Rese...
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.

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The SSA web page is maintained by Lee Miller at Tulane University.

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We encourage your comments, suggestions, and news articles. 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 submissions electronically or on disk. Submissions may be edited to conform to style conventions and space limitations.

Please send out-of-region submissions to:
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I’d like everyone to think about the issue of raising dues. This issue periodically comes up for the Board, but in recent years with the economy fluctuating, it has become more urgent. Currently, printing and mailing the SSA Newsletter and Membership Directory costs $17.20 per member. Advertising, postage and office supplies brought the total to $31 plus change for each member last year. While we do make money from the annual meeting, the amount varies widely from year to year. Then there is the question of the purpose of the annual meeting- is it to make money? I think not. I think it should break even, but that we should not rely upon it to make a huge profit.

The cost of goods and services has gone up, while the interest rates have gone down. While we have not lost money in our very safely invested accounts, the excellent returns on investments we used to count on are a thing of the past. No longer can we earn 12% with an FDIC-insured certificate of deposit. This means more of your dues monies need to go in to supporting the organization’s photocopying, mailing and advertising needs, as well as supporting scholarships.

SSA has two choices: increase income by raising dues or decrease expenditures. We could cut back on the scholarships and stop printing the newsletter and membership directories. But I for one enjoy reading a paper copy of the quarterly, because I never get around to reading things on-line, and also, I really support the good benefits of the scholarships. SSA committee expenditures are frugal, but costs are going up, and dues have not been increased in more then ten years.

Please consider the issue of raising dues. An ad-hoc finance committee has recommended that we raise dues to $25.00 per person. No other state or regional archival group is as low as our current $10.00 rate. Previous Boards also didn’t want to raise dues, but they did implement the “sustaining” membership category because SSA can’t support itself with only $10.00 from each person.

Contact me to ask questions, attend the annual meeting to hear the discussion, or register your support or dissension with e-mails to the president Michael McColgin (mimccol@lib.az.us) or myself at gerrianne.schaad@utsa.edu. Thank you!

SSA Needs You!
Experience - Service - Camaraderie

The Nominations Committee is looking for candidates for the following positions:

Vice-President/President elect
Executive Board (3 positions, 2 year terms)
Treasurer (2 year term)
Nominating Committee (2 year term)
Scholarship Committee (3 year term)

The responsibilities of each position can be found in the SSA’s bylaws at http://southwestarchivists.org/HTML/Leadership.htm

If you would like to serve or feel you know who the perfect candidate is, please contact the chairs of the Nominations Committee, Carol Bartels, carol@hnoc.org and John Slate, john.slate@dallascityhall.com.
A couple of weeks ago, SSA Past President Brenda Gunn emailed me, “Can you get someone there to scan your signature? We have a few more SSA/SAA grants to award, and SAA will be sending out the formal letters with the checks.” Note that Brenda did not ask me to scan my signature—she knows a Luddite when she sees one! My signature and that of SAA President Elizabeth Adkins will appear on the letters.

This has to be one of the greatest honors of my professional life and certainly of my tenure as President. I and the other officers and Board members have to do a lot of rather mundane tasks, even some that might be unpleasant, but then along comes something like this, a powerful symbol, that rises above it all. I am so proud of SSA and honored to be President.

Pretend there’s a great transition right here. Serving a leadership role in SSA can be expensive. In addition to the Board meetings at the Annual Meeting, we have traditionally had two others. Instead of boarding planes in late July, the Officers and Board members had a meeting via conference call. It went very well and we all saved significant bucks. Conference calls cannot always replace face-to-face (See that shifty-eyed weasel over there?) so we will be meeting in Albuquerque on December 1.

I ended my first missive asking you all to “get yourselves invited to conferences as speakers…, co-sponsor meetings and have some fun while doing it.” Daphne and I will be speaking at the Arizona and New Mexico Joint Historical Convention in late April. Jennifer Albin, an archivist from the Arizona State Archives, and I will be teaching two paper-mending workshops. In return for running an announcement of the convention in our newsletter, SSA will be listed as a co-sponsor!
CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS, SSA ANNUAL MEETING, 2007

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: JANUARY 15, 2007

The SSA Program Committee for the May 30-June 2, 2007, Oklahoma City meeting invites your submissions for presentations in the form of traditional panels and/or proposals for leading less formal open forum discussions. We encourage creative and timely presentations that engage archivists and records managers from all types of organizations and institutions. Though full panel sessions are preferred, individual proposals will also be considered.

Early proposal submissions are encouraged! Requests for specific days and times will be honored as much as possible with complete proposals (all speakers and topics, audio-visual needs, etc.).

Need some ideas?

- Advocacy vs. politics what is appropriate?
- Archival Management
- Controversial documents or controversies in the archives
- Disaster Recovery vs. Disaster Planning
- Donor relations
- Ephemera collections
- Electronic records/digital collections
- Grant success
- High profile collections
- Moving, building construction
- Museum archives
- Public Service: dealing with difficult patrons
- Preservation and conservation topics
- Records Management
- Special Collections in a university and/or public institution

The Program Committee welcomes your questions!

Members of the committee include:
Tim Blevins (tblevins@ppld.org)
Kay Bost (kay.bost@okstate.edu)
Brenda Gunn (bgunn@mail.utexas.edu)
Carol Roark (croark@dallaslibrary.org)
and Cindy Smolovik (cindy.smolovik@nara.gov)

Please submit your proposals by Monday, January 15, 2007 to:
Tim Blevins, Pikes Peak Library District
P.O. Box 1579
Colorado Springs, CO 80901
or email: tblevins@ppld.org
Acting Curator of the Labriola National American Indian Data Center, Joyce Martin, and Associate Dean of the Arizona State University Library, Dr. John Howard, attended a planning meeting of American Indian Programs on campus in September 2006. One item which came out of this meeting was the possibility of ASU hosting a debate between the top two candidates in the upcoming November 7th Navajo Nation election. Right away Dr. Howard saw an opportunity for the Library to get involved; he suggested the University Library could house the dvd of the debate and offer the debate on our web site as a streaming video.

Due to scheduling conflicts, the debate was cancelled and then much to our surprise was back on just five days before the event was to occur. By this time the crew scheduled to film the debate were already obligated to other events, so the Labriola Center and the University Library stepped up again and offered to record the event. With the technical expertise of Matthew Harp, Matt Trobaugh, and Rob Fidler assisted by the College of Law Instructional Technology department, the library was able to produce a professional quality recording of this historic event, which will now be archived in digital and hard copy form in the ASU University Library. You are invited to view the Navajo Nation Presidential Debate held in Armstrong Hall at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law on the ASU Library Channel. All videos are in the Quicktime format and will require the latest installed version.

On Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2006 the two Navajo Nation presidential candidates – current President Joe Shirley, Jr., and Lynda Lovejoy – participated in a moderated discussion with questions from four panelist and additional audience questions. The debate was hosted by the Phoenix Indian Center, Arizona State University American Indian Policy and Leadership Development Center and Indian Legal Program, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law. Patricia Hibbeler, CEO of the Phoenix Indian Center, moderated the event. The panelists were Charlene D. Jackson, Robert W. Roessel, Loren Tapahe, Freddie Johnson. They posed 8 total questions to the candidates with two minutes for each candidates response and a one minute rebuttal.

Questions covered the following topics: Blood quantum; The urban Navajo; The economy on the Navajo reservation (jobs, casinos); Intergovernmental agreements; Meth use and gangs on the reservation; Culture and language preservation; Employment; Involvement of off reservation Navajo people in tribal politics.

Voter Forum questions were solicited from the audience and were asked of the candidates by the moderator. The questions covered the following topics: Vice presidential candidates; Communities on the reservation without running water and electricity; Casinos; How to serve the growing elderly and youth populations. Closing remarks by the candidates followed. Ben Hanley, former congressman and consultant, spoke to conclude the event.

A DVD of the event will be available for viewing in the Labriola National American Indian Data Center on the second floor of Hayden Library on the ASU Tempe campus from 11AM - 5PM Monday - Friday.

The Debate video was produced by the ASU Library Channel production team and the College of Law Instructional Technology department. Visit http://www.asu.edu/lib/librarychannel/video/video7.htm.
The Society of Southwest Archivists established the Distinguished Service Award, sponsored by Metal Edge, Inc. to recognize and honor an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the Society and the archival profession over a number of years.

Our recipient this year has been an active member of SSA since 1974 and has participated in a large number of various committees, as one might expect of an active member of more than thirty years.

With regard to his contributions to the Society, one must go back into the written history of the first two decades of SSA to uncover his earliest recorded committee participation, serving on the 1982 Local Arrangements Committee. In 1985 he collected, edited and printed the “Proceedings of the 13th Annual Meeting of the SSA” including the pre-conference workshop and all four sessions. At the Tulsa, Oklahoma 1986 annual meeting he lead an “Archivists on Ice” extravaganza at the Williams Center.

Despite or because of this display, members popularly elected him to the Executive Board in 1989. He has also served on the nominations committee twice...and was talked into chairing that committee on a third occasion. He has assisted with the newsletter, served as a member of the Distinguished Service Award committee, and chaired the now little known Resolutions Committee. Many might say his committee chair of choice was the sadly now defunct – though let that be no negative reflection on him – nay it would not have survived for so long without him – Professional and Public Affairs Committee.

The opening statement from a letter supporting his DSA nomination says it best, “If David Gracy is the evangelist for archives, then Paul Robert Scott has served as an active missionary in the field for over 35 years.”

This letter outlines his service to the Profession in detail:

“While a graduate student, he worked part time at the NARA Records Center in Fort Worth. In 1973, Paul was hired as one of the first Texas State Field Archivists for the Local Records Department of the Texas State Archives.” As field archivist for East Texas, he worked “with counties, cities, schools, special districts and even some state agencies and courts” appraising and inventorying records, recommending which records with historic value be transferred to the local Regional Historic Records Depository facility and then physically transferring the records.
He was instrumental in writing the first Texas County Records Manual in 1978, the Texas Municipal Records Manual in 1985, and assisted with all of the other record schedules for local government records. He worked with the Utah Genealogical Society in microfilming selected county records throughout Texas and authored or co-authored seven county records inventory manuals in addition to producing numerous articles and presentations on the use of local records, local history, the Civil War and Reconstruction, and military history. He continues to be one of the most knowledgeable people in Texas on the history of local government records.

In 1988 he became the first records manager for Harris County, the third largest county in the United States, and immediately advocated the establishment of an archives for the Harris County governmental records. For fifteen years he advocated for a county archives. Finally in 2003 the Harris County Commissioners Court approved the establishment of the only county archives in the state of Texas.

He became a Certified Archivist in 1989, and likely as a result of his records manager position with Harris County, he officially succumbed to “the dark side” by becoming a Certified Records Manager in 2004.

One of Paul’s job functions for Harris County is to monitor bills being introduced into the Texas legislature for their potential impact on his department. In this manner, Paul has developed into something of a watchdog, as well as an advocate, for Archives. Here are just two examples where Paul might say he was just doing his job, but in both cases he significantly identified language in bills that could have inadvertently weakened our profession.

In March 1998 Paul Scott testified --on behalf of the SSA-- before the Texas Senate Interim Committee on Public Information regarding-- the lack of authority in the Texas Public Information Act for archives to collect a publication fee. In October 1998, Paul was contacted by Senator Wentworth’s office concerning his testimony and the changes were adopted.

In the last session (2005) Paul recognized potential problems for archives and records managers in Texas HB698. He coordinated support from SSA, AHA and ARMA (Houston & Fort Worth) to write letters to state legislators. He then helped draft the language that would improve the legislation. The legislature adopted the language which exempts “a professionally managed historical repository” from being required to destroy business records.

I went back and checked over my emails regarding last years session and would you ever guess that Paul did not take any credit for his role. He gave all the credit to the various organizations and members that sent letters – and the letters were largely based on his information and his observations. We might never have noticed this bill if it hadn’t been for Paul.

An employee of his, and no this is not one of the inmates he has working around the records center, writes, “He gives all the credit to his subordinates when it’s his leadership and knowledge that allow things to happen here. I consider myself to be very blessed to have him for a boss.”

Some of you may not know that Paul is a Marine veteran who served honorably in Vietnam. He is very humble. He is not self-promoting (which is why today’s award is so extremely necessary). However, he is well-known, well-liked, and well-respected.

Continued on following page
He is also extremely generous. Many of you who have attended this meeting on a regular basis for the past five years are familiar with that first SLOTTO drawing of the day. It is traditionally for ... more tickets. Those tickets are generated from Paul Scott’s SLOTTO contribution. For the past five years he has been the number one SLOTTO donor, though he does not take home a single SLOTTO prize.

Another story about Paul comes from a Houston archivist who writes, “When I was a baby archivist, not too long ago, I happened to be talking to Chris LaPlante about landing a job in Houston, and he said the one person I should get to know in Houston was Paul Scott, as he was an extremely friendly, helpful and experienced archivist. I took Chris’ advice, and have been the better ever since. I have never met a nicer, more helpful person, who is a very experienced professional, willing to share his skills and advice with others.”

I should take the moment to mention that SSA is not the only recipient of Paul’s good advice, time and talent. He is an active member (and we’ve already heard Paul’s definition of being an “active member”) of the Society of American Archivists, the Archivists of the Houston Area (AHA!), the Association of Records Managers and Administrators (ARMA), the East Texas Historical Society, the Texas State Historical Association, the Southern Historical Association, the Harris County Historical Commission (big breath) AND the Spring Genealogical and Historical Society.

I’d like to let you in on a recent comment he’s made. He said, “Being an archivist is something like being a Baptist, “Once saved, always saved.” The difference is that you don’t have to continue tithing to be saved but you had dad-gummed well pay your SAA, SSA, AHA!, and ACA dues if you want to remain an archivist.”

Paul, you’ve always paid your dues. And now it’s time for you to be recognized with our 2006 Distinguished Service Award for your years of experience, dedication, devotion, and friendship.

Congratulations, Paul!

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**DOMINICAN SISTERS ACQUIRE 1913 MAP OF ROSARYVILLE, LA**
Submitted by Dorothy Dawes, O.P.

The Archives of the Dominican Sisters, Congregation of St. Mary has recently acquired a hand-drawn map, approximately 28” x 34” dating back to the acquisition by the Dominican Friars of Holy Rosary Province, Madrid, of the 2000-acre property near Ponchatoula, Louisiana known as Rosaryville since 1911. The title (in Spanish) reads “Plano Topografico de las Tierras que Comprende la Posesion de los Revdos Padres Dominicos en Ponchatoula La.”

The land is carefully drawn with treetops covering the largely wooded area marked “Bosques de cypres, magnolia y pinos,” showing “Rio Natalbany and Rio Ponchatoula” along its western, southern and eastern borders, wetlands, and other topographical features. Names of neighboring property owners, and sawmills are recorded. The scale is given in English and metric (“1:10,000 metros”) systems. The work, dated “15 de Septiembre de 1913,” is signed by the artist/draftsman, possibly one of the Spanish Dominican Friars, who established a seminary college in the picturesque location and who remained there until 1938, when the Dominican Sisters acquired it from them. The sisters own 1700 acres today; as Rosaryville Spirit Life Center the place serves for retreats and conferences.

**CARL ALBERT CENTER CONGRESSIONAL ARCHIVES RECEIVES EXHIBIT GRANT**
Submitted by Carolyn Hanneman

The Oklahoma Humanities Council recently awarded the Carl Albert Center Congressional Archives a grant to assist with the fabrication of a free-standing exhibit and an online exhibit entitled, “We Know We Belong to the Land—A Hundred Years of Oklahoma and the Congress.” Libraries across Oklahoma will host the exhibit during the state’s centennial year of 2007.
In preparation for the Cameron University Centennial, 1908-1909, the Cameron University Archives, Lawton, Oklahoma, is pleased to announce a joint newspaper project between the University Archives and the Research Division of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Mr. William D Welge, Director of the Research Division, has made microfilm copies of Lawton-area newspapers available on loan to the University Archives for scanning purposes. There are a total of 951 reels of newspapers which date from 1901, when the city of Lawton was established, through 2001. Jeanne Gaunce, University Archivist, retrieves 15-20 reels of microfilm each week from the Research Division in Oklahoma City and returns them the following week. Anticipated project end date is December 2007. Mr. Welge, concerned with the summer genealogist researchers who might need access to the microfilm, stipulated that the project be discontinued through heaviest traffic months at the Research Center. Therefore, the project will be suspended between the middle of May through the first of September 2007.

The University Archives plans to use the digitized images and converted PDF files on its web site, in exhibits, and to make print copies available to researchers. Articles of particular interest include the establishment of Cameron as an Agricultural High School in 1908 through its various name and status changes. These articles document Cameron’s growth from its first graduating high school class of four members, to a Junior College, a four-year College, to its current status as a State University. Cameron University offers six Master’s Degrees and has a fall 2006 enrollment of over 4000 full-time students.

Other types of articles scanned will document student life, campus changes, sporting events and championships, faculty and staff, leadership changes, and other items of community and Cameron interest. During the early stages of this project, new information about a devastating 1929 fire was discovered. The fire “...consumed all the farm equipment of the school and half a dozen automobiles...” and a frame tool shed.

The cooperation between the Research Division of the Oklahoma Historical Society and the Cameron University Archives on this project is an example of the support promoted between the Historical Society and its fellow institutions.

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD NOMINATIONS INVITED**

SSA is now accepting nominations for the Society’s most prestigious honor, the Distinguished Service Award. Given since 1977, the award recognizes an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the Society of Southwest Archivists and the archival profession. This award, sponsored by Metal Edge Inc., will be presented at the 2007 Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City during the business meeting.

**Nominations must be received by Monday, January 15, 2007.**

There is no nomination form. Instead, nominations should be made in a letter that covers the contributions the nominee has made to SSA and to the profession. To strengthen the nomination, letters of support are encouraged.

For further information, contact Brenda Gunn, Chair of the DSA Committee, and forward via mail or email the nominations to Brenda at the following:

Brenda Gunn  
Center for American History  
University of Texas at Austin  
1 University Station, D1100  
Austin, Texas 78712  
bgunn@mail.utexas.edu  
512-495-4385
At a ceremony held September 15, 2006, the Edmon Low Library at Oklahoma State University opened the Paul Miller Reading Room. The room, named for journalist and alumnus Paul Miller, offers a beautiful and quiet place for researchers using the Library’s special collections and university archives. The ceremony was timed to nearly coincide with the 100th anniversary of Miller’s birth, September 28, 1906, and featured remarks from renowned journalist Gregory Favre of the Poynter Institute and an official proclamation from Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry. From traditional American roots Paul Miller rose to a position of international influence in both the Gannett Corporation and Associated Press. His decades of leadership provided a legacy in the realms of journalism that will endure for generations.

Miller’s own experiences in the newspaper world began in communities in Oklahoma. While still in high school, he reported for the Pawhuska Daily Journal and even served briefly as city editor. During college, he worked for the Daily Oklahoman as well as on student newspapers at the University of Oklahoma and at Oklahoma A&M College, from which he graduated in 1931 after having taken a year out to be publisher and reporter for yet another newspaper, the Okemah Daily Leader.

As president and chief executive officer of the Gannett Corporation from 1957 to 1978, and as president and chairman of Associated Press from 1963 to 1977, Miller traveled widely, reporting on current events as well as political, social and cultural aspects of the countries visited. He met with presidents and other world leaders and served as the national spokesman on journalistic affairs. In the latter activity, he encouraged journalism to grow and keep up with changes in society as well as with developing technologies and to preserve its integrity. Miller maintained that “Our actions must be determined not by mere compliance with state or federal law, not by public attitudes, but on the basis of doing the right thing.”

The OSU Library is grateful to the Miller family for providing funds for the renovation of the room and is proud to house the Paul Miller Papers. The collection consists of general correspondence, speeches, columns and photographs of Miller, as well as similar material and memorabilia related to Associated Press, the Gannett Corporation and other newspaper, radio and television organizations with which Miller was involved. In addition to providing biographical information on Miller and other leaders of the Gannett Group, the material in this collection helps to document four decades of world affairs and developments in journalism and broadcasting.

The University of Texas at San Antonio Archives staff has created a blog to journal a group processing project. The group will process a collection of family papers from beginning to end and document the process along the way, including planning the arrangement of the documents, the discovery of unique documents, dealing with preservation issues, and any problems or issues they might encounter with the collection and/or the decision to blog it. By blogging the project, the staff hopes to be able to share the experiences of the group project with many communities: UTSA students, students in archives and library science programs, historians, UTSA Library staff, researchers, archivists, family and friends, and anyone else that might stumble upon the blog. And the blog may also be a learning tool for planning future group projects.

Please visit the UTSA Archives Group Project on the web at: http://www.utsa-archives.blogspot.com/
Reavis Papers on Waco Siege Now Available
Submitted by Joel Minor

Texas State University at San Marcos’ Southwestern Writers Collection (SWWC) is proud to announce the opening of the Dick J. Reavis Papers for research.

An award-winning Texas journalist and a former Senior Editor at Texas Monthly, Dick Reavis was already a veteran agitator for social justice by his mid-20s, and in the early 1970s searching for adventure and honesty, he turned to a career in journalism.

The archival materials Reavis has donated to Texas State contain highlights of his storied career, including his first-hand reports on illegal immigrants, peasant guerrillas in Latin America, and an outlaw motorcycle gang in Fort Worth, to name a few. His writing has given voice to traditionally under-documented and misrepresented groups in Texas and Mexico.

Most prominent in the papers are the research materials for his in-depth investigation into the 1993 Branch Davidian stand-off near Waco. The result of this research was the book, The Ashes of Waco, one of the more unbiased accounts of the siege, what led up to it, and what immediately resulted.

Reavis’ papers provide the most complete and open collection of materials on the Waco incident available to researchers, and they have already been used as sources for two documentaries, including “Assault on Waco,” recently aired on the Discovery Channel.

Also well documented in the papers is his serialized “National Tour of Texas” story for Texas Monthly, when Reavis traveled every official highway mile of the Lone Star State in one year. His logbooks, postcards, journals, slide photographs, correspondence and other records in the Collection make for a fascinating snapshot of everywhere, Texas, in 1987.

Reavis has written many articles for Texas Monthly and has also reported for many publications across the state, including San Antonio Light, Dallas Observer, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Texas Observer and San Antonio Express-News. He has authored five books and currently teaches future journalists as an assistant professor of English at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC.

“People of Dallas: A Confluence of Cultures”
Submitted by Brian Collins

There are many ethnic groups – people of different races or cultural backgrounds - that call Dallas home, and each has their own individual story and experience. The time period in which these groups arrive, the number of individuals that stay, and the places they eventually settle all contribute to their unique experience. The presence of these different groups that converged upon Dallas over many years forged communities where none had previously existed and forever changed the face and makeup of this Southwestern city. It is the people of a city that shape its governments and cultural landscape. This exhibition explores the confluence of these people and celebrates the diversity that is Dallas.

“People of Dallas: A Confluence of Cultures” will run through November 30 in the 7th floor reading room of the Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division in the J. Erik Jonsson location of the Dallas Public Library. If you have questions, please call 214-670-1435.

“Mapping the Sacred” Exhibit Opens at UT Arlington
Submitted by Ann Hodges

Special Collections at The University of Texas at Arlington Library announces the opening of our Fall 2006 exhibit, “Mapping the Sacred: Belief and Religion in the History of Cartography”. The exhibit was curated by Ben Huseman in conjunction with the Virginia Garrett Lectures on the History of Cartography, which were held on October 6, 2006 at the UT Arlington Library. Huseman also authored a comprehensive exhibit catalog to accompany the display of numerous maps, atlases, and globes. Special Collections’ Exhibits and Outreach Assistant, Christian Clark, installed the exhibit.

Russell Martin and SMU’s DeGolyer Library graciously loaned several items included in the exhibit. The exhibit may be viewed through January 2007. More information about the exhibit can be found in Ben’s Fall 2006 Compass Rose article, “Fall Exhibit Focuses on Maps and Religion,” or by contacting him at 817/272-0633 or huseman@uta.edu. Copies of the Compass Rose and the exhibit catalog may be obtained from Special Collections at 817/272-3393.
The Clerk of Court of West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana, Mrs. Felicia Ann Hendl, has received a Preservation Assistance grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to engage an archivist familiar with the use and management of court, conveyance, and mortgage records to conduct a preservation assessment of the records of the clerk’s office. The office contains a wealth of historic and current records dating primarily from 1811 to the present, including some 15,000 case records, along with hundreds of bound volumes. Many of these document the more than 35 multi-acre National Register properties in the parish, along with the local National Register Historic District in the town of St. Francisville, as well as suits filed over the years from Angola, the nearby state penitentiary.

Implementation of the assessment, along with a workshop for staff and volunteers planned with a consulting conservator and a professional bookbinder was scheduled for 2005. Owing to the effects of Hurricane Katrina, the clerk postponed the project until recently. The first phase of the project was recently completed with support from the parish and from local citizens. James Stroud, Assistant Director and Chief Conservator of the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas at Austin conducted a highly successful basic conservation workshop. Scott Williams of Louisiana Binding, Inc. also explained the intricacies of oversewn bookbinding and the problems of post binding commonly found in a courthouse setting. Sally K. Reeves served as archival consultant, grant writer, and project director. The project will result in a conservation, security, reformatting and user management and access plan for office records, as well as an in-depth inventory suitable for publishing on the office Web site.

The University Libraries Special Collections Department announces the publication of Donald Harington and His Stay More Novels: A Celebration of 35 Years. Special Collections held a “Stay More Reunion” on December 2, 2005 in honor of the 35th anniversary of the publication of Lightening Bug, the first of Donald Harington’s novels set in the mythical town of Stay More, Newton County, Arkansas.

Bob Razer, a veteran librarian at the Central Arkansas Library System in Little Rock and an authority on Arkansas literature, gave the keynote address at the celebration. His remarks are published in full in the booklet and provide a humorous tribute to and evaluation of Harington’s life and work.

The booklet also features an introduction by Tom Dillard, head of Special Collections, and a bibliography of Harington’s work and secondary sources compiled by Andrea Cantrell of the Special Collections staff. Illustrations, such as Harington’s hand-drawn map of Stay More and photos of the Stay More reunion, enliven the text. The booklet concludes with the full text of the Stay Moron’s Oath, as sworn by attendees of the reunion before being declared official Stay Morons by Harington.

Copies of the booklet may be obtained free of charge by contacting Special Collections by mail at 365 N. McIlroy Avenue Fayetteville, AR 72701-4002, or by telephone at (479) 575-5577, or by email at specoll@uark.edu.
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When Hightower ran for Congress in 1975, he began using a West Texas windmill on all his campaign materials. The exhibit continues this tradition with a 4’x16’ collage of windmills and campaign materials rising above an 11’ rustic wooden windmill in the atrium of the exhibit area. In honor of Judge Hightower’s 80th birthday on September 6th, a 4’ x 15’ birthday windmill was designed using his name as the body of the windmill with eighty candles around the blades. Also as part of the celebration, the library sent hundreds of requests to friends and colleagues of the Hightowers asking them to send letters and cards. These have been archived in special binders and presented to the Hightowers.

Other graphics in the exhibit include two large 4’ x 15’ black and white collages hung above the exhibit cases using photographs of Hightower’s career and of his family. There are also two smaller graphics, 3’x6,’ using scripture and photographs to honor the commitment of the Hightowers to their church. Patriotic bunting is above the collages along the top of the 15’ high exhibit area.

Various exhibits throughout the library emphasize Hightower’s love for Baylor, his passion for collecting books and materials about Abraham Lincoln, his life-long quest for books signed by U.S. presidents and other political figures, and his 70-year hobby of making scrapbooks. An exhibit honoring Colleen Hightower’s 55-year career as a church organist, wife, mother, and grandmother is featured as well.

In addition to numerous historical items given to the library including documents related to the early history of Texas, Judge Hightower has also agreed to deposit his signed book collection of over 2,700 volumes in our library. To accommodate this gift, the library has been converting half of the reading room into a book vault with glass walls, granite flooring and custom walnut cases with glass shelves. Library development is currently engaged in a campaign to raise $80,000 to complete the room.

Most of the work on the exhibit and other projects was done by Baylor students. Two museum studies graduate students worked all summer to design nine exhibit cases. Other students created five additional exhibits this fall. An undergraduate student began making collages last Spring. Another student scanned the graphics and resized them for the plotter located in the main library. Eleven oversize graphics were created for the exhibit by students.

An online Press Kit was also created and letters were sent to West Texas newspapers asking them to run a story about the Hightowers. The Press Kit also includes the contents of a 16-page commemorative booklet published for the event by the staff. This full-color publication will be distributed at a reception for the Hightowers in the library on November 30th. An Archive Week Open House for the exhibit was held on October 20th. Anyone passing through Waco this fall is encouraged to stop by and visit the exhibit. You can also visit the Press Kit web site for information about the Hightowers: http://www3.baylor.edu/Library/BCPM/Hightower/presskit.htm
An exhibit of photographs, ephemera, and memorabilia documenting the past one hundred years of the State Fair of Louisiana will be on display at the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum from October 8 through December 7, 2006. LSUS Archives and Special Collections, which holds the Louisiana State Fair Association Records, has mounted over 100 images for the exhibit, which is curated by Nita Cole of the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum located on the fairgrounds in Shreveport. The exhibit will feature posters, postcards, photographs, and tickets dating back to the 1906 State Fair.

After a few false starts in the late 1870s and 1880s, the State Fair of Louisiana, as it has existed for the past 100 years, was organized by popular subscription in the form of stock certificates that did not pay dividends but would indicate that the holder of the certificates had contributed as a citizen to improve the region’s agricultural resources, an effort that gained momentum following the invasion of the boll weevil in 1893. The slogan was “It’s Your Fair—So Be There,” and crowds have been there annually since November 1906, with the exception of 1918 when the influenza epidemic forced the event to be called off at the last minute. The exhibit highlights not only agricultural events, but many other highlights of the ten-day exposition, such as football games, musical productions, horse and automobile races, rodeos, circus vaudeville acts, sky divers and dare devils, the Gladway, and the Better Baby Contest, a perennial favorite in which babies were as carefully measured and judged as livestock (but not auctioned off!). Also featured are the contributions of former state fair presidents, including W.R. Hirsch, who served as president of the state fair from 1916 until 1954 and founded the Hirsch Memorial Coliseum, which became a refuge for many south Louisianians in the months following hurricane Katrina.

By 1978, Louisiana State Fair ranked 18th among United States and Canadian expositions and third among the United States fairs running ten days or less. In 1986 the exposition set a record for attendance but in recent years has seen its crowds diminish with the advent of new forms of amusement and entertainment and an increasingly urban economy.

The Louisiana State Fair Centennial exhibit, which opens with a reception for the public on October 8, 2006, provides a nostalgic look back at one of the happiest public institutions of the twentieth century. The display will run through December 7, 2006.

The Louisiana State Exhibit Museum is operated and managed by the Louisiana Secretary of State’s Office. Museum hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, noon until 4 p.m.

Images courtesy of the Louisiana State Fair Association Records, LSUS Archives and Special Collections.
Beyond Labels: Exploring New Mexico’s Chicanesque Author
Jim Sagel at the Benson Latin American Collection

Submitted by Christian Kelleher

The Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection at the University of Texas at Austin is pleased to announce the opening of the Jim Sagel Papers. Sagel (1947-1998) is recognized as one of the foremost Chicanesque writers in the United States, having authored dozens of bilingual publications, including award winning collections of poetry, short stories, and essays, as well as a children’s book series and dramatic works. The collection, measuring over 55 linear feet, contains the correspondence, biographical material, drafts of written works, talks, teaching materials, and photos of the renowned New Mexican author.

Sagel, a Colorado native of Prussian descent, moved to Española, New Mexico in 1969, where he met and married weaver Teresa Archuleta. Upon realizing that much of his immediate community spoke Spanish, Sagel learned the local New Mexican dialect with the help of the Archuleta family. As he lived and taught in northern New Mexico, Sagel’s talent with the Spanish language grew, and in 1981 he published three collections of bilingual poetry. These books marked the beginning of Sagel’s career as a bilingual, bicultural author, characteristics that would define his writing for the next seventeen years.

In 1981, Sagel won the Premio Casa de las Américas literary prize and drew the attention of the Chicano literary community. Sagel’s Spanish-language story collection *Tunomás Honey* received the award for best short story, making him only the second American citizen to have won the Cuban prize up to that time. Although the award brought Sagel recognition as an author, it led to controversy, as Sagel’s Anglo ethnicity proved difficult to reconcile with the regional Hispano themes, language and cultural references central to his writing. Consequently, the term “Chicanesque,” indicating a work whose non-Chicano author sympathetically writes about a Chicano-related subject, was applied to his texts by Chicano literary critics.


In addition to teaching creative writing, literature and Spanish language at local colleges, Sagel was also a free-lance journalist for several newspapers and magazines, including the *Albuquerque Journal* and *New Mexico Magazine*. Sagel’s hundreds of articles read like a who’s who of Northern New Mexico’s cultural producers and institutions. The Benson’s collection includes notes and photos from the interviews he conducted, the articles themselves, and Sagel’s published collection of selected articles, “Dancing to Pay the Light Bill” (1992). In 1990, Sagel and photographer Jim Parsons compiled *Straight from the Heart: Portraits of Traditional Hispanic Musicians*, a photo compendium of traditional New Mexican singers accompanied by Sagel’s introspective text.


Continued on next page
Jim’s Sagel’s assimilation of New Mexican culture was as much personal as it was linguistic and literary; he embraced the people, folklore, and history of the region. Sagel’s correspondence with other authors, including Narsario García, José Antonio Burciaga, Sandra Cisneros and Denise Chávez, testifies to his deep integration into the Hispano literary community. Scholars of Hispanic literature, folklore, cultural studies, and bilingual creative writing will find this collection an excellent source of primary information on these topics, as well as on Sagel himself.

The Jim Sagel Papers are open to researchers in the Benson Collection’s rare books and manuscripts reading room Monday through Saturday. The collection’s finding aid may be found on the Texas Archival Resources Online (TARO) website at: http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/utlac/00190/lac-00190.html.

MCNEEOE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES COLLABORATES WITH SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
Submitted by Kathie Bordelon

The McNeese Archives Department works very closely with the Southwest Louisiana Historical Association. The two groups have recently been involved in two projects of significance to their area.

The first included the securing and placement of an historical marker in DeQuincy, Louisiana, on the site of the former Newport Industries. The text of the marker reads: “Between 1890 and 1930, large lumber companies moved into southwest Louisiana to harvest Longleaf Pine. After 1930, most of the companies ended logging operations, leaving thousands of acres of pine stumps. In 1919, W. Burns Logan, Sr., a chemical engineer, arrived in DeQuincy to explore the possibility of processing the pine stumps into pine oil, turpentine, and rosin. Logan found the area rife with high quality pine stumps and established the Acme Products Company. The Acme plant stood on 26 acres at the southeast intersection of Highways 12 and 27. Purchased by Newport Industries in 1928, the plant soon employed as many as 450 men. Independent contractors, known as “stumpers,” provided the raw materials. Stumpers dynamited the stumps from the ground and transported them to the plant for processing.

The second project involved the production of a new book, More Stories from Imperial Calcasieu, a compilation of historical articles written by Mike Jones, of the Lake Charles American Press, from 1990 to 2004. This book is an update of a previous project where Jones’s articles since 1979 were printed in three volumes, Citizen Soldiers: Southwest Louisianians Defend the Nation, Southwest Louisiana in the War Between the States, and Adventures in Old Calcasieu. The sale of these volumes was a successful fund raiser for the Historical Association and the Friends of the Library.

The current book, More Stories from Imperial Calcasieu, contains approximately 300 historical articles covering a wide range of topics.

The McNeese Archives has also recently developed a project to put local history publications online. The first title available as a full-text searchable electronic resource is Stewart Alfred Ferguson’s History of Lake Charles, Louisiana which is now accessible at: http://library.mcneese.edu/depts/archive/ferguson.htm. The Archives hopes to do the same for several other historically valuable publications, such as R. Brantley Cagle’s The Political Development of the City of Lake Charles, 1890-1930, Theodore John Ratliff’s The Life and Services to Public Education of John McNeese, and Dr. Donald J. Millet’s The Economic Development of Southwest Louisiana, 1865-1900. These publications will also be full-text searchable electronic resources – a very useful feature since these books are not indexed. As such they will be cataloged and accessible through the library’s online catalog in addition to being accessible through the Archives website.

After this initial phase the McNeese University Archives plans to expand the project to include more titles representing different aspects of the history of the area, such as industry, agriculture, biography, and religion, as well as histories of the other parishes in Southwest Louisiana (Allen, Beauregard, Cameron, and Jeff Davis).
The Tarlton Law Library’s newest oral history publications feature interviews with three University of Texas law professors: Hans W. Baade, Robert O. Dawson and J. Leon Lebowitz. The three interviews add to the Tarlton Law Library Oral History Series. “Tarlton’s oral histories honor the service and contributions of the School of Law’s faculty and alumni,” said Professor Roy M. Mersky, Harry M. Reasoner Regents Chair in Law and Director of Research. “Through these oral histories, a wide audience can appreciate the character and personality of individuals whose public accomplishments are well-known.” The series includes two recently published interviews with Joe Jamail, Jr. and Harry Reasoner, two distinguished alumni of The University of Texas School of Law. Interviews with five other faculty and alumni are forthcoming, including Professor Russell Weintraub, Judge James DeAnda, Professor J. Patrick Hazel, Justice Oscar Mauzy and James W. McCartney.

Hans W. Baade, Robert O. Dawson and J. Leon Lebowitz each had long and distinguished careers at The University of Texas School of Law. Hans W. Baade, a professor emeritus, has taught courses in comparative law, conflict of laws and international law. He is a recognized specialist in water law, and has consulted on several historic land title and water law cases in New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi. In addition, he has consulted on several cases involving international art theft. Professor Baade is an expert on the legal history of the Southwest and of Louisiana. His oral history covers his legal education, his consulting activities, his teaching career, his legal history interests, changes at the School of Law, and School of Law traditions.

Robert Dawson, who passed away in 2005, co-founded The University of Texas School of Law’s Criminal Defense Clinic and the Actual Innocence Clinic, two of the first legal clinics at the Law School. Professor Dawson was active in juvenile justice, authored several books on the subject, and drafted much of the juvenile justice legislation enacted by the Legislature over the last thirty years. In his interview, Professor Dawson discusses his legal education, his work in juvenile and criminal justice, the clinics he began at the School of Law and their role in legal education, equine law, and his interests outside the School of Law.

J. Leon Lebowitz, a professor emeritus, began his career at the School of Law in 1955 as one of the only Jewish members on the UT Law faculty. A specialist in corporate and business law, Professor Lebowitz introduced courses in business associations, securities regulation and corporate finance, topics that at the time were hardly taught at any other law school. Prior to coming to the School of Law, Professor Lebowitz was on the State Bar committee that drafted the Business Corporation Act for Texas. Professor Lebowitz’s oral history covers the history of Baylor Law School and of legal education in Texas, his military service during World War II, his teaching career, Austin and the University in the 1950s, and recollections about the School of Law staff and facilities.

Tarlton Law Library began collecting oral history interviews in 1986, when a grant from the Texas Sesquicentennial Commission enabled the Library to conduct five oral history interviews. The interviewees were all graduates of The University of Texas School of Law whose careers shaped the Law School and the legal history of Texas: Robert Calvert, Joe R. Greenhill, Sr., and Jack Pope as Chief Justices of the Supreme Court of Texas, W. Page Keeton as the long-time dean of the Law School, and Gus M. Hodges as one of the school’s most colorful professors. Since that time, more than ten interviews have been conducted with School of Law faculty and alumni, and the Law Library is arranging for more.

For a complete listing of oral histories in the Tarlton Law Library Oral History Collection, see http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/rare/oralhistory.html.
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ARIZONA STATE ARCHIVES:
October 4: Author Lecture: Rita Ackerman “OK Corral Postscript: The Death of Ike Clanton.”
October 11: Archives Film Festival: Selection of historic 30-60 minute films.
October 17: Archivists’ Roundtable: “Archivists At Work.” ASU Campus.
October 18: “How Do I Preserve This?” Patrons brought in documents and photos for consultations with staff.
October 25: “What do Archivists do?: See the steps Archivists take to make records available to the public.”
Featured demonstrations on processing and storage of historic materials.
“Behind the Scenes” tours of “Arizona’s Attic.”

ARCHIVISTS OF THE HOUSTON AREA:
October 5: Tour the collection facility of the Houston Heritage Society with Wallace Saage, Curator of Collections.
October 18: Dinner mixer
October 26: Workshop: Takin’ It To The Streets: The Basics of Archives II, University of Houston - Clear Lake. The Basics of Archives is a national course that was developed specifically for those who work with historical records and have no formal training. Sponsored by SSA.

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY AT SAN MARCOS:
October 20: Archives Week reception and “fair” on the campus of Texas State University-San Marcos. Archivists, curators, librarians, and other custodians of archival resources were cordially invited to attend.
Goals included:
* providing an opportunity for archivists in the region to get together;
* introducing students (and others) to archival resources in the region;
* celebrating archives!
There was an opening reception from 10 to 11 a.m. for attending archivists, and then a public reception from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., including a light lunch. Attendees brought take-away handouts and information about their collections to share with students and other interested parties.

What is happening at your repository?
SSA would like to hear!
Share your news! See page 4 for contact information.
The Carl Albert Center recently employed a new part-time archivist. Jeanene Hitch Letcher previously served for more than six years as Region 6 Archivist for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in Columbus, Ohio. At the Region 6 Archives, Jeanene worked with closed congregational records, researchers from around the world, active congregations who wanted to preserve their records, and the general public on archive practices. Jeanene also worked for Trinity Lutheran Seminary, University Museum at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, University Archives at SUIC, and several local historical societies in Pennsylvania.

Bernard Forrester, co-ordinator of Special Collections at Texas Southern University, traveled to the University of East London in October to present and discuss the educational context of The Heartman Collection of African American Life and Culture, one of the oldest historical collections on the African diaspora in the world. Archival documents from the collection were shown alongside examples from UEL’s archives celebrating black achievement in the arts.

ARCHIVISTS’ DAYBOOK
Compiled by Lee Miller, Tulane University.

2006

Nov 25 Feast Day of St. Catherine of Alexandria, considered by some to be the patron saint of archivists, potters, spinners, knife sharpeners, scholars, teachers, and others. She was the literary re-incarnation of Hypatia, the first famous female scholar.

Dec 30 On this date in 1842, Mrs. Angelina Eberly fired the cannon in the Texas Archives War.

2007

May 31 - June 2 Society of Southwest Archivists annual meeting; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

June 30-June 6 Annual Conference of the International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (IAML); Sydney, Australia.

SSA MEMBERSHIP FORM PDF file TO GO HERE