection. This is a collection of 180 black-and-white prints taken by Quay Fortner of the Dothan (AL) City Tax Assessor’s Office in March 1958 of properties in the city’s predominantly African American “Frogtown” section. Fortner traveled through Frogtown’s streets photographing each property. The photographs document the housing and physical neighborhood of pre-Civil Rights poor and black housing as well as the mill village associated with the Vorris Lumber Company. The collection is remarkable for the vernacular architecture it captures. Church donated the collection after saving it from a fire pit. The collection has been scanned and is available online at http://dothan.troy.edu/archives/inventories/101.htm; thumbnails link to larger reference copies of each image.
Dr. Martin T. Olliff

University of Alabama at Birmingham
The UAB Historical Collections unit of the Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences recently mounted the exhibit “Harry Potter’s World: Renaissance Science, Magic and Medicine” in the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences. The exhibit
featured six large poster panels that are traveling the country as part of a tour organized by the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health. In addition to the NLM posters, the exhibit at UAB displayed over 50 items from the Reynolds Historical Library’s own collection of medieval and renaissance manuscripts and texts as well as image reproductions from these and other texts. A standing-room only crowd attended the exhibit’s kickoff lecture, “Magic, Alchemy and Medicine in Harry Potter’s World,” presented on February second by Elizabeth Lane Furdell, PhD, Professor of History at the University of North Florida. This lecture is currently available for online viewing via a podcast available at http://www.blip.tv/file/3221090. The NLM posters have left UAB for the next tour stop, but the manuscript texts and image reproductions will remain on display until May.

Tim L. Pennycuff

University of South Alabama, Mobile
The Archives has accessioned the records of the Junior League of Mobile, which contain more than eighty year's worth of correspondence, photographs, minutes, publications, and other documents. Support for arrangement and description of the collection has been provided by a $3,000 J. L. Bedsole Foundation Grant, which was awarded in early January. The Archives anticipates that the collection will be available to researchers by the end of the summer 2010.

In addition, USA's archivist, Carol Ellis, recently attended a training workshop in Montgomery entitled “Train the Trainer.” The workshop was sponsored by the Archival Training Collaborative, which is an Institute of Museum and Library Services-funded initiative to provide low-cost archival training workshops in Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. Sponsors in those three states work to train those who can train others. Participants had to agree to offer at least two workshops for those in their respective states within the next eighteen months. She plans to offer her first workshop in October.

Carol Ellis

2010 SAC Meeting
On September 23-24, 2010, the Society of Alabama Archivists will host the Southern Archives Conference (SAC) at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. SAC, which meets biennially, is a consortium comprised of the archival societies from Mississippi, Tennessee, Louisiana and Alabama. The 2008 SAC meeting was held in Nashville, Tennessee. More information on the Birmingham meeting, along with a call for papers, can be found at http://www.alarchivists.org/sac.html. Paper proposals are due by May 24.
WASHINGTON BEAT
By Jim Cross

NATIONAL ARCHIVES BUDGET: On February 1, 2010 President Obama requested slightly over $460 million for the Archives’ FY2011 budget. This is a decrease of 2% from the 2010 budget. However, there is a 2.6% increase in the Operating Expense portion of the budget which would allow the Archives to hire staff for the National Declassification Center (see below), a new Holdings protection team, and 12 new entry-level archivists. Electronic Records Archives funding remains the same as FY2010. The NHPRC would receive $10 million. … S.2872, the bill introduced by Senator Thomas Carper of Delaware to reauthorize the NHPRC for five years and increase its budget by $500,000 each year beginning at $13 million in 2010 and ending at $15 million in 2014 was derailed by Senator Susan Collins of Maine. The NHPRC would be reauthorized at the current level of $10 million per year for 2010-2014.

PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES: The Nixon Library released 280,000 pages of new material on January 11, 2010. This included declassified files as a result of mandatory review requests from individual researchers relating to diplomatic and national security matters, White House Special Files and Staff Member and Office files, domestic policy files, and donated material of White House photographer Oliver F. Atkins. … The bill expediting the donation of 14 boxes of materials from Franklin D. Roosevelt’s personal secretary Grace Tully to the FDR Library was passed a second time (after Senate revisions) by the House on January 13, 2010. President Obama signed the bill into law on February 1, 2010. … On February 12, 2010 the Truman Library opened 2,400 pages from the White House Chief Usher files which recount the daily activities of the Trumans from 1945-1953 and 185 letters written by Bess Truman to Harry Truman from 1919-1943.

OTHER ARCHIVES NEWS: On December 16, 2010 the Archivist of the United States, David Ferriero, testified before a subcommittee of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee over concerns that the Archives was devoting too much of its resources to public education programs and not enough to its core mission of accessioning, preserving and making the records of the federal government available. … On January 28, 2010 the Archives announced that it had added three new datasets to Data.gov. These included the Code of Federal Regulations editions for 2007-2009 and archival and organization descriptions from the Archival Research Catalog. The Archives also invited public comment on developing an Open Government Plan focusing on transparency, participation and collaboration; comments closed March 19th. … The Archives joined the Flickr Commons on February 4, 2010 with the release of a new photo set of over 200 photographs by Ansel Adams. The photographs, taken between 1941 and 1942, were part of an Interior Department mural project and depict the American West. These images join the 3,000 photos from the Archives already on Flickr. … In February 2010 the Archives released a FAQ regarding record-keeping and cloud computing, recommending that agencies use record...
management software that can be integrated with cloud computing services. A bulletin on this topic is scheduled for release later this year. … On March 2, 2010 the Archives announced the availability of federal agency records schedules (SF 115) since 1985 through a new portal on its website. Earlier schedules from 1973-1985 will be added to the site soon.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NEWS: The Library announced on December 30, 2009 the 25 films being added to the National Film Registry for 2009. They included “Dog Day Afternoon,” “The Muppet Movie,” “The Jungle,” and Michael Jackson’s “Thriller.” … On February 4, 2010 the Veterans History Project released “Submarines: The Silent Service” on its website. The presentation includes 12 first-person accounts from World War II through the Cold War. … The Library announced on March 19, 2010 that it had acquired the jazz collection of noted tenor saxophonist Dexter Gordon. The collection includes sound recordings from all phases of his career, interviews, and items from his film and television appearances.

DECLASSIFICATION AND FOIA: On December 30, 2009 the President issued Executive Order 13526 which required agencies to periodically review their security classification guidelines and to identify material that can be declassified. The order also established a National Declassification Center at the National Archives, set a four-year deadline for processing the current declassification backlog, and eliminated the ability of the leader of the intelligence community to veto declassification decisions by an interagency panel. Objections to a decision must now go to the President. The Center will not only centralize declassification review but is to coordinate the development of guidelines for the declassification of electronic records and special media. A memorandum to agency and department heads regarding implementation of the order was issued at the same time. … A Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) audit by the National Security Archive released on March 14, 2010 showed that only 13 of 90 agencies implemented changes in response to the order and memorandum, although another 14 agencies implemented changes to their FOIA training. The number of agencies having an older unfilled request has risen since 2008 and 5 agencies (Departments of State, Transportation, and the Treasury, NASA, and the National Reconnaissance Office) reported releasing less and withholding more information during FY2009. Four agencies (Departments of Justice and Agriculture, Office of Management and Budget, and the Small Business Administration) reported the opposite, however. The Washington Post had reported on January 26, 2010 that more lawsuits to force the government to release information had been filed in 2009 than in 2007 and 2008 (319 vs. 278 and 298) although the White House disputed the statistics. … On March 15, 2010 Senators Patrick Leahy of Vermont and John Cornyn of Texas introduced S. 3111, the “Faster FOIA Act.” It would establish an advisory commission that would make recommendations to Congress and the President on ways to reduce FOIA request processing delays. … On March 23, 2010 David Ferriero testified before a subcommittee of the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee on government transparency and secrecy. In his testimony he noted his concern over the initial analysis of September 2009 agency self-assessments regarding records management and other data that found 79% of reporting agencies have moderate
to high levels of risk associated with their records management programs, especially in the area of electronic records.

ELECTRONIC RECORDS: On March 17, 2010 the House passed H.R. 1387, the Electronic Message Preservation Act, which requires the National Archives to create regulations for preserving electronic messages. Agencies would have to report on their implementation of the regulations to the Archivist of the United States and the Archivist would report to Congress on compliance within 90 days after receiving the agency reports. Prospects for passage in the Senate are uncertain, however.

OTHER NEWS: On February 12, 2010 the Central Intelligence Agency released documents drawn from an in-house 50-page report on “Operation Azorian,” the effort in 1974 to raise a sunken Russian nuclear submarine using the Glomar Explorer. … On March 1, 2010 a spokesman for the Federal Communications Commission said that the draft broadband plan includes a You Tube-like online archive for agencies’ Web content called Video.gov. The archive might also include information provided by the media.