Q: Please tell us about the history and scope of the Briscoe Center. What are the collecting strengths?

A: We’re very proud of our deep roots on the 40-acres. Our collections go back to the beginning of the University. The Board of Regents in 1945 created the Eugene C. Barker Texas History Center. In 1950, UT opened the Barker Center in what is now Battle Hall, and for the first time the University’s Archives Department and the Texas Collection Library were administratively together. For an excellent primer on the early history of the Barker, I encourage folks to read *A Work Peculiarly Our Own*, by Don Carleton and Katherine Adams.

The Barker moved to Sid Richardson Hall in the 1970’s. When in 1991 the University established the Center for American History, the Barker Texas History Collection became the Center’s core component. Our other collecting strengths include southern history, congressional and political, news media history, civil rights and social justice, American energy history, and photography, particularly photojournalism.

Q: You’ve recently undergone a name change; what impact has this had, and how did you introduce the new name?

A: We’re all very saddened by Gov. Briscoe’s recent death. He was a great supporter of our ongoing work in preserving Texas and US history. In December 2008, we became the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, and that was a very exciting time for us. President William Powers made the announcement in a press conference, and we received a tremendous amount of attention in the press and around campus. To be associated with Gov. Briscoe in this very formal way certainly raised our profile. In the months that followed the announcement, we worked on and finalized a new logo and look for the Briscoe Center. Our own collections, especially the wonderful graphic elements on much of the 19th century business letterhead, inspired the design.

Q: How does the Center’s museum program supports its mission?

A: Recently, we’ve mounted major exhibitions at the San Jose Museum of Textiles and Quilts, the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, and the LBJ Library and Museum, where our exhibition on Walter Cronkite is showing.
THE SOCIETY OF SOUTHWEST ARCHIVISTS

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.

Southwestern Archivist is the quarterly newsletter of the SSA. The editors give priority to submissions of news items about repositories in the SSA region and about the professional accomplishments of SSA members. Out-of-region submissions will be published as space is available. Short feature articles on topics and issues relating to current trends in archival enterprise are also welcome. Please query co-editor Katie Salzmann if you have any questions about the appropriateness of a proposed article.

Submission process: Please send all final submissions to one of the state liaisons listed below. The preferred submission format is a Word or rtf document attached via email. Articles should include a title as well as the author’s name and employing institution. The editors also encourage photographs or other illustrations relating to each submission. These should be sent as email attachments, with captions for each image included in the text of the e-mail or following the the article.

Please note that submission may be edited to conform to style conventions and available space. Because of space limitations, the editors reserve the right to omit submissions or hold them over for a future issue.

Arizona submissions
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joyce.martin@asu.edu

Arkansas submissions
Diane Worrell
dfworrel@uark.edu

Louisiana submissions
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Oklahoma submissions
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Nikki Lynn Thomas
nikki.thomas@utsa.edu

North Texas submissions
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Leadership Log submissions
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Editors
Katie Salzmann  salzmann@txstate.edu
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SSA WEB SITE: http://southwestarchivists.org

The SSA Web page is maintained by Pati Threett at McNeese State University. Names of the executive board members, officers, and committee chairs are available online.

SSA LEADERSHIP BLOG: http://ssaleaders.blogspot.com/

The SSA Leadership Blog is a source for official news from the executive board and committee members.
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FROM THE EDITORS: SPECIAL DELIVERY

With the 2010 dues renewal we began offering members the option of selecting email delivery of Southwestern Archivist in PDF format, and approximately 40% of members chose that method. This switch has saved SSA some printing and publishing costs – a very good thing in these economic times. We’d love to hear your feedback on this or any issue surrounding the quarterly newsletter.

Enjoy this latest issue...no matter how it’s sent, it’s always a special delivery!

Photo courtesy: Archives & Special Collections Department, McNeese State University

SHELLY HENLEY KELLY HONORED WITH 2010 DSA

By Ann Hodges • Chair, DSA Committee

The committee deliberating the 2010 Distinguished Service Award was unanimous in its choice of Shelly Henley Kelly, who was presented the award in absentia at the 2010 annual meeting in Santa Fe. (Shelly was unable to be present to receive the award in person because of a family commitment. Her written remarks of thanks appear on p.9). The committee was chaired by Ann Hodges and included as members Tara Laver and Kay Bost. The committee would like to thank Cindy Smolovik for her assistance in their work.

Shelly became a student member of SSA while in graduate school in 1993 and attended her first SSA meeting in Waco in 1995. At that meeting, she was invited by Laura McLemore to be on the Site Selection committee and thus began Shelly’s stellar record of service to SSA. Upon her return home from the Waco meeting, she set in motion events resulting in the selection of Galveston, Texas, as the site of the 1997 annual meeting. Shelly went on to serve on SSA’s Executive Board from 1996 through 2008 in the following roles: Co-chair, Local Arrangements (Galveston) 1996-1997; Chair, Site Selection Committee 1997-1999; Chair, Membership Committee, 1999-2001; Executive Board member 2001-2003; Vice President/President-Elect 2003-2004; President 2004-2005; Immediate Past-President 2005-2006; Co-creator and Chair, Emergency Disaster Assistance Fund committee (joint committee with the Society of American Archivists in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita) 2006-2007; and Co-chair, Local Arrangements (Houston) 2007-2008. Since 2008, Shelly has served as SSA’s liaison to the National Disaster Recovery Fund for Archives.

Clearly, Shelly is a worthy addition to the long list of DSA recipients. It is just as clear to those who know her that her record of service to SSA is not ended. SSA is dear to her heart and she is committed to its best interests.
Summertime is here, which can be both a blessing and a curse for those of us in the archives profession. For some, it means a quieter time and an opportunity to work on projects that are hard to manage during busier times of year. For others, summer means a flood of researchers and archives users who can’t do extended research during the academic year. While I have a moment to reflect, let’s revisit some of our recent achievements and look forward to events and matters of the coming months.

First, some very good news. We started the past year with an approximately $9,000 deficit. With careful decisions we’ve narrowed it down to about $1,000. We expect to have a tight budget this year as well, but with elections going electronic and publications and communications going partly electronic, many dollars have been saved. We are by no means hurting, but harsh times require fiscal austerity.

Santa Fe, New Mexico, 400 years young this year, hosted our successful 2010 annual meeting in late April. It included great sessions, good food, and even the surprise of very light snow. In spite of continued tough economic times and restricted travel budgets, we had a very pleasant and engaging meeting due in no small part to Melissa Salazar and the New Mexico Local Arrangements Committee. Thanks again to the committee for doing a fantastic job and demonstrating real New Mexico hospitality. Keynote speaker John Nichols opened the meeting with a lively - if not risqué - address about his personal love for archives and the work that archivists do.

Sessions this year included tribal archives, digitization projects, border documentation, women’s studies, university archives issues, cartographic materials, and many other great topics. Special events included two wonderful receptions at the spankin’ new New Mexico History Museum and at the excellent museums of the Museum Hill campus.

David B. Gracy II was honored a second time in two years with the announcement of a student scholarship in his honor. More details are elsewhere in this issue. Let’s not forget our other scholarships, which also rely upon your contributions.

The annual business meeting was presided over by President Brenda McClurkin, and the bad jokes and prattle from Robert Schaadt and yours truly followed in our ever-daffy SLOTTO raffle. Thanks to your contributions, almost $1,200 was raised to support SSA scholarships. Please be sure to patronize our many fine sponsors and donors for the prizes.

The SSA Executive Board will meet October 26 at Winedale, the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History’s historic village and conference center, for its fall meeting.

The Society of Southwest Archivists is a vibrant organization thanks to the active participation and contributions of its members. I have said for some time that the organization is only as good as you want it to be. Please get involved. Your thoughts and comments are not only welcome, but solicited. Please feel free to contact me at your convenience at john.slate@dallascityhall.com.

Five Ways to Participate in SSA!

1. Write a repository news article for Southwestern Archivist. See p.22 for submission guidelines.
2. Propose a paper for the 2011 Annual Meeting in Little Rock. See p.6 for the Call for Papers and see the Web site for the online proposal form.
3. Nominate a deserving member for the 2011 Distinguished Service Award. See p.7 for the Call for Nominations.
5. Document your Archives Month activities and share them with your colleagues. Submit a photo and a brief description (150 words) about your event to kris.toma@txstate.edu by October 10th.
Call for Papers
Opportunity and Promise: Advocating Archives
Society of Southwest Archivists Annual Meeting
Little Rock, Arkansas May 18-21, 2011

The inspiration for the theme Opportunity and Promise: Advocating Archives comes from the Arkansas state creed which opens, “I Believe in Arkansas as a land of opportunity and promise. I believe in the rich heritage of Arkansas and I honor the men and women who created this heritage.”

There is no better time than now to advocate for archives - we face tremendous challenges. The 2011 program committee invites you to submit a proposal for an educational session to share with your colleagues:
• The opportunities, created and taken, for reaching out to communities to build collections and document cultures.
• How you are fulfilling the promise of archives by preserving and making your institution’s holdings available.
• The innovative ways you are addressing the challenges facing your archive.

A session proposal form is available on line through the SSA Web site (click on the Annual Meeting tab at http://southwestarchivists.org). Sessions are scheduled for 90 minutes and typically consist of three papers or a panel discussion. Other formats are also welcomed.

Individual papers may also be submitted with appropriate proposal information. The committee may form sessions based on individual papers submitted.

Deadline for session proposals:
Wednesday November 24, 2010
Early proposals are encouraged!

Please submit proposals through the SSA Web site (select the Annual Meeting tab). Inquiries may be sent to:
Carol Bartels
Chair, 2011 SSA Program Committee
The Historic New Orleans Collection
carol@hnoc.org
phone: (504) 598-7122
fax: (504) 598-7108

The Society of Southwest Archivists is pleased to announce the formation of the David B. Gracy II Student Scholarship.

Please join us in supporting this new scholarship for SSA student members in honor of Dr. David B. Gracy II, Governor Bill Daniel Professor of Archival Enterprise at the University of Texas at Austin, early member of the Society of Southwest Archivists, and former president of the Society of American Archivists and the Academy of Certified Archivists. The scholarship will assist students in the Society’s membership region who are in graduate archives programs with books and tuition.

Over ten past presidents have endorsed the scholarship, and we hope you’ll consider some level of contribution. These are not easy economic times and we understand fully if you choose not to participate, or if you would prefer to make a smaller donation or a pledge over time. Please make sure your check is made out to the Society of Southwest Archivists and indicate it is for the “Gracy Scholarship.”

David and his wife Laura have issued a matching challenge in the amount of $1,500. For contributions made since the SSA meeting in Santa Fe, the first $1,500 received will be matched by the Gracys’ generous donation.

Our initial campaign will last approximately 18 months, over which time we hope to raise as much as we can towards an endowment. We anticipate awarding the first scholarship at the 2012 Annual Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona.

You don’t have to be a former student of David’s to contribute. Anyone can join in. We believe an appeal that reaches far beyond our SSA membership to the former students, schools, organizations, and individuals he’s touched will enable us to raise the funds we need. Your gift will be recognized in a future issue of the Southwestern Archivist and at the Annual Meeting. Please join us in honoring the lasting achievements of David Gracy!

Contributions can be mailed to the attention of John H. Slate, CA at 1527 Seevers Avenue, Dallas, Texas, 75216, or to Gerrianne Schaad at Society of Southwest Archivists, PO Box 720960, Oklahoma City, OK 73172-0960.

Have you seen the new Web site?
www.southwestarchivists.org
We have started preliminary planning for a one-day workshop on maps, hosted by the Texas General Land Office in Austin Texas, in either January or February 2011. This will be an introductory seminar on the history, curation, cataloging, digitization, preservation and conservation of maps, led by some of the leading map experts in the Southwest. We will keep you updated with details as they develop.

Thanks again to all who helped make the workshops in Santa Fe a success! Now it’s time to start planning the workshops for Little Rock, and we’re inviting you, the members, to send us suggestions. What archives-related topic do you need to learn more about or need a refresher on? We are also interested to hear from you if you have any interest in teaching a workshop.

Stay posted between newsletters on the SSA Leadership log (http://ssaleaders.blogspot.com/).

Joel Minor
minor@txstate.edu
(512) 245-3229

Call for DSA Nominations

The Distinguished Service Award Committee is seeking nominations for the award to be presented at SSA’s 2011 Annual Meeting in Little Rock, AR. As SSA’s most prestigious award, the Distinguished Service Award is presented to a member who has made significant contributions to the Society of Southwest Archivists as well as the wider archival profession over a period of years. Metal Edge has graciously sponsored this award since 1996.

The Distinguished Service Award recipient is selected by the Executive Board based on the recommendations made by a committee chaired by the Immediate Past President. It does not have to be given annually.

Nominations should be made in writing and include a summary of the contributions the nominee has made to SSA and to the archival profession at large, typically at the national or international level. To strengthen the nomination, letters of support are encouraged.

Nominations must be received by Friday, January 14, 2011.

For more information, please contact Brenda McClurkin, Chair of the DSA Committee.

Please email completed nominations to:
Brenda McClurkin, CA
University of Texas at Arlington Library
mclurkin@uta.edu
(817) 272-7512

Other members of the DSA Committee are:
Tim Blevins
Pikes Peak Library District
tblevins@ppld.org
(719) 531-6333, x2258

Leslie Calmes, CA
University of Arizona
calmesl@ccp.library.arizona.edu
(520) 621-6273
The Society of Southwest Archivists (SSA) would like to pay tribute to founder and first president A. (Adam) Otis Hebert, Jr. Under the auspices of Hebert in 1971, archivists from Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, and Oklahoma banded together to form SSA with Arizona and New Mexico being added to the organization in successive years. The enduring vision of Hebert to preserve the documentary history of the Southwest has evolved into a significant archives professional organization with ties to national and international organizations and the world’s top leaders in the archives field. Currently membership includes professionals from almost every state in the nation and several countries.

A. Otis Hebert, Jr. 1930-1976. Born, reared, and expired in Louisiana, A. Otis Hebert, Jr. spent his life devoted to the preservation of history. After serving in Korea, 1952-1954, with the United States Army he received both a Masters of Education and a Masters of History from Louisiana State University in 1958. Hebert’s professional career included teaching and professorships in the Vermilion Parish Schools; Louisiana State University; Southeastern Louisiana College; and Nicholls State University. He was an archivist for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge, 1964-1966; Director of the Louisiana Department of Archives and Records 1966-1974; and Director of the Center for Acadian Folklore and Culture at the University of Southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette 1974-1976.

Noted historian and author, Hebert served in various capacities with numerous state and local affiliations including the Louisiana Historical Association; National Archives and Records Administration; Society of American Archivists (SAA); Society of Southwest Archivists (SSA); North Louisiana Historical Association; Southeast Historical Association; Attakapas Historical Association; St. Tammany Historical Association; Louisiana Folklore Society; and Vermilion Historical Society. Hebert contributed articles to professional journals; edited several books on Louisiana history; was editor of “Louisiana History”; and wrote History of Education in Colonial Louisiana as his masters’ thesis.

Following his death in 1976 the Society of Southwest Archivists posthumously awarded him the Society’s first Distinguished Service Award. In honor of his service to the archives profession the A. Otis Hebert, Jr. Continuing Education Scholarship is offered through SSA to further the professional training of working archivists in the Southwestern United States: http://southwestarchivists.org/scholarship.html It is therefore with great pride we pay homage to our founder and mentor, A. Otis Hebert, Jr.


Member contributions make the Hebert Scholarship possible - thank you for your support!

For more information, visit www.southwestarchivists.com and click on the Scholarship tab at the top of the page.
As this year’s recipient of the A. Otis Hebert, Jr. Continuing Education Scholarship I would like to express my gratitude toward the Society of Southwest Archivists scholarship committee and supporting membership. Without the funds from this award I would have been unable to attend the 2010 Archival Education and Research Institute (AERI), held June 20-25 at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. AERI is an ongoing IMLS-sponsored initiative with the purpose of helping to train and fund future archives educators at a consortium of American universities. Each year a participating institution hosts a week-long conference where archives faculty, doctoral students, practitioners, and independent scholars gather to exchange ideas, present research, and strengthen bonds across institutions. This year’s AERI was the second in a series of four scheduled annual meetings. The first was held at last year at UCLA, next year’s will be held at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and the final will reconvene at UCLA in 2012. Future conference and student funding is currently under deliberation, but the network of organizers are hoping to extend the program’s reach far beyond the current mandate. Given the success so far, it is likely that this will happen.

This year there were approximately 90 participants, mostly from the larger American ISchools and LIS Programs (Michigan, Texas, North Carolina, Pittsburgh, UCLA), but also individuals from other parts of the U.S., Australia, Canada, Sweden, Great Britain, and the Netherlands. The conference was divided into workshops and presentations that offered a balance of practical instruction for aspiring scholars (i.e. dissertation proposals, grant writing) along with discussions on archival pedagogy and the deeper intellectual currents driving archival research. Leading many of the panels and presenting on their own work were several of the more notable names in archival studies including Eric Ketelaar, Richard Cox, Sue McKemniss, Wendy Duff, Brien Brothman, Anne Gilliland, Margaret Hedstrom, Elizabeth Yakel, and many others who have helped formulate and shape the modern archival body of knowledge.

In addition to being exposed to a number of ideas and meeting others that might help my career going forward, I was afforded the opportunity to present on a research article that I’ve been developing for the last year titled, “Social Theory in Archival Studies: Perspectives from Archives Educators.” I receive a tremendous amount of helpful feedback and I will be ready to submit it for publication in the coming weeks. Perhaps more importantly, I was able to see first hand how the practical and scholarly aspects of archives intersect and inform each other, which is a particularly valuable perspective to maintain for those of us who keep one foot in academia while plugging away in the stacks. Again, I thank the SSA membership and hope that they continue to support American archival education at all levels as it continues to grow and becomes more essential to the success and longevity of our profession.

To learn more about the AERI program please visit: http://aeri.gseis.ucla.edu/index.htm.

2010 DSA Leaves Recipient Speechless
By Shelly Henley Kelly • University of Houston - Clear Lake

When Ann [Hodges] called to tell me that I’d been chosen to receive this award, I understood for the first time what it means to be truly speechless. I’d seen others struck silent when they realized it was their contributions being listed [as the award was being announced], but I’ve never grasped the actual feeling of not having something to say.

You do not know how much it hurts that I can’t be with you all today – and not because of this award or because I’ve never been to Santa Fe and it’s supposed to be absolutely wonderful – but because I am missing a fantastic program as well as my good friends and getting to meet all the new members. Still, some of you might think it’s a bit quieter without me around.

When I was a new archivist, SSA welcomed me, guided me, and invited me to get more involved. Through SSA I have met some of my closest friends and mentors. It’s a poorly kept secret that SSA is all about the people.

[During the 2010 annual meeting], you may have heard someone say that you will get out of SSA what you give. But I’ve always received a thousand times more than I’ve given. In recognition of that—and to continue to support SSA—I’ve asked the SSA Treasurer to take the cash award that accompanies the DSA and apply it to the new SSA David B. Gracy Student Scholarship fund. I hope others will join me this year in making a contribution to SSA’s scholarships so we can continue paying it forward to others.

Thank you to Ann and her committee. Most of all, thank you to the people who continue to join and make the Society of Southwest Archivists the strong, supportive, friendly organization that it always has been and will continue to be. (I can’t believe I’m going to miss SLOTTO!)
Another annual conference has come and gone, but the memories, insights, and camaraderie will remain. For many of us, the road to attending the conference is straight-forward – we register, make our travel arrangements, arrive at the proper place at the proper time, and sit back and enjoy. Unseen by us are the many, many individuals who work behind the scenes to ensure that everything runs smoothly.

Leading the charge is the local arrangements committee. Members spend the better part of a year (or more!) scouting locations, contracting with hotels, arranging tours, publicizing the conference, and handling member registration. The 2010 Santa Fe committee was chaired by Melissa Salazar who was joined by a team of dedicated area archivists who all contributed to the success of the conference. Thank you to the local arrangements committee!

The “heart” of any annual conference is the program. The sessions provide an opportunity for members to learn about new trends in the field; to hear how their colleagues are doing things at their “shops;” and to engage in lively, collegial debates on issues that shape our profession. The Program committee, chaired in 2010 by John Slate, is responsible for soliciting, reviewing, and organizing conference sessions, but they could not do it without the generosity of time, knowledge and spirit of the many presenters. Thank you to the program committee and to all of the 2010 panelists!
Past, present, and future SSA presidents:
Left: Carol Bartels, President Elect 2011-2012
Center: Brenda McClurkin, SSA President 2009-2010
Right: John Slate, SSA President 2010-2011
Photo by Katie Salzmann.

And finally, no annual conference is successful without the enthusiastic and dedicated members who attend. Thank YOU for making 2010 a great conference year. We look forward to seeing you in Little Rock in 2011!

One of the primary benefits of being a member of SSA is the opportunity to participate in continuing education workshops at a reasonable rate, year-round. The annual meeting traditionally offers a venue for several courses, and 2010 was no exception. The professional development committee, chaired by Joel Minor, coordinated the development of three workshops taught by committed professionals. Thank you to the professional development committee and the instructors!

Steve Hussman and Christina and Paul Scott smile for the camera at Museum Hill prior to the evening reception at the International Folk Art Museum. Photo by John Slate.

Joel Minor, Laura Saegert, and Pati Threatt at the New Mexico History Museum. Photo by Katie Salzmann.
SSA’s 2011 Annual Meeting will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas—only the second time the state has hosted the event. Plan to join your fellow SSA members May 18-21st as we discuss archives as a place of opportunity and promise. The phrase “opportunity and promise” comes from Arkansas’s official creed that was adopted in 1972: “I believe in Arkansas as a land of opportunity and promise. . .” Nothing embodies this spirit quite like Little Rock.

Little Rock, Arkansas’s largest city, is situated on the south bank of the picturesque Arkansas River. Centrally located, the city is a convergence point of the foothills to the northwest, the Delta to the east, and the rolling plains to the southwest. Little Rock has been historically influenced by the South, Southwest, and Midwest, and it is often the visitor who decides which influence if more predominant.

The city got its name from a small rock formation on the river called la Petite Rocher in 1722 by French explorer Jean-Baptiste Bénard de la Harpe. The name eventually started showing up on maps in 1799. Yes, Little Rock is actually named for a “little rock.” The city became the capital of the Arkansas Territory in 1821 and was incorporated in 1835. Little Rock is most known for the events associated with the Central High Desegregation Crisis and former President Bill Clinton (Little Rock is home to Clinton’s Presidential Library). In recent years, Little Rock has expanded its offerings and cemented its place as a southern tourist spot—America’s newest destination!

The meeting will be held at the Peabody Little Rock, an AAA four-diamond luxury hotel centrally located on the Arkansas River in the River Market District of downtown. In the short time since its $44 million renovation in 2002, the Peabody Little Rock has set the bar to which stylish, upscale Arkansas lodging is measured. The hotel features a wonderful open-concept lobby bar and seating area perfect for informal meet-ups and social hours. At 11:00 a.m., the Peabody Ducks perform their world-famous march across the lobby to a specially created marble fountain where they play until returning to their tiny duck palace at 5:00 p.m.

SSA members will find themselves located in the heart of downtown Little Rock—within a leisurely walk, trolley ride, or short drive from many restaurants and attractions, including the Old State House Museum, Central High School National Historic Site, Historic Arkansas Museum, Arkansas History Commission, Arkansas Studies Institute, Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, Arkansas State Capitol, Arkansas Arts Center, and William J. Clinton Presidential Library and Museum. The Peabody Little Rock is conveniently located less than 15 minutes from the Little Rock National Airport.

Just across the river is the city of North Little Rock where SSA members can enjoy an Arkansas Travelers minor league baseball game at Dickey-Stephens Park, tour the USS Razorback, a World War II era submarine, or visit the Old Mill, which appeared in Gone with the Wind. Those more adventurous visitors can leave the metro area and make the 60-mile
drive southwest to Hot Springs. This historic city has a little bit of everything—a downtown art district, still-frequented 19th century bath houses in the Hot Springs National Park (the nation’s first federally protected area), countless water activities, and Garvan Woodland Gardens, an extraordinary 210-acre botanical garden.

The Local Arrangements Committee happily invites you to come experience Little Rock. Mark your calendars now—you don’t want to miss out on this great event! Check the SSA Web site for more information as it becomes available: http://southwestarchivists.org/annualmeeting.html.

Mark Your Calendars!
SSA Annual Meeting in Little Rock
May 18-21, 2011

Deadline for sessions proposals is Wednesday, November 24, 2010

See p.6 for more details and contact information, or visit the the SSA Web page for the complete call and proposal form.

Opportunity & Promise: Advocating Archives
until January 3, 2011. What folks may not realize, though, is that we have three divisions outside of Austin that are very much a part of our museum program: Sam Rayburn Library and Museum, in Bonham, Texas; the John Nance Garner Museum in Uvalde; and Winedale Historical Complex, in rural Fayette County near Round Top, Texas. Together these three divisions annually serve thousands of researchers, program participants, and visitors that include University of Texas students, faculty and staff, and the larger research community of students, scholars, and those committed to life-long learning.

**Q:** The Center has had impressive success with externally-funded projects. What advice would you give to aspiring grant-writers?

**A:** Volunteer to review grants. It is an extremely informative exercise that if applied to your grant writing can only make it better. In other words, write your grant narrative with the reviewer in mind. Keep a file of prospective projects so that when a grant opportunity comes across your desk, you can select the best project for the grant program. If possible, take advantage of the window of opportunity for program officers to review your narrative prior to submission. Their feedback may point out some areas that need strengthening.

**Q:** How can SSAers bring one of the Center’s touring exhibits to their repositories?

**A:** Contact Lynn Bell our exhibits curator. She’d love to talk with anyone about our touring exhibits.

**Q:** What sorts of partnerships does the Briscoe Center have with academic departments on the UT campus?

**A:** We have a tremendous, mutually beneficial partnership with the iSchool, and we’re very appreciative to have so much archival and library talent nearby. We’re working with faculty in the history department to incorporate primary source material into their curriculum, and will be hosting history graduate seminars in our conference room in the upcoming semesters. Now that the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center is an official component of the University of Texas, we are partnering with them to conduct a site study of Winedale so that we understand the ecological history on the 200-plus acre site. The recommendations of the study will then be used to initiate efforts to restore the landscape to its original beauty.

**Q:** Is there anything else we should know about the Center?

**A:** We are a history research center, and as such, we also use these collections ourselves for projects that add to the cultural record. We recently premiered a documentary at SXSW – When I Rise. It is the powerful story of Barbara Smith Conrad, a gifted University of Texas music student who became a target of racial discrimination and ultimately ascended to the heights of international opera. We’re all very proud of it.

SSA Committee news is available on the Leadership Blog.

http://ssaleaders.blogspot.com/
Let them Scan!
Submitted by Beth Silbergleit • University of New Mexico

In mid-May of this year, the Center for Southwest Research (University of New Mexico University Libraries) made a giant leap forward in improving customer service. We purchased a Bookeye self-service scanning kiosk from the Digital Library Systems Group (DLSG) for patron use in our reading room. Prior to this, we provided photocopying and scanning services for a fee, and allowed the use of digital cameras (without flash). We purchased a digital camera to have on hand for patrons needing to borrow one.

The Bookeye is a planetary scanner that allows books to be scanned from above without damaging the spine. It can split left and right pages into separate image files, and straighten curved images from the spine area. Documents and newspapers are scanned face up and scan well through Mylar enclosures. Patrons operate the scanner via a touch screen interface that is simple to use, but also includes advanced features for those needing particular file formats, cropping, and the like. At the beginning of each scanning session, the user must first review and accept a copyright disclaimer. Once the “accept” button is activated, scanning may begin.

The scanner allows patrons to scan many images in a single session, and then choose whether to download them to a flash drive, send them to an email address, or print them to a networked printer. Since its installation, patrons have made over 20,000 scans on the system and the only maintenance the scanner requires is a simple monthly recalibration.

Patrons and staff are ecstatic and our student workers are thrilled at the reduction in photocopy requests. Allowing self-service scanning in our Reading Room was a huge philosophical decision for us - it meant giving up some of our control over researchers and over our collections - but now we allow scanning of pretty much anything in our collections, unless there are particular preservation concerns or access/duplication restrictions. And while the move from paper to digital copying has meant a small loss of photocopying revenue (which never quite equaled the cost of staff time), it also has meant less paperwork, less time at the photocopy machine, and more time for staff and student workers to devote to helping customers. Now, there is no turning back. There is not a member of our staff or a researcher who uses our collections who does not think that this is one of the greatest services that the Center for Southwest Research provides.

Archives and Records Administration

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee CAS in Archives and Records Administration provides advanced coursework for professionals who hold a MLS or related Master’s degree. Students develop their specialty through 15 credits of graduate coursework. This program may be completed on-site or entirely on-line.

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http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SOIS/academics/cas.htm
Imagine being presented with a five-foot pelican in gold mica! This rare work of art was a recent donation to the Louisiana State Archives in Baton Rouge as part of its historically-significant documents and artifacts. The state bird, the pelican, was gifted following an unusual exhibit, *Defining and Redefining the Art of Fabergé Eggs* by Vivian Alexander, and is now permanently housed here. The gold mica was swirled into burgundy enamel by its creator, Alex Caldwell of Maurice, Louisiana.

The display evoked a media splash when it opened and captured the imagination of many who admire the entrepreneurial spirit and creativeness of Louisiana peoples. Caldwell and a businessman-collector Todd Cutrer of Port Allen, Louisiana, who shared his 177-piece collection for public viewing, were guest speakers at the reception May 18. The exhibit continues through August 31.

The brilliant bird is a decided contrast to the majority of donations, including the oldest document going back to 1620, discovered last year. While selectivity is paramount in accepting donations, each item is a valid contribution.

The changing exhibit and art galleries that bring people into the facility often result in educating them as to the judicious attention paid by the staff to preservation and presentation. After the 2007 Archives Road Show, an exquisitely-crafted beeswax art cross was donated and is housed in a foyer display case. Amazingly intricate, the cross was sculpted in the late nineteenth century by Flora Germain of New Orleans and donated by a descendant, Pat Elam.

Art eggs on display range from Faberge egg replicas to contemporary exotics, including bridal purses fashioned of fine silver. The bejeweled objets d’art utilize gemstones, crystals, enamel, varied gold plated and silver plated findings. Corresponding showcases reveal photographs of celebrities with their Vivian Alexander acquisitions. Cutrer’s favorite is an egg featuring lockets that open to show eighteenth century characters, and his most prized is an exact reproduction of the Faberge Duchess of Marlborough egg.

Cutrer acquired his first Vivian Alexander egg in 1997, kept on buying, and now has the largest private collection known, his most recent being a silver egg, comprised of two halves connected by screws in place of the hinges used on the original eggs. The creator and co-founder of Vivian Alexander egg art with Vivian Tullos, Caldwell retired the original eggs made from eggshells and now focuses on eggs with armature of fine silver.

The far-reaching effects of the exhibit include classes, *The Art of the Egg*, for all ages being taught by Caldwell.

Excitement is often generated by exhibits. Earlier this year, “A Tribute to the First Louisianians” brought the chiefs of native Louisiana tribes in full regalia, along with their families, to dance and chant onstage in authentic dances and to demonstrate basket weaving and the use of tools. Some fourteen tribes had individual showcases for their artifacts, arranged chronologically, starting at Poverty Point in Epps, Louisiana, a prehistoric archaeological site 1650-700 BCE. The strong instinct for these tribes to preserve their heritage is admirable and a boon to archivists.

As with all archives, the primary goal is the preservation and storage of the state’s historical records, including governmental policies and records. Some 80,000 cubic feet in vaults and secured storage is provided in the three-story facility, designed by award-winning architect John Desmond, hailed as one of the foremost Archives in the nation. Five stone panels that tell the story of Louisiana’s history under ten flags, were sculpted by the artist, Al Laverne, and adorn the exterior.

Under the aegis of the Secretary of State’s office, the Archives that began at LSU in 1936, became the official repository in 1956 and acquired its facility in 1987. Open seven days a week, it brings local, national and international visitors to its research library, a popular site for genealogists, and to its galleries. Early voting takes place here. An auditorium may be rented for conferences and meetings. Patrons are invited to join the Friends of the Louisiana State Archives. For further information, contact (225) 922-1000.
Peggy D. Rudd, director and librarian of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, has announced the appointment of Jelain Chubb as director of the Archives and Information Services Division and Texas state archivist.

In her new position, Chubb will oversee the commission’s three public service areas: the Texas State Archives, the Reference and Information Center and the Texas Family Heritage Research Center. As state archivist, she is responsible for ensuring that permanent records documenting Texas’ history as a colony, province, republic and state are preserved for future generations. She also is charged with leading efforts to expand public access to historical documents, photographs, maps and other materials and integrating primary source materials into educational curricula. Her strong background in electronic archives will prove an asset as the commission begins planning for digital archives.

Chubb joins the Texas State Library and Archives Commission after serving as state archivist of Ohio for the Ohio Historical Society, based in Columbus. She also served as administrative archivist for the Missouri State Archives, and held positions with the Kansas State and South Carolina historical societies. A South Carolina native, she earned her bachelor’s degree in history and political science from the College of Charleston, and master’s degrees in library and information science and applied history with a specialization in archival administration, both from the University of South Carolina at Columbia. She is a certified archivist and records manager.

Chubb says she’s impressed by the knowledge and commitment of commission staff members and is eager to work with them. “The renovation of the building has energized everyone,” she says. “New surroundings create new opportunities and the dynamic for change. And working with Texas history is something I’ve always been interested in.”
Michael E. DeBakey Library and Museum Opens
Excerpt from Museum Website

The Michael E. DeBakey Library & Museum, which chronicles the life of the pioneering heart surgeon, as well as the history of the Baylor College of Medicine, opened its doors May 14, 2010.

A recreation of the Operating Room, presented as Dr. DeBakey designed it, is among the exhibits, as is a collection from among the hundreds of framed photographs Dr. DeBakey kept in his offices and conference room. His conference room table, which was the college’s original board table, is part of the museum’s exhibits. A replica of the sewing machine he used to make the first Dacron graft also is on display.

Memorabilia from DeBakey’s long career includes many of his awards and honors. There are also many hours of videotape of Dr. DeBakey’s surgeries, speeches and other events that can be accessed on large screen monitors.

DeBakey served as BCM’s first president, chancellor and chancellor emeritus. He was chair of surgery from 1948 until 1993. He was often referred to as the father of modern cardiovascular surgery.

Please visit in person Mondays - Fridays, 9 am- 5pm, or take a virtual tour at https://www.bcm.edu/debakeymuseum/photos.cfm.
NUCMC SEeks to Describe Civil War Collections

Press Release

As part of the Library of Congress observance of the forthcoming sesquicentennial of the American Civil War, the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC) is seeking the assistance of eligible repositories in identifying and describing archival collections relating to the conflict. Eligible repositories must 1) be located in the United States or its territories; 2) must regularly admit researchers; and 3) must lack the capability of entering their own archival cataloging into OCLC.

Also part of the NUCMC observance of the Civil War sesquicentennial will be a five year/five part exhibit on our Web site entitled “NUCMC and the Documentary Heritage of the American Civil War.” The exhibit will highlight program cataloging of the last quarter century and will also contain related visual content. Initial plans call for the first exhibit (2011) to focus on the election of Abraham Lincoln, the secession crisis, the outbreak of hostilities, mobilizing for war, and foreign public opinion. Succeeding exhibits will feature personal narratives of members of the Union and Confederate armed forces (2012); the sesquicentennial of the Emancipation Proclamation and the African American experience from slavery to the end of the war (2013); the home front, women in the war, the role of charitable organizations, economic aspects of the war, and patriotic societies (2014); and the sesquicentennial of the death of Abraham Lincoln, Reconstruction, Confederate exiles, and the rise of veterans’ organizations (2015).

For more information about NUCMC program participation please visit our Web site at http://www.loc.gov/coll/numc or contact us at Library of Congress, Cooperative and Instructional Programs Division, NUCMC, 101 Independence Ave., S.E., Stop-4230, Washington, D.C. 20540-4230. Email: nucmc@loc.gov. Telephone: (202) 707-7954. Fax: (202) 252-2082.

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In 1995 an obituary the New York Times described Frederic Ramsey Jr. as “one of the first scholars of jazz.” His research on African American music in the South—primarily jazz and the culture that surrounds it—recorded information that otherwise may have died with the innovative men who created the genre. The well-documented results of this life’s work are now housed at The Historic New Orleans Collection’s Williams Research Center.

In 1938 Frederic Ramsey, then working for Harcourt Brace publishers, realized the shallow level of recorded information on jazz. Accompanied by William “Bill” Russell and Charles Edward Smith, Ramsey began to conduct in-depth research on the subject. As there were no extant secondary sources on jazz, the trio turned to the authentic source of the music: interviewing the men who pioneered the music and those who knew them. Their interviews and visits to “the dives of Harlem, Chicago, and New Orleans, to the rice fields of Louisiana, to Storyville, the now legendary redlight district of New Orleans” were compiled to produce *Jazzmen: The Story of Hot Jazz Told in the Lives of the Men Who Created It*, the first written history of jazz.

Ramsey spent the last years of his life as a historian studying Buddy Bolden. Performing at the turn of the twentieth century, Bolden, a cornetist, is thought to be one of the creators of New Orleans jazz. His career was short due to mental disease, and he left behind no recordings when he died. Over many years, Ramsey and his wife worked in New Orleans interviewing those who had performed with or had known Bolden and those who could share stories of the culture in which he lived. The project never developed into a published work, but the research remains in Ramsey’s papers. Included are period pictures of Central City in New Orleans, making the collection a valuable source of research for urban historians, as well as jazz scholars.

Ramsey is also responsible for the final recordings of blues musician Huddie “Leadbelly” Ledbetter. Leadbelly’s *Last Sessions* was recorded in New York City in 1948, the year before his death, and later released on Folkway Records. Included in Ramsey’s papers are correspondences related to the project and numerous photographs taken during the sessions.

The Ramsey Papers also includes correspondence with other scholars and musicians, his own music and photo collections, and manuscript copies and drafts of his television productions, unpublished fiction, and *Been Here and Gone*, his other major publication, which documents his journeys through the South in the 1950s, interviewing, recording, and photographing African Americans and their music.

The acquisition of The Ramsey Papers complements Bill Russell’s jazz collection, which was acquired by The Historic New Orleans Collection in 1994 and is available at the Williams Research Center. Russell, a co-author of *Jazzmen*, also continued his career as a jazz historian and helped to revive jazz music in New Orleans in the 1940s.
In the beginning, there was stuff... today, there is more than ever and we help you preserve your collection better in less space, more efficiently and for less. Our trained team will assess your requirements and develop designs that meet your goals and budget. When approved, we build an implementation plan to quickly and efficiently enhance your collection storage areas.

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The 2010 Regional History Symposium, organized and hosted by the Pike’s Peak Library District Special Collections department, was on June 5, 2010 in Colorado Springs. Focusing on the theme “Enterprise and Innovation in the Pikes Peak Region,” the symposium featured papers on topics such as banking during the Cripple Creek mining boom, the marketing of a nineteenth century Denver faith healer, automobile tourism in the Pikes Peak region, air and space industries, nineteenth century El Paso County inventors and patents, Colorado Springs booster-ism and the 1914 Sociability Tour and traveling entertainers to name just a few.

Following a complimentary lunch, symposium attendees enjoyed actor Richard Marold’s performance as Nikola Tesla, the great electrical scientist and inventor. (Marold’s performance can be viewed online at http://ppld.tv.) While living in Colorado Springs in 1899, Tesla worked out a system for wireless, worldwide distribution of electricity.

Special Collections staff members Katie Rudolph, Amy Ziegler, Tim Blevins and Dennis Daily were among the 12 researchers presenting papers at the symposium. Photo Archivist Rudolph, curated an exhibit for the symposium titled *Greetings from the Pikes Peak Region: Postcards from PPLD’s Special Collections*. The exhibit highlighted the diverse uses of postcards during the twentieth century, as well as the processes and technology of their production.

In conjunction with the symposium, Special Collections has republished the 1962 biography of Tesla, *Lightning in His Hand: The Life Story of Nikola Tesla*, by Colorado Springs authors Inez Hunt and Wanetta Draper. The book, which is the sixth title in the department’s regional history series, was released on May 17, 2010, to commemorate the 111th anniversary Tesla’s arrival in Colorado Springs. This anniversary year was chosen to celebrate Tesla’s compulsion for numbers divisible by 3 and his 111 United States’ patents.

Special Collections has received additional Tesla-related material as an accretion to the Hunt Family Papers, which includes the research and writings of Inez Hunt. About two cubic feet of Hunt’s research files for Lightning in His Hand were transferred from Rutgers University’s IEEE Archives to the Pikes Peak Library District in May. Check out the Rocky Mountain Online Archive to view the full finding aid for the Hunt Family Papers, including the Nikola Tesla materials:


*Lightning in His Hand: The Life Story of Nikola Tesla* is available for purchase through Clausen Books in Colorado Springs (http://www.clausenbooks.com/) or through Special Collections at PPLD. The proceedings of this year’s symposium will be released this fall.

**SOUTHWESTERN ARCHIVIST NEEDS YOU!**

Tell your colleagues about your acquisitions, projects, exhibits, or grants — submit your repository news and leadership log information by **October 10th**. Photographs (300dpi in a native image format) are highly encouraged. Be sure to provide the caption and/or credit information that you want to accompany the image(s).

Help maintain the quality of this newsletter by submitting repository news articles with photographs.

- One column (1/2 page) = 275 words with a photograph or two
- Two columns (1 full page) = 600 words with a photograph or two

Because of space limitations, we regret that we are unable to publish articles that are significantly longer than 600 words. Authors are encouraged to read the Call for Submissions that is sent to members via e-mail about 10 days prior to the deadline. Priority will be given to articles that meet the stated guidelines, that are accompanied by photographs with captions, and are submitted by the stated deadline (see p.4 of every issue).
The Louisiana Research Collection (LaRC) at Tulane University has recently completed several new digital collections, which are being hosted on the LOUISiana Digital Library Web site. Two of them come from LaRC’s Carnival collection, and the other from the recently acquired Alfred S. Lippman collection.

The two Carnival digital collections consist of material from the Mistick Krewe of Comus, one of New Orleans’ oldest Carnival krewes. The 1873 “Missing Links” collection features the complete detailed costume designs of that year’s parade. The “Missing Links” parade was an important event in New Orleans’ Mardi Gras history, becoming one of the first major parades to use satire and political commentary. Many of the images depict figures related to the Civil War and Reconstruction, such as Ulysses S. Grant, Benjamin Butler, and Louisiana Governor Henry Warmoth. Also depicted are notable figures such as Charles Darwin, and Algernon Badger (head of the Metropolitan Police).

The second Carnival collection features the Mistick Krewe of Comus’ 1910 float designs. This collection is the complete set of float design drawings by Jennie Wilde for the 1910 Comus Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans, Louisiana. Jennie Wilde (1865-1913) was an artist who designed floats for many New Orleans Mardi Gras parades, including the Mistick Krewe of Comus and the Knights of Momus. The theme of the 1910 Comus parade was the Prophet Mahomet (Muhummad) and related subjects. These images are believed to be tracings from the original designs, possibly as a presentation copy to Comus captain, S.P. Walmsley.

The Alfred S. Lippman Postal Covers collection features Civil War period postal covers. These postal covers were part of a larger donation from Lippman in 2009. Postal covers are envelopes with printed designs commemorating an event, person, or cause. These postal covers were created during the Civil War in support of the Union, with one postal cover in support of the Confederacy.

All of the collections can be found at http://www.louisianadigitallibrary.org/index.php?institution=Tulane%20University.

Upcoming SAA Workshops in Our Region

October 22, 2010  Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) #1119
Resource Center of Dallas, Phil Johnson Historic Archives & Research Library, Dallas, TX

October 25-26, 2010  Understanding Photos: Intro to Archival Principles & Practices #1126
Texas A & M University, College Station, TX

For more information and registration forms, please visit http://www2.archivists.org/. Click on the top tab labeled Education and Events and select the Continuing Education Calendar, or link directly to http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/ConferenceList.html?Action=GetEvents.
From Yesterday’s World

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- Autobiography

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For Tomorrow’s World

- Libraries
- Museums
- Individuals
The University of Arkansas Libraries’ Special Collections Department is launching a new publication—a journal, titled *Arkansauce: The Journal of Arkansas Foodways*. John G. and Dora J. Ragsdale of Little Rock, long-time supporters of Special Collections and Arkansas history, are endowing this project. The journal will explore food history, customs, and traditions in the Natural State.

The term “foodways” refers to everyday, conventional food-related practices and traditions among a group of people. Examples include the kinds of foods prepared and eaten on a regular basis as well as the types of foods prepared for holidays and special occasions. Current practices of bringing casseroles to a bereaved family, preparing chicken soup for a sick person, roasting a turkey at Thanksgiving, and grilling hamburgers or hotdogs on the fourth of July—all represent foodways.

_Arkansauce_ will be a mix of popular and semi-scholarly articles, heavily illustrated with original documents, drawings, and photographs. It will focus on subjects such as food history, nutrition, cooking, customs, table manners, chefs, food producers and production, restaurants, cookbooks, recipes, menus for both ordinary and special occasions, the culinary heritage of minority groups, immigrants, and specific geographic regions of Arkansas, as well as food-related poetry, mythology and literature.

Rex Nelson, author of *Rex Nelson’s Southern Fried blog* (“Ruminations on barbeque, politicking, football, from gigging, trotlining, blues playing, horse racing, boxing, bird hunting, movie watching, crappie eating and other major issues of the day”) will serve as guest editor for the inaugural issue, which will be published before Christmas 2010. Nelson is a veteran journalist, one-time top assistant to former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee, and currently the senior vice president for governmental relations and public outreach for The Communications Group in Little Rock.

_Arkansauce_ will be distributed to everyone on the Special Collections departmental mailing list. Thereafter, it will be mailed free of charge to subscribers. The journal will initially be published annually, but plans are to increase the publication frequency over time.

Department head Tom W. Dillard said, “The Special Collections Department has made Arkansas culinary history one of its documentation priorities, and I believe Arkansauce is a natural extension of that work. We are indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Ragsdale for their support of our work in foodways, especially in providing support for this new journal. Arkansas foodways have received very little study in the past, so there are many interesting stories to be told. I want to invite all readers to share their ideas on how _Arkansauce_ can become a major contributor to documenting the Arkansas experience.”


Persons interested in serving as guest editor, submitting an article, or receiving the publication should contact Diane Worrell, email dfworrel@uark.edu, phone: 479-575-5330, University of Arkansas Libraries, 325 N. Mcllroy Avenue, Fayetteville, AR 72701.
Changing the Face of Power: Women in the U.S. Senate, an exhibit that was formerly on display at the Smithsonian Institution in 2003 was on loan to the Dole Institute of Politics, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas from Humanities Texas between June 11-July 23, 2010. This timely exhibit of 38 black and white photographs by photojournalist, Melina Mara, illustrates the role of women in the Senate as they go about their day-to-day work in a largely male-dominated environment.

Morgan Davis, Senior Archivist for the Dole Archive and Special Collections, noted: “There have only been 38 women in the entire history of the Senate, with 17 currently serving. This exhibit highlights the growing influence of women in the Senate while also capturing the unique challenges they face.” The exhibit was installed by Dole Interns, Kay Van Wych and Kristine Schenk, graduate students in KU’s Museum Studies Program.

Visitors view a photograph by Melina Mara showing freshman Senator Elizabeth Dole (R-NC) riding the Senate train to her swearing-in ceremony on the Senate floor. Her husband, the former Senator, Bob Dole sits at her side.

Splendid on a Large Scale
By Shelly Croteau, CA • Office of the Secretary of State, Missouri

Kim Allen Scott’s newest book, Splendid on a Large Scale: The Writings of Hans Peter Gyllenbourg Koch, Montana Territory, 1869-1874 has just been released. Jointly published by Drumlummon Institute and Bedrock Editions of Helena, Montana, the book presents the diaries and letters of a highly educated Danish immigrant who made significant contributions to the emerging EuroAmerican culture on the Montana frontier.

University educated and inherently studious, the young man known as “Peter” looked at the frontier as a great riddle of opportunity that required only unrelenting perseverance to answer, and even when his determination flagged from time to time as he worked the puzzle, he applied himself to the task as a scholar prepares for a final examination. When he decided in 1869 to seek his fortune in Montana Territory, Peter embarked on an arduous physical quest to transform his dream of prosperity into reality. His intellectual point of view differed significantly from most of the hide hunters, miners, cattlemen, and farmers among whom he sojourned, and although he spent many months in isolated locales, Peter’s frontier was primarily an urban experience.

Although his book consists of edited diaries and letters written by a Montana frontiersman, Kim is quick to point out that all of the original documents transcribed and annotated in the book are from Special Collections at Louisiana State University! Read more about Splendid on a Large Scale at http://www.drumlummon.org/html/Splendid%20on%20a%20Large%20Scale.htm.

SAA Welcomes University of Arizona Student Chapter
The SAA Council recently approved the petition to form a new SAA Student Chapter at the University of Arizona.
The Archives of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth has recently acquired from several sources many of the issues of *The Spirit of Missions*, a monthly publication of the Board of Missions of The Episcopal Church that began publication in January 1836.

This acquisition is of great historic value because *The Spirit of Missions* is now considered the most reliable source of information about the early history of The Episcopal Church in Texas. The publication’s purpose was to report on Missions efforts by The Episcopal Church. As such, it helps document the unbroken history of The Episcopal Church in North Texas from the time when what is now the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth was part of the Southwest Missionary District of The Episcopal Church under the leadership of the Rt. Rev. Leonidas Polk, the first Missionary Bishop, to the present diocese under the leadership of the Rt. Rev. C. Wallis Ohl.

This information is important because the former bishop of the diocese and many former diocesan leaders left The Episcopal Church in 2008 but are still using the name “The Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth” and are trying to retain Episcopal Church property. This is in litigation now, as The Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth that is recognized by The Episcopal Church has sued to regain its property and other assets and to stop the breakaway group from using its name.

The Archives’ acquisition includes copies of *The Spirit of Missions* from 1836 to 1850, when the state of Texas became a diocese and was no longer a missionary district of The Episcopal Church. It also includes copies from 1874 to 1895, when Dallas became a separate diocese and the area that includes the present-day dioceses of Dallas, Northwest Texas, and Fort Worth ceased being the Missionary District of Northern Texas. This includes more than 250 issues of *The Spirit of Missions*. Additionally, more than 400 issues from the period 1851 thru 1874; and 1895 to 1931 have also been acquired, bringing the total number now in the Archives of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth to nearly 700 issues.

*The Spirit of Missions* contains first hand descriptions of the missionary efforts including the first report of Bishop Polk on his first visit to Texas in 1838; an 1838 report from the Rev. Caleb Ives, first rector of the first Episcopal Church in Texas (Matagorda); reports from the Rt. Rev. George Washington Freeman, second Missionary Bishop of the Southwest Missionary district; and annual reports from Rt. Rev. Alexander Garrett, Bishop of the Missionary District of Northern Texas. Together with the personal journals (diaries) of missionaries and the Convention Journals, this is the source for all that is known and written about the early history of the Episcopal Church in Texas.

“While the purpose of the Archives is to provide a source for the study and research for clergy and lay persons of the history of The Episcopal Church, The Episcopal Church in Texas, dioceses and parishes and not to acquire antique books, in this case we have done both,” said David Leedy, historiographer of the Diocese of Fort Worth.

The Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth was formed effective January 1, 1983 when it was split off from the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas. On November 8, 2008, the bishop and the majority of the convention delegates voted to leave The Episcopal Diocese. They are seeking to keep Episcopal Church property, including the Archives and other records, a matter now in litigation.

The Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth reorganized on February 7, 2009. Since that time, in addition to this acquisition, the Archives has acquired more than seventy published works regarding the history of the Church, six pen and ink drawings of parishes in the diocese, two CD’s of music from two parishes in the diocese, and a host of documents including an appeal for funds from the first Bishop of Texas during the Civil War, an original signed certificate for an 1895 baptism performed at the first Episcopal Church founded in Fort Worth, newspaper clippings, autographed sermons from various important events, correspondence, service bulletins, newsletters, etc. Last year, the original copies of ten of the twenty Journals of the Missionary District of Northern Texas were acquired.

Leedy has recently started a project to aid parishes within the diocese to preserve, store, and catalog their photographs as well as other historical documents. Also volunteers are researching other historical events within the area now known as the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth.
This is the final article in a series recounting the renovation of the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building. The public, office, and stack spaces of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission’s 50+-year-old building have been updated, providing better research, work, and storage environments. Improvements to the facility and lessons learned by archivists and other staff during the renovation process are described below.

Redesign of the Archives, Reference, and Genealogy reading rooms reflect the accessibility inherent in the agency’s mission. Features for use by the public include new furnishings, numerous computers with Internet access, a Book-Eye scanner, data ports at tables, wireless technology, and mobile shelving for genealogy resources. To indicate accessibility and openness in the design, glass walls replaced the limestone and granite that separated the lobby from the reading rooms. A newly outfitted Conservation Lab is visible from the Archives reading room.

The most significant changes for the Archives are behind closed doors—in the stacks and processing area. Archivists now share a secure, carpeted common work area, with individual cubicles set along windowed walls, and long tables for processing projects grouped in the center. Private offices are gone, but for the first time in decades, archivists can collaborate on projects without climbing stairs or taking the elevator. In accordance with best practices, the HVAC system for the processing area is zoned to match the temperature in the stacks (set for 68°F), meaning a sweater is necessary attire even in summer.

After more than two years in an off-site warehouse, archival materials were brought back to the newly renovated stack space between December 2009 and May 2010. Archivists, with assistance from Texas Correctional Industries inmates and staff from the moving contractor, returned materials to stack floors containing new HVAC and fire suppression systems; mobile and stationary shelving configured to handle a variety of container types, including microfilm, audiocassettes, maps, artwork, and oversize volumes; spacious aisles; and 100% UV filtered lighting. The ergonomic, environmental, and mechanical benefits achieved in the stacks far outweigh any inconveniences felt during the renovation process.

Changes requested by the Texas State Fire Marshal’s Office required additional work on the fire suppression and mobile shelving systems, as well as the elevators, after archivists had already begun reshelving materials. This meant “guard duty” for archivists and other staff anytime electricians, painters, or other contractors needed stack access. A few unforeseen issues developed, including miscalculation on the space needed to open the doors of an enormous case housing the Texas Capitol drawings and the extreme weight and size of some oversize volumes requiring shelves and supports made from a heavier gauge metal.

In returning archival materials to the building, archivists realized the tracking system implemented for the record storage and manuscript size boxes had worked well, despite a few minor glitches, allowing for an accurate estimate of shelving needed. More detail regarding size and orientation of volumes and oversize or odd...
boxes would have helped staff develop a more streamlined plan for returning carts and assigning locations. In the end, the materials made it back safely and the renovation has given the Archives room for expansion in the short-term.

Staff is excited about the new work space, improved storage for materials, and an inviting environment for patrons. Though the de Zavala Building’s grand re-opening celebration is being planned for fall 2010, archivists at the de Zavala Building welcome colleagues to tour the building any time and look forward to showing off the facility when the Society of Southwest Archivists meets in Austin in 2013.

Editor’s note: Previous articles documenting the renovation appear in the following issues of Southwestern Archivist: February 2007 (p.21), February 2008 (p.17), August 2008 (p.34) and February 2009 (p.25).

View from the center of the archivists’ processing area looking toward the Accessions Archivist’s cubicle. There are windows on the left that face the Texas State Capitol.
Mark Cave recently returned from the International Oral History Association Conference in Prague, Czech Republic, where he presented the paper “An Alternative Media: Oral History in a Post Disaster Environment.”

JJ Compton was recently promoted to Assistant Professor of Technical Services & Archives at Oklahoma Christian University. She was also successful in her application for tenure, which was granted May, 2009.

Rebecca Hankins, CA was recently tenured and promoted to an Associate Professor at Texas A&M University. She also co-authored (with Miguel Juarez) a recent article published Spring 2010 issue of Art Documentation: Bulletin of the Art Libraries Society of North America titled, “Art in Special Collections: Latino and African American Fine Art and Photography Collections in Academic Institutions.”

Ann Massmann, CA University of New Mexico, is serving as a faculty member representative for the Tribal Heritage Research Program, sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Libraries with funding by the IMLS. The 2010-2012 program provides instruction, support, and funding for 20 Fellows selected from tribes across the U.S.

Richard Pearce-Moses, CA has taken a new position as director of the new Master of Archival Studies program at Clayton State University in Morrow, Georgia. The program, which began in January 2010, has a dual emphasis on archival sciences and information technology.


JoAnn Pospisil, Director of the Baylor College of Medicine Archives, presented a session on conducting and preserving oral histories at the Texas Historical Commission’s Texas Independence Trail 10th Annual Texian Rally in Schulenburg, Texas, on February 5, 2010. On May 14, she participated in the grand opening of the Michael E. DeBakey Library and Museum at Baylor College of Medicine’s Texas Medical Center campus in Houston.

Kim Allen Scott, CA has edited a new book entitled Splendid on a Large Scale: The Writings of Hans Peter Gyllembourg Koch, Montana Territory, 1869-1874.

Mark Shelstad, Head of Special Collections at the University of Texas at San Antonio, has been elected Vice-President of the Midwest Archives Conference and to the Society of American Archivists’ Nominating Committee.

Samuel Sisneros, Senior Archivist at the New Mexico State Records Center and Archives has published an article in All Trails Lead to Santa Fe: An Anthology Commemorating the 400th Anniversary of the Founding of Santa Fe, New Mexico in 1610.

Cindy Smolovik, CA and Jane Nokes, CA took part in the 8th European Conference on Digital Archiving in Geneva, Switzerland on April 26th, 2010 on behalf of the Academy of Certified Archivists. The title of the presentation was “Staying Current in Fast Changing Environment: The Academy of Certified Archivists’ New Role Delineation Statement and Certified Archivist Roll-Out Digital Projects.” Smolovik and Nokes will also be receiving the ACA Distinguished Service Award in August at the Annual Meeting in DC, in conjunction with the SAA meeting.

Sarah Walch, was hired as City Archivist in February 2010, by The City of San Antonio’s Office of the City Clerk. The City Clerk started the Archival Program at the Municipal Archives & Records Facility in 2007.

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 kate.blalack@okstate.edu.

Names of SSA members appear in bold type.

What are you planning for Archives Month 2010?
Document your activities and submit an article for the November issue of Southwestern Archivist!
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.

☐ Mr.  ☐ Ms.  ☐ Dr.  ☐ Sr.  ☐ Br.  ☐ Fr.  ☐ Other ________________

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☐ 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 this box.

☐ 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 this box.

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  
☐ Professional Development  ☐ Publications  ☐ Scholarships  ☐ Site Selection  
☐ Other interest: __________________________________________________________

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