

RESEARCH CENTER AT THE PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Submitted by Warren Stricker • Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum



Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, 1930s

Seeking financial support from her state legislator in 1923, West Texas State Normal College instructor Hattie M. Anderson invoked the closing of the frontier and its significance to the Texas Panhandle: "Since our region has so recently emerged from the pioneer state, we have an unusual opportunity here to collect historical material, of especial value to the future citizen of the Panhandle-Plains country, [and] to all citizens of Texas and of the United States." Coming less than forty years after the founding of the town of Canyon, Texas, the organizers of the Panhandle-Plains Historical Society sought to seize the advantage provided by the relative youth of the region as they set about gathering evidence of the settlement of the vast Panhandle region. Formed in 1921 at Anderson's instigation, the first meeting in of the society on the Normal College's Canyon campus drew a small group of students and faculty. The group moved quickly to expand the scope of its membership and activities, soliciting the support of influential community members and political figures, many of whom were instrumental in the development of the area.

The collection of documents and relics were part of the organization's work from its inception so thoughts of a museum and archives to house these items quickly became a priority. The issue assumed even more importance in 1925 when the Society employed a West Texas State student, J. Evetts Haley, as its first field secretary. A tireless seeker of oral histories and objects, the future historian and author scoured the Panhandle for eight months, laying the groundwork for the development of a permanent collection. His efforts bore fruit in 1927 with the acquisition of a major body of material, the records of the Capitol Freehold Land and Investment Company, which included records of the huge XIT Ranch.

Steadfast efforts to secure funding for a building met success in 1932, when a legislative appropriation of \$25,000, matched by funds raised by the society, initiated construction of a museum on the West Texas State campus. The opening of the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum on April 14, 1933 provided fresh impetus for collection activities. The society continued to stress the acquisition of manuscript material, gathering records and papers of ranchers, pioneer farmers, historians and other academics, and artists. Despite an addition to the museum just five years

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The Society of Southwest Archivists is a professional organization established to stimulate and make available research in archival administration and records management; promote sound principles and standards for preserving and administering records; foster opportunities for the education and training of archivists, records managers, and custodians of private papers; strengthen relations with others in allied disciplines; and cooperate with organizations and institutions having mutual interests in the preservation and use of our recorded knowledge.

We invite you to join or extend your membership. All memberships run January through December. A membership form is included inside the back page. The form is also available online at: <http://southwestarchivists.org/HTML/Membership.htm>.

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FROM THE EDITORS: CELEBRATING SSA

By all accounts, the annual meeting in Houston this May was a rousing success! And what better way to celebrate SSA than with an issue devoted to the camaraderie and scholarship that are hallmarks of our organization. The Annual Meeting, Program, and Professional Development Committees outdid themselves this year, and we hope that the photographs scattered throughout the newsletter will serve as a reminder of the good times had by all. You can also relive the revelry by reading the recap of the receptions submitted by Joel Minor (p. 14).

The conference wasn't all play, though. Important SSA business was conducted, and we are delighted to welcome Ann Hodges into her role as President. You can learn more about Ann and her vision for SSA in the Q & A on p.5. We are especially pleased to present you with condensed versions of many of the presentations from the conference. We hope that members who were not able to attend, or those who did but had to choose between wonderful sessions, will benefit from their colleagues' scholarship. And we'd like to extend our deep appreciation to all of the authors who submitted papers.

As always, *Southwestern Archivist* is filled with repository news, including the cover article by Warren Stricker. This month's "How-To" submitted by Pati Threatt (p.46) provides information on editing the SSA Unofficial Wiki; and the feature article by Samantha Mueller (p. 47) is an interesting case-study in Wiki use. And finally, don't forget to test your SSA knowledge by taking the quiz on p. 11.

We hope that this issue reflects the spirit of SSA's annual meetings, and we can't wait until next year. We'll see you in Shreveport!

We encourage your comments, suggestions, and contributions. News items about repositories in the SSA region and about the professional accomplishments of SSA members, wherever they reside, are especially welcome. Submissions by SSA members from repositories outside the SSA region will be published if space is available.

Please send all submissions to the state liaisons as listed below. Electronic submissions as text in the body of an e-mail is preferred; photographs relating to submissions are desired as well. Please note that submissions may be edited to conform to style conventions and space limitations. Postal mailing addresses for state liaisons are available at: <http://southwestarchivists.org/HTML/Publications.htm>.

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MEET THE PRESIDENT

By Ann Hodges, CA • SSA President 2008-2009



Q: What lured you to the field of archives?

A: Interests in history and research drew me into the archives profession. I was a history major as an undergraduate (after abandoning a major in music education), but moved away from it after college. Eventually, I went to live in Europe—largely because I liked history. After I returned home, I went to the University of North Texas and completed master's degrees in Library Science and Applied History. For those degrees I studied archives, museum studies, oral history, rare books, and preservation, among other things. After having had the benefit, in particular, of training in archives from Richard Himmel, then the archivist at UNT, I was fortunate to have a great opportunity to work as a project archivist at the Benson Latin American Collection at the University of Texas at Austin.



Immediate Past President, Tim Blevins, passes his famous timer to incoming SSA President Ann Hodges during the Wednesday Board Meeting in Houston.

Q: What (or who) convinced you to run for President?

A: I was surprised to be asked to run. Having been Membership Chair and a board member gave me a good understanding of the organization's inner workings, but I did discuss Brenda Gunn's experiences as President with her. She was very encouraging of my candidacy. Of course, I didn't win the election that first time. (The same thing happened the first time I ran for the board, too, so everyone who is interested in being elected to an SSA office should take encouragement.) I'll forever be grateful that Tim Blevins won that election—he did an admirable job as President last year and set such a fine example. This sort of support and encouragement is, in my view, the best thing about SSA.

Q: What do you see as the three most pressing issues facing SSA?

A: I think it is vital to get new people involved in committees and on track for leadership. Getting new talent and energy involved in SSA is essential to keeping it strong

and to representing the membership well. I also think we should continue to increase educational offerings. The Professional Development Committee really has moved forward in this area over the past few years, and I think it is important to sustain the momentum they have established. The success

of the preconference workshops in May indicates that many members agree. Finally, I believe the leadership should look at the current strategic plan with the intention of documenting the progress that has been made toward its goals, determining what remains to be done, and identifying what needs to happen next in regard to organizational planning. The outcome of the work done on, and under, the plan is fundamental to the future course of the organization—not only to influence what we want the organization to be and to do, but to ensure that our financial position provides secure support for our organization and its initiatives.

Q: What was your favorite thing about the SSA meeting in Houston?

A: My initial reaction to this question was that it was impossible to choose one thing, because I had the best time ever at an SSA meeting. Local Arrangements outdid themselves. After giving it some thought, however, I would say that, from a purely personal standpoint, my favorite thing about the meeting was observing the sessions. It actually was fun preparing the program and then seeing it play out. It was wonderful to see the audiences attend so closely to the presentations, and it was great to talk to the panelists. There wouldn't have been a program without them, and I truly appreciate their willingness to participate.

In addition to the substantial contributions they already had made, the speakers have responded wonderfully to the editors' call for summaries of presentations for publication in the newsletter. Not only does being able to publish written synopses of presentations provide a great way for those who were in the audience to reinforce what they heard, but it extends the benefit to those who were not able to be present, whether because they chose a different session or because they were not able to attend the conference at all. This extra effort is greatly appreciated, and I thank everyone who participated in it—including Katie and Kris, whose great idea it was.

MEET THE PRESIDENT . . . continued from page 5

Q: Have you ever won anything in SLOTTO?

A: This year I won some nice books. I won books last year, too, and a train whistle. Once I won a travel mug from the UT Austin SAA student chapter, and I actually have used it. I'm not sure if I have read any of the books yet! I have won other things, but don't remember what. More books, I'm pretty sure...and a poster I think I traded for something else.

Q: Is there anything else you'd like to tell the membership?

A: I'd like to thank them for placing their confidence in me, but they didn't have much of a choice after I ended up unopposed on the ballot! Seriously, I want the membership to know that I and the rest of the leadership welcome SSA members' thoughts and opinions about what they want from their organization, what they think it should be doing, and how they think their leadership is performing. Telephone and email are still options for making contact with us, but please take advantage of the blog and wiki established earlier this year to stay informed and to communicate. Those tools were instituted to make it easier for SSA members and leadership to connect. I would really like to see them enhance communication between SSA's members and their representatives.

PLANNING TO ATTEND SAA IN SAN FRANCISCO? JOIN US!

We will be sharing a mixer at SAA again this year with the Academy of Certified Archivists. ACA will bear the lion's share of the mixer's costs. The event is scheduled for August 28 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. If you will be in San Francisco, please come. Remember, the purpose of our mixer is not only to create an opportunity for us to see each other, as nice as that is, but to reach out to and connect with meeting attendees from other regions. —Ann Hodges, SSA President



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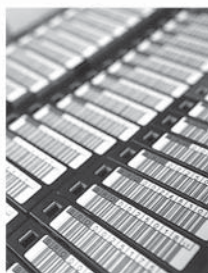


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THE PDC QUARTERLY REPORT

Mat Darby, CA
Professional Development Chair

Over 60 SSA members attended at least one of the three annual meeting workshops in Houston, a good turnout for these new professional development opportunities. Thank you to **Gina Costello** and the trio of Lauren Kata, **John Slate** and **Mike Strom**, the instructors, respectively, of our two homegrown workshops, Creating and Managing Online Exhibits and Implementing Minimal Processing. They spent hours of their own time developing these workshops from scratch and preparing their presentations on these topics. And thank you to the staff of the Johnson Space Center History Office who gave of their time and expertise to present the oral history workshop. Many thanks also to the staff of the Woodson Research Center at Rice University's Fondren Library for generously donating the workshop meeting space, offering technical assistance, and providing refreshments and transportation. As we review the comments and constructive criticism offered by workshop attendees, we will expand our selection of workshop topics and seek additional ways to meet the needs of the membership.

Congratulations to **Heather Soyka**, Assistant Archivist at the Southwest Collection and Special Collections Library at Texas Tech University. She is the first recipient of SSA's new "Train the Trainer" award given to an individual interested in improving her or his teaching skills and presenting a workshop to SSA members. Heather will attend the "Train the Trainer" workshop at SAA's annual meeting in San Francisco and work with the SSA Professional Development Committee to present a workshop in the region over the next year. Her interest is in disaster preparedness, so stay tuned.

As reported previously, the Oklahoma Conservation Congress and the Friends of the Oklahoma Historical Society Archives, Inc, are presenting a two-day workshop on the preservation of photographs in Oklahoma City, November 13-14, 2008, featuring James Reilly of the Image Permanence Institute as well as Chester Cowen, Photographic Archivist, and Bill Welge, Director of the Research Division, both of the Oklahoma Historical Society. The event is co-sponsored in part by the Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB) and SSA. **Ellen Brown**, Associate Director and Archivist for the Texas Collection at Baylor University, was the lucky winner of a free registration for this workshop at SLOTT in Houston. For information on how you can register to attend, check the SSA Web site or the SSA leadership blog.

CALL FOR PAPERS: SHREVEPORT

Brenda McClurkin, CA
Annual Meeting Program Chair

Call for Papers

**Society of Southwest Archivists Annual Meeting
Shreveport, Louisiana • May 20-23, 2009**

Plans are well underway for the Society of Southwest Archivist's 2009 Annual Meeting in Shreveport, Louisiana. **Laura McLemore** and her enthusiastic Local Arrangements Committee are planning an exciting meeting revolving around the theme, *Into the Future Full Steam Ahead!* Attendees at the Shreveport meeting will experience lots of Southern hospitality peppered with local culture – art, music, film, and architecture.

The 2009 SSA Program Committee invites your proposals for program sessions. Full proposals are encouraged. Sessions are scheduled for 90 minutes and typically include three papers though panel discussions or other formats are also welcome. For proposals, include title and brief description of the session; titles and brief descriptions of each paper; names of session organizer and each presenter including affiliation; address, email address and phone numbers for all. Also include audio-visual equipment needs for the session, and whether or not session presenters will provide their own equipment. Individual papers may also be submitted with complete information included in the proposal. The committee may form sessions based on individual papers submitted.

Deadline for session proposals: Monday, December 1, 2008

Early proposals are encouraged!

Please submit all proposals online through the SSA Web site.

- Call for Papers (electronic version):
<http://southwestarchivists.org/HTML/Program.htm>
- Session Proposal Form:
<http://southwestarchivists.org/HTML/cfp09.htm>

Questions?

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SSA FOLLOWS HISTORIC RIVER "INTO THE FUTURE FULL STEAM AHEAD"

By Laura McLemore, CA • Local Arrangements Committee Chair

On May 16, 1873, the steamer *R. T. Bryarly*, with a heavy load of freight for the upper Red River, passed without stopping through the channel just cleared in the Raft at Shreveport by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, the first boat in twenty-nine years to take freight for upper Red River beyond Natchitoches. The *Bryarly*'s successful passage opened a new era in upper Red River navigation. The occasion was celebrated by local businessmen and residents excitedly looking to the future, and it has since been documented and preserved for the future in a modern archives.

The history of the world is largely the history of its rivers. Practically all human progress on land has moved and centered along each nation's waterways. Red River was a principal artery of travel and traffic for original inhabitants of Louisiana. Indian villages dotted its banks from Houmas, near the river's mouth, to "Coushatti Village" north of present-day Shreveport. The first white men to see Red River were DeSoto's party in 1542. René-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de LaSalle noted it in his descent and ascent of the Mississippi in 1682. Henri Joutel and the survivors of LaSalle's 1687 expedition crossed the Red somewhere in Louisiana on their return to Canada, but the first real exploration by white men was led by Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne, Sieur de Bienville in 1700, when he proceeded up the Ouachita and then overland to the Yatassee village, in what is now Caddo Parish.

So important did the French regard Red River as a means of communication with the Northwest, that to prevent its domination by the Spanish, they dispatched Louis Juchereau de St. Denis to establish the post of Natchitoches in 1714, the earliest white settlement in Louisiana. In 1718, Bienville, then governor of the colony of Louisiana, sent Jean-Baptiste Bénard de La Harpe, a French officer from New Orleans, to establish a settlement for the *Compagnie des Indes* and to explore the upper course of the Red River. In April 1719, he founded Fort St. Louis de los Cadodaquious

(also called Fort Breton) on land bought from the Nasson Indian near present-day Texarkana with the goal of trading with the Spaniards and Indians.

To counteract the growing trading ascendancy of the French, Athanase de Mézières, commandant at the Spanish frontier post of San Miguel de los Adaes near Natchitoches, led an expedition up the Red River in 1770 on a goodwill mission to the Indian tribes along its banks. Hardly had he completed his mission when the valley of Red River was transferred, in rapid succession, to France and then to the

United States. President Jefferson, greatly interested in Red River and its possibilities for future empire, appointed Dr. John Sibley, an intrepid New Englander, as Indian Agent at Natchitoches. In 1804, Sibley ascended the river from Natchitoches and encountered the Great Raft that began about ten miles above Natchitoches and continued nearly to present-day Shreveport. In 1806, Jefferson sent a scientific expedition headed by Thomas Freeman and Dr. Peter Custis to explore the

Red River and through it penetrate the great Southwest. Freeman and Custis were turned back by the Spanish, but progress soon had the Red River region literally steaming ahead into the future.

Steamboats navigated to Natchitoches as early as 1820. In 1824, the government founded Fort Towson in the Arkansas territory to protect white settlers who had begun to populate the prairies bordering the river from the increasing hostility of the Indians whose lands they were claiming. As in other parts of the United States at the time, there were numerous calls from both the military and the civilian population for better navigation. Finally in 1829, the War Department dispatched engineers to open a route through the raft into the upper river. By late 1836, boats were entering the Coates' Bluff (Shreveport) trade, and in January 1837, the first boat from Shreveport came into New Orleans with two hundred and forty-eight bales of cotton. With the recognition of the



2009 ANNUAL MEETING, SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

Republic of Texas by the United States, Shreveport became a port of entry, and an Inspector of Customs was established there. Shreveport was rapidly becoming recognized as a town with a commercial future.

Barely had the raft removal project, headed by the superintendent of Western River Improvements, Capt. Henry Miller Shreve, been completed in 1838 than a new raft began to form. The job of maintaining the Red in navigable condition fell to Shreve's replacement, Col. Stephen H. Long, who was pressured by planters residing above the raft and scattered for more than two hundred miles along it to commence the work necessary to give them a means of distributing their crops.

By the 1850s the Red River trade of Shreveport reached its stride. Cotton boats like the Bryarly, built with wide, flat guards projecting from the hull to carry tier on tier of cotton bales, were known by their carrying capacity as "1,000 bale boats" or "2,000 bale boats." Cattle boats were brought into the trade to transport Texas longhorns that were arriving in droves to the stock pens on Cross bayou. Hides and peltries still made up an important share of the cargo. All of the boats had passenger accommodations on the second or boiler deck. The steamboats were the "de luxe" mode of travel compared to the delays and discomforts of overland travel, but during much of the year when the river was at low stage, a trip was a tedious and nerve-wracking ordeal.

Not until the raft was permanently removed in 1873, did Red River traffic reach its peak. After 1885, when the railroad connecting Shreveport and New Orleans was finished, river traffic declined, but the vision of future navigation and flood control on the river did not. A dynamic group, described by a local historian as a "kind of who's who from up and down the river," from Texarkana to Alexandria as well as from Texas and Oklahoma, created the Red River Valley Association in the 1920s. In 1968, the Rivers and Harbors Act authorized the construction of a Red River Waterway project. By the late 1980s, a system of locks and dams were constructed and new ideas for future development abounded all along the river from Alexandria to Texarkana. A Master Plan for Recreation Development and Resource Management was drafted. Commerce at the inland port of Shreveport-Bossier soon surpassed the boom years of the steamboat era. In 1994, the first riverboat to come up the Red River to Shreveport under its own steam in seventy years docked at the foot of Fannin Street. Just as the Bryarly's had more than a century

earlier, its passage marked a new era of commerce on the upper Red River. "Full Speed Ahead," proclaimed a headline in the Shreveport Times in 2006.

In May 2009, Society of Southwest Archivists will meet at Sam's Town Hotel and Conference Center overlooking the Red River and that twentieth century steamer that represents the region's past and its faith in the future. SSA will again enjoy Louisiana hospitality when Shreveport hosts the annual meeting May 20-23. The theme for the 2009 meeting will be "Into the Future Full Steam Ahead." Like generations of inhabitants along the ancient river, archivists look to the future for exciting and innovative ways to preserve the past and serve the present. Great events are in store, ranging from riverboat tours to ghost hunts (possibly the ghost of Elvis), to Cane River plantations, and maybe a surprise speaker or two. You may want to extend your stay through the weekend for the twenty-fifth annual Mudbug Madness crawfish festival of food, fun and live music entertainment. The conference hotel is right in the midst of it and parking is free. In the coming months, be thinking of proposals for the 2009 program, and contact Program Chair, Brenda McClurkin, or any member of the local arrangements committee (listed below) with ideas for sessions and workshops you'd like to see offered. Some topics that might fit in well with the meeting's cultural setting and theme are music archives, sound archives, film archives, architectural archives, Web design, and on-line access. Mark your calendar now to travel full steam ahead into Shreveport in May 2009.

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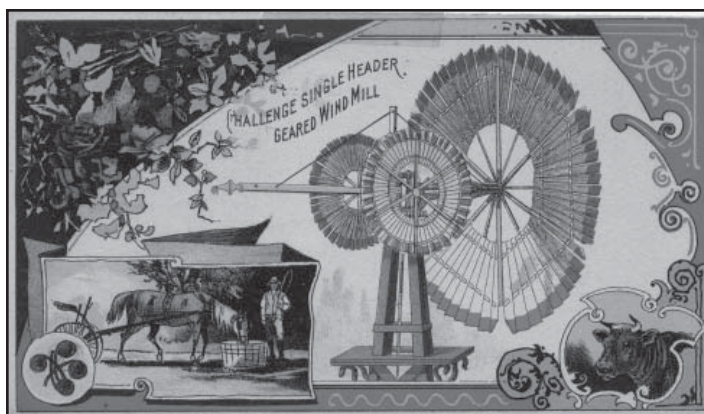
Be a part of the program! Session proposals accepted through December 1, 2008. See p.7 for information and links to the online forms.

PANHANDLE-PLAINS . . . continued from page 1

after its opening, the growing archival collection lacked a permanent place within the building and a staff to oversee its organization. Space remained an issue even after Seymour V. Connor was hired as the museum's first archivist in 1952. Connor quickly set about addressing the somewhat chaotic state of the accumulated material, particularly the XIT Ranch records, while bemoaning what he characterized as the "dubious benefits of WPA help" that the museum had employed in processing the records in the 1930s.

After Connor's departure for the office of State Archivist a year later, the museum continued to fill the post of archivist (though the job was sometimes linked with secretarial duties). The archival collection remained scattered throughout the museum until a 1967 addition provided a home for the archives and library. Claire Kuehn, archivist from 1976 to 1994, was a stabilizing force for the department; her influence is still felt in what came to be known as the research center.

From its core of pioneer recollections and ranching records, represented by the records and papers of the XIT Ranch, the Francklyn Land and Cattle Company, the JA Ranch, Charles Goodnight and others, the collections of the museum's research center have expanded to reflect the changing nature of the Panhandle-Plains region. Collections related to oil and gas exploration, manufacturing, retail trade, organi-



Challenge windmill advertisement, ca. 1890s. From the Windmill Literature Collection, Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum.

zations, politics and the fine arts have become an increasingly important component of the manuscript material, as have material that reflects the other aspects of the museum's activities, such as archaeological and ethnographical research. The designation of the research center as a Regional Historical Research Depository in 1973 brought a substantial body of local government records

from most of the Panhandle counties. Still, early settlement continues as a source of important new material, as evidenced by the acquisition this year of the Rowe family papers, containing documentation of the founding and operation of the RO Ranch, one of a number of Panhandle ranches owned or operated by European investors.

The physical evolution of the research center continues, as the museum is again exploring solutions to the space needs of the collection. A plan for renovating the center's third-floor facilities is under review, the proposed reconfiguration to include expanded storage capacity, office and processing space, reading room improvements, and the ability to develop online access to the collection. The collaboration of the Panhandle-Plains Historical Society and its campus host, West Texas A&M University, remains a fruitful relationship as both approach significant milestones, the museum commemorating its 75th anniversary this year and the university anticipating its 2010 centennial.

SPOTLIGHT ON: TEXAS

Explore our site and take a peek at more than 500 million years of history that spans the 26,000 square mile expanse and brings to life the vibrant spirit and history of the Panhandle Plains region. Plan a visit to the museum and fully experience our collection of historical and artistic treasures.

The Museum is affiliated with West Texas A&M University.



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Phone: (806) 651-2244

Web site: <http://www.panhandleplains.org/>

TAKE THE SSA QUIZ!

By Katie Salzmnn • Publications Committee Co-Chair

1. In what year was the SSA Constitution adopted?
a. 1968 b. 1972 c. 1978 d. 1980
2. Which is the only city *not* to have hosted a SSA annual conference?
a. Flagstaff, Arizona
b. Lubbock, Texas
c. Stillwater, Oklahoma
d. Lafayette, Louisiana
3. Which of the annual SSA awards is the only award established and funded by a regional archival organization but administered and presented by SAA?
a. Sister M. Claude Lane Award
b. A. Otis Hebert, Jr. Continuing Education Scholarship
c. John Michael Caldwell Student Scholarship
d. SSA Annual Meeting Scholarship
4. Which of the following statements about A. Otis Hebert, Jr. is *not* true?
a. He was the first recipient of the Distinguished Service Award awarded posthumously
b. He was the first President of SSA, from 1972-1974
c. He served as editor of *Texas History*
d. He served as Director of the Louisiana Department of Archives and Records
5. Which of SSA's officers serve a one-year term?
a. President
b. Secretary
c. Treasurer
d. A and C
6. Which of the following SSAers has *not* served as President?
a. Audrey Bateman
b. David B. Gracy II
c. Michael McColgin
d. Charles Schulz
7. Which of the following SSAers were elected to the Executive Board for the 2008-2010 term?
a. Mat Darby
b. Joel Minor
c. Diane Worrell
d. All of the above
8. Which of the following is *not* an SSA committee?
a. Internet Resources / Outreach
b. Marketing
c. Professional Development
d. Scholarships
9. How often is *Southwestern Archivist* published?
a. Monthly
b. Bimonthly
c. Quarterly
d. Annually
10. Which of these features can you find on SSA's Web site: <http://southwestarchivists.org/>
a. Information about continuing education opportunities
b. A link to the SSA Leadership blog
c. PDF versions of past issues of *Southwestern Archivist*
d. All of the above

Answers on p.29

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- ☐ All content types linked to metadata, from PDFs to oral history and images with watermark protection
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- ☐ Unlimited metadata text; all digital content formats
- ☐ Enter raw data only; hyperlinks created by software
- ☐ Controlled name and subject authorized vocabulary

DYNAMIC PUBLISHING OPTIONS

- ☐ HTML index accessible to search engines
- ☐ HTML of entire record group posted with style sheet
- ☐ EAD online with style sheet
- ☐ EAD for import into other systems
- ☐ Output to Excel and other 3rd party software

STREAMLINED WORKFLOW OPTIONS

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- ☐ Storage & location management
- ☐ Linear/cubic measure reports
- ☐ All items linked to container and location
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ELECTION RESULTS

Chuck Rand
 Nominating Committee Chair

On March 18, 2008, 418 ballots were mailed to current, paid members. By the close of business day on April 16, 140 ballots were received thus yielding a 33.5% return rate. The total ballot mail-out cost (including printing) was \$234.08, or, \$.56 per ballot. Therefore, the cost for each received ballot is about \$1.67.

On April 17, Stan Upchurch, Jennifer Silvers, and Chuck Rand convened at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum to open and tally the ballot votes.

2008 Election Winners

Vice President/President-Elect
 Brenda McClurkin

Secretary
 Stephanie Malmros

Executive Board
 Mat Darby
 Joel Minor
 Diane Worrell

Nominating Committee
 Ann Massmann

Scholarship Committee
 Dawn Letson

Thanks to everyone who accepted nominations to appear on the ballot, and to those members who are rotating off the board and committees.

The full list of officers and committee chairs appears on p.2 and is available on the Leadership page of the SSA Web site: <http://southwestarchivists.org/HTML/Leadership.htm>.

WHO DO YOU KNOW?

If you have an idea of someone in the archival profession (or related field) who you think would make an interesting interview, let us know!

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SLOTTO!

Emily E. Hyatt, CA • SSA Scholarship Committee Chair



Once again, SLOTTTO was a huge success at the annual meeting, thanks to those SSA members who donated items, bought tickets, and volunteered their time at the SLOTTTO table. The Scholarship committee is grateful for everyone's help!

Due to the generosity of SSA's members, SLOTTTO and the Messy Desk Contest raised over \$1100.00 for scholarships! The scholarships directly benefit the association's members by encouraging annual meeting attendance and professional education – vital components of a dynamic profession and organization.

Thanks go to all of those members who volunteered at the SLOTTTO table to sell tickets and lovingly bully meeting attendees into parting with their cash. The Scholarship Committee is also very grateful to **Robert Schaadt** and **John Slate** for their entertaining and speedy SLOTTTO announcing. They are already working on next year's performance!

Look for 2009 Scholarship details in the next issue of the Southwestern Archivist and on the SSA Web site in the fall.

Remeber: it's not too early to start thinking of items for next year's SLOTTTO!

CONGRATULATIONS! 2008 Scholarship Recipients

Annual Meeting Scholarship - Patrizia Nava
Caldwell Student Scholarship - Amber Castor
Hebert Scholarship - Emilie Leumas



VICIOUS VOLCANOES & BLOODY BATTLES, OR EAT DRINK & BE MERRY

By Joel Minor • Southwestern Writers Collection, Texas State University–San Marcos

Most archivists wouldn't recommend burying the objects in their care under hardened volcano ash and leaving them there for centuries, but, as those archivists lucky enough to attend the opening reception at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston (MFAH) may attest, it's a time-tested preservation method. The gods knew what they were doing, cruel though they were to also bury (and preserve) a couple hundred thousand people in the ash of Mount Vesuvius in 79 A.D.

We got the royal treatment at the opening reception, with the opportunity to view the 500 objects in *Pompeii: Tales from an Eruption*, including marble statues, wall frescoes, gold jewelry, silver and bronze household items, coins, and body casts and skeletons of the inhabitants who could not escape. If that weren't enough, the MFAH—the oldest art museum in Texas and largest in America south of Chicago, west of D.C. and east of L.A.—offered us one-day admission passes and discount coupons at the museum retail shops. We had tasty hors d'oeuvres, free beer, wine and

other drinks, and of course, the great company of our fellow archivists from the Southwest.

Two nights later, we boarded the buses again, this time for dinner at the San Jacinto Monument and Museum (SJMM), out on the plains east of the city, near the Houston ship channel. This is the site where (for those of you still uninitiated in Texas lore) a scrappy bunch of Texians won their independence from a ruthless dictator who was pursuing them with his much-larger and better-trained army. Not only was the nation of Texas born as a result, but soon the expansion of the United States across the Southwest and to the Pacific.

In 1936, the centennial year of the Battle of San Jacinto, construction began on the monument, and it was completed three years later. All told, the SJMM is the tallest memorial column in the world, with a free, world-class museum at its base and an observation deck at the top, nearly 500 feet above the ground. In between is Herzstein Library, which



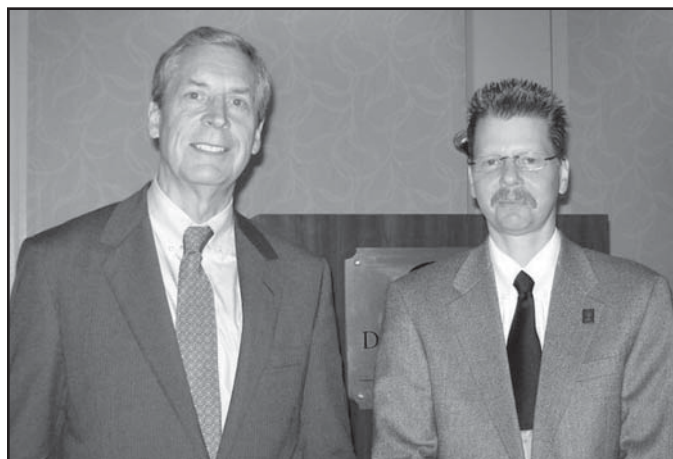
Brian Collins and John Slate. Photo by Katie Salzmänn.



Houston LAC co-chairs Amanda Focke and Shelly Kelly. Photo by Katie Salzmänn.



Chris LaPlante and Laura McLemore chat during a vendor break. Photo by Shelly Kelly.



Plenary speaker Michael Gillette and SSA President Tim Blevins. Photo by Shelly Kelly.

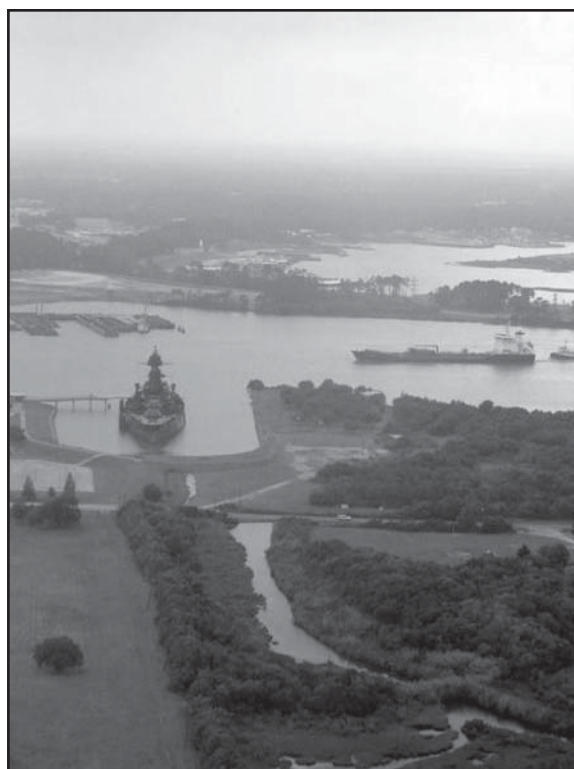
WITH THE SOCIETY OF SOUTHWEST ARCHIVISTS



houses book, manuscripts, and other resources on Texas history and culture. Not just devoted to the battle, or even Texas, the museum and library specializes in all aspects of the Spanish Southwest, from Mayan to contemporary times.

The staff and administration of the memorial, museum and library were nice enough to extend their hours into the evening in order to host us, with dinner, exhibit viewings, library tours, trips to the observation deck, and a viewing of *Texas Forever!!* in the Jesse H. Jones Theater, with entertaining opening and closing remarks by SJMM director Larry Spasic. Most gracious of all, however, SJMM waived their usual event fee for SSA.

To learn more about MFAH, visit <http://www.mfah.org>, and SJMM, <http://www.sanjacinto-museum.org/>. While there, consider donating to these fine institutions to show your appreciation for their generosity and for helping make the 2008 SSA meeting so memorable.



View from the top of the San Jacinto Monument: the Battleship Texas and the Houston Ship Channel. Photo by Shelly Kelly.



Enjoying a sweet and salty snack break with vendors. Photo by Katie Salzmann.



Mat Darby, Carol Mead, and Mike Strom relax in the Doubletree lounge. Photo by Shelly Kelly.



Brenda McClurkin picks up vendor literature. Photo by Shelly Kelly.

LAW AND ORIGINAL ORDER: THE HEYWOOD COLLECTIONS GO TO COURT

By Tara Laver, CA • Special Collections, Louisiana State University
and Pati Threatt • Frazar Memorial Library, McNeese State University

In the summer of 2005, lawyers from firms in Baton Rouge and New Orleans began using and requesting hundreds of photocopies from LSU's Jennings-Heywood Oil Syndicate Records. LSU's Heywood collection includes business and personal correspondence; as well as correspondence relating to Scott Heywood's political activities and public service; speeches, his writings on the oil industry; and his unpublished autobiography.



Building earthen tanks, Evangeline Field, Jennings-Heywood Oil Syndicate, 1901. The W. Scott Heywood Papers, Archives & Special Collections Department, Frazar Memorial Library, McNeese State University.

The Heywoods were a prominent family in Louisiana history. In 1901, Scott Heywood, a traveling musician, miner, and oil wildcatter, drilled the first successful oil well in Louisiana near Jennings. He soon organized the Jennings-Heywood Oil Syndicate in conjunction with his brothers and a group of Jennings businessmen. The Syndicate leased land from local landowners to drill for oil. The Syndicate sold the oil as fast as they could, but with no pipelines or infrastructure in place, they still had a large surplus and no way to store it. They quickly built several large, open, earthen tanks to store the surplus. In 1908, the Syndicate turned the leases over to Gulf Refinery, but Scott Heywood remained active in the company until his death in 1950. Scott's widow, Josephine Heywood, continued as President of the Syndicate.

When the lawyers visited LSU's reading room, the LSU staff were unaware of what the lawyers were looking for, what the case was about, and which lawyers represented which side. A few months later, one of the lawyers asked **Tara Laver** about the provenance of the Heywood collection. He wanted to know how LSU had acquired the collection and asked for a

copy of any "donative act," or deed of gift. The lawyer wanted to "to establish the chain of custody for the records, to search for corroborating evidence of their authenticity, and to learn more about how the records were created and kept by the Syndicate years ago."

Not only did LSU not have a deed of gift, but the accession folder contained only some internal forms and the current finding aid. LSU acquired the collection in 1978 from Mrs. Scott (Josephine) Heywood by way of **Brady Banta**, then a PhD candidate in the LSU History Department. Brady was researching the regulation of the petroleum industry. He met with Mrs. Heywood in Jennings to review her records. Josephine told Brady he could take the records if he wanted. Brady turned the records over to LSU. In 1984, Josephine died and left control of the Syndicate to her friend Augusta Porter who began dismantling the Syndicate. In 1985, a secretary at the Syndicate contacted **Kathie Bordelon**, the McNeese archivist, and told her she could take any records left in the office.



Heywood Oil Field Fire, Jennings, LA, 1901. The W. Scott Heywood Papers, Archives & Special Collections Department, Frazar Memorial Library, McNeese State University.

At some point in 2005, the lawyers discovered that McNeese and the University of Louisiana at Lafayette also had Heywood-related materials and visited those archives. Because LSU didn't have a deed of gift, the lawyers began asking questions about the provenance of all the Heywood collections, including those at McNeese and ULL. We began comparing notes and figuring out what the case was about.

In short, the landowners who had leased land to Jennings-Heywood to drill for oil were suing the large oil companies, who over time had acquired the leases, to clean up the

This is a condensed version of the paper delivered as part of Session 1: Like Oil and Archives? Issues in Documenting the Energy Industry.



polluted sites where the oil wells and the earthen tanks once stood. The lawyers visiting our archives represented the many oil companies involved, including British Petroleum, ExxonMobil, and Radke Oil. The reason our involvement in the case escalated as it did was because the plaintiffs' lawyers questioned the admissibility of the records, based on authenticity and relevance.

In August 2006, Tara was called to a deposition in New Orleans and was asked about how LSU acquired the collection and how it had been stored, secured, and cared for since its acquisition in 1978. Tara's deposition lasted about an hour and a half and the transcript was 70 pages typed. Many of the questions necessitated an explanation of basic archival theory and practice. The plaintiffs' lawyer participated by phone, which was probably a good thing, because his questions were the most combative. Brady Banta, **Bruce Turner**, and **Pati Threatt** also gave depositions. Thankfully, not many of the lawyers wanted to travel beyond the comfort of New Orleans to the wilds of Southwest Louisiana, so their depositions were uneventful. In fact, no plaintiffs' lawyers bothered to attend Pati's deposition at all.

The defendants' lawyers (representing the oil companies) had hoped that the depositions would be enough proof that the records were authentic, but it didn't work. Next, the defendants' lawyers asked us to sign individual, notarized "Certificates of Authenticity" for each photocopied document they entered into evidence [165 from McNeese, 535 from LSU]. This didn't work either and ultimately each of the archivists and their records were subpoenaed for a hearing.

The lawyers sent us lists of the documents they

wanted the judge to see. The judge had to see the originals, not photocopies. First we had to locate each document and verify its description. Then we had to pack up the boxes and haul them to the Acadia Parish Courthouse in Crowley. Then we had to unload the boxes and stack them in the visitor's gallery of the courtroom. Thankfully, before we ever had to testify, the plaintiffs' lawyer stipulated to the authenticity of the records, and the judge excused us and our documents. The debate continued about their relevance to the case, but they didn't need us for that discussion.

The experience raised a few issues. While personally, we were inclined to be sympathetic to the plaintiffs whose land was contaminated, it was the defendants - the "big bad oil companies" - who needed our help, and they were more agreeable and sympathetic to our plight. It was a good lesson in objectivity towards patrons and the use of records. Secondly, it is a good reminder of the importance of keeping accurate and thorough donation records.

Another issue that Tara had to consider was patron confidentiality. The heavy use of the collection by many patrons at once and by lawyers from different firms (and perhaps opposing sides), necessitated that LSU adjust its usual access and copying procedures to ensure that markers and requests left by one lawyer were not seen by the other. Because of the large number of copies the lawyers were requesting, LSU also asked them to come in and take digital photos themselves instead of the LSU staff copying the requested documents.

In the end, the most important thing we learned is not to cut corners on any collection. Although the Heywood collections seemed banal and relatively non-controversial on the surface, the lack of proper documentation caused a lot of wasted time and effort and undue exertion on the documents themselves. However, the fact that this controversy erupted shouldn't keep archivists from acquiring or providing access to potentially controversial collections.

The moral of the story is that any collection has the potential to become involved in a controversy, so make sure to follow established policies and procedures for each and every collection.

Tara Laver, Louisiana State University's Curator of Manuscripts was scheduled to give this presentation, but she could not attend the meeting. Tara asked Pati Threatt of McNeese State University to make the presentation and add her own thoughts.



Scott Heywood, ca. 1940. The W. Scott Heywood Papers, Archives & Special Collections Department, Frazar Memorial Library, McNeese State University.

TAMING THE BEAST: MANAGING THE EXXONMOBIL HISTORICAL COLLECTION

By Mat Darby, CA • Center for American History, The University of Texas at Austin

On November 30, 1999, Exxon and Mobil merged to form ExxonMobil Corporation, becoming one of the world's largest corporate entities. A consequence was the combining of two distinct historical resources, the Mobil Corporate Archives and Exxon's diverse collection of documentation, spanning nearly 140 years.

In September 2003, ExxonMobil donated this massive collection to the Center for American History at The University of Texas at Austin, making the ExxonMobil Historical Collection arguably the largest publicly available collection documenting an energy industry giant, containing an estimated 4 million documents, 1.5 million photographs, more than 4,000 artifacts, and well over 40,000 moving image and sound recordings.

Placing the collection at the Center was a strategic decision and made sense. The University and ExxonMobil already had a well-established relationship. Furthermore, with the collection now at an institution of higher learning, scholars could gain unfettered access, thereby demonstrating the corporation's philanthropic commitment to education and research. In taking on this massive project, the Center accepted the responsibility for maintaining ExxonMobil's corporate heritage. Because ExxonMobil is very much a going concern, to say the least, and no corporate department is charged with preserving historical records, the Center is the home for ExxonMobil history.

The reason for dissolving the Archives is a matter of speculation, but I suspect it was a change in leadership. Prior to the merger, Mobil CEO Lou Noto had been a staunch champion of the Archives, supporting the notion that Mobil's history should be a visible presence at the corporate headquarters. The new ExxonMobil, however, found Noto no longer in the top spot and, four years later, the powers that be shuttered the Archives.

Having managed the collection now for nearly five years, I feel it is worth considering two broad questions: 1) What are the challenges in documenting such an enormous organization?; and 2) When a multinational corporation turns over the management of its corporate heritage to a public university, what are the implications for archival practice?

Minding the Gaps

One of the difficulties in documenting ExxonMobil, and by extension the energy industry, is the nature of the modern corporation. Complex corporate structures and the meandering limbs of corporate family trees can send the archival mind reeling. Following the 1911 breakup of Stan-

dard Oil, two of the strongest companies to emerge were the Standard Oil Company of New York, which became Mobil Oil Corporation in 1965, and Standard Oil Company (New Jersey), which changed its name to Exxon Corporation in 1972. After spending much of the last century as tough competitors, forging individual identities, today the mammoth ExxonMobil is comprised of numerous subsidiaries and affiliates managing activities on a global scale.

I realized early on in working with the collection that gaps in documentation existed. But as archivists and historians, we should consider ourselves lucky that companies even bother to establish archives. Unlike the federal government, for example, corporate America is not mandated to maintain historical records beyond minimal administrative, legal and fiscal requirements. When they are preserved, historical records are often amassed for business-related purposes. The core of the collection began more out of necessity than a conscious effort to create archives. In the 1950s, a public relations supervisor at Socony Mobil, an ExxonMobil predecessor, created what he called an "historical file" in response to inquiries from employees, shareholders and the public. A department secretary, Betty Hale, soon became custodian of these files, augmenting them little by little. In the mid-1990s, Mobil hired archivist Paul Ledvina and established a dedicated archives program, in the high-level Office of the Secretary, charged with increasing the quality of documentation. With the 1999 merger, the archives welcomed Exxon's historical documentation.

The question, then, is what is an archivist's responsibility for filling the gaps in an already massive collection?



Esso service station, ca. 1922,
ExxonMobil Historical Collection, CAH

This is a condensed version of the paper delivered as part of Session 1: Like Oil and Archives? Issues in Documenting the Energy Industry.



Though I resisted the notion for a long time, I think of myself as the de facto archivist for ExxonMobil with a duty to document the corporation as fully as possible. As such, I have been proactive in identifying where documentation might exist. Unlike the former archivist, I started at a disadvantage, outside the corporation, lacking direct knowledge of corporate functions and the idiosyncrasies

of corporate culture. Building relationships with a variety of employees – records managers and records center staff, corporate librarians, public affairs and marketing employees, and others – has facilitated the transfer of archival material and promoted the Center as the place for ExxonMobil's "historical stuff."

In a way, the possibilities for documenting ExxonMobil seem limitless. An enthusiastic response has come from retirees of ExxonMobil and predecessor companies. Former employees frequently ask how they can contribute their materials to the collection. The retirees, unwittingly, have raised an important question: Should I be pursuing materials beyond just high-level corporate documentation? I would argue that it is crucial not to take merely a top down approach and instead build a collection that represents a full, diverse spectrum of corporate history. In the context of an academic institution, this strategy seems more than possible.

You Can Sometimes Get What You Want

Equally challenging has been providing reference service to ExxonMobil employees. This aspect of the relationship is a balancing act, accounting for the needs of a multi-headed donor while responding to other researchers, processing materials and generally managing the collection. But finding benefits in this onslaught of reference queries is key. With such a large collection, I cannot possibly know it fully. Conducting this basic research has given me an opportunity to become more knowledgeable about the collection in my care.

As with our other collection donors, we often provide



Put a Tiger in Your Tank ad, 1965, ExxonMobil Historical Collection, CAH

priority reference service to ExxonMobil, but with that comes the expectation that I will always go "above and beyond." The key is determining how dire the need is and treating each interaction with an ExxonMobil employee as an occasion for educating that person about the nature of the collection and what we are reasonably able to accomplish.

Consider, for instance, two groups that conducted research at the Center: staff from ExxonMobil's Law Department and researchers representing the opposing side of a lawsuit. In this instance, the situation could easily become entangled in issues of equity and archival ethics. Where should this place the archivist? Frankly, it put me exactly where I belong, in the middle. The ExxonMobil team might have assumed that they would receive special treatment and be permitted to ship files back to the home office for review. While I remain flexible in response to demands for thousands of photocopies and accommodate the legal needs of both ExxonMobil and other legal researchers, the paramount concern always is to maintain the integrity of the collection and ensure that all parties receive access to the materials they need.

Of course, corporate needs can be wide-ranging. ExxonMobil recently celebrated its 125th anniversary with a coffee table book, complete with sepia-rich photographs, timelines and micro-histories, and snappy graphics. To prepare the volume, public affairs staff camped out in our reading room for weeks to peruse thousands of photographs and select hundreds for publication. Such a project threatened to strain our staff's time and energy. But rather than being burdened, I saw this project as an opportunity to populate our online gallery with hundreds of digital images, which benefits not only ExxonMobil but all researchers.

Conclusion

Today, how the relationship between the Center for American History and ExxonMobil will progress is unclear. Much depends upon whether ExxonMobil continues to view the historical collection as a vital corporate asset. But by providing a high level of service to both ExxonMobil and independent researchers who contribute to its historical legacy, I feel confident that the collection will grow and remain relevant for years to come.

ROAD TO REVOLUTION: DIGITIZING MIRABEAU LAMAR'S 1835 JOURNAL

By Philip Montgomery, CA • Woodson Research Center, Rice University

In 2004, I received approval to begin a TEI digitization project using an 1835 travel journal written by Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar and held by the Woodson Research Center. It has proven to be a very educational experience.

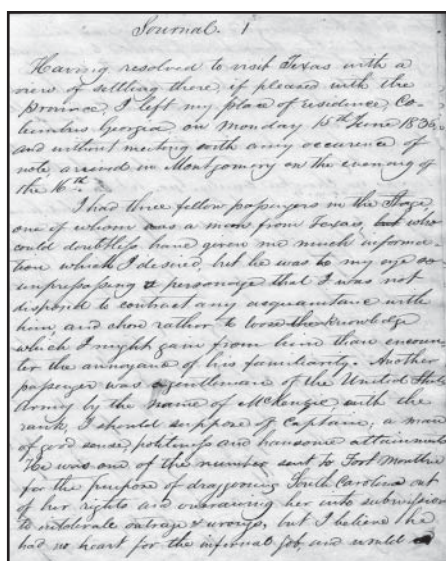
Mark Twain is credited with saying "A man who holds a cat by the tail learns something he can learn no other way." That saying seems to capture my personal experience with transcribing and digitizing the Lamar journal.

The most important lesson learned in this project is that a TEI project, like most digitization projects, requires team work between archivists, scholars, administrators, and IT support. Another important lesson is that a digitization project of this scope requires a great deal of staff time and energy even with the use of volunteers and student workers.

Lamar is most famous for serving as the second president of the Republic of Texas beginning in 1839. He was born in 1798 and raised and educated in Georgia. He grew up to be an omnivorous reader, an expert horseman, and an accomplished fencer. He wrote in verse and painted in oils. He was a journalist, politician and a revolutionary. In addition, he was known as a devoted father and husband.

After his wife died in 1830 and failed attempts to win a congressional seat, Lamar decided to follow James W. Fannin Jr. to Texas in 1835 for a visit to collect historical information. He quickly caught the revolutionary fever during his Texas visit. He dashed back to Georgia to settle his affairs before returning to Texas. He arrived in time to become one of the heroes of the battle of San Jacinto resulting in Texas Independence from Mexico.

During his 1835 trip to Texas, Lamar kept a manuscript diary documenting his trip from Columbus, Georgia to Brazoria, Texas. Fondren Library purchased this journal in 1952 from a Massachusetts book dealer. The journal is now held in Fondren Library's Woodson Research Center as the



Scan of page 1 of Lamar's journal.

Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar journal, MS 311.

The journal is in Lamar's hand but unsigned. The handwriting was identified as Lamar's by Rice scholars who compared the journal to some of Lamar's letters, which are held at the San Jacinto Museum of History. The scholars also found references to people and places closely linked to Lamar. The journal itself is a 194-page, sewn, leather-bound account book measuring 7.75 inches by 9.75 inches. The binding is in poor condition, but the paper is in fairly good condition.

```
<pb n="1" /> Journal. 1<lb />
<figure entity="wrc311001">
  <figDesc>Page 1 of manuscript</figDesc>
  <figure> Having resolved to visit Texas with a <lb />
view of settling there, if pleased with the <lb />
province, I left my place of residence, <orig reg="Columbus">Co&#8209;<lb />
lumbus</orig> Georgia, on Monday 15<hi rend="sup">th</hi> June 1835, <lb />
and without meeting with any occurrence of <lb />
note, arrived in Montgomery on the evening of<lb />
the 16<hi rend="sup">th</hi>. <lb />
I had three fellow passengers in the Stage,<lb />
one of whom was a man from Texas, <del rend="strike">but</del> who<lb />
could doubtless have given me much <orig reg="information">informa&#8209;<lb />
tion</orig> which I desired, but he was to my eye so<lb />
<unclear reason="unprepossessing">unprepossessing</unclear> a personage that I was not<lb />
disposed to contract any acquaintance with <lb />
him, and chose rather to loose the knowledge<lb />
which I might gain from him than <orig reg="encounter">encoun&#8209;<lb />
ter</orig> the annoyance of his familiarity. Another<lb />
passenger was <del rend="strike">a</del> gentleman of the United States<lb />
Army by the name of McKenzie, with the<lb />
rank, I should suppose of Captain; a man<lb />
of good sense, politeness and <orig reg="handsome">handsome</orig> attainments<unclear
reason="erasure">[.]</unclear> <lb />
He was one of the number sent to Fort Moultrie<lb />
for the purpose of <orig reg="dragooning">dragooning</orig> South Carolina out<lb />
of her rights and overawing her into submission<lb />
to intolerable outrage & wrongs, but I believe he<lb />
had no heart for the infernal job, and would<lb />
```

TEI markup of page 1 of Lamar's journal.

Lamar wrote the journal in narrative form with frequent references to historical events and descriptive passages covering the time from June to October, 1835.

His comments on a play presented in New Orleans shows his humor and his ability to capture a vignette of life. Lamar wrote the following colorful passage on page 21 and 22 while in New Orleans on Saturday, June 27th and watching an acting troupe.

The orchestra was composed of two fiddlers and one fifer. They were all in their shirt sleeves and one of the Knights of the catgut & rosin fell fast asleep in the middle of Basney Glanajin; his hat which he had not taken off fell over his eyes, his bow from his hand and soon began to snore bass to his more wakeful companions music and then I thought what a 'concord of sweet sounds.' The company met with uproarious applause in which I contributed my due share.

This is a condensed version of the paper delivered as part of Session 4: Using Text Encoding to Bring the Past Alive Through Online Documents.



I started this digitization project in 2004 as a requirement for my MLIS degree, because I wanted to combine archives and metadata. The original purpose was to create a research tool for scholars and students and experiment with TEI, based on the extensible markup language known as XML. TEI is the open-source metadata standard created in 1987 by the Text Encoding Initiative, a consortium of institutions that maintain standards for TEI metadata.

TEI is a metadata standard devoted to markup of literary and linguistic texts. Its power rests in the ability to provide effective searching, indexing and comparison beyond anything that PDF or HTML documents can do. Unlike PDF, TEI is designed for non-proprietary preservation. TEI is structured to allow for deeper analysis of the text, such as GIS mapping or comparing archaic spelling and grammar with modern usage.

The scope of the Lamar project covered two stages, both of which were done using existing Woodson Research Center resources. Stage one consisted of transcribing into Microsoft Word the first 63 pages using two transcribers and two proof readers to check the transcription. The staff, volunteers, and interns marked up the text in TEI P4 using Oxygen XML editor. Next, Rice scholars specializing in the history of the 18th and 19th centuries reviewed the text. Stage two, which is now ongoing, consists of doing an optical character read (OCR) on the remaining pages of the journal, which were transcribed in the 1960s, proofing and editing the OCR text, and then marking up the text in-house and applying new TEI P5 standards to the entire document.

Transcription is part art and part skill. The editors, the coders, the transcribers, and the scholars made numerous judgment calls and used the following guiding principles.

- Emulate the original document line by line
- Decipher the text so scholars and lay readers can understand Lamar's handwriting
- Keep the TEI simple and don't describe worm holes, ink blots, or other anomalies.

In the spirit of the Presidential election, the November issue of *Southwestern Archivist* will center on politics in the archives.

Please consider contributing features, news, or other articles that relate to the theme. Feel free to contact the editors if you have any questions about developing an article. Deadline for submission is October 10, 2008.

The final steps included adding metadata using Dublin Core and uploading the files to the DSpace server at Rice. DSpace is an open-source content management system. The results of the project, which is still underway, can be seen at: <http://scholarship.rice.edu/handle/1911/21658>.

Sources

Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/LL/fla15.html> (accessed October 10, 2007).

Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar Journal of 1835, MS 311, Woodson Research Center, Fondren Library, Rice University.

Lamar engraving from "Verse Memorials" 1857; Courtesy of Texas State Library & Archives Commission.

Mirabeau B. Lamar's Texas Journal, *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, LXXXIV, no. 2-3.



Panelists for Session 4 (left to right):

- Lisa Spiro
- Phil Montgomery
- Monica Rivero

All three panelists are from the Fondren Library, Rice University.

THE NEXT STEP: OUTREACH IN THE DIGITAL AGE

By Evelyn Barker • The University of Texas at Arlington

Offering archival items digitally increases an institution's visibility and makes unique holdings available to a worldwide audience. This paper will examine the past, present, and future of digital outreach at UT Arlington Special Collections with the hope that our efforts spark ideas, encourage you to explore our holdings, or help you plan your own projects.

Cartographic Connections

Ten years ago, Virginia Garrett of Fort Worth donated about 900 maps to the University of Texas at Arlington. She gathered these maps over 40 years to complement her husband's collection of Texana and Mexican War materials. The maps depict the region of Texas, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Southwest from the early 16th century through 1900. Mrs. Garrett's gift made UT Arlington the greatest holder of maps of Texas and the Southwest outside of the Library of Congress and inspired us to share these important resources with school children.

In 1999, the Houston Endowment, Inc., funded Cartographic Connections, <http://libraries.uta.edu/ccon/> a project to provide teachers and students with important primary cartographic resources which connected directly to the curriculum. With this grant, the UT Arlington Library gathered 17 people from different departments on campus and hired 22 teachers from across Texas as advisors to the project. The teachers set and accomplished four goals:

- They determined curriculum needs in light of local, regional, and statewide requirements.
- They selected appropriate maps from among UT Arlington's large collection to help meet these needs.
- They developed strategies and lesson plans to integrate the use of maps into the curriculum.
- They shared with other educators the techniques learned in this project.

The teachers worked together to select maps and make TEKS-aligned lesson plans, all of which were placed on the UT Arlington Library's servers and made freely available to the public.

In the future, UT Arlington Library plans to update Cartographic Connections' images and metadata to support interoperability with the Texas Heritage Digitization Initiative. For more information about Cartographic Connections, please contact **Gerald D. Saxon**: saxon@uta.edu or (817) 272-5318.

Tejano Voices

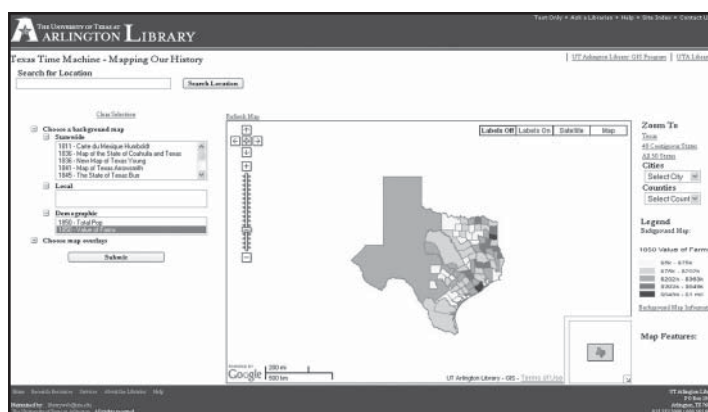
Launched in 2002, the Tejano Voices project <http://libraries.uta.edu/tejanovoices/> offers 77 oral history inter-

views over the Internet. José Angel Gutiérrez, UT Arlington political science professor and former director of UT Arlington's Center for Mexican American Studies, conducted the interviews between 1992 and 1999.

Each personal recollection reveals sad, poignant, and triumphant stories of Tejano struggles against racism, discrimination, and exclusion. With the help of a grant from the TexTreasures program of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, the interviews were videotaped, transcribed, bound, and placed in Special Collections, where they are accessible to students, scholars, and the general public. For more information about Tejano Voices, please contact **Ann Hodges**: ann.hodges@uta.edu or (817) 272-7510.

History's Lessons

History's Lessons <http://library.uta.edu/K12/historysLessons/> presents online versions of the materials UT Arlington Library submitted to the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History School Loan Kits. The site includes digital reproductions of an 1864 diary and map of Texas, and money from the Republic of Texas era. Lesson plans, worksheets, and related lesson material are included. For more information about History's Lessons, see the article "Powerful Partnerships, Great Opportunities: Sharing History with the Community" by **Lea Worcester**, in this issue. For more information about History's Lessons, please contact **Evelyn Barker**: ebarker@uta.edu or (817) 272-6064.



Screen shot of Texas Time Machine.

Texas Time Machine

Although this project will not officially debut until next year, Texas Time Machine <http://gis.uta.edu/TTM> is an exciting collaboration between UT Arlington Library's Special Collections and Geographic Information Systems units.

This is a condensed version of the paper delivered as part of Session 6: Optimizing Outreach: Promoting Collections and Attracting Users.



Texas Time Machine uses Special Collection's historic maps in conjunction with Google maps and ArcMap software to give researchers a new way to interact with maps and geo-referenced data. For example, users can lay 1850 census data over an 1850 map of Texas.

Other possible uses are to compare the accuracy of historic maps to current maps or to use Texas Time Machine as a sort of visual index of the state. As an example of the latter, images of people, events, objects, or locations can overlay historic or modern maps of Texas. This can help researchers looking for images related to a certain geographic area, such as a town, or for images corresponding to a specific time period. For more information about Texas Time Machine, please contact Josh Been: been@uta.edu or (817) 272-5826.

Conclusion

Except where noted, all of these projects were produced in-house using available personnel, funding, and equipment. Each project's success has depended on collaborations between UT Arlington Library departments or between the library and other campus or community units. Currently, UT Arlington Library Special Collections is de-

veloping other digital outreach projects like online exhibits and vodcasts. For more information about the UT Arlington Special Collections, please visit <http://library.uta.edu/spco/>.



Panelists for Session 6 (left to right):

- Evelyn Barker, The University of Texas at Arlington
- Lea Worcester, The University of Texas at Arlington
- Amy Ziegler, Pikes Peak Library District
- Brenda McClurkin (chair), The University of Texas at Arlington

Scenes from the 2008 Annual Meeting . . .

Left: Stan and Carol Upchurch seated at a flight controller's console in the NASA Johnson Space Center Historic Mission Control Center.

Right: Tour Guide Sandra Lord discusses Houston Architecture on the walking tour.

Photos by Shelly Kelly.



POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS, GREAT OPPORTUNITIES: SHARING HISTORY WITH THE COMMUNITY

By Lea Worcester • The University of Texas at Arlington

Building partnerships has been a positive way for Special Collections, University of Texas at Arlington Library, to optimize outreach and share archival resources with the community. Our strategy has been to develop relationships with institutions that already have an infrastructure in place which offers access to the public and K12 community. We, in turn, offer documents, diaries, photos, maps, and expert staff to add value to our partner's projects at no cost in time or money to them. Focusing upon reciprocal relationships and avoiding duplication of work has been beneficial for all.

The advantages of identifying institutions with established programs and offering our resources in a partnership was demonstrated when **Evelyn Barker** in UT Arlington Library's Information Literacy program considered making school kits. She discovered that the cost of starting a school kit program was high due to staff time needed to create the kits and promotion costs. In her research, she had found that the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History (FWMSH) had an existing project with small items for kits. She felt that the museum was a potential partner. Since both institutions were familiar with each other's collections, a single e-mail launched the project. Two FWMSH staff members, Jane Dees and Renee Tucker, reviewed the list of existing school kits with Evelyn and the partners selected the Texas Pioneer Kit. UT Arlington Library Special Collections contributed reproductions of Republic of Texas currency, an 1864 diary of a woman traveling from Boerne, Texas, to Matamoros, and an 1864 Colton's map of Texas that showed the towns and rivers mentioned in the diary. UT Arlington Library staff also created TEKs aligned lesson plans with worksheets. Local teachers and professors who teach K12 curriculum development reviewed the reproductions with their lesson plans and accompanying worksheets for ease of use. Special Collection's contribution has added authenticity and value to the museum's school kits at no additional cost to them. In return, we found a way to reach out to the K12 community.

Another example is the Arlington Past and Present Double Deck Playing Cards researched, printed, and sold by the Arlington Independent School District's Class in the Parks. In 2005, Special Collections discovered an unexpected chance to introduce junior and senior high school marketing education students to the archives. The class's objective was to design a double set of playing cards for sale. One deck of cards would have images of historic Arlington and the second deck would feature Arlington businesses. The students worked with UT Arlington Special Collections staff to identify historic photographs from Arlington historical manuscript



Arlington Past and Present Double Deck playing cards featuring historic images.

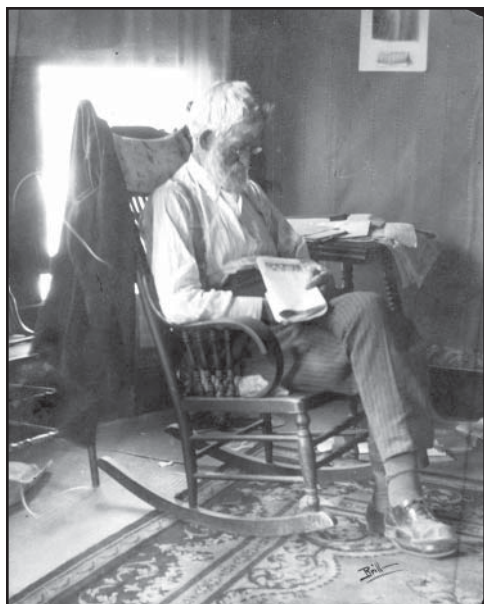
collections suitable for inclusion. The students then arranged the images for the face of the cards chronologically by suit, beginning with spades and ending with hearts and selected a photograph of Arlington's first automobile license plate for the backs of the historical playing cards. Special Collections staff scanned the photographs and provided the images to the project at no charge. We were pleased to have had a role in working with local students and helping them learn new research skills as well as creating an exceptional collector's item featuring images from our collection.

A long lasting relationship with the Arlington Star-Telegram began in 2003. The Sunday feature, Time Frames, evolved from O.K. Carter's article in the *Arlington Star-Telegram* about Special Collection's acquisition of J.W. Dunlop's Photograph Collection. Manuscript Archivist **Brenda McClurkin** proposed to O.K. Carter that the newspaper include



1929 flight of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Reeding on their 60th wedding anniversary. Basil Clemons Photograph Collection, Special Collections, The University of Texas at Arlington.

This is a condensed version of the paper delivered as part of Session 6: Optimizing Outreach: Promoting Collections and Attracting Users.



Uncle Frank Neal, Parker County pioneer, is caught napping in his chair. Robert Hanks Brister Papers, Special Collections, The University of Texas at Arlington.

of the 1929 flight of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Reeding on their 60th wedding anniversary from their hometown of Breckenridge to neighboring Abilene. Mr. Reeding is 88 and his wife is 80. On Father's Day, the choice was a peaceful picture of "Uncle Frank" Neal, a Parker County pioneer who dropped off to sleep in his rocking chair while reading his favorite magazine.

The response to *Time Frames* has been positive. Readers frequently say they clip the articles to keep or mail to others. Some come to Special Collections after reading *Time Frames* to visit exhibits or use our materials. Others have found loved ones (or themselves) pictured in featured photographic images and have called to order a print of the image. *Time Frames* continues to be a way for Special Collections to reach out to the public and demonstrate the depth of the collections.

Special Collections has collaborated with a museum to reach local schools, a school district program to help high school marketing students research historic photographs, and a local newspaper to spotlight photographs, maps, and documents and promote our collections.. We learned that the unique resources in archives are a valuable addition to the existing programs of many institutions. A partnership with those organizations offers archives an opportunity to optimize outreach, promote collections and reach users.

a photograph, map, or document from our collections every week in the Arlington section. Each issue of *Time Frames* has an image with description and standard statement promoting UT Arlington Library's Special Collections. McClurkin links *Time Frames* to a historic or current event such as the Valentine's Day photograph

Additional Resources

Barker, Evelyn. Reaching out to the K12 community, Texas State Historical Association Meeting, March 2007, San Antonio, Texas.

Fort Worth Museum of Science and History. Loan kit program. http://www.fwmuseum.org/educate/in_school_loan.html.

McClurkin, Brenda S. 2006. It's in the cards. *Compass Rose* 20 (1): 3, 5.

McClurkin, Brenda S. 2005. *Time Frames*. *Compass Rose* 19 (2): 6-7.

INTRIGUED?

Did you enjoy the sessions at the Houston meeting? Do you find these abbreviated papers interesting? Please consider sharing **your** expertise by proposing a paper for the 2009 Annual Meeting in Shreveport.

Need some ideas?

- architectural collections management (including CAD)
- cartographic collections
- collaborative projects
- collections security/high profile
- thefts/forges
- copyright
- difficult/controversial collections
- digital collections: management/projects/preservation
- fundraising successes (other than grants)
- minimal processing implementation
- moving image archives
- music/sound collections
- outreach
- planning new facilities

**Deadline for session proposals:
Monday, December 1, 2008**
Early proposals are encouraged.

Please refer to the
Call for Papers on page 7
for more information.

PLANTING THE SEEDS OF COLLABORATION: BOTANY COLLECTIONS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

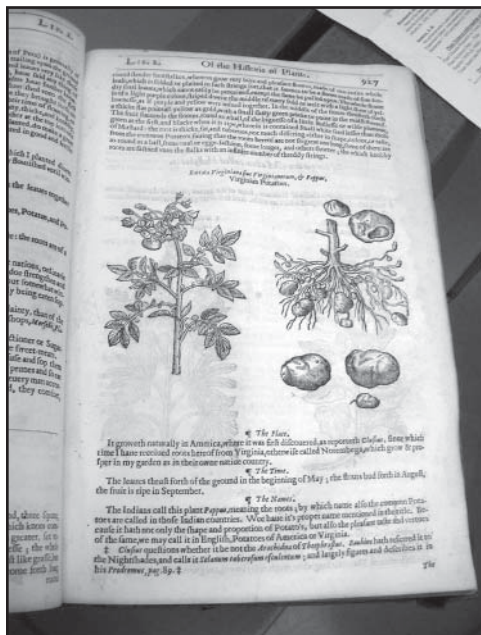
By Rebecca Hankins, CA • Cushing Memorial Library and Archives, Texas A&M University

How did I, a humanities and social sciences librarian, get involved with botany collections? I like flowers and plants as much as the next person, but I don't have a green thumb nor a desire to have my own planetarium in the backyard. The "seeds" of my interest in botany collections began with my work at the University of Arizona and a desire to find collections related to Africa and African Americans. While surveying the collections at UofA, I ran across this really great collection that had photos of plant life and landscape in parts of Africa. It turned out to be a huge collection from a famous botanist from the University of Arizona, Homer L. Shantz. Shantz, as I was to discover was not only a world traveling botanist, but was at one time the president of the University. His amazing collection included field notebooks, reprint articles, speeches, survey abstracts, photographs, diaries, and correspondence pertaining to his interests in worldwide agriculture and botany. Shantz's various trips to Africa resulted in extensive field notes, including those for the Smithsonian African Expedition, 1919 to 1920, and the African Education Commission, 1923 to 1924.

bariums from the 1880s that included plant samplings and a detailed description. The herbariums were created by two students, E.W. Carter and Julian Pennybaker. I pulled the large and oversized folios of flowers and plants that Professor Wilson requested and brought the two herbarium collections. I prepared a handout on the various texts the students would view and included some items that we did not pull.



Collection of plant samples created by Julian Pennybaker, a Texas A&M student, in 1881.



From John Gerard's *The Herball, or General Historie of Plantes*, 1636.

After leaving the University of Arizona and taking a position in Cushing Memorial Archives and Special Collections at the Texas A&M University, I tucked the knowledge of the Shantz collection in the back of my mind. After less than six months at Cushing I received an e-mail from the director of Cushing

asking me if I could work with Professor Hugh Wilson's botany classes, providing them an orientation and hands-on view of the botany materials housed in our repository. As I prepared for the class I surveyed the botany collections at Cushing and discovered two collections that were small her-

One of the outgrowths of working with the class occurred when Professor Wilson's lab coordinator and herbarium botanist, Monique Reed was in attendance and was so impressed with the student herbariums, that she asked permission to include them in the Digital Flora of Texas (<http://www.texasflora.org/index.html>), a digital project that documents the floral of Texas. She not only entered in the data on the herbariums, but also repaired the deteriorating collections and identified the plant specimens that through age were disappearing. I worked with her as she delicately placed the loose plants and flora that had, in some cases, fallen out of place; she also updated descriptions of the specimens along with their earlier terms.

The Cushing botany collections date from the 16th century up to the 20th century and include many of the luminaries and works that have defined the field of botanical studies. The following list of authors and books demonstrate the breadth of the collection:

- *Fuch's Herbal*, 1543 by Leonhard Fuchs (1501-1566). The Cushing copy is one of the earliest (1st herbal produced about 1525) and considered a landmark work with its beautiful illustrations.

This is a condensed version of the paper delivered as part of Session 8: *It's Not Always About the Humanities: Archivists and the Sciences.*



Professor Wilson's botany class in Cushing Memorial Library & Archives, April 2008.

- *The Herball, or General Historie of Plantes*, 1636 by John Gerard (1545-1612). A surgeon by profession, his herbal is still copied by herbalists today. Pre-Linnean Works. One of the first depictions of the potato specimen.
- *Theatrum botanicum*: = *The theater of plants*, 1640 by John Parkinson. Pre-Linnean work that describes over 3800 plants and was the most complete and aesthetically beautiful English treatise on plants of the day.
- *Crvydt-boeck Remberti Dodonaei*, 1644 by Rembert Dodoens (1517-1585)-He served as professor of botany at Leiden University in the Netherlands. As was the practice of previous works, Dodoens incorporated many of Fuch's woodcuts along with some new illustrations which include the first European reference to the American sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*).
- *Hortus Cliffortianus*, 1737 by Carl von Linne (1706-1779). Carl Linnaeus, or Carl von Linné created the binomial classification still in use by botanists today. In 1735 the director of the Dutch East India Company Georg Clifford,

persuaded Linnaeus to start working for him in his botanical garden. During his stay he was to produce an important botanical work which is of value to taxonomists and historians to this day, the *Hortus Cliffortianus*, in which he described many new species from living and dried specimens in Clifford's possession.

- *The British Herbal: an history of plants and trees, natives of Britain, cultivated for use, or raised for beauty*, 1755 by John Hill (1716-1775). As the title suggests, this text covers British plant life and uses Linne's binomial classification.

These are a few of the hundreds of texts, herbariums, and folios housed in Cushing. Since that 2003 e-mail from Professor Wilson, I and my colleagues, Christopher Morrow and Todd Samuelson have worked with his classes every semester, sometimes working with three to four classes per semester. This collaboration has offered Cushing an opportunity to showcase one of its rare holdings, provide access to these materials both regionally and nationally through inclusion in the digital floral project, and offered students a hands-on real-world learning experience, that allows them to see, feel, touch, and smell the "seeds" of history.

Sources

Descriptive information was developed from my handout; my colleague, Todd Samuelson, Curator of Outreach; and from the Department of Phanerogamic Botany, Swedish Museum of Natural History Web site (<http://www2.nrm.se/fbo/hist/linnaeus/linnaeus.html.en>).

Scenes from the 2008 Annual Meeting . . .



The Louisiana group relaxing at the Double-tree.

Photos by Shelly Kelly.

SEARCHING BENEATH THE SURFACE: THE MAGNETIC ALLURE OF CARL FRIEDRICH GAUSS

By Mary Linn Wernet, CA • Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University of Louisiana

From 1946-1969, Dr. Guy Waldo Dunnington was a professor of German at Northwestern State College (NSC). Upon his retirement in 1969, he donated funds to the college for a museum in honor of Johann Carl Friedrich Gauss, a nineteenth century German mathematician and scientist who is still frequently called the founder of modern mathematics. A small Gauss museum was carved within the college's library with Dunnington as the curator.

Dunnington's interests in Gauss began in his hometown of Bowling Green, Missouri. In 1925, Dunnington took a mathematics class from Minna Gauss, a granddaughter of Gauss' third son. When he asked her about reading more on Gauss, she told him that there was no full biography. From this point forward, Dunnington collected materials on Gauss, and in 1954 he completed *Carl Friedrich Gauss: Titan of Science, a Study of His Life and Work*. It was published by Exposition Press of New York in 1955. When Dunnington retired in 1969, he must have felt satisfied; he had finished his biography on Gauss, and he had established the Gauss Museum.

From 1970-1974, NSC underwent many changes as it moved from a college to a university. The university library moved from a crowded two-story building to a three-story library, and the contents of the Gauss museum were moved to the newly established regional manuscript collection and university archives named the Cammie G. Henry Research Center (CGHRC). After Dunnington's death in 1974, the Gauss papers along with other items donated by Dunnington's heirs



Dr. Guy Waldo Dunnington

were renamed the G. Waldo Dunnington Collection.

Throughout the mid-1970s, NSU took pride in publishing press releases on the Carl Friedrich Gauss holdings. Certainly NSU deserved to take pride in its holding. Gauss, born at Brunswick in 1777 and died at Göttingen in 1855, was a youthful genius conceiving most of his funda-

mental mathematical discoveries between the ages of fourteen and seventeen. Gauss studied at the University of Göttingen from 1795 to 1798. In 1807, he was appointed director of the Göttingen observatory and professor of mathematics. His mathematical and



Johann Carl Friedrich Gauss

scientific mentor and collaborator throughout his career was physicist Wilhelm Weber. Gauss and Weber formulated our fundamental laws and theories of magnetism and collaborated in 1833 to produce the electro-magnetic telegraph ten years before Samuel Morse was given credit for discovering the telegraph.

Gauss discoveries included the method of least squares, non-Euclidean geometry, and important contributions to the theory of numbers, the theory of elliptic functions, algebra, differential geometry, and astronomy. He published his discoveries in more than one hundred and fifty scientific and mathematical titles during his lifetime.

The most significant portion of the Gauss collection is housed in seventy-eight folders measuring one cubic foot. The folders contain original personal correspondence from the early- to mid-nineteenth century—typed and handwritten transcriptions of letters between Gauss and his wife Minna, his sons, relatives and close friends dating from 1802-1954. Of other significance are two cubic feet of pamphlets, four cubic feet of collected photographs, note cards, collected letters on Gauss by Dunnington dated early 1900s, and letters concerning Dunnington's Gaussian research.

From time-to-time since 1975, the CGHRC has displayed the Gauss papers in the Center's ten exhibit cases and three curio cabinets, and the staff has discussed the papers with NSU's mathematic and science class groups who visited the Center. The collection has also been popular with researchers. In the late 1990s, a former Northwestern student, Fritz-Egbert Dohse, who had boarded with Dunnington in the

This is a condensed version of the paper delivered as part of Session 8: It's Not Always About the Humanities: Archivists and the Sciences.



late 1940s, conducted research in the Dunnington Collection for his own article. Then in 2004, Dohse and Jeremy Gray reprinted Dunnington's book, *Titan of Science* with additional material through the Mathematical Association of America. The reprint sparked a renewed interest in Gauss and led to research visits from scholars across the world. In September 2008, professors from The University of Munich came primarily to prepare a database of Gauss's letters. As a result of their interests in the papers, and due to a steady increase of researchers requests by e-mail, the CGHRC scanned the Gauss papers.

With this renewed interest and with NSU's more extensive Internet connectivity capability, the Research Center developed and mounted a Carl Friedrich Gauss Eeb page along with the Dunnington Collection finding aid briefly describing Gauss and the collection. More students, professors and family members began requesting photographs, documents and other materials on Gauss and our email researchers on Gauss continues to increase.

In the spring semester of 2004, the NSU Department of Mathematics began a Louisiana State High School Mathematics Quiz Bowl Tournament. As a part of the tournament,

the Mathematics professors asked the Research Center if it was possible to develop a portable Gauss exhibit, and one was mounted on a tri-folded fabricated mount board. With the high school students geared up for a Mathematics Quiz Bowl, the portable exhibit is of special interest to the students. The students enjoy looking at the photographs of Gauss and his place of birth, his signature on the copied letter to his wife Minna, and the German ten Mark and postage stamp in honor of Gauss. They are especially interested in the profile of his brain. Gauss' brain, recorded as weighing 1,492 grams, is one of the heaviest known to date. The success of the state mathematics quiz bowl and exhibit continues, and since 2004, the Research Center has continued to put up the display staff the exhibit during the quiz bowl.

The Gauss papers demonstrate that archives and manuscript collections are not always about Humanities and how a small collection of papers of an important mathematician can be showcased locally and promoted internationally.



Panelists for Session 8 (left to right):

- Rebecca Hankins, Cushing Memorial Library and Archives, Texas A&M University
- Carol Mead, Center for American History, The University of Texas at Austin
- Mary Linn Wernet, Northwestern State University of Louisiana
- Stephanie Malmros (chair), Center for American History, The University of Texas at Austin

Answers to the SSA Quiz on page 11:

1. b. The SSA Constitution was formally adopted on May 5, 1972. **2. c.** Stillwater, OK has never hosted an SSA annual conference. Flagstaff hosted in 2002; Lubbock in 1981; and Lafayette in 1998. **3. a.** The Sister M. Claude Lane Award was created by SSA, who continues to sponsor and fund the award, but the SAA Awards Committee chooses the recipient. The award is announced during the SAA annual meeting. **4. c.** Hebert served as editor of *Louisiana History*, not *Texas History*. **5. a.** The SSA President and Vice President serve 1 year terms; the other elected officers serve for 2 years. **6. b.** David Gracy has never served as President, but he was the second recipient of the Distinguished Service Award in 1978. Audrey Bateman served 1985-1986; Michael McColgin 2006-2007; and Charles Schulz from 1978-1980. **7. d.** Mat, Joel, and Diane were all elected to the Board in 2008. **8. b.** A Marketing Committee is not one of SSA's 10 standing committees. To find out how you can be involved in SAA, contact any officer or board member listed on p. 2. **9. c.** *Southwestern Archivist* is published 4 times a year: February, May, August, and November. **10. d.** You can find all that and more on the SSA website!

TAMING THE WILD LISTSERV; OR, HOW TO PRESERVE SPECIALIZED E-MAIL LISTS

By Lisa M. Schmidt • MATRIX: The Center for Humane Arts, Letters, and Social Sciences Online, Michigan State University

H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences Online, an international consortium of scholars and teachers, is the oldest collection of born-digital, contemporaneously generated and content-moderated arts, humanities, and social science material on the Internet. A valuable scholarly resource, H-Net includes more than one million e-mail messages on 180 public and 230 private lists. H-Net is hosted by MATRIX: The Center for Humane Arts, Letters, and Social Sciences Online, a digital humanities research center at Michigan State University.

MATRIX received a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) to conduct an assessment of existing preservation policies and practices for H-Net and to develop an improved long-term preservation plan. This includes applying the NARA/OCLC Trustworthy Repositories Audit & Certification: Criteria and Checklist (TRAC) to H-Net. The work on H-Net preservation will be useful to archivists and others who manage large collections of electronic records.

H-Net uses five out of thirteen MATRIX servers, with one server providing storage and backup for the network configuration. Incremental tape backups are performed daily, a full backup weekly. Tapes are stored in a secure location and replaced as needed, usually when a cartridge breaks. A full permanent backup is performed monthly, with those tapes kept in a minimally secured room.

H-Net runs on LISTSERV software, which distributes messages to editors and subscribers and allows administrators to create and add lists. All messages must be written in plain text, and no attachments are allowed on the public lists. A subscriber sends a message to an editor who either approves or edits it before posting. In the latter case, it essentially becomes a new message; if the editor does not manually add back the original author's name and message creation date, that metadata is lost. The posting process can take from a few seconds to several days. Once a message posts, it becomes part of a flat text file, or "notebook." A notebook includes messages posted during a weekly time period.

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This is a condensed version of the paper delivered as part of Session 10: Archiving Born-Digital Records and Manuscripts in University Settings.



Every 24 hours, the newest messages in the current notebook file are copied to a proprietary BRS database, where they are available for full-text search. As a separate operation, a log browse cache application reads the notebook messages and creates MD5 hashes for each message seven days after the last message posts to a notebook. A cache builder script then writes message metadata to a MySQL database cache. This includes the filename of the notebook where the message is stored; the offset, or byte position in the notebook file; name and e-mail address of the “author”; the subject line; the date in two formats; and the MD5 hash, or “messageid.”

When a user browses an H-Net list and selects a message, a log browse application pulls it from the original notebook file and builds a URL that combines its filename and MD5 hash. This URL serves as a persistent identifier that can be bookmarked for reference and citation purposes.

The MATRIX backup and storage processes provide one piece of the current strategy for preserving the H-Net lists. The most significant property of the messages that must be preserved is their content, and most of them are written in plain text ASCII and UTF-8—recommended non-proprietary, archival formats for text. Authenticity is based on the author and/or editor of a message informally checking it after posting. Also, if a user receives a broken URL when attempting retrieval, the authenticity of the message has been compromised. The cached metadata fulfills the requirements for preservation description information (PDI) for each information package, as recommended by the Open Archival Information System (OAIS) model.

For better backup and storage, MATRIX must implement a regular media refreshment schedule for all tapes. More than one set of permanent backup tapes should be made and stored offsite, or a server mirror should be established. Storage of the tapes must be more secure, and a backup log must be maintained. In addition, MATRIX should participate in a distributed storage system such as LOCKSS or the San Diego Supercomputer Center’s iRODS.

H-Net is missing the authenticity boat. The time window from when an editor approves a message to when it posts must be shortened to seconds rather than weeks. Access permissions must be defined and documented. Audit logs should track activities associated with records. If an editor makes any changes to an original message, their metadata should be automatically added to that of the author.

Regular integrity checks should be performed, with a message digest assigned at ingest, new messages verified

weekly, and regular fixity checks performed quarterly. Consideration should be given to using the SHA-2 message digest algorithm, as the integrity of MD5 has been compromised. MD5 could still be used to calculate the name of the message. The current persistent URL is too long, however; it should be mapped to a shorter URL for use in citations.

No migration strategy is required for the messages and notebooks, as they are in stable, open, plain text formats. The attachments on the private lists must be detached and stored separately, with conversion to current formats provided on demand.

Applying the TRAC checklist to the current H-Net preservation practices and policies revealed a number of other measures that must be taken to ensure a more archivally sound system. These include:

- Developing a succession plan, in the event that MATRIX can no longer host H-Net
- Determining a periodic review or trigger event definition to ensure responsiveness to technological developments and evolving requirements
- Establishing a technology watch
- Documenting H-Net’s technology history, a change management system, staff roles and authorizations, and a written recovery plan.

For more on this project, see <http://www.h-net.org/archive/>.

SOUTHWESTERN ARCHIVIST NEEDS YOU!

Tell your colleagues about your acquisitions, projects, exhibits, or grants — submit your repository news by October 10th.

Photographs (300dpi in a native image format) are highly encouraged. Be sure to provide the caption / credit information that you want to accompany the image!

ARCHIVISTS' TOOLKIT: NOTES FROM THE NEWCOMB ARCHIVES

By Stephanie Bordy • Newcomb College Center for Research on Women, Tulane University

The story of the Archivists' Toolkit (AT) as told from the Newcomb Archives at Tulane University is largely one of how a staff consisting of one full-time Archivist, Susan Tucker, and her rotating band of student workers and interns, without IT support, came to know and integrate this complex system into our relatively small operations, and to what degree we have been successful. Our story also raises questions about the potential of AT as a learning tool, moving beyond its boundaries as a database management system.

In 2005, I came to Newcomb College Center of research on Women (NCCROW), which houses the Nadine Vorhoff Library and Newcomb Archives as a student worker and have remained as an intern since graduating in 2007. Although I arrived with absolutely no experience in libraries or archives, I was immediately drawn to work with manuscripts and records. Within a year I was introduced to the AT. After having processed two collections and answering reference queries, I became acquainted with some of our many disparate databases,¹ and was set to the task of learning about how a more unified system could be achieved. My assigned task was to utilize AT's HTML output capabilities as an easy means of getting our finding aids online. I didn't have to worry about the data entry, since much of this had already been done by previous interns and student workers. Though this sounds like an easy job, no one within the whole of Tulane, or within the city of New Orleans for that matter, had any solid understanding of the system, what it did, or why. Or how. My task then was "simple": learn Archivists Toolkit with no background in Library Science or Information Systems and no available IT resources, figure out what had been done before me by people no longer present, and tailor the system to our needs. No problem. In full disclosure, I am an eager learner and was more than willing to take on the task. I am also somewhat Mac savvy (our network runs on Macs) and will be entering Library School in the fall, so I saw this as a great opportunity to gain some experience.

I started with the manual. For those unfamiliar, this 500 pages long guide includes every acronym and initialism from MySQL to EAD, which is fine for those with a background in Library Science or computer programming, but it was not much help to me, at least not in the beginning. The

AT email list proved to be similarly daunting. But rather than run, I used this as a learning opportunity; any unfamiliar thing I encountered became a topic of research, and that knowledge was incorporated into my larger understanding of "archives." I learned about EAD and XML. I learned about MARC. And I learned that though we had installed AT with the intention of one day using these things, I didn't have to worry about them because we hadn't actually implemented them yet. The point is that by using AT I was exposed to new concepts, particularly those that reached beyond our repository. Further, it had a way of flattening the complex, three-dimensional, physical

archive—and the relationships embodied therein—into a one-dimensional, interactive, cross-referenceable space that, though not perfect, was much more conceptually manageable for me as a newcomer than was our current system: physically search the disparate parts until one day you "happen upon" the knowledge of yet another resource, often located in Susan's head.

Eventually, I acquired enough knowledge of AT that we could, with varying degrees of success, fully integrate it into our processes. I then modified our existing processing guide to incorporate the Accession and Resource modules. Once we knew where to put which data and why, these records were fairly straightforward to use; though

admittedly, we've fudged some required fields because we simply didn't know what they were or find them necessarily useful to a small repository.

But problems continue. The HTML outputs for which we had such high hopes have been particularly problematic. Our finding aids are still not online, although we are really close. We have spent months working around what turned out to be a bug (many thanks to my co-presenter and Archivists' Toolkit designer, Bradley Westbrook, for pointing this out) and reformatting HTML files. Yet we are unable to upgrade to the latest version to fix the bug, which points to our more fundamental issue: INADEQUATE TECH SUPPORT. We just don't have any. We are at the mercy of Tulane's general Help Desk for most of our technical needs, and with such a small staff, we simply don't have the time or resources to become our own System Administrators, a common problem for small repositories.



NEWCOMB COLLEGE
CENTER FOR
RESEARCH
ON WOMEN

This is a condensed version of the paper delivered as part of Session 16: The Archivists' Toolkit: Overview and Implementation.



So what can you conclude? What assumptions can be drawn from our experience, and to what degree have we been successful? The answer depends on whom you ask. For me, the AT has become a great database management system. More importantly, once a good number of collections, subjects, donors and creators are in the system, changing, searching, linking and cross-referencing existing records is really simple. Further, this ability to link records in a variety of ways actually helps demonstrate to newcomers the complex relationships among and between things. And as one who has moved now to training student workers, I can attest to AT's instructive potential. I believe that although AT has a learning curve, it has been an essential and useful supplement to my personal experience in archives and will, in the future, be an asset to staff and users of our repository.



Panelists for Session 6 (left to right):

- Brad Westbrook, University of California San Diego Libraries
- Stephanie Bordy, Newcomb College Center for Research on Women
- Carol Bartels (chair), Historic New Orleans Collection

Scenes from the 2008 Annual Meeting . . .



Did anyone else notice the gnomes unearthing themselves in the Doubletree courtyard?

Photo by Katie Salzmann.



Mark Scroggins (Johnson Space Center) and Michael Baimbridge (NARA) showing how a little humor goes a long way when you deal with massive amounts of records. Prior to their session, "The End of an Era: Appraising the Records of the Space Shuttle Program."

Photo by Shelly Kelly.



Waiting for the movie at the San Jacinto Monument and Museum, Bruce Turner and Robert Schaadt reminiscence about the "good ol' days" of SSA.

Photo by Shelly Kelly.



Cindy Smolovick and Gerri Schaad.
Photo by Katie Salzmann.

ARCHIVES RENOVATION IN TEXAS: NEW ROUTINES AND CHANGES

By Laura K. Saegert • Texas State Archives



This is the next installment on the renovation of the Texas State Library and Archives Building. We thought it would be interesting to show how our normal activities have been altered as part of the renovation project. The last article discussed how we loaded boxes on pallets for storage at our warehouse. About half of the records previously stored in this building and all of the map drawers were sent to our warehouse for storage. Retrieving boxes for research has become an added duty for the project's duration. The Archives is required by law to provide access to state records in its custody. Because of the time and labor costs involved with retrieval of records from the warehouse, we decided to limit trips to once a week. Two archivists (a rotating schedule among five of the archivists) make a trip to the warehouse every Tuesday afternoon to refile boxes back onto pallets and pull requested materials. Trips average 2-2 ½ hrs. Because most of the pallets are stacked on the second and third levels of the warehouse, staff from our contracted moving company meets us there to lower pallets for refile/pulling. We also pull maps and muster rolls, but not books.

Our Texana book collection and almost the entire Texas and federal documents library are boxed away, possibly for the duration of the renovation. Trips to the warehouse ceased to be adventuresome after the first couple of weeks but are a necessary task that was anticipated.

We recently had some unanticipated surprises due to construction work in the Archives building. Work on the office or "people" floors progressed a bit ahead of schedule and the construction crew proceeded to work in almost all of the bathrooms at once, leaving just one two-stall women's restroom and two one-stall men's restrooms for four floors of staff. An inconvenience to be sure, but it just lasted a couple of weeks. Half of the building's staff are moving to temporary headquarters in mid-July, so if that happens again, there will be fewer people affected. The Archives and Information Services Division staff will remain in the building for the duration of the project; we will shift offices from floor to floor as the renovation progresses.

Our next "surprise" came as a minor disaster of sorts. As the construction crews were working on the restroom walls (some are being converted for other functions), one pipe was hit so we had a small leak in the stacks; nothing damaged at least. In a couple of other areas, the workers created some holes in stack walls/records storage areas, causing chunks of plaster to fall out and scattering concrete dust over books and boxes of records in three stack floors. All the archivists and reference staff are involved in the cleanup. We now have a large new shop vacuum with a concrete dust filter and micro attachments, and lots of dusting cloths for the cleanup. Cleaning up concrete dust was not part of our initial disaster training regime, now it is.

Lastly, just this week (first week of July), the crews will start adding new doors into the stacks and will need to be accompanied by staff while they are working in these restricted areas. The archivists and reference staff can now add "guard duty" to our regular routines, complete with hard hats and protective goggles. Hardly a dull day anymore at the Texas State Archives!

Editors' note: This is the third installment in the series detailing the two-year renovation project undertaken by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. The first article is on page 21 of the November 2007 issue, and the second article appears on page 17 of the February 2008 issue of Southwestern Archivist.

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2009 TSHA SESSION: VOICES FROM THE FRONTIER

Submitted by Brenda S. McClurkin, CA • The University of Texas at Arlington



Word has just been received that the Society of Southwest Archivists' proposal for a joint session at the Texas State Historical Association annual meeting in Austin, March 26-28, 2009, has been accepted. The session, entitled *Voices from the Frontier: Letters from Texas Manuscript Collections*, will feature letters from three Texas repositories – the Rosenberg Library in Galveston, the UT Arlington Library Special Collections, and the Austin History Center of the Austin Public Library. The facilitator will be **Ann Hodges**. **Brenda McClurkin** organized and submitted the session proposal.

Shelly Kelly will begin the program with “My Dear Mother: The Letters of Lucy Shaw, 1838-1850,” highlighting a collection from Galveston’s Rosenberg Library. Shelly has long been intrigued by this collection and has done extensive research on the writer, Lucy Shaw. In 1838, Lucy and her husband, J.C. Shaw, emigrated from Eastport, Maine, to Galveston where he served as a City Alderman and later managed the Tremont House hotel. Lucy’s letters to her mother and sister in Eastport, provide a window into early Galveston’s daily life, including her reactions to the oppressive weather, local politics, and budding horticulture. The letters also detail family illnesses and remark about those with whom they interact, including various early ministers, Dr. Ashbel Smith, the Honorable George Flood, and Gail Borden.

Second to speak will be Brenda McClurkin with “Unpleasant Bed Mates and Hopping Intruders: The Letters of John Jay Good, 1854-1861,” based on a collection housed at UT Arlington Library Special Collections. As a frontier attorney, future Dallas District Court judge and mayor John Jay Good forded creeks on horseback, slept in a smokehouse, encountered panthers, was ambushed by fleas and bedbugs, and successfully used an insanity defense in an 1860 trial. This portrait emerges from the letters he wrote to his new bride detailing his travels through North Central Texas astride his horse Roderick as he tended to his legal practice. Penned in widely varied locales, the letters provide insightful descriptions of the personal and business affairs of a lawyer following the circuit of the District Court as it proceeded from county

to county to deliberate pending civil and criminal court cases. The letters also divulge primitive conditions encountered on the frontier, the uncertain schedule of a frontier lawyer, and the heartache of long separations from loved ones.

Mark Lambert will conclude the session with, “Eye-witness to an Emerging Texas: The Elisha Marshall Pease Papers, 1835-1861,” featuring a collection held by the Austin History Center. In 1834, at the age of 22, Elisha Marshall Pease left Connecticut for better opportunities in the West, and by January 1835 had settled in Mina, Texas. A veteran

of the Texas Revolution, Pease held several administrative posts for the General Council of the Provisional Government and the Republic of Texas. After completing his law studies, he relocated to Brazoria to practice law. Pease served Brazoria County as District Attorney and in the Texas House and Senate. Elected Governor of Texas in 1853, Pease served for two terms, and settled permanently in Austin after leaving office in 1857. There he sat out the Civil War as an anti-secession Democrat. During Reconstruction, Pease was again



John and Sue Good on their wedding day, 1854. Courtesy Good Papers, UT Arlington Library Special Collections.

elected Governor of Texas in 1867, but resigned in 1869 in protest over actions of the military government. He continued to practice law in Austin until his death in 1883. Throughout his life, E. M. Pease conducted very active correspondence with his Connecticut family. These letters, rescued from an attic in Connecticut by one of Pease’s descendants, show the growth and development of two of Texas’ most important 19th century towns, Brazoria and Austin. They also demonstrate the adopted attitudes and views of this former Connecticut Yankee, document his work and connections as one of the most important lawyers in the state, and record the social conditions and hazards of life on the frontier of Texas.

Put the TSHA meeting on your 2009 calendar and come hear your SSA colleagues share the voices from their manuscript collections. Please contact Ann Hodges (ann.hodges@uta.edu) or Brenda McClurkin (mcclurkin@uta.edu) with any ideas you may have for future TSHA session proposals or if you know of other organizations that might have an interest in a SSA joint session.



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HOUSTON'S FIRST CHURCH

Submitted by Jo and David Petty • FPC Houston



Through the efforts of FPC Archives, generous donors and the cooperation of the First Presbyterian Church, Houston Property Committee, First Presbyterian Church has acquired an 1852 watercolor by the English artist, Thomas Flintoff. This watercolor shows Houston's first church building (which was First Presbyterian), as well as smaller images of the earliest Methodist and Baptist Churches.

Extensive research revealed that the artist, Thomas Flintoff, had painted many watercolors of Texas towns he had visited from 1850-1852. Mrs. Salvado of Melbourne, Australia, had inherited a number of Flintoff paintings from her grandfather. She traveled to Houston many years ago to give two of the Houston watercolors to the City of Houston; they are now held in the Houston Metropolitan Research Center. Other Flintoff paintings hang in the Texas Governor's outer office.

FPC Archives was made aware of the availability of this watercolor by the archivist of Houston's Christ Church Cathedral. The newly-acquired watercolor, a valuable piece of FPC's heritage, hangs in the FPC Welcome Center. Notecards with a reproduction of the watercolor are available in the FPC bookstore.

The FPC Archives was begun in 1992 and is administered by Jo and David Petty, volunteer archivists. They note that they made many valuable contacts and learned practical skills through their relationship with SSA members—such as how to unroll, flatten and store more than 150 sets of blueprints. The Pettys stress that they are volunteer and amateur archivists who are doing what they can to preserve the history of their church.

REPOSITORY BEGINS NEWSLETTER

Submitted by Diane Worrell • University of Arkansas



The special collections department of the University of Arkansas Libraries recently launched a semi-annual newsletter in conjunction with a new public relations effort. While existing public relations activities had been successful at the local level, the department wanted to reach a broader audience. A year-long pilot project was implemented, during which two newsletters were published and distributed statewide. The pilot newsletters were well-received. "People all over Arkansas are responding amazingly to our departmental newsletter. The newsletter is another way we tell the story of Arkansas," said **Tom W. Dillard**, head of the special collections department.

Named *The Arkansian*, the newsletter is published in October and March. "Arkansian" is a term frequently used throughout the nineteenth century to denote residents of Arkansas. The more

contemporary usage is "Arkansan," which evolved from the earlier form. Special Projects Librarian **Diane Worrell** edits the newsletter, which typically comprises 16 pages. Regular features include a commentary by Dillard; profiles of staff members; descriptions of featured manuscript collections and featured Arkansas books; a center fold themed photograph gallery; news from research services, the manuscripts unit, and the Pryor Center for Arkansas Oral and Visual History; plus an Arkansas history game. Plans for the future include a regular feature on Arkansas cookbooks, entitled "ArkanSauce."

The newsletter is available online at <http://libinfo.uark.edu/specialcollections/news/arkansian/>.

For further information, contact Diane Worrell at telephone: (479) 575-5330 or email: dfworrell@uark.edu.



University of Arkansas Libraries

Special Collections

IMPROVING ACCESS TO ART

Submitted by Linda Pine • University of Arkansas
at Little Rock

The Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC) has recently awarded the Sequoyah Research Center at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) a grant of \$224,500 to catalog the Dr. J. W. Wiggins Collection of Native American Art, its extensive archive, and its library.

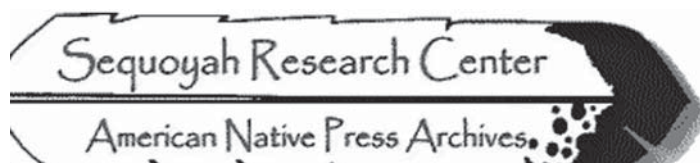
The collection contains more than 2,000 artworks, the archive consists of about 45 linear feet of materials, and the library holds more than 1,000 titles on American Indian and Indigenous Canadian art. The Sequoyah Research Center has also just completed a \$55,000 grant, awarded by ANCRC in 2007 to assist in the preservation and access of the Center's archival collection of Native American newspapers and periodicals, consisting of more than 2,200 titles.

Dr. J. W. Wiggins Collection of Native American Art



Dr. J. W. Wiggins Collection of Native American Art

Visit the SRC on the Web at <http://anpa.ualr.edu>, or for more information contact Dr. Dan Littlefield at (501) 569-8336, or e-mail dflittlefiel@ualr.edu.



CENTER SEEKS VISITING SCHOLARS

Submitted by Carolyn Hanneman • Carl Albert Center

The Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center at the University of Oklahoma seeks applicants for its Visiting Scholars Program, which provides financial assistance to researchers working at the Center's archives. Awards of \$500-\$1000 are normally granted as reimbursement for travel and lodging.

The Center's holdings include the papers of many former members of Congress, such as Robert S. Kerr, Fred Harris, and Speaker Carl Albert of Oklahoma; Helen Gahagan Douglas and Jeffery Cohelan of California; Sidney Clarke of Kansas; and Neil Gallagher of New Jersey. Besides the history of Congress, congressional leadership, national and Oklahoma politics, and election campaigns, the collections also document government policy affecting agriculture, Native Americans, energy, foreign affairs, the environment, the economy, and other areas. Topics that can be studied include the Great Depression, flood control, soil conservation, and tribal affairs. At least one collection provides insight on women in American politics. Most materials date from the 1920s to the 1990s, although there is one nineteenth century collection. The Center's collections are described on the World Wide Web at <http://www.ou.edu/special/albertctr/archives/> and in the publication titled *A Guide to the Carl Albert Center Congressional Archives* (Norman, Okla.: The Carl Albert Center, 1995) by Judy Day, et al., available at many U. S. academic libraries. Additional information can be obtained from the Center.

The Visiting Scholars Program is open to any applicant. Emphasis is given to those pursuing postdoctoral research in history, political science, and other fields. Graduate students involved in research for publication, thesis, or dissertation are encouraged to apply. Professional researchers and writers are also invited to apply. The Center evaluates each research proposal based upon its merits, and funding for a variety of topics is expected.

No standardized form is needed for application. Instead, a series of documents should be sent to the Center, including: (1) a description of the research proposal in fewer than 1000 words; (2) a personal vita; (3) an explanation of how the Center's resources will assist the researcher; (4) a budget proposal; and (5) a letter of reference from an established scholar in the discipline attesting to the significance of the research. Applications are accepted at any time.

For more information, please contact Archivist, Carl Albert Center, 630 Parrington Oval, Room 101, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019. Telephone: (405) 325-5835. FAX: (405) 325-6419. E-mail: channeman@ou.edu.

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TARLETON STATE ARCHIVIST DIGS INTO PROCESSING

Submitted by Gary Spurr • Dick Smith Library, Tarleton State University



Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas and the W. K. Gordon Center for Industrial History of Texas in Thurber, Texas has begun to process their archival collections with the hiring of a Collections Archivist to work at both facilities. At Tarleton, work has begun on processing the Charles W. Stenholm Congressional papers. Stenholm was a conservative Democrat who represented Texas' conservative 32 county, 17th District (Abilene) for 26 years (1979-2005). A member of the House Committee on Agriculture for his entire Congressional career, Stenholm became the committee's ranking Democrat during his last 8 years ending in 2004. He was founder and co-chair of the conservative Democratic Blue Dog Coalition. During the 1980's, Stenholm was a leader of the Boll Weevils, a coalition of southern members of the House who defected as a group from the Democratic party to vote with Republicans on budgetary and tax bills. He also organized the Conservative Democratic Forum during the Reagan administration. Called the "godfather of fiscal austerity", Stenholm consistent push for fiscal responsibility in the federal budget resulted in House passage of his Balanced budget Constitutional Amendment in the 104th Congress, but was defeated by one vote in the Senate.

The Stenholm papers are currently housed in 359 boxes (448.75 linear feet) and consist of subject and case files, correspondence, photographs, video tapes and CDs; agricultural, defense, and energy issues; the Conservative Democratic Forum; and President Clinton's impeachment.

At the W. K. Gordon Center, the records of the Texas and Pacific Coal and Oil Company are being arranged and described. The records date from the late 1890s to the 1960s and have been called the most complete set of records of a mid-sized oil company. The records total 140 linear feet and include 351 ledgers (120 linear feet). The records document the operation of the T & P Coal Company, the company town of Thurber,

and the T & P Coal & Oil Company. Included in the records are annual reports, W. K. Gordon's 1915 inspection report on the mines, maps of the mines and coal fields, land abstracts and titles, maps of oil fields, oil exploration reports, geophysical data,



Above: W.K. Gordon [far right] with unknown individuals in the Ranger oil field, n.d. Left: McCleskey #1, the first T&P Oil Company well. From the W.K. Gordon Center collections.



correspondence with other oil companies for legislation favorable to oil companies, and a feasibility study for the strip mining of the remaining coal in the 1960s. The ledgers document the financial operation of all units of the company.

Of particular interest is one ledger that details the cost of each building in the company owned town and what the company sold the building for when the town was sold off.

UT ARLINGTON RECEIVES NOTICE OF GRANT

Submitted by Ann Hodges • The University of Texas at Arlington



The University of Texas at Arlington Library received preliminary notification of the award of grant funding for 2008-2009 from the TexTreasures program administered by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Pending final approval, the award will assist UT Arlington to catalog and digitize an additional 60 interviews from its Tejano Voices oral history collection. The interviews were conducted by UT Arlington political science professor José

Angel Gutiérrez and are housed in Special Collections. Seventy-seven interviews digitized in 2001-2002, after being cataloged with funding received from TexTreasures, can be found at <http://libraries.uta.edu/tejanovoices/>. UT Arlington will be seeking a half-time cataloger to create catalog records for the interviews and contribute descriptive metadata to the digitization effort. For more information, please contact Ann Hodges at ann.hodges@uta.edu or (817) 272-7510.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEVELOPS LOCAL HISTORY BOOK

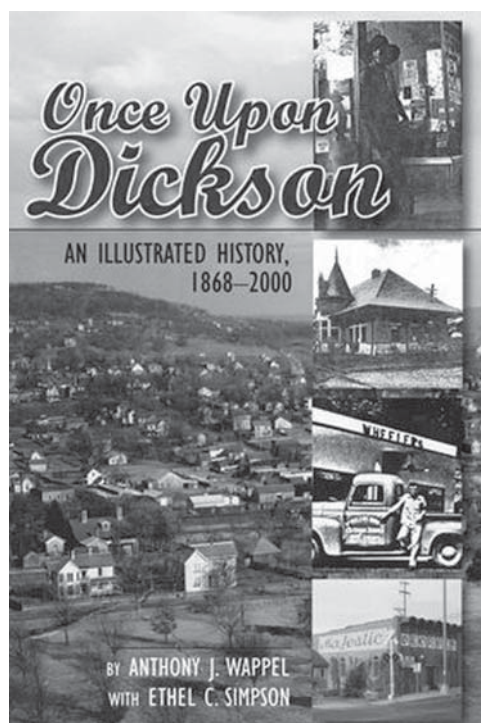
Submitted by Diane Worrell and Molly D. Boyd • University of Arkansas Libraries



Ask anyone who has lived in or visited Fayetteville, a university town nestled in the Arkansas Ozarks, and they will most likely have a story to tell about Dickson Street. Often compared to Austin's 6th Street, Dickson Street is the entertainment district of Fayetteville, located near downtown and the University of Arkansas. A new book by Anthony J. Wappel and Ethel C. Simpson, *Once Upon Dickson: An Illustrated History, 1868-2000*, describes the evolution of this eclectic, historic thoroughfare. The special collections department of the University of Arkansas Libraries provided funding, research, and administrative support for the book and is receiving proceeds from its sales. Special Collections Department Head, **Tom W. Dillard**, said, "We are pleased to help make this important new book possible. *Once Upon Dickson* helps our department fulfill its mission of documenting the history of Arkansas."

The book is the result of years of work. When Wappel came to attend graduate school in 1986, he did not own a car and spent a lot of time walking on Dickson Street. He was curious about the history of the street as evidenced in older businesses and homes, abandoned flower beds and partially demolished stone walls. Wappel began researching yearbooks, university publications and other sources from the 19th and 20th centuries, as well as images in the special collections department's manuscript holdings and the photograph collections of the Washington County Historical Society, now housed at the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History in Springdale. The book also includes notable images from private owners and more contemporary photographs taken by Wappel himself to document how the character of the street was changing.

Ethel Simpson, emeritus special collections librarian, managed the transition of Wappel's manuscript to the finished book. She wrote grant proposals to raise the money, oversaw scanning of the images and selection of additional



illustrations, and worked on promotion and advertising with the publisher. Wappel, a self-described "armchair historian," previously worked in the special collections department and is now Washington County Archivist and Records Manager.

The location of the University of Arkansas at what would eventually become the western end of Dickson stimulated the establishment of shops and services catering to the university community. When passenger train service came to Dickson Street in 1881, so did rooming houses and eating places for travelers. The book reproduces advertisements for hotels, barbershops, dry cleaners and eating places that have existed along Dickson, as well as bars and music venues. Many of these eventually left Dickson and were replaced by other businesses more ori-

ented to entertainment. Wappel's and Simpson's book documents and preserves the energy and diversity that continue to make Dickson Street a focal point of Fayetteville business and culture.

Once Upon Dickson tells the story of the street from east to west, decade by decade. The book contains more than 400 pages, with nearly 370 images and a color dust jacket. Maps and diagrams help to locate the houses and businesses described in the text. An appendix contains a comprehensive inventory of businesses and residents at every address along the entire length of the street. An index also makes the volume more useful. The price of the book is \$22.50; sales have been brisk. It is offered for sale online at <http://onceupondickson.com>. Phoenix International, a Fayetteville publisher distributed by the University of Arkansas Press, brought out the book in cooperation with the special collections department. The Advertising and Promotion Commission of the city of Fayetteville, the Bank of Fayetteville, the Lighton Family Foundation, Frank and Sara Sharp, and an anonymous donor provided additional financial support. For more information, visit the Web site or call (479) 521-2204.

What are you planning for Archives Month 2008?

Document your activities and submit an article for the November issue of *Southwestern Archivist*!

EMPLOYMENT POSTINGS

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library at the Alamo

Responsibilities:

- Provides direction and administration of the Texas history research library located on the Alamo Historical Complex.
- Collection development, security, physical maintenance, and preservation.
- Promotes the library's collections through tours and presentations and plans public forums.
- Oversees accessioning, cataloging, processing, preparation of finding aids, reference services, and automated library network.
- Budget development and maintenance of financial records.
- Prepares grant proposals and supervises fundraising.
- Responsible for public relations with potential library donors, DRT members, and public presentations.
- Supervises staff of 4 professionals and 3 paraprofessionals.
- Reports monthly to the Library Committee of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and annually to the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Annual Convention.

Qualifications:

Minimum requirement: ALA accredited MLS degree; doctorate preferred in library science or history; archival training, experience, and thorough knowledge of archival practice.

- Knowledge of Texas history important.
- Ability to work well with colleagues and volunteers.
- Computer experience essential.
- Minimum of five years supervisory experience required.
- Certifications in archival enterprise and in nonprofit management helpful.
- Knowledge of conversational and written Spanish desired.

Salary and benefits:

Salary dependent on experience. Group health insurance, life insurance, and pension program. Monday through Friday work schedule. Applicant review will continue until a suitable applicant has been found.

Library:

Established with a generous donation of Texana material by Dallas physician William E. Howard, the library is in a park setting on the grounds of the Alamo. It is open for research only Monday through Friday. Library holdings include books, manuscripts, images, art work, and maps. Concentrations are the Republic of Texas period, San Antonio history, and the Alamo. The library's Web site may be viewed at <http://www.drtl.org>. The library catalog is available at <http://69.63.217.28/D92004Staff/OPAC/index.asp>.

Application:

Please submit letter of application, resume or vita, and three letters of reference to:

DRT Library Committee
c/o DRT Library
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San Antonio, Texas 78295-1401

Submissions by e-mail will also be accepted: drtl@drtl.org.

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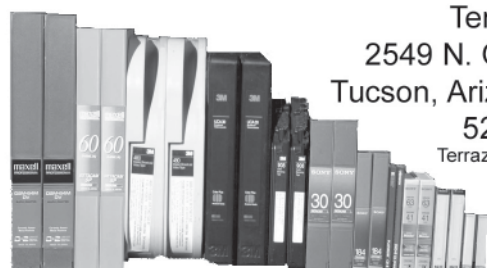
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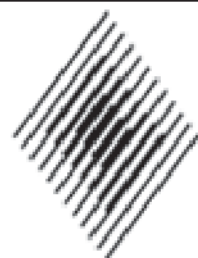
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Employment postings from individual and institutional members are published gratis. The next issue of *Southwestern Archivist* will mail the first week of August.

Need to get the word out sooner? Post your employment notices on the wiki: <http://ssarchivists.wikispaces.com/Employment>.



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HOW TO: EDIT A WIKI

By Pati Threatt • Frazar Memorial Library, McNeese State University

The SSA Unofficial Wiki [<http://ssarchivists.wikispaces.com>] offers members a way to post job announcements, educational opportunities, news, general notices, and anything else that might be of use to fellow SSA-ers. Anyone can edit this wiki, so if you have something to say to the SSA, please add it to an existing page or start a discussion. To get started, just click on "join" to register for a Wikispaces account.

The wiki features Web pages, a discussion section, RSS feeds, and space for the individual states to communicate internally. It's very simple to use - just like editing a Word document. If you're new to wikis, there is a short "Getting Started" page with instructions and links to additional help sites. If you're hesitant or unsure of editing the wiki, this is a great opportunity to become more familiar with this new tool in the comfort of the SSA community.

SSA created the wiki as a way for members to communicate informally and quickly. You don't need anyone's permission to edit the pages or start a discussion. You won't break the wiki. Come join the discussion. Everyone is welcome.

To edit a page:

1. Find the page you want to edit. There are links on the home page and links on the left side of the page.
2. Click the "edit this page" button at the top. This will put you into "Editor" mode, where you can add, cut, paste, etc., just like a word processing document.
3. When you're finished, click "Save" to save your work and exit out of "Editor" mode. If you don't want to save your work, you can click "Cancel" to abandon your changes.

To start a discussion:

Click on the "discussion" tab at the top of the page.

To receive RSS feeds:

Click the "Notify Me" tab. You will need to create an account of Wikispaces (in the top right corner) to receive email notifications of changes to a particular page, discussion, or the entire SSA wiki. You can also set up RSS feeds to notify you of changes via your Google or Yahoo reader.



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INTERNATIONAL our scope
INTERDISCIPLINARY our mindset

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School of Information Studies

USING WIKIS FOR GROUP GRANT WRITING

By Samantha L. Mueller • Graduate Student, School of Information, The University of Texas at Austin

Most people have heard of, used, or contributed to the information commons that is Wikipedia. There are growing opportunities to use this wiki approach, one is grant proposal writing.

A group of five UT School of Information students taking the Survey of Digitization course used a wiki to complete an assignment. The assignment had a dual purpose: to fulfill the requirements of the course, and to gain experience creating an IMLS grant proposal. The grant proposal was completed and submitted to instructor Megan Winget and Daniel Alonzo, photo curator of the Austin History Center.

The Austin History Center is the proud owner of 23,500 negatives from the Neal Douglass Photography Collection. The IMLS grant proposal identifies three areas in need of funding for the collection. The first and largest need is the digitization of all 23,500 negatives via outsourcing. Second, the implementation and maintenance of Web space dedicated to the collection, and finally, the need for support staff. The Neal Douglass Collection is the largest photography collection held by the Austin History Center. The Collection offers an invaluable glimpse of Texas and Austin's history with photographs ranging in date from 1930 to 1970.

As with many group projects, the work was distributed among the five students and wiki space as created on Wikispaces.com specifically for work on the class project. Since members of wikispaces.com can be members multiple groups, the class number was used to name the space.

One feature of wikispaces.com is the ability to upload multiple documents to a wikispace. This feature allowed

our group to build a small reference area. The group utilized this feature by uploading examples of IMLS grant proposals, class instructions, documents and photographs related to the Neal Douglass collection, communication between the group and the archivist at the Austin History Center, and any other reference material helpful in the group grant writing process.

The focus of the editing done with the help of the wiki was the narrative section of the grant proposal. The Narrative was divided among the group members. Each member wrote his or her assigned portion then posted the section to the wiki. The posting of the narrative involved cutting and pasting each individual's part into the main Wiki page where the entire narrative could be edited. The detailed budget that was created in Excel, the Timeline portion of the grant proposal was created in Microsoft Word.

The challenge (aside from the budget), was to unify the parts into one cohesive voice for the narrative. Since, the wiki can be accessed by each member of the group,; each part of the narrative could be edited by any member of our space. This seemed to be an issue at first, but the ability to have multiple editors helped us build on each others ideas.

Though this was my first group wiki effort, I found it easy to navigate the site, communicate, and collaborate with my group members. Uploading support documents helped to create an accessible reference area. Users can go back through multiple versions and track or, undo any changes made. The wiki helped us avoid the pitfalls of trying to arrange meeting times.

The one problem I found with using Wikispaces.com is that other members of the site can view your page. This feature is interesting in the sense that you can see how groups, individuals, and institutions are using the wiki; however, this could be a security or privacy issue.

The wiki grant writing experience was, overall, a productive one. First, we finished the assignment and turned in our prospective copies. Second, we hope that in the future the narrative or any part of the IMLS grant proposal can be used by the Austin History Center to make the Neal Douglass Collection more accessible to the public.

Credit goes to the group of University of Texas at Austin, School of Information students Nicole Albers, Meg Kemp, AK Mabry, Rachel Medina, and Samantha Mueller. Megan Winget, instructor of Survey of Digitization #INF 385R, Spring semester 2008. **Sue Soy**, CA Austin Public Library, for her mentoring, ideas, and editing. Daniel Alonzo photo curator, Austin History Center.

DO YOU KNOW HOW-TO?

Do you have a "How-To" idea that you'd like to share? Is there something you would like to learn how to do? Simple or complicated, hands-on or theory . . . tell us what you want to teach or want to know.

LEADERSHIP LOG

Compiled by Carol Roark, CA • Dallas Public Library



Gerrianne Schaad, SSA Treasurer and Head of Image Collections at the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library in Gaithersburg, Maryland, has been elected to the Nominating Committee of the Academy of Certified Archivists.

Ellen Niewyk, Curator of the Bywaters Special Collections in the Hamon Arts Library at Southern Methodist University recently received won the 2007 CASETA Publication Award for her book, *Jerry Bywaters – Lone Star Printmaker*.

Tom W. Dillard, Head of Special Collections at the University of Arkansas Libraries in Fayetteville recently received the “Diamond Award” presented by the Arkansas Historical Association at their recent annual convention. The award recognizes Dillard for his recent efforts to keep Arkansas history in the official state school curriculum. Dillard is president of the Arkansas History Education Coalition, a private advocacy group.

Kay Bost, Head of Special Collections and University Archives at the Edmon Low Library at Oklahoma State University was awarded tenure at the Oklahoma Board of Regents meeting in June.

Kate Blalack has been hired as Visiting Professor, Special Collections & University Archives at the Edmon Low Library at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

Dale Evans received his MLIS from the University of Oklahoma in May 2008. Dale has been a Government Document Technician at Al Harris Library, Southwest Oklahoma State University in Weatherford since 2004.

Marylaine H. Driese, College Archivist for McLennan Community College, has published her research on Texas pioneer and early McLennan County settler Lee Roy Davis in the February 2007 issue of the *Heart of Texas Records*, the quarterly of the Central Texas Genealogical Society. The project began when plans were being laid for McLennan Community College’s 40th anniversary. Driese was investigating college land records and found that Davis held the original land grant. Davis arrived in Texas in 1835, fought with Ben Milam during the Siege of Bexar, and served as an Indian scout along with Neill McLennan. The land was a bounty for military service for the Republic of Texas. Davis married Neill McLennan’s daughter, so it is appropriate that McLennan Community College was actually built on land owned by descendants of the county’s founder.

Charles Nodler, Archivist at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin, Missouri, was named the outstanding alumnus of Crowder College for 2007. He also made a presentation on the Tri-State Mining Map Digitization project on April 8, 2008 at MSSU and was recently promoted to full professor.

Claire Galloway has joined the staff of Special Collections at the University of Texas at Arlington. She began her new job as Archivist for University, Labor, and Political Collections on June 11, 2008, filling the vacancy created when Gary Spurr left to become the archivist at Tarleton State University’s Dick Smith Library and W. K. Gordon Center. Prior to this, Claire worked as an archivist at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth from March 2006 through June 2008. She is a member of the Society of Southwest Archivists and the Society of American Archivists, and serves on SAA’s Membership Committee as a Key Contact liaison for the state of Texas.

Julie Holcomb, formerly the Director of the Pearce Collections Museum at Navarro College in Corsicana, Texas, is leaving her position after nearly 8 years. She has accepted a teaching position in the Museum Studies department at Baylor University effective August 2008 and will also serve on the Board of Directors for the Heart of Texas Regional History Fair, which is also located at Baylor.

Gary Spurr joined the staff at the Dick Smith Library at Tarleton State University as Collections Archivist in January of 2008. Gary is starting the archives at Tarleton State University in Stephenville. He is processing collections at the university and at the W. K. Gordon Center for the Industrial History of Texas in Thurber. He will also teach the archives class for the new Graduate Public History track. He was formerly the university, labor, and political collections archivist at The University of Texas at Arlington.

Anna Uremovich, the Mesa History Archives & Special Collections Archivist at the City of Mesa Library, Mesa Arizona, has recently been appointed as SSA Membership Committee Chair. She holds a MLIS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a Masters of History from Georgetown University. This is Anna’s first position with the Society of Southwest Archivists. Previously she served five years as Secretary of the Friends of Arizona Archives and is currently also a Board Member of the Amnesty International USA Archives Advisory Committee.

LEADERSHIP LOG . . . continued

Elaine Davis has retired as the director at the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library at the Alamo, where she worked for eleven years. The DRT Library Committee has established the Elaine Davis Research Award Fund in honor of her service. During Davis's tenure, public outreach was a priority, and she was responsible for establishing an annual family history seminar. During her tenure, nearly \$400,000 in grant funding was received, a portion of which was designated for the installation of a fire alarm system for the library.

Bill Welge, Director of the Archives Division of the Oklahoma Historical Society, has been named to a committee to honor the 200th anniversary of the birth Abraham Lincoln. The Oklahoma Historical Society will exhibit the original Homestead Act that Lincoln signed in 1862 from October 2008 to February 2009. Welge worked with staff from the National Archives to secure the loan of this unique document.

REPORT YOUR ARCHIVAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITY

The Leadership Log is designed to keep SSA members informed about colleagues' publications, presentations, promotions, or other noteworthy activities.

Submit your news to carol.roark@dallaslibrary.org.

Names of SSA members appear in **bold** type.



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ARCHIVISTS' DAYBOOK

Selections from the list compiled by Leon C. Miller, CA, Tulane University.
See the complete Daybook at <http://southwestarchivists.org/HTML/2007.htm>.

**Annual Meeting Sites**

Annual meetings are generally held in the latter part of May.

2002 - Flagstaff
2003 - New Orleans
2004 - San Antonio
2005 - Baton Rouge
2006 - El Paso
2007 - Oklahoma City
2008 - Houston
2009 - Shreveport
2010 - Santa Fe
2011 - Little Rock
2012 - Phoenix

Board Meetings

Officers and Executive Board Members are required to make a quorum. Committee chairs are encouraged, but not required, to attend.

All members are welcome to attend SSA Board Meetings.

May 2008
Houston, TX

Upcoming meeting dates are not yet determined.

Board Meetings at the Annual Meeting are held just prior to the conference (end of fiscal year) and on the Saturday following the last session (beginning of the new fiscal year).

The membership year

runs January-December. Please remember to pay your dues by February!

AUGUST

7 On this date in 1956, the "Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict" went into force.

10 Feast day of St. Lawrence the Librarian, venerated by some as the patron saint of archivists partly because he was martyred on behalf of donor restrictions. Rumor has long held that the Secret Archives of the Vatican preserves his mummified head.

23–31 Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting; San Francisco.

24 On this date in 1814, Stephen Pleasonton, a senior clerk in the US Secretary of State's office, hastily bundled the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, international treaties, and George Washington's correspondence into coarse linen bags and took them 35 miles from Washington to Leesburg, Virginia. There, he hid them in an abandoned house to safeguard them from British troops, who were in the process of burning government buildings in Washington.

24 Today in 2005, the Cambodian Parliament passed the country's first Archives Law. The law was drafted with the assistance of the French National Archives as part of a long term project to develop the National Archives of Cambodia.

SEPTEMBER

1 **Deadline** to apply for the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) scholarship to attend its fall meeting.

5 Today in 1950, United States President Harry Truman signed the Federal Records Act.

17 Constitution Day; United States. Prior to the upholding by the US Supreme Court of the US Patriot Act in 2001, it was generally believed that the US Constitution protected the rights of US library and archives users by shielding library and archival use records from government search without a warrant. That is a constitutional protection United States citizens no longer have.

22 On this date in 1930 was born A. Otis Hebert. Hebert served as Director of the Louisiana Department of Archives and Records from 1966 to 1974. In 1971 he became a founder and the first president of the Society of Southwest Archivists (USA). He posthumously received the Society of Southwest Archivist's first Distinguished Service Award in 1977.

25 On this date in 1946 United States President Harry S. Truman signed Executive Order 9784 ordering all federal agencies to begin a records management program.

28 International Right to Know Day, sponsored by the Freedom of Information Advocates Network (FOIANet).

29 On this date in 1965, US President Lyndon Johnson signed the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act into law. The act called for the creation of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) as separate, independent agencies. The *Washington Post* called the creation of the endowments "a momentous step."

OCTOBER

1 **Deadline** for NHPRC applications (for the May meeting).

27 On this date in 2003, the new National Archives Building Research Center opened in Washington, DC.



**Society of
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Archivists**

Please return to:

**Society of Southwest
Archivists**

**PO Box 225
Gaithersburg, MD 20884**

You are cordially invited ...

SSA membership is open to everyone interested in archival work. Whether archivist, librarian, conservator, genealogist, or concerned citizen, we welcome your participation in promoting the preservation and use of archives.

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	Amount Enclosed	

SSA's membership directory is intended to promote and facilitate professional communication. We therefore ask members to submit their business contact information for their membership records whenever possible. *If the above information is for your home, please check here.*

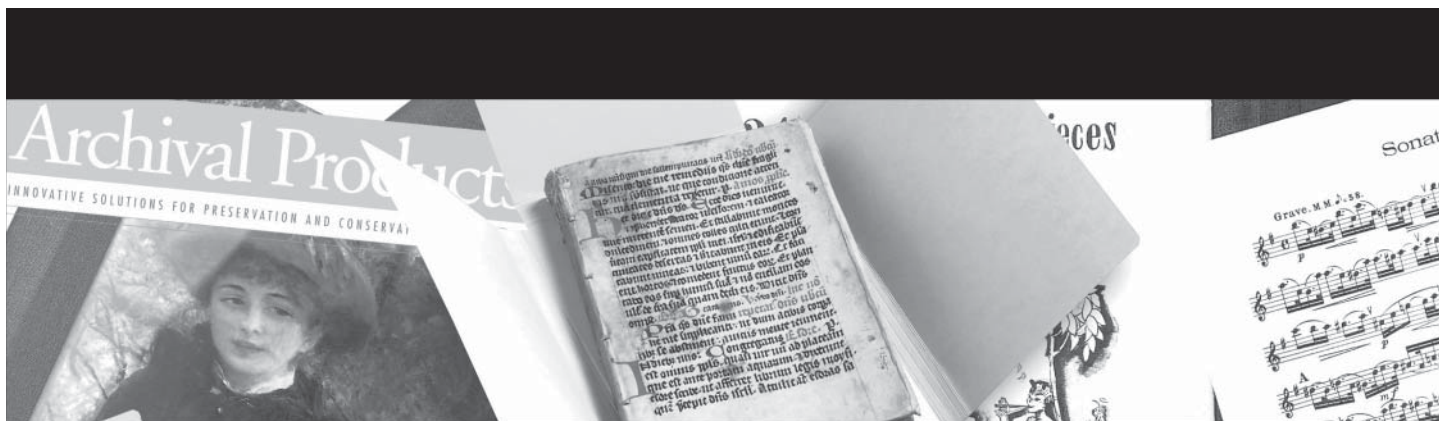
SSA occasionally shares membership information with carefully selected professional organizations or vendors in order to participate in joint membership efforts or obtain greater benefits for our members. *If you prefer not to participate in these joint programs, please check here.*

N.B.: SSA's membership year is the calendar year.

SSA's committees offer many ways to become more involved in our society and in the life of the archival profession. Please let us know of any committees or project in which you might be interested and we will be happy to contact you with more information.

Annual Meeting Internet Outreach Membership Nominating Publications
Professional Development Scholarships Site Selection Other: _____

*Thank you! We look forward to welcoming you as the newest member of
the Society of Southwest Archivists.*



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