Kate Balack, MLIS, CA, is the archivist at the Woody Guthrie Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Her primary responsibilities are managing the archives and interns, caring for the artifacts, providing research assistance, serving as the registrar for incoming and outgoing loans, and assisting in exhibit preparation and implementation.

Q: When and why was the Woody Guthrie Center established?

A: The Woody Guthrie Archives was purchased in 2011 by the George Kaiser Family Foundation and officially relocated to Oklahoma in 2013. The Woody Guthrie Center was established as part of the homecoming of the Archives and officially opened on April 27, 2103. The Center itself is an education-based non-profit organization that focuses on Woody’s important role in American history and social advocacy work. We do this by being an inspiration for social justice, creativity in the arts, history, and exploration-based-inquiry into the life of Woody Guthrie and his works.

Q: What drew you to the position?

A: I was drawn to this position because I knew enough about Woody Guthrie, and his life, to know that I wanted to know more. What better reason to start a new adventure! What I wasn’t prepared for was discovering how much of a multi-faceted artist he really was, how inspiring he was to the entire folk-music movement in America, and how much his inner thoughts of inspiring change and equality reflect my own.

Q: What types of materials does the Guthrie Center hold?

A: We have the largest collection of Woody Guthrie materials in the world. The other two primary collections are housed at the Library of Congress’ American Folklife Center and The Smithsonian Center For Folklife and Cultural Heritage. Along with the papers of Woody Guthrie (the bulk from his second wife, Marjorie), we also hold several special collections from prominent scholars and peers of Woody’s.

Q: What’s an average day at work like? What is your favorite thing about working at the Woody Guthrie Center?

A: Every day is a new challenge, and often an unusual undertaking. I have learned so much from working here, just under two years presently, and every day is something new. This is what I love about it. Many of my days consist...
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. Membership registration is available via the SSA website at http://southwestarchivists.org/membership.

Southwestern Archivist is the quarterly newsletter of the SSA. The editor gives 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 permits. Short feature articles on topics and issues relating to current trends in archival enterprise are also welcome, as are longer Spotlight columns and our new “entertainment” pieces. Please query Lisa Cruces (ecruces@uh.edu) or your area liaison if you have any questions about 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 document attached via e-mail. The document should include a title; the author’s name, institutional affiliation, and contact information; and captions and citations for images. Please send images as separate e-mail attachments.

Submissions 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
Joyce Martin
joyce.martin@asu.edu

Arkansas submissions
Stephanie Bayless
shbayless@cals.org

Louisiana submissions
Jennifer Mitchell
jmitc84@lsu.edu

New Mexico submissions
Felicia Lujan
felicia.lujan@state.nm.us

Oklahoma submissions
Misty D. Smith
misty.d.smith@okstate.edu

North Texas submissions
Patrizia Nava
patrizia.nava@utdallas.edu

South Texas submissions
Phyllis Kinnison
pkinnison@mosthistory.org

Out-of-Region Submissions
Shelly Croteau
shelly.croteau@sos.mo.gov

Leadership Log Submissions
Krishna Shenoy
krishnas@jfk.org

Editor
Lisa Cruces
ecruces@uh.edu

The SSA Web page, http://southwestarchivists.org, is maintained by Pati Threatt at McNeese State University. Names of the executive board members, officers, and committee chairs are available online. The SSA Leadership Blog, also on the website, is a source for official news from the executive board and committee members. Further information, updates, and items of note can be found on the SSA Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/southwestarchivists, or on Twitter: https://twitter.com/SWarchivists, @ SW archivists, and #swarchivists.
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From the Editor

Thank you for picking up the newest issue of the Southwestern Archivist! In addition to containing recent news from across our region, this issue is special because it has tons of useful and timely information on the upcoming Annual Meeting, scheduled for May 20-23, in Arlington, Texas.

Make sure to check out SSA President Katie Salzmann’s From the President column on page 5 for tips on surviving the conference and maximizing your experience. Key program information and the conference “At-a-Glance” schedule can be found on pages 10-11.

If you are a new SSA member or member of the Society of American Archivists’ Students and New Archives Professionals (SNAP) Roundtable be sure to swing by the SSA New Member and SNAPpy Hour Mixer at this year’s Annual Meeting, see page 9 for details.

Enjoy your Southwestern Archivist and see you in Arlington!

Follow SSA on Facebook
SSA reminders and updates, local repository news, jobs, and more!
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southwestarchivists

Follow SSA on Twitter
Every Facebook post gets Tweeted, along with nonregional news and events.
Follow us at https://Twitter.com/SWarchivists

Advertising

As of January 2015, the Society of Southwest Archivists includes and serves over 750 individual and institutional members in Arizona, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Texas, and out-of region.

Expand your reach! Advertise in the Southwestern Archivist!

Please see our rate sheet online at http://www.southwestarchivists.org/newsletter or contact Lisa Cruces at ecruces@uh.edu.

Full page, half page, quarter page, and business card sizes are available, and discounts apply or for purchase of 1 year (4 consecutive issues).
May 2015

FROM THE PRESIDENT
Katie Salzmann, SSA President 2014-2015

I hope by now everyone has registered for SSA’s annual meeting in Arlington. Preconference workshops are scheduled for Wednesday, May 20th, and then the conference runs from Thursday the 21st through Saturday, May 23rd. This issue of Southwestern Archivist provides some great information as you prepare for the conference, and there is even more available online at http://southwestarchivists.org.

In planning for the conference, do not forget to pack a SSA Conference survival kit:

1. **Conference at-a-glance schedule** - print it out beforehand and mark the sessions that you plan to attend. Be warned: there are so many interesting ones that it will be hard to decide! For the more tech-savvy conference goer, use your calendar app and program in your choices in advance.

2. **Note-taking material** - Whether it is a laptop, a tablet/notebook, or regular old pen and paper, be sure to have what you need to jot down all the useful information you will learn in the conference sessions and workshops.

3. **Convenience items** - You will be so busy enjoying the conference that you won’t want to miss a minute to make a trip to a store, so plan ahead and pack a bottle of water, hard candies, gum, or even an extra granola bar or two. Conference rooms are sometimes a little chilly, so a light sweater or wrap may come in handy.

4. **Camera** - Whether it is with a pocket shoot-and-click, or the camera on your phone, be sure to take some pictures of your experience at the conference. Post them on Facebook, Twitter, or the social media outlet of your choice, and let your friends and family know how much fun the SSA annual conference is. Also, send pictures to Southwestern Archivist editor, Lisa Cruces, for possible inclusion in a newsletter photo spread.

5. **Business cards** - Bring them if you have them, and if you don’t, plan ahead and have small slips of paper with your name and contact information. Include your Twitter handle if you have one. You never know who you might want to exchange information with: potential employers; SSA leaders who are looking for volunteers; or just new friends. Use your camera to take a picture of the business cards you collect from others - that way if you lose the card, you still have the contact!

6. **Cash** - Conference receptions and breaks are free, but there will be times when you will wish you had some cash on you, whether it’s to purchase an extra drink ticket (or two, or three), or to buy SLOTTO raffle tickets that support the wonderful SSA scholarships.

7. **Readiness to have a good time** - SSA leadership - especially the Arlington Local Arrangements Committee, has worked hard to plan a conference and annual meeting that will be illuminating, beneficial, and engaging. Please arrive prepared to enjoy the excellent selection of conference sessions and pre-conference workshops, the entertaining receptions, and the informative meetings. Game on!

From the President
Katie Salzmann, SSA President 2014-2015

Come to the 2015 Annual Meeting prepared!
2015 Scholarships Announced
Michelle Bogart, Scholarship Committee Chair

On behalf of the Scholarship Committee, I would like to announce the winners of the Society of Southwest Archivists 2015 Scholarships:

**Katie Rojas**
City of San Antonio, Municipal Archives and Records, San Antonio, TX
SSA Annual Meeting Scholarship

**Susan Floyd**
University of Texas iSchool
John Michael Caldwell Student Scholarship

**Abra Schnur**
University of North Texas College of Information
David B. Gracy II Scholarship

**Brenda Bradford**
Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, Oklahoma
A. Otis Herbert, Jr. Continuing Education Scholarship

Congratulations! There were many strong applicants, and the committee worked hard to choose just one for each award. SSA Scholarships are supported by SLOTTO and auction items at the annual meeting, and by contributions. Congratulations!

**Call for SLOTTO Donations**
The annual meeting in Arlington is almost upon us! Please remember to donate items to this year’s SLOTTO and silent auction. In keeping with our “Game On” theme, we would like to see sports-related items (and not just football). Since “Game On” is not 100% sports, we want other items as well – be they wacky, historical, goofy, or serious. Support your colleagues by supporting SSA scholarships! Bring donated items – including handmade and crafty items for the silent auction – to the registration desk at the Annual Meeting.

Contact scholarships committee chair Michelle Bogart at (979) 691-4032 or michelle.bogart@nara.gov for more information.

**SSA Election Update**
Mark Lambert, CA, Nominating Committee Chair

This year’s SSA election was held from March 16th to April 12th. Ballots were sent out to every active member who had a valid e-mail address in the WildApricot software by March 1, and by paper ballot to anyone who requested one. 570 electronic ballots were sent out; 2 paper ballots were mailed out. Thanks to everyone who voted!

Election results will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting in Arlington on Saturday May 23. The results will also be published in the August newsletter.

If you are interested in running for office in the future, or wish to nominate someone else, please e-mail us, or look for our SSA Nominations Box at the annual meeting in Arlington!

SSA is only as strong as its elected and appointed leadership. Please consider volunteering to be on the ballot next year or to work on a committee today.

SSA Nominating Committee, 2015
Mark Lambert, CA, Chair mark.lambert@glo.texas.gov
Mike Miller, mike.miller@austintexas.gov
Emily E. Hyatt, CA, ehyatt@consolidated.net
Enhance Preservation... Optimize Space Efficiency... Increase Ease of Access...

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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Texas Municipal League
Texas State University
Texas A&M Corp Center
University of Texas San Antonio
Harry Ransom Center

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Professional Development Committee
Felicia Thomas Williamson, CA, Chair

The Professional Development Committee is excited to announce the following pre-conference workshops coming up on Wednesday, May 20th. Please take advantage of these great workshops by selecting the desired workshop during the conference registration process. See below for the details and http://societyofsouthwestarchivists.wildapricot.org/event-1715675 for registration.

1. Audiovisual Preservation for Beginners
   **Time:** Wednesday, May 20th, 9:00 am-4:30 pm (lunch on your own 12:00-1:30 pm)
   **Cost:** $100.00
   **Location:** SSA Conference Hotel
   **Trainers:** Rebecca Elder and Stephen Bolech
   **Details:** Preserving the wide variety of audiovisual media in archival collections is a challenge! Join two experts for an information-packed day of audiovisual preservation. In the morning a conservator will tell you what you need to know to preserve the physical objects in your collections—from wax cylinders to VHS tapes to CDs. In the afternoon, a specialist in reformatting will help you understand best practices in digital preservation, including in-house and outsourced programs. Please bring questions about materials in your own collections and projects you’re considering for discussion in class.

2. Records Management for Archivists
   **Time:** Wednesday, May 20th, 8:30 am-11:30 pm
   **Cost:** $50.00
   **Location:** SSA Conference Hotel
   **Trainer:** Kris Toma
   **Details:** Whether you work with records managers but don’t understand them, need a records manager but don’t have one, or suddenly find yourself being the records manager, this workshop can help you combine the best parts of the archives and records management professions into one unstoppable toolkit. We’ll provide a translation guide for the basic vocabulary of records management, demystify the records retention scheduling process, and explore ways to gain upper management support for your records management program. Through discussion, interactive exercises, and a heaping serving of additional resources, we will help prepare you to hit the ground running back at your home institution.

3. Archival Box-making
   **Time:** Wednesday, May 20th, 1:30-4:30 pm
   **Cost:** $60.00
   **Location:** UNT Preservation Lab, the Library Annex, 941 Precision Drive Denton, TX (transportation details TBA)
   **Trainer:** Jessica Phillips
   **Details:** Students will learn to make light-weight and phase boxes. Students will see an example of a clamshell case and will be introduced to various steps of the box-making process. Attendees are welcome to several problem books with them to work on as examples.
   Please contact Felicia Williamson, PDC Chair, at fxt004@shsu.edu or (936) 294-3290 if you have questions.

New Member / SNAPpy Hour Mixer

Join fellow new members, students, and emerging professionals at the Annual Meeting in Arlington for a joint SSA New Member and SNAPpy Hour Mixer! This is a great way to network and meet others in a relaxed, fun atmosphere.

   **Date:** Thursday, May 21st
   **Time:** 6:00 – 7:30 pm
   **Location:** Sheraton Hotel Bar

Appetizers and beverages will be available for purchase. No registration is required. For questions, please contact James Williamson jwilliamson@shsu.edu or Katie Riojas katie.rojas84@gmail.com.

SSA New Member & SNAPpy Hour Mixer
The Program Committee has put together an edifying and varied program related to the 2015 meeting theme “Game On: the Challenge of Change.” Thanks to all of our colleagues who proposed sessions and to the Program Committee who worked very hard and had to make tough decisions. We were delighted with the large number of strong proposals submitted this year and received far more than we were able to accept. We anticipate an excellent program in Arlington! A “schedule at a glance” is located on page 11:

2015 Annual Meeting Program Committee:

Sean Benjaman, Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, sbenjamin@tulane.edu
Emily R. Brock, New Mexico State Archives, Emily.Brock@state.nm.us
Elizabeth Dunham, Arizona State University, elizabeth.dunham@asu.edu
Laney Dwyer, Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Laney.Dwyer@houstontx.gov
Melissa Gottwald, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, gottwalm@erau.edu
Mary Manning, University of Houston, Chair, mmmanning@uh.edu
Gerrianne Schaad, Florida Southern College, Gschaad@nationalcowboymuseum.org
Joshua Youngblood, University of Arkansas, jcyoungb@uark.edu

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Registration for Game On: The Challenge of Change opened in March! Our annual meeting will take place May 20-23 in Arlington, Texas. Don’t wait to join those who have already registered. Capacity is limited for the Thursday afternoon repository tour at UT Arlington and the optional film screening at the UTA Planetarium. Don’t miss your opportunity to see UTA’s brand new cold storage facility and FabLab, and the Special Collections exhibit “¡Viva Mexico! A Comic Book History of Mexico.”

Early Bird registration ended on April 20, while regular registration ends on May 16. On-site registration will be possible at slightly higher rates, but catering arrangements will be based on registration numbers as of May 16, so why wait? Please help us to give you the best experience possible by registering in advance online. Registration as well as information about the hotel, program, workshops, receptions, and much more can be found at, http://societyofsouthwestarchivists.wildapricot.org/event-1715675.

The conference hotel is the Sheraton Arlington, which overlooks Six Flags, the Globe Life Ballpark and AT&T Stadium. Guest rooms are $135 per night for up to four people. Rooms are available with either one king-sized bed or two double beds. The conference block for hotel rooms begins May 19 and allows departure on May 24. The cutoff date for hotel reservations is April 28. Reservations also may be made by phoning (800) 325-3535 or (817) 261-8200. The Sheraton Arlington hotel will provide complimentary wireless in guest rooms and offers free shuttle service to and from D/FW airport between 6:30 am and 9:30 pm. Self-service parking at the hotel is also free. More information about transportation and parking can be found on our conference web page.

We look forward to seeing everyone Wednesday evening, May 20, at the poolside welcome reception at the Sheraton Arlington hotel. Our main reception will be on Friday evening, May 22, at the International Bowling Museum. In addition to the chance to mingle with conference attendees, we will have access to the museum’s exhibits and an opportunity to have a fun time bowling.

Program Chair, Mary Manning, and her committee have organized a fine selection of educational sessions, and Professional Development Chair, Felicia Williamson, has arranged three workshops to provide opportunities for professional growth. Don’t forget to spend lots of time in the exhibits area chatting with the wonderful sponsors and vendors who are supporting our meeting and our profession by their presence at the conference. Be sure to get your Vendor Passport completely filled up in order to qualify for a prize drawing. Registration and the SLOTTO table will be right there in the mix. All of the tables will be conveniently located in the area just outside the session room doors.

There also will be opportunities during the lunch breaks on Thursday and Friday to attend discussions relating to State Historical Records Advisory Boards (SHRABs) and TARO (see next page). Archivists at Texas repositories, please note that the TARO Steering Committee has news to share and your feedback to gather regarding TARO’s exciting future. Be sure to take advantage of this rare opportunity for a face-to-face discussion.

Our keynote speaker will be Andrew Torget, assistant professor of history at the University of North Texas. Dr. Torget will speak on “The Promise and Perils of Digital Archives,” which he describes as a talk “about how the digitization process opens unprecedented opportunities for archivists and scholars, but also brings about a host of new challenges.”

Come early, stay late! The game is on in Arlington, May 20-23!
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<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
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<td>Plenary Session: 8:30-9:30</td>
<td>SSA Past/Present/Future: 8:30-9:30 Diversity Training</td>
<td>Breakfast &amp; Business Mtg: 8:00-10:00</td>
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<td>Catered break: 9:30-10:00</td>
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<td>All Day Workshop</td>
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<td>Audiovisual Preservation for Beginners (9:00-4:30)</td>
<td>The Austin Archives Bazaar: Bringing Archives to the People</td>
<td>Boot Camp: What’s the Play? Making Audible Calls in the Archives</td>
<td>Instant Replay: Preserving Film and Video Collections</td>
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<td>Boot Camp: Triple Play: 3 Steps to Maximize Your Social Media ROI</td>
<td>Archival Adventures in Small Repositories: Surveying at Small-Scale Archives</td>
<td>Archives and “The Tech”: Archivists’ Roles in Preserving the Digital</td>
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<td>Hide &amp; Seek: Uncovering Hidden Collections</td>
<td>Archival Hat Trick: Collecting, Preserving, and Exhibiting Sports and Games</td>
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<td>SSA Board meeting: time TBD</td>
<td>Lunch on your own 11:30-1:30 TARO Brown Bag</td>
<td>Lunch on your own 11:30-1:30 SHRB Brown Bag 12:00-1:30</td>
<td>SSA Board Meeting: 12:00-2:00 (returning and incoming officers and board members)</td>
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<td>Records Management for Archivists (8:30-11:30)</td>
<td>Adaptation: Creating and Maintaining Order Under Challenging Conditions</td>
<td>Represent!: Challenges and Rewards of Documenting Under-Documented Communities</td>
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<td>Boot Camp: Bit by Bit; Implementing a Digital Preservation Program</td>
<td>Tangled Webs: Taking the Mystery out of Website Archiving</td>
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<td>East Texas NAACP and African American Masons</td>
<td>iDale Gas!: Archival Outreach, Advocacy, and Community Support</td>
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<td>Afternoon Only Workshop</td>
<td>Repository Tour 3:30-7:30 UT Arlington</td>
<td>Catered Break: 3:00-3:30</td>
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<td>Session 5: 3:30-5:00</td>
<td>Digital Dichotomies: Costs and Benefits of Digital Outreach and Discoverability</td>
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<td>Boot Camp: Doing the Archives Bally</td>
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<td>Archivists and Curators Working with the Braniff Family to Build a Collective Public History</td>
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<td>Welcome Reception: 5:00-6:30</td>
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Spotlight Q–A with Archivist Kate Balack

Continued from page 1

of exhibit prep, reference assistance, and processing. I have had the incredible opportunity to work with a variety of interns since the beginning of my tenure here and each one has brought unique ideas and interest to their projects. So, suffice it to say that I have never been tasked the same thing twice! I would not have it any other way, because variety is the spice of life. This is truly the most fruitful and fulfilling position I have yet had, and I am grateful every day to work here. I lucked out, and I love my job.

Q: What is the most popular, unusual, or interesting collection you have worked with?

A: Nothing can compare to working with Woody’s notebooks. His penmanship was exquisite. He is so creative and deep and uninhibited. I have never felt so close to a person I will never meet. I think he brings these feelings out in all of our researchers as well. He had an extraordinary gift to reach right to the core of a person’s heart and connect on that intimate level that few of us get a chance to share with others in our everyday lives.

Q: Can you briefly describe the Woody Guthrie Fellowship co-sponsored by the Center and the BMI Foundation?

A: The fellowship is another honor that has migrated over with the archives. We hope it will continue to be an annual fellowship as it has been for the past several years. The award is up to $5000.00 for scholarly research in the archives that results in a publication and/or public creative work centering on Woody Guthrie’s life and/or produced works. We hope it will encourage research on new perspectives about Woody that have not previously been proposed. For more information see: http://bmifoundation.org/programs/info/woody_guthrie_fellowship.

Rescuing Texas History at the Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives

Phyllis Kinnison, Archivist

Through the Portal to Texas History’s 2014 Rescuing Texas History mini-grant program, the Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History submitted 137 photographs from a scrapbook in the Frank Lauderdale Cook collection to be digitized and made available online. The program offered up to $1000 worth of digitization services.

We surveyed our photographic holdings for a collection that would appeal to a broad audience and could gain more use through digitization. We decided on the Frank Lauderdale Cook collection of photographs of the 23rd regiment of the New York National Guard, which was stationed on the Texas and Mexico border in the Lower Rio Grande Valley from 1916 to 1918. The National Guard has once again been deployed to the Lower Rio Grande Valley to aid with today’s border problems. Since it will soon be the 100th anniversary of the New York National Guard deployment, it seemed like an especially appropriate time to promote use of this collection and tie it in with current events.

The Frank Lauderdale Cook collection depicts scenes and events from the daily life of an infantry soldier. Private Cook’s regiment was deployed to help local sheriffs and Texas Rangers police the border during the Mexican Social Revolution in order to prevent overflow violence. Photographs depict trench training on the American side of the river, platoon marches and the advent of Military Highway which still exists in the area.

The photographs were posted to the Texas Portal in February and may be viewed at http://texashistory.unt.edu/search/?fq=untl_institution%3AMSTH&fq=untl_collection%3ASG14. For more information contact Phyllis Kinnison at pkinnison@mosthistory.org or (956) 383-6911.
The Louisiana Digital Media Archive (LDMA) is the home of the Louisiana Public Broadcasting Digital Collection and the Louisiana State Archives Multimedia Collection. This is the first project in the nation to combine the media collections of a public broadcaster and a state archives. The LDMA is the culmination of a five—year effort to give the general public a front row seat to Louisiana history through video of historic events and allows viewers a chance to visit remote and endangered Louisiana places and cultures.

In addition to providing an educational resource for the state, part of the LDMA’s mission is to preserve the historic video that was recorded during the modern age. Most archival media collections contain thousands of videotapes that have outlived their shelf-life. Many have videos that have deteriorated to the point where they will be destroyed by a single play. Equipment necessary to “play” these videotapes is no longer manufactured and locating and maintaining obsolete machines is costly and will soon be impossible. A further challenge in preserving this recorded history is the state’s climate. Humidity threatens videotapes and film and devastating Gulf storms pose serious problems for fragile recordings, in terms of power outages, fluctuation in storage conditions and facility damage. LPB and the State Archives are dedicated to saving as much of this fragile video as possible by providing it with a safe, protected permanent home.

What will you find in the LDMA? This ever-expanding site contains a combined catalog of thousands of hours of media recorded over the past half-century. Any researcher can see interviews with Louisiana civil rights pioneers, notable political figures, war heroes, artists and literary icons. The LDMA provides a front row seat to Louisiana history through video of historic events, as well as remote and endangered Louisiana places and cultures. This history is at your fingertips through the LDMA, all available at LOUISIANA’S HISTORICAL JEWELRY BOX at www.sos.la.gov/ExploreMediaArchives.

For more information contact, Florent Hardy at (202) 922-0433 or florent.hardy@sos.la.gov.
The LSU Libraries’ Special Collections has begun hosting an innovative series of monthly events showcasing rare books, manuscripts, and other archival material. Titled “Afternoon in the Archives,” it expands on the library’s outreach and instruction programs by combining the experience of viewing materials in an exhibition with that of using them in a reading room or library classroom.

“The events are not quite an exhibit, and they’re not quite a class,” said Jessica Lacher-Feldman, Head of Special Collections at the LSU Libraries. “We like to think of them as ‘controlled browsing,’ just an easy way for people to sample what we have and find out how Special Collections can be a part of their teaching, learning, and research.”

Like exhibitions, each event has a different theme and is intended to increase public awareness of the library’s holdings. Materials, however, are displayed on tables rather than in glass cases, allowing visitors to turn pages, explore context, and see what else is available in a particular book or archival collection. Library staff are on hand to supervise use. “Although some visitors have seemed surprised that they are allowed to touch materials, the events have been a great way to show them that rare books and manuscripts are not museum pieces that can only be viewed behind glass,” commented Michael Taylor, Curator of Books and History Subject Librarian for the LSU Libraries, who spearheaded this series in December 2014.

“Digital resources are amazing,” Taylor added, “but if you think the things we have here in Special Collections aren’t being used anymore, you’re wrong. In fact, they’ve never been in greater demand. This series is partly a way of letting people discover for themselves the joy and advantages of working with original historical sources. Hopefully some will walk away with a better appreciation of the research process. And they’ll definitely help spread the word that we’re open for business.”

In addition to monitoring visitors, staff chat one-on-one about the materials on display as well as other library collections and services, particularly primary-source instruction. They also discuss users’ research needs and interests and solicit feedback on collection development and future programming. As a way of cultivating donors, the series has already had a positive effect by showing not only the breadth and quality of the library’s collections, but also staff members’ eagerness to connect with the public. It has been a chance to show off recent donations, too, as well as purchases made with donor funds.

The four showcases held so far have attracted an average of fifty visitors each, one almost 100. Compared to traditional exhibitions, the events’ informality has helped staff be more flexible, spontaneous, and efficient. For example, a simple checklist is provided to attendees rather than labels, and since the events last only about three hours, no elaborate book supports or frames are needed. The checklists are kept for future use. Over time, these will be a useful reference tool for staff and patrons. Events can be scheduled quickly based on special events, or to piggyback on class visits, which helps staff get more mileage out of their work if a large number of items have already been paged and would be of interest to a wider audience.

Several instructors who have attended an Afternoon in the Archives have been inspired to arrange separate class sessions or have discovered material to include in classes that they were already planning to hold at the library. Many other types of collaborations are expected to result from the series. One visitor to the February Afternoon in the Archives, “Let Nature Be Your Guide: Graphic Design of the Art Nouveau and Arts & Crafts Movement,” suggested contacting a local art gallery about exhibiting the materials there. He also informed staff members of an upcoming LSU course on decorative arts whose instructor would definitely want to know about the library’s holdings in this area.

“Overall, these showcases have helped everyone involved think creatively about the infinite ways special collections materials can be used,” Lacher-Feldman commented.

An expanded marketing plan is currently being developed. If you find yourself in Baton Rouge, be sure to stop by and spend an Afternoon in the Archives! For more information contact, Jennifer V. Mitchell at jmitc84@lsu.edu.
The History of Aviation Collection at The University of Texas at Dallas holds some hidden gems. The William A. Rooney Collection on the Enola Gay, while a mouthful, contains unique information and perspective on an important crossroad in aviation history.

In 1995, the Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum (NASM) created an exhibit to feature the Enola Gay, the B-29 bomber that dropped the first atomic bomb in warfare. The initial exhibit was controversial in its nature, with veteran groups claiming that the revisionist historical attitude was omitting the truth behind the reason to drop the atomic bomb and sympathizing too much with the Japanese. Veterans groups and others became involved in campaigns to display the Enola Gay proudly and have the Smithsonian redesign their exhibit to respectfully display the airplane. Consequently, Dr. Martin Harwit resigned his position as NASM director, and the original plan was eliminated and a more straightforward historical exhibit of the Enola Gay was put in its place.

William A. Rooney, a WWII veteran, was part of the community who helped change the NASM exhibit through letter writing campaigns and publishing articles on the subject in local papers and magazines. He wrote one of the original letters that sparked the controversy with Secretary McAdams, in which he demanded to know why the historic aircraft was not being restored in a timely manner or displayed in an appropriate exhibit. These initial exchanges led to many years of correspondence with Secretary McAdams and Martin Harwit along with numerous senators, veterans’ organizations, and magazine and newspaper editors. The collection contains personal correspondence, various articles regarding the controversy, personal notes, and other documents that relate to the Enola Gay controversy and the driving force behind the veterans’ campaign. This collection give researchers an in depth insight into this grassroots campaign that succeeded in its goal against a historical powerhouse.

This collection is just one of a handful of collections regarding the Enola Gay and the controversy with the Smithsonian at The University of Texas at Dallas’ Special Collections. Rooney’s collection joins others, such as the Frank Rabbitt Collection on Enola Gay, the William E. Cooper Papers, and the W. Burr Bennett, Jr. Collection on the Enola Gay Controversy. A finding aid is available at: http://www.utdallas.edu/library/specialcollections/hac/general/index.html. For more information please contact Paul A. Oelkrug, at Oelkrug@utdallas.edu or call (972) 883-2570.

Arkansas has a new organization for archival professionals! The Society of Arkansas Archivists and Registrars (SAAR) was started by a group of Arkansas archival professionals to address the lack of professional networking in Arkansas. An introductory mixer was held in Little Rock on February 12, 2015, and was attended by representatives from many central Arkansas archives and museums.

On March 31, 2015, SAAR representatives Danyelle McNeill and Amanda L. Paige, staff members at the Arkansas History Commission, took part in a panel discussion at the Arkansas Museum Association’s annual conference in Helena, Arkansas, to introduce SAAR to museum professionals. Speaking during the presentation, Amanda L. Paige discussed that membership in SAAR recognized that archival collections were not just limited to archival institutions and as such museums, libraries and historical associations were welcome into the group to reflect this.

Membership in SAAR is open to all archival and museum professionals, as well as others interested in collecting, preserving, and managing artifacts, manuscripts and historical records. You can connect with us through our Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/arkarchivistsregistrars) and listserv (https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/saar-listserv).

In order to fully represent archival professionals around Arkansas, SAAR is looking for regional liaisons. Regional liaisons are currently needed for the northwest, northeast and southwest regions of Arkansas. These liaisons will host local events for those unable to travel to events elsewhere in the state as well as represent SAAR at events.

If you would like to volunteer as a liaison, or if you have questions about how to get involved in SAAR, please contact Amanda L. Paige at Amanda.Paige@arkansas.gov, Danyelle McNeill at Danyelle.McNeill@arkansas.gov, or Stephanie Bayless sbayless@cals.org.
The TARO Steering Committee is pleased to announce some great news for our member repositories and the state’s archival researchers—in March 2015, we were notified that our NEH planning grant application was successful. The one-year project will be the first step towards making much-needed changes to the site. The NEH grant funds a project manager who will conduct extensive strategic planning to improve TARO’s usability - functionally, technically, and aesthetically. More specifically, the project will improve intellectual access through planning for standardized browsing capability and ADA-accessibility. We will also move towards shared best practices among the repositories across the state that contribute to TARO. After this yearlong collaborative assessment and planning project, TARO will be ready for an implementation phase with a cutting-edge website redesign.

The current TARO website contains over 7,200 finding aids describing the collections of dozens of the state’s cultural heritage institutions and libraries. Despite its age (the site was built 15 years ago!), TARO continues to serve as a vital research tool to our patrons, with over a million visits per year. The TARO Steering Committee has directed a number of sub-committees to lay the groundwork for thoughtful planning during the grant project. The work of the standards, governance, technical platform, and other sub-committees can be seen on the TARO wiki, at http://texastaro.pbworks.com/w/page/73447661/TARO%20wiki%20home.

As we begin the grant project, we anticipate a marked increase in announcements and requests for feedback from member institutions through the use of the TARO listserv. TARO contacts at each institution will pass this information along to staff at member repositories. Moving forward, we envision TARO contacts playing a vital role in communication about TARO and the site’s success. Not sure if you’re an official TARO institutional contact member? Log in to http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/admin/staff.html with your TARO login to see the current list.

Interested in joining TARO? As a part of the grant, TARO will be reaching out to potential new members. If you’d like to learn more about the process for joining TARO or get a log-in account to the TARO contact list, contact Minnie Rangel at mrange@Austin.utexas.edu and Amanda Focke at afocke@rice.edu.

The TARO Steering Committee is holding a brown bag lunch at the annual Society of Southwest Archivists meeting in Arlington to discuss the project, answer questions, and address ways that members can get involved. The lunch will be held on Thursday, May 21st from 12:00-1:30pm. Participants should plan on bringing their own lunch. We will send out an update to the TARO listserv after SSA to keep folks who aren’t attending the meeting in the loop, too. We’re hoping that a TARO meeting at SSA will turn into an annual event.

The TARO Steering Committee, including representatives from repositories across the state, worked extensively to research for and prepare the grant proposal. Special thanks go to key contributors: Amy Bowman of UT’s Briscoe Center for American History, Amanda Focke of Rice University’s Woodson Research Center, and Jennifer Hecker of UT Libraries. We also want to thank the other UT Libraries staff involved in the process: Donna Coates, Minnie Rangel, Linda Abbey, Dr. Fred Heath as Project Director, and Dr. Lorraine Haricombe as Project Director moving forward.

For more information contact Minnie Rangel at mrange@Austin.utexas.edu and Amanda Focke at afocke@rice.edu.
Archival Certification:
Validate your achievements, knowledge and skills

The 2015 Certified Archivist examination will be held August 19 in Boise (ID), Buffalo (NY), Cleveland (OH), Jacksonville (FL), Little Rock (AR), and Sacramento (CA) -- and wherever five or more candidates wish to take it.

In the last six years, more than 900 candidates have taken the examination at over 90 sites throughout the country.

The 2015 application and more information will be available January 1 at www.certifiedarchivists.org or contact the Academy of Certified Archivists (aca@caphill.com or 518-694-8471).

Make plans now for the 2015 Certified Archivist examination!
C coinciding with the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Hispanic American Institute (HAI), located on the Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary campus, the Austin Seminary Archives is pleased to announce that processing of the Institute's records is complete and the records are now open for research.

Founded in 1965 under joint sponsorship of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A and the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., the HAI provided ecumenical advocacy for the advancement of Hispanic Americans in the United States and Latin America. Through education, programming, and administration the HAI focused on interpreting Hispanic Americans' concerns to the Church and emerged as an advocate and resource during the early days of the Chicano movement of the 1960s. Dr. Jorge Lara-Braud served as the Institute’s first director, 1965-1972, and Rev. Rubén P. Armendáriz assumed directorship from 1973 until 1976, when the HAI formally ceased operation.

The records of the HAI, comprised of 20,016 linear feet, document its formation, administration, and daily operations from the mid-1960s through the mid-1970s. Materials are largely textual including minutes, memoranda, agenda, financial and legal material, correspondence, clippings, notes, reports, publications, printed material, and a small number of photographs and maps. The collection also documents the work of Dr. Jorge Lara-Braud to edit and publish the book, Our Claim on the Future: A Controversial Collection from Latin America (Friendship Press, 1970).

The Austin Seminary Archives collects material documenting Presbyterianism in Texas and the Southwest and has a strong focus on collections reflecting the work and lives of Hispanic ministers and congregations in Texas. Additional Hispanic related material includes: La Hora Presbiteriana (The Presbyterian Hour) audio collection, circa 1953-1957, a 15-minute Spanish language radio program produced by the Presbytery of Western Texas; The Presbyterian Latin-American Auxiliary records, which served the spiritual, social and financial ministry to the Hispanic community in Dallas; and the Texas-Mexican Presbytery (PCUS) records, 1861-1954, comprised of ten feet, nine
THE HISPANIC AMERICAN INSTITUTE
continued from previous page

inches of material, including 16 mm films, digitized by the Texas Archive of the Moving Image (TAMI), available on the TAMI website, and photographs and slides, digitized by the University of North Texas, available through the Portal to Texas History.

The finding aid for the Hispanic American records is available on the Austin Seminary Archives website and Texas Archival Resources Online (TARO).

For more information regarding accessing the records, please contact Kristy Sorensen, Associate Director of the Library and Head of Archives and Records Management, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 100 E. 27th Street, Austin, Texas 78705, ksorensen@austinseminary.edu, (512) 404-4875.


LOUISIANA’S ENDANGERED CEMETERIES
Florent Hardy, Louisiana State Archives

The Louisiana State Archives hosted an exhibit featuring the state’s endangered cemeteries March 2-31, 2015. The exhibit showcased cemetery research documented by Jessica H. Schexnayder with the help of the Louisiana Sea Grant College Program at LSU, and Mary H. Manhein with the LSU FACES Lab.

Since its establishment in 1968, Louisiana Sea Grant (see: www.laseagrant.org), has worked to promote stewardship of the state’s coastal resources through a combination of research, education and outreach programs critical to the cultural, economic and environmental health of Louisiana’s coastal zone. Louisiana Sea Grant, based at Louisiana State University, is part of the National Sea Grant College Program, a network of 33 university-based programs in each of the U.S. coastal and Great Lakes states and Puerto Rico.

Begun in 2011, the Louisiana Endangered Cemetery Project creates a tangible link to the intangible past through GPS mapping, photography, oral tradition and cultural artifact documentation. It includes both coastal and inland cemeteries whose fates are questionable due to coastal erosion, storm inundation, urban neglect, subsidence, sea level rise and eminent domain. To date, 137 cemeteries have been documented.

For more information about the project, contact Ms. Jessica Schexnayder at jsche15@lsu.edu, or (225) 578-6448.
The historical treasures of Dallas City Hall have a new home in its newly constructed vault two floors below city hall. The new vault, which holds over 2,200 cubic feet of Dallas history, from the city’s earliest government documents (1866), to Lee Harvey Oswald’s fingerprints. The archives is a part of the Dallas Municipal Archives and Records Center, a division of the City Secretary’s Office.

A brief public ceremony to open the new vault was held April 15th in the Municipal Archives and Records Center, and included remarks by Mayor Mike Rawlings and former Dallas Mayor Wes Wise. Also on hand to celebrate was former Dallas City Secretary and founder of the Municipal Archives, SSA charter member Bob Sloan. The event was extensively covered in local media.

Mayor Rawlings praised the project and the protection of records for “honoring the past so we can have a more informed future.” The archives, he said, “will be an asset for us to use ... as we think about the tough decisions that will face us. When you look back in history, you ... realize the importance of our jobs.”

The new vault, features a new chilled-water HVAC unit and shelving funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities, replaces three climate-controlled storage locations. Notable collections include: Dallas Police Department investigation files on the murders of President John F. Kennedy and DPD Officer JD Tippit; maps, engineering plans, and architectural drawings of city-built and city-owned buildings and facilities, such as old city hall, Fair Park, and the Majestic Theater; historic records of municipally-owned airport Love Field and Radio Station WRR; essential city government documents, including City Charter, City Codes, Annual Budgets, annual reports; and over a quarter-million photographic images. For more information contact John Slate at, john.slate@dallascityhall.com.
Border Writer Charles Bowden
Lauren Goodley, CA, The Wittliff Collections at Texas State University

Held at the Wittliff Collections at Texas State University, the papers of literary journalist Charles Bowden document his prolific. The collection is 50 linear feet and dates from 1947-2007 (bulk dates 1970-2007). The majority of the materials is arranged by work, and includes correspondence, notes, research, photographs, drafts, and published materials.

Charles “Chuck” Bowden (1945-2014), literary journalist, was born outside of Chicago, and was raised in Tucson, Arizona, where he lived until 2009. He was the author of over twenty-five books; contributing editor for GQ, Esquire, and Mother Jones; and contributor for many other newspapers and magazines, including regional, national, and international publications. Bowden wrote and published widely and extensively on topics related to social justice and border issues, including the environment, political corruption, drug crime, and violence on the U.S.-Mexico border. He is perhaps best known for “While You Were Sleeping,” Harper’s Magazine, Dec. 1996, which broke the story of violent deaths of women in the border town of Juárez, Mexico in the U.S. English-language press.

Bowden received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1979, was a Pulitzer finalist in 1984, participated in the Lannan Residency Program in 2001, and was awarded the PEN First Amendment award in 2011. It wasn’t until after he abandoned academia for the newsroom in his mid-30s that he discovered reporting, which changed his life and career. Bowden believed in writing with a purpose: for social justice and change, and ecological awareness and responsibility. Known for both his stream-of-consciousness introspection and his thorough research, Bowden seamlessly wove the subjective and objective together.

In 1981, Bowden landed a job as a reporter at the Tucson Citizen, where he reported on sex crimes and violence—jobs others refused to take. He and his friend Dick Vonier later founded and edited a weekly rag, City Magazine, which covered local issues from a progressive point of view. An avid hiker and outdoorsman, Bowden also wrote extensively about the environment and championed causes such as the Sonoran Desert Park Project. Two memoir-type books, and several photography books for which he wrote essays, came out of this connection with the land of the Southwest.

After “While You Were Sleeping,” Bowden collaborated with street photographers who were covering crime scenes for daily Juárez papers for Juárez: Laboratory of Our Future (1998). During this time he made friends and contacts that helped him write on drugs and violence on the U.S.-Mexico border for the next eighteen years, including several books and numerous magazine articles. Bowden interviewed citizens, major drug cartels, DEA agents, and people whose lives crossed those lines daily. At a Wittliff event in 2013, John Phillips Santos recalled that while traveling in Chiapas, he caught sight of Bowden and “quickly got out of there,” knowing Bowden’s tendency to seek out dangerous situations.

For more information, please consult the finding aid on TARO (http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/tsusm/00085/tsu-00085.html), or on the Wittliff website (http://www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/research/a-z/bowden.html), or contact Lauren Goodley at lgoodley@txstate.edu or (512) 245-3229.

Bridwell Library is pleased to announce the completion of a four-year project to process the papers of Albert Cook Outler (1908-1989). Dr. Outler was a leading United Methodist historical theologian and ecumenist who taught at Duke University, Yale University, and Southern Methodist University (SMU). A native of Georgia, Outler was a gifted scholar and teacher, a popular speaker, and a prolific writer. The 301 box (147.5 linear foot) collection documenting Outler’s family life, education, ministry, scholarly work, and professional activities was processed by contract archivist Colleen Bradley-Sanders.

The task of arranging such a large and complex collection (originally filling 376 boxes) was aided by the discovery of documents outlining the original order of materials and the folder labeling scheme devised by Outler’s wife, librarian Carlotta Smith Outler (1910-2001), and implemented by Outler’s administrative assistant, Wanda W. Smith (1923-2013). Carla Outler’s filing system included six series: Teaching Papers, Ecclesiastic Papers, The Scholarly Enterprise [publications], Extra-mural Involvements, Perkins School of Theology and SMU, and Correspondence. During processing three new series were added in order to include previously unclassified items: Personal, Biographical, and Family Materials, Photographs, and Audio-Visual Materials.

Through painstaking diligence, Bradley-Sanders succeeded in re-ordering a thoroughly jumbled resource, removing redundancies, out-of-scope documents, and non- archival materials, and re-housing the collection in archival folders and boxes. She and Bridwell Library Archivist Tim Binkley have produced a 152-page finding aid to the collection which is available online via TARO (http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/smu/00264/smu-00264.html) and as an illustrated PDF (http://www.smu.edu/Bridwell/Collections/SpecialCollectionsAndArchives/~/media/Site/Bridwell/Archives/BA10514.pdf). One hundred copies of the finding aid were printed by Bridwell Library for distribution to project partners and academic libraries.

Dr. Outler’s library and papers came to Bridwell Library in the early 1990s through the influence of the Rev. Dr. Bob W. Parrott, a Perkins School of Theology graduate who was deeply influenced by Outler. Befriending his mentor later in life, Parrott became Outler’s trustee and biographer (Albert C. Outler: the Gifted Dilettante, published in 1999). Parrott compiled and edited three other works using the Outler papers: Albert Outler, the Preacher: Sermons on Several Occasions (1988), Albert Outler, the Churchman (1995), and Albert Outler, the University Professor (1995). These monographs became the core of a nine-volume series known as the Albert Outler Library.

An exhibition of ninety items from the Albert Cook Outler papers opened to the public on February 2 in The Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Galleries at Bridwell Library. To view the exhibition online, please visit www.smu.edu/bridwell/exhibitions. A separate digital collection of items from the Albert Cook Outler papers is also available at http://digitalcollections.smu.edu/all/bridwell/outler/index.asp. The online exhibition and the digital collection were created by Digital Projects Librarian Rebecca Howdeshell.

In celebration of the project completion and exhibition opening, Bridwell Library hosted the 2015 Fondren Lecture on February 3, presented by Dr. Leicester Longden of The University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, who spoke on the intellectual legacy of Albert Cook Outler.

Researchers interested in studying Albert Outler’s life and teachings may also want to consult these closely-related collections at Bridwell Library: Wesley Works Editorial Project records, Wanda W. Smith papers, and Bob W. Parrott papers. For more information or to make an appointment, please contact Tim Binkley at (214) 768-1989 or tbinkley@smu.edu.
Did you know that there are over 50 regional archives groups (Regionals) in the United States? Some, such as the Midwest Archives Conference, represent multiple states over a large geographic area, while others are narrower in geographic scope, such as the Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc. Many of these Regionals also overlap geographically. For example, if you work in Cleveland, you could belong to up to three Regionals.

By virtue of membership overlap, there probably is coordination between groups that share a geographic area. Can the same be said for Regionals of similar size or type across the country?

The Regional Archival Associations Consortium (RAAC) fosters communication and collaboration among all Regionals. In 2013, RAAC was formed by inviting each Regional to join, with one representative per association. Representatives from each type of Regional--local, state and multi-state--serve together on one of six subcommittees and have been working together on a few stated goals.

- The Grant Development Subcommittee compiled grant opportunities by region for a new online resource.
- The Education Subcommittee created a Governance Document Repository compiled from the working documents of Regionals. The Repository provides examples of governing documents such as mission statements, constitutions & bylaws, and guidelines for advocacy & outreach, event planning, and newsletters & journals.
- The Disaster Planning & Recovery Subcommittee created an online resource that provides information on regional, national, and international disaster planning and recovery resources.
- The Directory Subcommittee created a comprehensive list of archives groups in the United States and Canada. The directory makes it easy to see the breadth and scope of the Regional community, and includes contact information and a brief snapshot of each Regional’s activities.
- The Public Awareness Subcommittee maintains a Facebook page which profiles a Regional’s event each month. Beyond simply promoting these events, we hope that archivists will use the page as a catalog of events and programs to borrow from. Public Awareness also facilitates information sharing among Regionals and publicizes the work of the Committee.
- With the help of SAA’s Issues and Advocacy Roundtable, the RAAC Advocacy Subcommittee is currently investigating how to best establish formal communication lines through which regionals can report local advocacy issues to SAA and ask for advocacy assistance.

In addition to the work of the subcommittees, co-chair Amanda Focke represents RAAC in the Coalition to Advance Learning in Archives, Libraries and Museums. RAAC joins other archival organizations such as SAA and CoSA to represent the archival field on the Coalition, whose purpose is to work in deliberate coordination across organizational boundaries to devise and strengthen sustainable Continuing Education and Professional Development (CE/PD) programs that will transform the library, archives, and museum workforce in ways that lead to measurable impact on our nation’s communities.

This is my first and only career; I hope never to leave it. I come from a family of public servants. I’ve heard my whole life the cliché “I didn’t get into this for the money.” While it is laudable to have all-volunteer organizations, constant turnover in leadership can, without solid recruiting, jeopardize the vitality of a Regional. RAAC seeks to ease the burden of new leadership by providing practical guidance. For the coming year we will focus on education, outreach, grants, disaster planning, and advocacy. Please consider attending our meeting at SAA on Wednesday, August 19. Time: TBD.

For more information or if you’d like make a suggestion please visit us at, [http://www2.archivists.org/groups/regional-archival-associations-consortium-raac](http://www2.archivists.org/groups/regional-archival-associations-consortium-raac), or contact Daniel Alonzo at daniel.alonzo@glo.texas.gov.
Texas A&M University has acquired the Don Kelly Research Collection of Gay Literature and Culture, an 8000+ collection of books, serials, manuscripts, and posters that document the LGBTQ community nationally and internationally. This collection, with some affiliated holdings in our University Archives, science fiction, fantasy, and zine collections, Africana, Area Studies, and literature, positions A&M as one of the premiere research collections on the LGBTQ communities.

Kelly, who is now retired and living in Houston after a 35-year-career as a civil servant in East Texas, said that when he began assembling the collection, “I thought I might make a contribution by collecting the sometimes reviled and much undervalued books and publications that have been the only source of reassurance and identity for many gay people over the years.” The collection boasts many first editions and rare resources that Kelly started collecting later in life after moving to Texas more than 50 years ago from his hometown of Chicago to join the U.S. Air Force.

As a social activist for much of his life, Kelly says that he has always had an interest in the advancement of gay rights and the desire to understand the history of gay people—which sparked his interest in collecting gay literature and publications. With items ranging from important works of the Victorian era to the “lost gay novels” of the early twentieth century, and the campy gay pulps from the 1950s and 1960s, the collection contains a wealth of significant and unique research materials. Fittingly, Kelly describes the collection as “broad, but in-depth.”

The acquisition of the Kelly collection was met with widespread support from the local community, who provided numerous letters speaking to its importance and value. The final step for acquiring the collection was made possible by financial contributions from several campus stakeholders, including David H. Carlson, Dean of University Libraries; Dr. K. aran L. Watson, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Mark A. Hussey, interim president of Texas A&M; Dr. Christine A. Stanley, Vice President and Associate Provost for Diversity; and Dr. Pamela R. Matthews, interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts.

“The process of acquiring this collection was among the most satisfying since I have come to Texas A&M,” Dean Carlson said. “With just this single collection, the University Libraries becomes one of the premier collections in the country for scholarly resources in LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) literature.”

“I am grateful to the Texas A&M administration, deans and departments for their unwavering support to house the collection,” Kelly said. “I particularly would like to single out the staff at Cushing Library for their many kindnesses and courtesies in bringing the acquisition to fruition. “It is my fervent hope the collection will spotlight this diversity and give due recognition to this great center of learning; as well as further enlightening minds and opening hearts in the wider community as to the talents and gifts of gay people. If this be so, I take pride in this legacy.” More details on the acquisition can be found in this recent issue of OutSmart, http://www.outsmartmagazine.com/2015/03/aggies-embrace-lgbt-culture.

In celebration of this acquisition and the GLBT Awareness Week Cushing hosted a grand opening exhibition of the collection titled Lives. Liberation. Love. The Don Kelly Research Collection of Gay Literature and Culture was yesterday and will run through May 2016. This exhibition was timed to also commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Gay Student Services v. Texas A&M University’s Supreme Court decision that required universities nationwide, to recognized gay student groups under the First Amendment in 1985. If you have any questions or would like a catalog for your collection, please contact the curator of the collection Rebecca Hankins at rhankins@tamu.edu.

SSA recognizes the following members for their generous contributions to Society’s scholarship funds. Thank you for your contribution and for supporting our peers and emerging archivists!

Anne Hodges, in memory of Ann Massman, $50.00 to the Gracy Scholarship
Mark Lambert, $100.00 to the Gracy Scholarship
Lee Miller, $25.00 to Scholarship Endowment Fund
Susan Novick, in memory of Ann Massman, $40.00 to the Gracy Scholarship Fund
Claudia Rivers, in memory of Ann Massman, $30.00 to the Hebert Scholarship

Please find information about making a donation on the SSA website at http://southwestarchivists.org/Donations.
The Council on Library and Information Resources' (CLIR) Hidden Collections program recently awarded the University of North Texas' Special Collections $164,400 for the 2014-2016 project, "Post-War Industry and Development of the Southwest Metroplex." Upon further exploration of UNT’s holdings, several hidden collections related to the explosive growth of the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex through the last seven decades were discovered.

These previously undescribed, or partially described collections include topics such as urban planning, politics, industry, housing, economics, industrial education, and major infrastructure projects of the north Texas region such as the Superconducting Super Collider.

Unlike many large American urban areas, the Dallas Fort Worth area is poorly represented in terms of collection development related to the postwar development of the region. Urban historians in particular point to the scarcity of available sources available on the topic resulting in a lack of serious scholarly research concentrated on DFW, one of the largest urban areas in the South and Southwest. Project staff immediately recognized the potential impact such collections could contribute to scholarly research and, with the assistance of the CLIR Hidden Collections grant, set about making these collections available and accessible.

In addition to processing the hidden collections, project staff will publicize the project and the collections it encompasses. A project blog is the primary outreach tool to being used to connect with the research community and public. The Discovering the Southwest Metroplex blog (https://blogs.library.unt.edu/southwest-metroplex) highlights UNT’s archival holdings by featuring some of the collections of the Post-War Industry and Development of the Southwest Metroplex project as well as other UNT collections that relate to the topic. Potential topics for the blog postings are identified by the project archivist and student assistants as they process collections. They take note of any interesting finds they come across during descriptive activities that may appeal to the community and share these findings with special collections bloggers. Examples of the hidden collections and materials highlighted so far by blog posts include the winning proposal to bring the Superconducting Super Collider to Texas; DFW International Airport planning documents and early photographs of the DFW metroplex from the Lester Strother Texas Metro Collection; and documents pertaining to the Southwest Federal Regional Council from the Dr. John T. Thompson Papers Collection. Blog posts also showcase previously processed collections held by UNT Special Collections that support the Postwar Industry and Development of the Southwest Metroplex theme. The most popular post to date is about the Frank Cuellar, Sr. Collection and describes the meteoric rise of the Cuellar family from running a small tamale booth at the Kaufman County Fair to head of the multimillion dollar El Chico corporation in the 1970s.

Feedback concerning the blog has been so positive that the special collections department has determined to make the blog an ongoing activity after the projected completion date of the CLIR funded Hidden Collections project in April of 2016. Currently underway are efforts to revamp the UNT Libraries blog platform to allow for more customizable features per individual departments, better integrated image galleries and embedded video.

Based on some of the feedback received from previous blog postings, another planned strategy is to begin reaching out directly to targeted communities via other social media avenues with links to postings that concern materials and collections that relate to those specific communities. The expectation is that these efforts will result in exposure to and interest in archival collections and primary source materials from communities where none previously existed.

Jaime Janda, project archivist and Morgan Gieringer, head of special collections, will present a paper on this project and the Discovering the Southwest Metroplex blog at the 2015 CLIR Hidden Collections conference.

The experiences being gained through UNT’s CLIR Hidden Collections project are transforming UNT Special Collections’ outreach endeavors. Through its ongoing efforts to “uncover” hidden collections, Special Collections are learning that sometimes just processing a collection is not enough, and that blogs and social media can help reveal our collections to entirely new audiences.

For more information contact, Morgan Gieringer or Bridgett Tanner, at the University of North Texas Special Collections, University of North Texas Libraries, Special Collections, 1155 Union Circle #305190, Denton, Texas.
Archival Trends: Archival Advocacy Resources
Lauren Goodley, CA, Texas State University

Though advocacy has always been a major part of archival work, it has recently become a hot topic. In fact, there will be two sessions on advocacy at the SSA Annual Meeting in May: "Boot Camp: What the Midway Can Teach Us About Outreach and Advocacy," and "¡Dale Gas!: Archival Outreach, Advocacy, and Community Support." In anticipation and support of these sessions, I've gathered here some resources provided by SAA and SSA to help us as we advocate for our individual archives and communities.

1. SAA's Issues and Advocacy Roundtable
   • The I&A Roundtable has developed an Advocacy Toolkit located on the website: http://www2.archivists.org/groups/issues-and-advocacy-roundtable/advocacy-toolkit-0.
   • There are also Past I&A Actions, Procedures for Suggesting SAA Advocacy Action, and a Call for Advocacy Stories, all available via the website at http://www2.archivists.org/groups/issues-and-advocacy-roundtable.
   • The Issues and Advocacy Roundtable is also working with Regional Archival Associations Consortium (RAAC) and the regional groups to propose additional formal methods and lines of communication for individuals and regional groups to share advocacy information with SAA, request help, and disseminate news and information.

2. Regional Archival Associations Consortium (RAAC)
   • RAAC has an Advocacy Committee charged with developing programs for local associations to advocate for archives and archivists in public fora. The current chair of the RAAC Advocacy Committee, Rachel Chatalbash, has recently submitted a proposal to SAA Council on how to establish formal communication lines for regionals to report local advocacy issues to SAA and to ask for advocacy assistance, including coordination with the SAA Committee on Advocacy and Public Policy.
   • (See more information about RAAC and Advocacy on page 23 of this newsletter.)

3. Society of Southwest Archivists
   • This year SSA Board determined a goal of better supporting advocacy and archives at the local level, stemming from the suggestions made at the 2014 Annual Meeting's Past, Present, and Future brainstorming session on increasing diversity within SSA.
   • The board sponsored the Archivists of Central Texas's Archives Bazaar, and is looking for ways to provide support for other community outreach events.
   • Also, SSA is working with RAAC to create clear and streamlined communications for members with advocacy needs or alerts, so that leadership can respond and support these calls in a timely and appropriate manner.

Each of these groups is working to provide support for individuals and archives seeking support and assistance with advocacy needs. Whether the need is for funding or staff at a local community archives, or an issue at the state or national legislatures, archives leadership is coming up with ways that we can support each other, thus making our voices louder and stronger.
SSA members from across Texas gathered in Houston, TX to participate in an ArchivesSpace workshop. The event, held February 25-27, provided participants a guided introduction to the next-generation archives information management application. Participants from various institutions included: Norie Guthrie, Dara Flinn, Amanda Focke, Rebecca Russell, Jeff Warner, Johanna Von Behrens, Ann Hodges, Mary Saffell, Hagan Barber, Christy Moilanen, Lisa Cruces, Julie Grob, Stacey Lavender, Mary Manning, and Matt Richardson, and Janette Garcia.

Thomas H. Kreneck received the Premio Estrella de Aztlan, an award instituted by the Tejas Foco of the National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies. This life achievement award seeks to honor persons making contributions to the well-being of Chicanos in the arenas of cultural arts, social justice, social services, political engagement, and publications. It is dedicated to recognizing individuals whose work has spanned a minimum of twenty-five years. Kreneck received the award at the Tejas Foco conference in Houston on February 27.

Kristi Nedderman was hired in December by Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Arkansas, to be the Project Archivist for the gubernatorial collection of Governor Mike Beebe. When Beebe left office in January, he donated his eight years of gubernatorial papers, video, photographs, and memorabilia to the university. Nedderman is a brand new archivist, having obtained an MA in History/Archival Administration in August 2014 from the University of Texas at Arlington.

As of January 19, Gerrianne Schaad moved from Oklahoma City to Florida. She is now Archivist at Florida Southern College, home of 17 Frank Lloyd Wright designed buildings, and close to Disney World. Call her if you come to the area (863) 680-4994 and you can talk about the forthcoming book The Sons of Charlie Russell: Celebrating Fifty Years of the Cowboy Artists of America in which she served as the photograph editor.

Joshua Youngblood, will be presenting a paper, “Academic Archives and Public Engagement: Connecting Collections with the Communities they Serve” at the International Council of Archivists 2015 meeting in Reykjavik, Iceland. Joshua is the Research and Outreach Services Librarian in Special Collections at the University of Arkansas Libraries.

LEADERSHIP ITEMS

SSA wants to hear from YOU!

Share your leadership news with your colleagues.

Leadership Items can include:
- Job changes or promotions
- Publications
- New projects
- Internships
- Grants
- Workshops attended or taught

Send items to Krishna Shenoy at krishnas@jfk.org.
You expect your content management system to provide full-text searching.

Now, you can expect more. Expect your system to search audio as part of a cross-collection search option.

Enhance your digital collections with oral histories, speeches, or other audio, and let users search them along with your books and photos and newspapers.

Discover a new dimension to content management systems. ProSeek from Northern Micrographics.