Spotlight on:
Processing a Large Collection of Congressional Papers
Bailey Hoffner  *  The University of Oklahoma

The Congressional Archives
The Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center has been in the business of preserving the history of the U.S. Congress for nearly 35 years. The Congressional Archives are currently comprised of 59 collections of former members of Congress (most of these are from Oklahoma) and close to 20 related collections. The activities of the Congressional Archives are complemented by other programs offered by the Carl Albert Center, including graduate research fellowships, undergraduate programs in research as well as service-learning and civic engagement, an archives visiting scholars program, a biannual journal related to congressional studies, a distinguished lecture series on representative government, and several women’s leadership initiatives.

Thanks to years of dedication, the Center has become a lively environment for strengthening representative democracy through scholarship, learning, and service, and the Archives has become an invaluable source for reflecting on our political past and in turn, our political future.

The James R. Jones Collection
James R. “Jim” Jones was chairman of the House Budget Committee from 1980-1984 during the first Reagan administration, a time of great economic turmoil and change. In 1972, he became the first Democrat in 22 years to represent Oklahoma’s first district, and went on to serve in this capacity for 14 years. He started as the youngest member of the Oklahoma delegation, became the only freshman at the time to serve in the House leadership as an assistant majority whip, and quickly moved up to deputy majority whip after only one term. Beyond his work as chairman of the Budget Committee, Jones also served on the Ways and Means Committee and chaired multiple subcommittees. He left Congress in 1986 after an unsuccessful campaign for U.S. Senate, but his commitment to public service continued, and from 1993 to 1997, he served as U.S. Ambassador to Mexico under President Bill Clinton.

Thanks to a generous grant from the National Historic Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), the Center will be able to make the entirety of Jones’ congressional and ambassadorial records available to the public for research in early 2014. The process from start to finish has been an exciting one, though not without its challenges. Highlighting some of those challenges, the ways in which the archivists faced them, and what was learned in the process, will hopefully provide a useful narrative for anyone undertaking a large, grant-funded processing project.

The Grant
In 2010, the Carl Albert Center applied for a Detailed Processing Project Grant from the NHPRC to fund processing of the James R. Jones Collection. The proposal was accepted and the project began in 2011. The grant stipulated that the project should be completed in two years, and that certain performance objectives would be completed by the end of the grant period, a few of which are listed below:

- Arrangement and preservation of the Jones collection (717 cubic feet)
- Arrangement and preservation of Jones’ approximately 1000 photographs
- Creation of print, web, and EAD finding aids
- Creation of MARC records for distribution to large library databases
- Submission of regular progress reports to NHPRC

Continued on page 15
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/membershipinfo.

Southwestern Archivist is the quarterly newsletter of the SSA. The editors give priority to submissions of news items about repositories in the SSA region and about the professional accomplishments of SSA members. Out-of-region submissions will be published as space permits. Short feature articles on topics and issues relating to current trends in archival enterprise are also welcome, as are longer Spotlight columns. Please query Lauren Goodley (lgoodley@txstate.edu) or Kate L. Blalack (kate@woodyguthriecenter.org) 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 email, with a title; the author’s name, institutional affiliation, and contact information; and captions and citations for images. Images are encouraged; please send as separate email attachments.

Please note that 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
Diane Worrell
dfworrel@uark.edu

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

Texas submissions
Melissa Gonzales
mggonzales@uta.edu

Leadership Log submissions
Krishna Shenoy
krishnas@jfk.org

Out-of-region submissions
Shelly Croteau
shelly.croteau@sos.mo.gov

Editors
Lauren Goodley lgoodley@txstate.edu
Kate L. Blalack kate@woodyguthriecenter.org

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.
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FROM THE EDITORS

Welcome to the final issue of 2013. How was your year? Did you get a lot accomplished? See inside for inspiration from colleagues on digital projects, accepting monetary gifts, processing, and exhibits. As you think of your own projects, consider submitting them to the newsletter. Remember, as we say in my neck of the woods, “It’s not bragging if it’s true!”

You may also be inspired by Thomas Kreneck’s article (p.32), detailing how the Corpus Christi historic community is coming forward to support an archives in danger. Also, Jonna Paden tells of her travels and training as the recipient of the A. Otis Herbert Scholarship 2013 (p.14). Speaking of scholarships, please do submit an application to one of SSA’s several scholarships, or encourage a colleague to do so.

EAC-CPF, anyone? Jennifer Hecker schools us on the basics (p.35)--let’s take the conversation online to the website Forum to discuss what the heck she’s talking about!

And, we’ll see you next year!

*Correction: August 2013 issue erroneously stated that Margaret Waring was the only SSA charter member at the annual meeting. Ellen Brown, a founding and charter member, was also in attendance.

WHAT’S ON THE WEB?

southwestarchivists.org

Front page--Leadership news
Annual meeting information
SSA Functioning and governance
Old Newsletter issues

Members only (to log in, use your email address and ‘forgot password’):
Current Newsletter Issues
Member Directory
Forums page--Job announcements, Calls for Papers, Discussions
Leadership and Governance Documents

SOUTHWESTERN ARCHIVIST NEEDS YOU!

Tell your colleagues about your acquisitions, projects, exhibits, or grants--submit repository news items by January 10. Photographs and images (jpeg-300 dpi) are highly encouraged. Caption and credit information must accompany the image(s). Also include your contact information.

Word count guidelines are as follows:
• One column (1/2 page) = 400 words, or 300 words with images
• Two columns (1 full page) = 700 words, or 500 words with images

Due to space limitations, we are unable to publish articles that are significantly longer than 700 words. Authors are encouraged to read the Call for Submissions that is sent to members via email about 10 days prior to the deadline. Priority will be given to articles that meet the stated guidelines, that are accompanied by photographs with captions, and are submitted by the deadline (see page 4 of every issue).

We are also seeking Spotlight articles that highlight repositories, individuals, or collections that may be of particular interest to our members, and Archival Trends articles. Please contact Lauren Goodley (lgoodley@txstate.edu) or Kate Blalack (kate@woodyguthriearchives.org) to reserve these spaces.
I hope that you enjoyed the Spotlight article on charter SSA member Margaret Waring in the August 2013 issue of the *Southwestern Archivist* as much as I did! Margaret described her mentors throughout her career as well as her colleagues in the archival world with such appreciation. Thanks go to SSA Executive Board member Claire Galloway who reached out to Margaret for this article. I was also pleased to see the new “Archival Trends” feature in the newsletter, providing us all with the opportunity to interact with our colleagues on the SSA website.

At this time of year, SSA officers, board members, and committee chairs are working diligently on their activities, from coordinating professional development workshops, to promoting scholarship opportunities, to preparing for the SSA elections in the spring. The New Orleans Local Arrangements Committee, led by Trish Nugent and Eira Tansey, is coordinating the specifics of the May 2014 annual meeting, and Program Chair Katie Salzmann is waiting for your program submissions. Please submit a program proposal for “Casting a Wide Net: Broadening the Archival Experience” by the November 27 deadline. Read all about these activities in this issue and enjoy articles submitted by SSA members. There is so much going on in our region!

I appreciate all the SSA Executive Board members and committee chairs for their efforts to make the SSA an organization that benefits archivists in our region and provides a collegial atmosphere for professional and leadership development. I enjoy leading this great team of men and women!

Archivally yours,

Susan Novick, CA
Archival Consultant

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**Continuing Education Scholarship**

In honor of SSA’s founding president, this scholarship is intended to further the professional training of working archivists in the Southwest. All scholarship applications must be postmarked by FEBRUARY 7, 2014. Please see eligibility requirements and application guidelines at: [http://southwesternarchivists.org](http://southwesternarchivists.org)

Phone: 254-710-6031
Fax: 254-710-1368
Benna Vaughan, CA
Texas Collection, Baylor University
One Bear Place #97142
Waco, TX 76798
For more information contact scholarship chair:
SSA Wants You!
B. Lynn Wittfield * Nominating Committee Chair

Service – Experience – Camaraderie

The Nominating Committee is looking for candidates for 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 Committee and Procedures Manual [http://www.southwestarchivists.org/Resources/Documents/Manuals/Manual2012.pdf](http://www.southwestarchivists.org/Resources/Documents/Manuals/Manual2012.pdf) (You must log in to view this document.)

If you would like to serve or feel you know who the perfect candidate would be, please contact members of the Nominating Committee

Lynn Whitfield lynn.whitfield@ttu.edu
Mark Lambert mlambert727@gmail.com
Emily E. Hyatt ehyatt@consolidated.net

The deadline for submitting nominations is November 22, 2013.

Many of you may have noticed that the “member since” date in your online SSA profile is inexplicably given as 01 Jan 2012. Why? Well, we first uploaded our member list into our new membership management software on June 21, 2012, so it automatically made the first of the year as the “member since” date for everyone, regardless of when they actually joined. If you enrolled before 2012 and want your profile to include your actual date of membership, call or write me with the day, month, and/or year you joined SSA and we’ll get that fixed right away. This is not an issue for members who joined more recently.

Hans C. Rasmussen Membership Committee chair
225-578-4803
hrasmuss@lsu.edu

Who would you like to see honored for their service to the Society of Southwest Archivists and the wider archival profession?

The Distinguished Service Award Committee is seeking nominations for SSA’s Distinguished Service Award sponsored by Hollinger Metal Edge. Nominations should be made in writing and include a brief statement of the contributions and achievements of the nominee to SSA and the profession. Letters in support of the nomination are encouraged.

All nomination materials should be received by the chair no later than Friday January 10, 2014.

Send nominations to:
Amanda Focke
Rice University
Fondren Library, MS-44
6100 Main St.
Houston, TX 77005
Or email them to afocke@rice.edu
The PDC hosted a pilot webinar on September 26-27, from 1pm-3pm on both days. “Oral History and Archives in Practice: A Workshop” was conducted as a two-part webinar by Lauren Kata with our newest PDC member Alexis Castro as assistant and liaison. With SSA leadership input, the PDC offered this webinar free of charge to the registrants from the canceled May 2013 meeting.

Planning for the Annual Meeting in May 2014 is under way. We will be offering the following workshops:

- **Inreach and Outreach for Digital Archives**  
  (SAA DAS course)  
  Description: Are you ready to build a digital archives program? This course will provide the core components necessary to gather support, engage stakeholders, and enact the change necessary to collection donors and technology staff in order to effectively collect and manage born-digital materials.

- **Project Management for Archivists**  
  Instructors: Stephanie Bayless and Brian Robertson, Butler Center for Arkansas Studies.  
  Description: Whether you are processing a collection, implementing a new digital system, moving to a new facility, setting up a public program, or creating an award-winning exhibit, you are serving as a de facto project manager. Archivists spend a large amount of our time working with these types of assignments with little to no project management training in our repertoire. In this workshop, participants will learn practical project management skills and tips with real-world application possibilities. We will discuss the ins-and-outs of project planning, scheduling, communication, and system utilization. Participants will be invited to share their successes and challenges, as well as present current projects for group discussion and assistance.

- **Instruction and Assessment in the Archives**  
  Instructors: Amy Roberson and Anne Jumonville, Trinity University San Antonio.  
  Description: Amy’s presentation on Instruction and Assessment in the Archives at SSA 2013 received an overwhelming response. People want to know more and this workshop is a direct response. This workshop will build on her presentation with realistic and applicable instruction and assessment techniques for teaching students in an archival setting.

  Additionally, an upcoming workshop being planned is “Grant Writing in the Archives,” with instructor Danielle Plumer.

Contact Felicia Williamson at fxt004@shsu.edu, or check the web for more information and registration.
Toward Casting a Wider Net: News from the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Outreach

Donna Morales Guerra * Committee Chair

Warm saludos, my name is Donna Guerra, newly appointed Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Outreach (AHCDO). As SSA President Susan Novick noted in the August newsletter, the creation of the AHCDO was approved at the Board Meeting of the May 2013 Annual Conference. As of October 2013, and after many conversations with Susan and others involved in diversity work in both SSA and SAA, we have completed committee formation and are just beginning our work.

The SSA archivists on the committee are: Donna Guerra, Trinity University, San Antonio; Felicia Williamson, Chair, Professional Development, SSA; Hans Rasmussen, Chair, Membership, SSA; Diane Bird, Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Santa Fe; Jonna Paden, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center Library and Archive, Albuquerque; LaToya Devezin, New Orleans Public Library; Erika Castaño, University of Arizona, Tucson; and Bill Welge, Oklahoma Historical Society. Ann Massmann, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, and Member, SAA Diversity Committee; John Slate, City of Dallas; and Sarah Jackson, Harris County Archives, have agreed to be available as advisors.

The committee is exploring use of an Asana (http://www.asana.com) collaborative workspace, in the hopes that this will make remote group work easier. Our initial work focus is (1) to create a purpose statement, (2) create a strategic plan and actions: brainstorm ideas for participation, and (3) create plans for presence at the 2014 annual meeting.

One aspect of this committee’s work will be the documentation of the history of SSA work in diversity, as an acknowledgement that this new committee is a “beginning again” within SSA. John Slate, past SSA president, responded to my request for his reflections on past diversity efforts. Here is an excerpt from what he shared:

Diversity has been an intangible goal in the work of the Society, but have we really taken the time to express this in a formal policy? In the SSA Bylaws, the Nominating Committee explicitly charges its members to “consider the diversity of interests, geographical location, sex, age, race, and national origin in its selection of nominees.”

In 2010-2011, the executive board made further attempts to expand its efforts towards diversity by contacting the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, & Museums to open the doors of communication between the two organizations to collaborate on educational endeavors to promote sound archival practices in the Southwest region. While SSA has made many strides in diversity, there are more frontiers to broach, and plenty of constituencies to engage as we continue to make our society as inclusive as possible.

And so we proceed in that spirit. Ideally, we would like to have an LGBTQ SSA member on our committee. Please consider contacting me at dmguerra2001@yahoo.com if you are interested in serving on the committee.

In forthcoming newsletters, I will provide updates about our work, bios of committee members, and bits of diversity news and history. I invite any SSA member to submit ideas about diversity initiatives and concerns to me at my email above. I am hopeful that the committee will be able to effect some interesting changes in professional representation and participation for our region.

Student Poster Announcement

Laurel Rozema and Halley Grogan * Student Poster Coordinators

The Society of Southwest Archivists invites students to submit proposals for posters to be presented as part of the student poster session of SSA’s Annual Meeting, which will be held from May 27-31, 2014, in New Orleans, Louisiana. The student poster session allows students to present their work in a professional arena, participate in the annual meeting, and meet current archives practitioners interested in learning about new topics, projects, and research from incoming professionals.

Posters should discuss long-term projects or research relating to archives done during the course of their graduate career. This session is open to all students working towards Master’s or PhD degrees and planning to pursue careers in archives, museum studies, or public history. Recent graduates may also submit posters about their graduate work.

The submission deadline for proposals is April 15, 2014. Proposals may be submitted online at http://www.southwestarchivists.org/proposals. For questions or more information, contact the Student Poster Coordinators Halley Grogan (hrogan@tsl.state.tx.us) or Laurel Rozema (lrozema@austin.utexas.edu), or view the website link above. Scroll to the bottom for student posters.
Call for Session Proposals: 2014 Annual Meeting
New Orleans, Louisiana; May 27 – 31, 2014

Annual Conference Theme: “Casting a Wide Net: Broadening the Archival Experience”

Submission Deadline: Wednesday, November 27 2013

SSA’S Program Committee invites you to submit a proposal for an educational session at the 2014 annual meeting in New Orleans. The meeting theme is broad, and we welcome session proposals on any aspect of archival enterprise. Proposals that touch on the intersection between archives and other professions or stakeholders are strongly encouraged.

Session Formats: The Program Committee invites submission proposals that may include, but are not limited to the following formats:

- **Traditional:** A session chair and two to three speakers presenting fully prepared papers on an archival topic (15-20 minutes each), followed by a comment and discussion period. 90-minute session
- **Panel Discussion:** Up to five panelists with perspectives on a given topic and a chair or moderator to lead the discussion and field questions from the audience. 90-minute session.
- **Single Paper:** An individual may propose a single paper (15-20 minutes), and the Program Committee will make every effort to either add it to an existing session proposal, or develop a new session around the topic.
- **Student Poster Presentation:** Information on submitting a student presentation is available on the SSA website.

Submission Process: The session proposal form is available on the SSA website under Events. Or you can email Program Committee Chair, Katie Salzmann, with the following information:

- Your name and contact information
- A short abstract of the proposed session
- A list of speakers and paper titles
- Audio/video needs for the session

Looking for people to join you in proposing a session? Start a discussion on the SSA website in the “Let’s talk archives!” section to reach others who might want to partner with you. Or contact any member of the Program Committee for assistance in developing a session.

Inquiries may be sent to:
Katie Salzmann, Chair, 2014 Program Committee
Email: salzmann@txstate.edu
Phone: 512-245-3861
Have you ever considered teaching a continuing education workshop, but are hesitant to commit to a full or half-day workshop? Well, this year the SSA Program Committee would like to add a “boot camp” series to the annual conference sessions.

Unlike the more familiar “lightning rounds,” these sessions would have only one or two presenters who are experts on a topic and who can provide an overview of issues, trends, and tips for success. The goal is for attendees to walk away with a clearer understanding of a topic, with some ideas that they can actually implement once they return to the workplace.

Suggested topics for boot camp sessions include:
- Recruiting & training volunteers/interns
- Strategic planning
- Mobile archives
- Crowd-funding and other trends in development
- Disaster planning
- Archives job hunt
- Succession planning in archives
- Marketing & branding
- Publishing
- Friends groups & advisory boards

If you feel you could put together an hour-long presentation on one of these or another topic, please consider submitting a proposal. We would love to have your expertise!

Questions? Contact any Program Committee member, or committee chair, Katie Salzmann at salzmann@txstate.edu.

Program Committee Members:
Chris Brown cbrown@centenary.edu
Elizabeth Dunham elizabeth.dunham@asu.edu
Megan North megan.north@txstate.edu
Michelle Riggs mriggs@campus.lsu.edu
Joshua Youngblood jcyoungb@uark.edu
The trite, but true, adage of “Location! Location! Location!” making all the difference rings especially true when considering the founding and flourishing of New Orleans. From the early struggles of France trying to establish a colony in the 1700s to the city’s recent renaissance in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and the failure of the Federal levee system, the city has been defined by its proximity to water. Lake Pontchartrain, the Mississippi River, and the Gulf of Mexico all converge—if not geographically at least figuratively—to forge the identity of New Orleans through the almost 300 years of her existence. Thus “Casting a Wide Net: Broadening the Archival Experience,” the theme of SSA’s 2014 Annual Meeting to be held in New Orleans on May 27-31, 2014 resonates on many levels. Please join us on a pictorial journey through the history of New Orleans and its waterways.

All photos and graphics are courtesy of Louisiana Division/City Archives, New Orleans Public Library.

1. May 7, 1718 is recognized as the founding of the City of New Orleans by Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville, who was director of the French Mississippi Company. Named for Philippe d’Orleans, who was Regent of France at the time, the colony remained under the flag of the French until 1763, when it was ceded to the Spanish Empire. *B. M. Norman’s 1849 map of New Orleans.*

2. New Orleans returned to French rule in 1801, where it remained until 1803 when Napoleon sold the surrounding area known as the Louisiana Territory to the United States for 50 million francs ($11,250,000) plus cancellation of debts worth 18 million francs ($3,750,000). After interest the total cost for 828,000 square miles was $23,213,568. *Imprint of the seal of Pierre-Clement de Laussat, Colonial Prefect of Louisiana.*

3. By the 1850 census New Orleans had grown to be the 6th largest city in the United States. As a major port and the largest Southern city, New Orleans was a jewel to be plucked during the Civil War, falling to the Union forces in April 1862. Federal troops continued to occupy the city throughout the war and into the early years of Reconstruction. *“The City of Vicksburg,” photographed 1881 by David Barrow Fischer.*

4. In 1875, as the Reconstruction era was drawing to a close, the Louisiana legislature formally declared Mardi Gras an official holiday. The original French colonists had introduced the Louisiana territory to this seasonal festival as part of their Catholic observances, and through the years New Orleans has always held Carnival, albeit World Wars, political upheaval, and untoward weather events have at times curtailed the extent of the celebration. The Sea-Beasts,” *1907 Proteus float design by Bror Anders Wilkstrom.*

5. Serving as the city’s link to Lake from the 1830s until the 1950s was the New Basin Canal, which terminated near the present-day site of the Union Passenger Terminal and followed the route now taken by the Pontchartrain Expressway. *Tug and sloop, ca. 1905-1910, New Basin Canal near Lake Ponchartrain, by Alexander Allison.*

6. The New Orleans Recreation Department, better known as NORD, began serving the citizens of the city in 1946. Nationally hailed as one of the most progressive programs of its kind (by *Life* magazine no less) it nevertheless was a segregated program, with separate but not necessarily equal facilities and programming. However the 1960s were around the corner with the dawning of the Civil Rights movement which included the founding of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, led by Martin Luther King, Jr., at a meeting of African-American ministers and leaders held in New Orleans in February 1957. *NORD Scrapbook Collection 1946-47, photo by Arthur W. Tong.*

7. In November 1966 the National Football League granted New Orleans a franchise. Named after the song “When the Saints Go Marching In,” the New Orleans Saints played at Tulane Stadium from 1967-1974. The 1975 season saw the team taking up residence in the Louisiana Superdome, where they still play to this day. *1971, photographer unknown.*

8. The Vieux Carre, aka The French Quarter has always been and will always be the heart of the city. And at the very center of her heart is St. Louis Cathedral. The original Cathedral was built at the back of the Place d’Armes in 1718. The Place d’Armes was renamed Jackson Square in 1815 and the iconic statue of Andrew Jackson was added about forty years later. The current cathedral is the result of a large expansion and rebuilding project in 1850. *Jackson Square and St. Louis Cathedral, ca. 1960s, photographer unknown.*

SSA 2014: Location, location, location!

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SSA 2014: LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!
...continued from previous page.
With the help of the A. Otis Hebert Scholarship, I traveled to Melbourne, Australia for a two-week University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Study Abroad class this past July. Under the instruction of Kimberly Anderson, the class was broken into two units: the Records Continuum and Introduction to Australian Archives. We visited fourteen different archives and recordkeeping sites focused toward various archival missions, including Government Records, Corporate Archives, Historical Society, Cultural Heritage, National Heritage, Religious Organization, Aboriginal Archives, and Community Archives. Some of the places visited were: Public Records Office Victoria, Royal Children’s Hospital Melbourne, Royal Historical Society of Melbourne, Melbourne Cricket Club, Melbourne Lesbian and Gay Archives, and various University of Melbourne repositories. At each institution, the staff welcomed us and took the time to give us tours and explain their archival collections, policies, procedures, and duties. We also got to share with them the places we work or intern and our own experiences.

We also spent a day at two Monash University campuses and met two members of the Records Continuum Research Group – Professor Sue McKemmish and Frank Upward. At an informal gathering we talked with faculty and students in an equivalent MLIS program.

Australia has had a global impact on archival theory and practice through concepts like the Records Continuum, parallel provenance and the Australian Series System. We observed what system each repository utilized, and how Australian theory and standards are applied in practice. Readings and class discussions focused on various themes such as records management, memory and heritage pluralistic and multiple provenance.

Through this class, I learned firsthand about differences and similarities in archival practice, careers, and education between the United States and Australia. Of particular interest to me was learning how Aboriginal records are collected and cared for at the many archival repositories. I was excited to visit two archives focused specifically toward Aboriginal peoples and their records. I found the Koorie Heritage Trust to be very much like the archives where I am an intern – the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center Library and Archives in Albuquerque, New Mexico – from the books and subjects collected to the volunteer staff and the cultural access restrictions. Not surprisingly, the Koorie archivist created a specialized easy reference color classification. The added bonus was a visit to the Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages located in the same building. I also visited the Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre located at the Melbourne Museum. Here again I found similarities, notably in the architectural design of the building and the use of space.

The value of this trip was enormous for me. As an American Indian archivist, I study Western archival studies and records management models looking for the best methods to use for Indigenous records. I returned with a better understanding of how Aboriginal material is managed, accessed, controlled, and appraised in a variety of Australian archival repositories. At the same time, seeing similarities confirmed that archivists and librarians face the same issues no matter their location. Finally, collaboration is necessary for small archives and related repositories such as historical societies. I wanted to expand my professional contacts internationally, to be able to share and to provide the other a different or expanded perspective. Several archivists openly shared things such as advocacy strategies, archival policy adjustments, and issues of access.

The trip to Melbourne – my first out of the country – was certainly an exciting trip, complete with jetlag on my return! I cannot thank the Society of Southwest Archivists and the A. Otis Hebert, Jr. scholarship committee enough for choosing me so I could take this educational opportunity and add international scholar to my resume. I did get free time to explore the city of Melbourne and experience a different culture. And, put in hand in the cool water of the South Pacific Ocean.

**Editor’s Note:** see A. Otis Herbert Scholarship 2014 information on page 17, or at southwestarchivists.org/scholarships.

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Jonna Paden on a tour of the Great Ocean Road.
Each of these tasks is time-consuming and intellectually intensive, especially the tasks of arranging and describing 717 cubic feet of congressional records.

**Challenges**
Looking back, most of the challenges that the Archives faced had to do with archivist succession. A new career opportunity for one archivist and retirement for another meant that by May of 2013, there had been a complete turnover of the full-time archival staff. This often led to stops and starts, since each archivist maintained processing records in slightly different formats and locations. Issues also arose because of slight variations in processing styles across the four archivists who have worked on the project. Some backtracking became necessary to ensure consistency.

**Lessons Learned**
Easily one of the biggest lessons learned was the importance of thoroughly incorporating new archivists into any ongoing major projects. Researching and finding every last bit of documentation related to the grant and to the processing of the collection is key for new archivists to ensure that work isn’t duplicated. This project also illustrates just how important it is to update processing manuals on a regular basis. A current and up-to-date processing guide will mean that the next project will require much less backtracking to maintain consistency in the processed product. Finally, a renewed dedication to the management of the Center’s own records, both print and electronic, will ensure smoother transitions during future projects.

Due to the work of talented and dedicated archivists throughout the grant period, the Center is nearing completion of all performance objectives. We’ve also benefited from our own reflective stance, hoping to learn from the challenges as well as the opportunities that the experience provided.

For more information about the Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center at the University of Oklahoma, please contact Bailey Hoffner at 405-325-5405 or baileys@ou.edu.

Eighty percent of philanthropic dollars are contributed by individual donors and through individual bequests. Add to this giving from family foundations, and the percentage rises to eighty-eight percent. Why do individuals give and to whom do they give?

Reasons for giving vary, but in nearly every case donors give because someone asks them to give, or asks them for help supporting a favorite cause. While sophisticated development organizations may have a well-maintained donor database and multiple staff who recruit major gifts and organize annual giving campaigns, the basic fact is that people give when they are asked. They also give because they are emotionally moved by someone’s story, and they give because they feel a sense of closeness to a community, cause, or group.

Despite economic conditions, over the past several years the greatest portion of charitable giving was contributed by individuals and household donors, and this number has grown over the past three years, according to Giving USA (www.givingusareports.org). Giving to the arts, culture, and humanities organizations, however, falls into the range of four to five percent of total giving. This small percentage indicates that our efforts need to be more strongly directed toward identifying individuals who believe in and value history and the cultural aspects embodied in archival programs. When we identify these individuals, we need to be prepared to ask for what we need, whether it be volunteer time, an immediate financial donation, a bequest, or some other form of gift such as corporate stocks or services.

How do we formulate the “ask”? Jen Shang, formerly of Indiana University, Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, studied donor behavior and found that there is an importance in word choice when speaking with potential donors or soliciting donations through phone and direct mail. She identified nine specific words that resonate with American women. These words are: kind, caring, compassionate, helpful, friendly, fair, hard working, generous, and honest. Selecting two words from this list and using them with women donors increased giving by 10% in her studies. With men participating in focus groups, the list of words is shorter: strong, responsible, and loyal. (http://www.philanthropy.iupui.edu/).

Just as word choice is important in making an “ask,” so is follow-up action when the gift is made. Acknowledging donors within one to two days of their gift is the most effective time period for saying thank you. No matter how small, the gift is given as a personal act and is important. Let your donor know how their contribution resulted in solving the problem you originally outlined and what a strong benefit the donation has provided, or how this caring and generous gift benefits future researchers.
U.S. Congressman Mike Ross presented his official papers and related material from his political career to Ouachita Baptist University during a recent press conference on Ouachita’s Arkadelphia, Arkansas, campus. Ouachita President Rex Horne accepted Congressman Ross’ papers and related files on behalf of the University, with both men signing an agreement to house the papers in the archives of Ouachita’s Riley-Hickingbotham Library Special Collections. Riley-Hickingbotham also houses the political papers of Sen. John L. McClellan, Congressman Jay Dickey and Gov. Mike Huckabee.

Congressman Ross served six terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, but did not seek reelection in 2012. His term concluded in January 2013, and he is currently a candidate for governor. Noting that he had the opportunity to serve in Congress during “a very historic time,” Ross cited such major issues and events during his congressional tenure as the September 11 terrorist attacks, wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, health care reform, and economic recession. According to Ross, his donation comprises just over 200 boxes of material, thousands of digital photos and an estimated 300 gigabytes of data files.

“Congressman Ross is donating his papers of years and years of public service to Ouachita and to those who will come and study in the years to come,” Dr. Horne announced at the press conference. “We come today, in a very real sense, receiving an honor that he has counted us worthy to add his papers to our great archives collection.”

Congressman Ross said he is ‘proud to announce that Ouachita Baptist University will receive all of my congressional, state Senate and campaign papers to archive. I’m extremely excited to embark on this joint partnership with OBU. This is an extra special moment for my family because my wife, Holly, is a graduate of Ouachita and I’m so happy that we can both be part of such an amazing university. I decided to donate my documents to OBU because I felt that this material needed to stay in Arkansas’ Fourth Congressional District,’’ Ross continued. “Additionally, OBU has a wealth of political archives that lend themselves to compelling study and research opportunities. I’m pleased that I can contribute to the dedicated folks at OBU and help continue making the university a statewide destination for the study of political science.”

Ouachita Baptist University is a private liberal arts university in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. For more information about Congressman Ross’ papers or Riley-Hickingbotham Library’s Special Collections, contact Dr. Wendy Richter, Archivist, at 870.245.5332, or richterw@obu.edu.

**Archival Certification:**

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The 2013 Certified Archivist examination will be held August 14 in New Orleans, as well as Hartford, Indianapolis, Las Vegas, and Orlando -- and wherever 5 or more candidates wish to take it.

The 2013 application is available on the Academy of Certified Archivists website: www.certifiedarchivists.org

For more information, contact the ACA office (aca@caphill.com or 518-694-8471).

The application deadline is May 15.
2014

SSA Scholarships

Don’t miss these opportunities to obtain assistance in professional development and annual meeting attendance! All scholarship applications must be postmarked by February 7, 2014.

Otis Hebert Jr. Continuing Education Scholarship: In honor of SSA’s founding president, this scholarship is intended to further the professional training of working archivists in the Southwest.

John Michael Caldwell Scholarship: Presented annually, this scholarship enables an SSA member enrolled in a graduate archival program to attend the SSA Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting Scholarship: Presented annually, this scholarship was created to provide financial aid to an SSA member archivist with limited funding to attend the SSA Annual Meeting.

David B. Gracy, II Student Scholarship: Intended to provide book fee and tuition assistance to an SSA student member enrolled in a graduate archival education program at an institution within the SSA region.

Eligibility requirements and application guidelines can be found at:

http://southwestarchivists.org

For more information, contact Scholarships Committee Chair
Benna Vaughan, C.A.
Chair, SSA Scholarships Committee
The Texas Collection * Baylor University
Waco, TX 76798
254-710-6031
Benna_Vaughan@baylor.edu
A significant collection chronicling an Eastern Arkansas lawyer’s involvement in the United States Army Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) tracking down Nazis in newly liberated areas was recently processed and is opened for research at the University of Arkansas Libraries’ Special Collections.

The George D. Walker Papers (MC 1802) were acquired from Walker’s son, William G. Walker of Rogers, Arkansas. The collection contains Walker family materials, World War II correspondence, CIC manuals, and photographs relating to Walker’s personal life and military career. These extraordinary materials provide insight into the development of the CIC and offer a fascinating look at the life of an Eastern Arkansas lawyer.

George D. Walker was born on September 2, 1910 and grew up in Helena, Phillips County. After graduating high school as valedictorian of his class, he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee, followed by a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville in 1934. After his return to Helena to practice law, Walker was commissioned into the United States Army. During World War II, he served as an officer in the Army CIC in Great Britain, France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany. He helped capture members of the Nazi Gestapo and SS, as well as other high-ranking officials. By the end of the war, Walker rose to the rank of first lieutenant and received a Bronze Star plus five campaign stars. After the war, Walker married Mary Cathryn McElduff. They had three children: George David Walker Jr., Rosemary Frances Walker Elsberg, and William Gibson Walker. Walker practiced law in Helena, Little Rock, and Jonesboro until his death on April 4, 1989.

In his book, Nazis’ Nightmare: CONQUER: How an Arkansas Country Lawyer Helped Bring Nazi War Criminals to Justice, William G. Walker described his father as a “man of respect and authority . . . not to be underestimated or overlooked—mostly he took care of business in an unusual manner—simply.”

“George Walker’s life reads like a movie,” said Tim Nutt, head of Special Collections. “From his time in Helena to his trek across Europe, Walker led a fascinating life. This collection gives researchers a glimpse into an adventure filled with drama and intrigue.” The finding aid for the Walker collection is available on the Special Collections web site at http://libinfo.uark.edu/specialcollections/manuscripts.

The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum announces an upcoming exhibit. The A. Keith Brodkin Contemporary Artists Exhibit Program of the Dickinson Research Center continues with the January 1, 2014, opening of the exhibit “Making Change.” The exhibit will feature the stories behind coins designed by Laura Gardin Fraser (1889-1966) and Glenna Goodacre (born 1939). In 1931, Fraser won a national competition to design a new quarter featuring George Washington. This made her the first woman chosen to sculpt a coin to be minted by the United States. Treasury Secretary Andrew Mellon decided against putting Fraser’s coin into circulation, however, and instead minted John Flanagan’s design. Her Washington sculpture was finally coined as a commemorative five-dollar gold piece in 1999. Glenna Goodacre, also the winner of a national competition, sculpted the Sacagawea Millennium Gold Dollar Coin, which became the first circulating coin designed by a woman. The currency also became the first to commemorate a Native American and to feature a baby. Fraser and Goodacre are women of two different eras, but they broke barriers through their art, and made change on a national level.

The exhibit is curated by Kera Newby. For more information please contact Kera at knewby@nationalcowboymuseum.org or 405-478-2250 ext. 247.
In recognition of National Archives Month, the State Records Center and Archives (SRCA), the New Mexico Historical Records Advisory Board, and the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area lead a statewide celebration of the ever-evolving cultural tradition of agriculture. The theme of this year’s celebration, Growing as We Go, pays homage to the state’s dynamic agricultural heritage. A diverse roundup of statewide events are planned throughout the month of October, and culminate in a three-day span of free educational sessions at the SRCA in Santa Fe, as well as a screening of historical films at The Screen on the campus of the Santa Fe University of Art and Design.

Thursday, October 24, State Historian Dr. Rick Hendricks and Assistant State Historian Dr. Rob Martinez, headed a session that will showing beginning genealogists how to get started on researching family trees. Following the morning session, Melissa Salazar, the director of the Archives and Historical Services Division, provided a tour of the research and genealogy rooms, as well as the vaults.

On Friday, October 25, sessions included lectures about native-seed harvesting and the controversial advent of genetic modification of seeds, the influence of Middle Eastern culture on agriculture in Colonial New Mexico, the Bureau of Land Management’s seeds and regenerations program, agriculture in ancient times, seed and cultural preservation, and much more. “From red and green chile, to our complex system of acequias, to the many mom-and-pop farms and ranches dotted throughout the state, there are so many unforgettable icons that were born of agriculture in New Mexico,” says Felicia Lujan, bureau chief of the Archives Historical Services Division. “The vaults at the Archives are rife with original materials related to growing and raising food.”

During a brown bag luncheon with the speakers on Friday, Dr. Hendricks announced the renaming of the Carmen Quintana Collection as the Eric Sverre Collection, in honor of her son who died in a tragic car accident earlier this year. Quintana hopes that the renaming will inspire youths, and anyone else for that matter, to become interested in New Mexico history and culture.

On Saturday the 26th, there was a free screening of four historical films. “Adventures in Kit Carson Land,” is a 1915 or 1916 travelogue which follows a convertible Packard Twin 6 containing “five travelers and a spotted dog” over untamed dirt roads and switchbacks in northern New Mexico. “Adventures in Kit Carson Land (Dawson Reel),” is a short film depicting coal-mining operations at the Phelps Dodge–owned mines in the northeastern New Mexico town of Dawson. The short silent film, “A Day in Santa Fe,” scripted by poet Lynn Riggs, follows a burro loaded with wood to sell as he goes about his rounds over a single day in 1931. “Last Run of the Chili Line,” portrays passengers who take their last ride on the narrow gauge Denver and Rio Grande Western from Santa Fe to Embudo.

The roots of agriculture began sprouting here in New Mexico with the ancient Native American cultures centuries ago, and then began to evolve as other cultures arrived, from the Spanish colonization to the American westward expansion and even to the waves of Sunbelt migrations we see today. “Much of the expanse of New Mexico is not only extremely beautiful, but it is also filled with the farms and ranches and the related products that define our state,” Lujan says.

Historically, many believe that a plethora of prime...
agricultural areas that once existed in many places, such as Chaco Canyon in the northwest and the Mimbres settlements in the Southwest, were wiped out by climate change more than a millennium ago. Whole cultures of people had to move to other areas, settling in such places as the rich agrarian lands along the Rio Grande and other lands with available water. As each new culture arrived and affected the others, especially through food, it allowed for the distinct commingling of cultures that is so endemic to New Mexico today. Nearly every aspect of life was influenced by agriculture, mainly through the limited availability of arable land, water, accessibility and monetary resources. The adaptability of the people to improvise and sustain a living in such an isolated place contributed greatly to multicultural flavor and evolution of agriculture in the state. In nearly every corner of the Land of Enchantment, there are still farms and ranches that have been operating for centuries if not more, and evidence of where ancient cultures plowed their living.

Many of the collections available to the public at the State Records Center and Archives, including the Spanish, Mexican and Territorial archives, contain fascinating materials that relate directly or indirectly to growing and raising food in the state. They include much about the types of food and crops that existed here when the Spanish arrived in the 16th century; what types of food, crops and farming techniques the newcomers brought; land grants; Spanish Colonial law granting aboriginal water rights and land retention to Native Americans; and much more. There are also hundreds of historical photographs that depict both historical and contemporary agricultural farms and ranches, techniques and science, as well as a multitude of related food products.

For a complete list of all statewide events slated for October’s National Archives Month, please visit http://www.nmcr.state.nm.us/archives/archivesweek_hm.htm.

Governor Susana Martinez reappointed four members of the New Mexico Historical Records Advisory Board (NMHRAB), which is dedicated to promoting the preservation of and public access to New Mexico’s historical and permanent records. State Records Administrator John Hyrum Martinez, CA, serves ex officio. Board members reappointed by Governor Martinez include Lisa Johnston, Martha Shipman Andrews, Willow Powers, CA, and Linda Gegick. The reappointed Board members’ terms began on September 25, 2013, and will expire on September 25, 2016.

Appointed in 1998, Ms. Johnston is the longest serving Board member. She is the Assistant City Clerk for the City of Artesia, a position she has held for nearly 20 years. As part of her duties, she is the Records Administrator for the City of Artesia, working with departments regarding their records storage requirements and assisting them with records requests and records destruction.

Ms. Shipman Andrews is the University Archivist and Associate Professor at New Mexico State University. She serves on the boards of the New Mexico Historical Society and the Doña Ana County Historical Society where she edits the Southern New Mexico Historical Review.

Dr. Powers is an anthropologist and a Certified Archivist Emeritus. Now retired, she has consulted for tribes, pueblos, museums and small communities on archives, record preservation, and oral history projects.

Ms. Gegick has been directing the City of Las Vegas Museum since 2004 and is retiring this fall. She has overseen the daily operations of the museum — its exhibits, collection management, including the care and preservation of the collections, and outreach and programming.

The NMHRAB is operating with a full Board, and also includes Board members Terry Ortega, Beth Silbergleit, Matthew Martinez and Ryan Flahive. For additional information, please contact Meghan Bayer at 505-476-7936 or Meghan.Bayer@state.nm.us.
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The New Mexico Historical Records Advisory Board (NMHRAB) has awarded approximately $42,500 in grants to seven non-profit organizations, municipalities and tribal communities to improve preservation and access to New Mexico’s historical records. These funds were made available through the New Mexico Legislature and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

The NMHRAB’s regrant program is regarded as a national model by the NHPRC. The Board consistently carries out its mission to preserve New Mexico’s historical records and make them accessible to the public. The Board and its grant recipients accomplish a great deal of work with relatively small grant amounts each year.

FY2014 funded projects, in alphabetical order, are:

Acequia Madre House, a non-profit organization, was awarded $5,948 to process archival materials from the three women who built the Acequia Madre House: Eva Scott Muse Fenyes, Leonora Scott Muse Curtin and Leonora F. C. Paloheimo. Archival materials include correspondence, records, photographs, clippings and ephemera. The organization is located House District 47, Senate District 25 in Santa Fe.

Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety, a non-profit organization, received $5,525 to process materials associated with the organization’s activities related to Department of Energy sites in New Mexico over the past 25 years. Upon completion, all materials will be transferred to the Center for Southwest Research at the University of New Mexico. The organization is a new first-time recipient from House District 47, Senate District 25 in Santa Fe.

The Deming Luna Mimbres Museum received $6,545 to digitize documents, photographs, maps and scrapbooks dating back to 1881 documenting the early history of Deming, Columbus and the surrounding areas. The Museum is also a first time grant recipient and is located in House District 32, Senate District 35.

The Indian Pueblo Cultural Center was granted $8,500 to process the Center’s photo collection comprised of 4,500 to 5,000 images including scrapbooks, stereographic images, glass plate negatives and slides of Native American life in the Southwest dating from the early 1900s to the 1990s. The Center is located in House District 11, Senate District 13 in Albuquerque.

The Pueblo of Isleta was awarded $6,851 to develop a functioning archive to house approximately 374 cubic feet of original records comprising paper, photographs and film dating from 1900 to the present. The Pueblo is located in House District 69, Senate District 29.

The City of Las Cruces is a four-time grant recipient and will use its award of $4,620 to microfilm long-term and permanent City records. The City of Las Cruces is located in House District 35, Senate District 36.

The Moriarty Historical Society received $4,500 to digitize materials from the Museum’s World War II collections and other small family and business collections and to repair ledgers, logs and scrapbooks from the City of Moriarty, Torrance County, State of New Mexico, New Mexico Central Railroad and other commercial sources. The Historical Society is located in House District 50, Senate District 19.

The funding cycle for Fiscal Year 2015 grants opens on Tuesday, October 1, 2013. Funding guidelines and the application can be found online at http://www.nmhrab.regrant.htm. Draft applications are due December 2, 2013, and final applications are due February 14, 2014. For additional information, please contact Meghan Bayer at 505-476-7936 or Meghan.Bayer@state.nm.us.

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This year the Corporate Archives & History Program in the Recorded Information Management Department at Sandia National Laboratories successfully completed a long-term project. The project required the Archives to develop coalitions with several other organizations within Sandia to achieve our goal. The completion of the final phase inspired a couple of organizations to announce their achievement to upper management; however, it was obvious that no one organization was responsible for the accomplishment. The project began over fifteen years ago when Sandia’s Corporate Historian and the Archivist realized how critical the legacy editions of the company’s Lab News were to searches for historical information.

Over the years, support staff have created a database and indexed the Lab News. They gradually entered all of the article titles and employee names from photo captions for the full set of the Lab News (back to 1949, when it was called the Sandia Bulletin). The index proved to be a useful and reliable resource for us and other organizations, including the Lab News staff who often called on the archives to help them locate historical information.

After November 2000, the Lab News was published and available electronically. In 2012, when a new staff member joined the Archives and assumed the task of indexing the current editions of the Lab News, we discussed making the index available to Sandians. We decided this was a good time to investigate digitizing the legacy copies to go along with the index.

We approached the Lab News editor and his management line agreed to fund the project to scan the approximately 18,000 pages of the legacy Lab News. We developed the scanning requirements, assembled all of the copies to be scanned, and contracted with a vendor to perform the work. Within a few weeks, the digital files were delivered. Sandia’s Corporate Historian edited the massive index and created search templates for the files. Finally, a programmer in the Information Management Solutions Department loaded the entire file set into our corporate document management system. Now, it is available to Sandia users, keyword and full-text searchable.

This long-term indexing and scanning project was a perfect example of how a coalition of organizations including the Corporate Archives, the Lab News, and the Information Management Solutions Department was necessary to achieve the goal of providing the full run of the Sandia Bulletins and Lab News editions to Sandia internal users. As the earliest printed editions of the paper continue to deteriorate, we have ensured that the best available copies are now preserved and available for future users. We are so pleased that the coalition of organizations allowed us to successfully achieve our goal that was first conceived over fifteen years ago and recently culminated in a user friendly, electronically available, and searchable digital format of the Sandia Lab News.

Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory managed and operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000. For more information about the project contact Myra O’Canna at (505) 844-6315 or mlocann@sandia.gov.

Editor’s Note: A version of this article first appeared in the ARMA Rio Grande Chapter newsletter.
Arcadia Falcone at the Poster Session talking about her work developing a process to ingest born-digital materials from the Walter Cronkite Papers at the Dolph Briscoe for American History. Photo courtesy of Helen Kim.

View of the Mississippi River Bridge from the Algiers Ferry. Photo courtesy of Brian Collins.

Three generations of interns with their supervisor, Carol Mead, Archives of American Mathematics at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History. From L-R: Elliot Williams, Carol Mead, Jane Gruning, and Helen Kim. Fun fact: Each intern recommended the subsequent intern! Photo courtesy of Helen Kim.

2014 David B. Gracy II Student Scholarship

In honor of archival educator and enthusiast, Dr. David B. Gracy, II, this scholarship is intended to provide book fee and tuition assistance to an SSA student member enrolled in an archival education program.

All scholarship applications must be postmarked by February 7, 2014

Please see eligibility requirements and application guidelines at: http://southwestarchivists.org
For the second time, the West Texas Digital Archives in Abilene, Texas has collaborated with the 12th Armored Division Museum to bring the 12th Armored Division archives to the public. In the first collaboration the newspaper, the Helcat News, was digitized. The Texas State Library and Archives Commission funded the initial project and the images are available on line at wtda.alc.org, as well as on the webpage of the 12th Armored Division Museum at 12tharmoredmuseum.com. The second and latest collaboration between the WDTA and the museum is the digitization of the 12th Armored Division History Books, a project funded through a 2.8 million dollar grant to the Abilene Library Consortium. Scanning and initial metadata were done by the digitization lab at the Hardin-Simmons University Library. The West Texas Digital Archives processed and re-housed the collection, and the consortium provided the funding.

The division, nicknamed the Hellcats, was known for its ability to move at lightening speed. In the march across southern Germany, the division was the first to arrive at Landsberg where they liberated the satellite concentration camps of Dachau. The collection contains graphic photographs of the horrific treatment and human toll at the camps. Sworn statements by veterans who were first to arrive at the camps are also in the books, as are accounts of the some of the veterans who were German prisoners of war.

The history books were compiled by the veterans of the 12th Armored Division and were available for viewing at the yearly reunions of the 12th Armored Association. Clippings, photographs, memorabilia, After Action Reports and orders from the battlefield are included in these books. Most of the clippings have no identifying information, and many were cut from the association newspaper, the Helcat News. The items are organized by donor, but not necessarily chronologically. Because of the varied order on each page and among the books, the decision was made to do an item level inventory of the photographs, first hand accounts and the After Action Reports and orders. The goal was to facilitate usability of the many handwritten entries through the inventory and through detailed metadata. By listing the names and other pertinent information it is hoped that the material will be readily accessible for non-academic patrons, the major users of this material.

The original books will continue to be stored in the archives of the 12th Armored Division Museum in Abilene, Texas, and the digitized images will help preserve the memories of the men who served our country so valiantly. The collaboration of the various entities working on this collection has made this possible. For more information please contact Mary Lee Bartlett at (325) 736-5070 or mbartlett@taylortel.net.

The University of Arkansas at Little Rock’s Center for Arkansas History and Culture recently processed a complementary pair of political collections: the Calvin R. Ledbetter, Jr., Papers, 1964-1988 (UALR.MS.0191), and the Carl E. Bailey Personal and Professional Papers, 1893-1948, (UALR.MS.0005). Finding aids for these collections are available for viewing at the Arkansas Studies Institute (www.arstudies.org), by searching by UALR.MS number.

Calvin Reville “Cal” Ledbetter, Jr. (1929-2013), was a revered professor, author, politician, and philanthropist. He taught political science at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock from 1960 to 1997, after which he was named Professor Emeritus-Political Science. He also served five consecutive terms in the Arkansas House of Representatives from 1967 to 1977. Ledbetter is widely remembered for his dedication to higher education as well as his efforts to foster constitutional reform in Arkansas in the 1960s and 1970s. This collection chiefly concerns Ledbetter’s political career, with the bulk of materials documenting state legislative sessions of 1967-1977.

Ever a student of Arkansas history, Ledbetter wrote extensively about the state and its political past, including fellow reformer Carl E. Bailey (1894-1948), Arkansas’s thirty-first governor. Ledbetter called Bailey “a pragmatic reformer” and explored the question of “how an antiestablishment activist, who was philosophically a New Dealer, could become governor in a status quo and conservative state like Arkansas” (Ledbetter, 1998: 134).


For more information about these collections please contact Kaye M. Lundgren at (501) 320-5773 or kmlundgren@ualr.edu.
The Luther-Bagby Collection represents the activities of three families who have been influential in Baylor, Baptist, and missionary life for five generations. The families took a special interest in founding many missions and schools in the larger cities across southern Brazil throughout the 1880s and into the 20th century. This 65-linear-foot collection includes correspondence, literary productions, financial and legal documents, photographs, and scrapbooks created or collected by the Luther-Bagby families.

John Hill Luther, the first family member represented in this collection, had longed to be a missionary from a young age. He first became a schoolteacher and married one of his students, Anne Jaudon. They moved to Georgia, where John became a pastor, and then back to Missouri, where he started a “Young Ladies’ Seminary” and served as the president of the seminary from 1858-1861. During the Civil War and Reconstruction the family moved often, and finally settled in Texas in 1877. Luther then became the president of the Female College at Baylor University in Independence, and then in Belton where he served from 1886-1891. Their two surviving children were both daughters—Anne, born in 1859, and Zollie, in 1865.

Anne Luther served as a dean of the Female College when she was 19, during her father’s presidency. She taught mathematics and represented the institution at Baptist conventions. It was at one of these conventions that she met William Buck Bagby, who, like her, felt a call to foreign missions. William was born in 1855 in Coryell County, Texas. After listening to a sermon from Rufus Burleson, he converted to Christianity and attended Waco University, where he was the first theology student. He married Anne in 1880, and in 1881 they left for the mission field and became the first permanent Baptist missionaries in Brazil. Their work in Brazil became one of the longest tenures of any couple in Southern Baptist missions.

The Bagbys founded the first Brazilian Baptist Church in Bahia in 1882, and another in Rio de Janeiro in 1884. The churches were successful, and several more were founded in the larger cities of Brazil. Most of the churches were led by native pastors, trained by the Bagbys and other Baptist missionaries. Rio de Janeiro became the center for Baptist work in southern Brazil, and outreach eventually included mission boards and schools. The Bagbys moved to São Paulo in 1910, where they founded one of their schools, Colégio Batista, which all the Bagby children attended.

William and Anne had nine children, five of whom went on to serve as missionaries. Their eldest child, Ermine, married Sidney Sowell, and they served together in Argentina; they, too, were Baptist pioneers there. The other four Bagby children served in Brazil—Taylor Crawford, Alice, Helen Edna, and Albert Ian. William died in 1939, and Anne in 1941. By 1939, Brazil had 778 Baptist churches and 68,731 members in the Baptist denomination. Five generations of the Luther-Bagby families have served as missionaries throughout South America since William Buck and Anne Luther Bagby first began their ministry in Brazil. The family prepared the way for future mission work in Brazil through education and influence. Their legacy has continued to help missionaries in the area today.

The record group provides insight into the Luther-Bagby family, Baptist missions in Brazil and throughout South America, Texas Baptists, and some of the history behind what would become Baylor University and the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.

For more information, please contact The Texas Collection at txcoll@baylor.edu.
Archives tend to get very busy before and during anniversary events. The Dallas Municipal Archives is no less the case, as it prepares in different ways to commemorate the darkest chapter in the city’s history, the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963. The Dallas Municipal Archives is home to the Dallas Police Department’s Kennedy files, 11,000 pages of text and 500+ images. Besides the rush for information and images from media around the United States and abroad in Portugal, France, the Netherlands, and elsewhere, City Archivist John Slate has worked on exhibits, public events, and two books of photography issued during July and September, 2013.

The two books, *Dealey Plaza* and *John F. Kennedy Sites in Dallas-Fort Worth* are titles in Arcadia Publishing’s Images of America series. The first, co-authored with Director of the Dallas Park and Recreation Department Willis C. Winters, FAIA, uncovers the early history of the blocks making up Dealey Plaza, and explores through photography and ephemera the day-to-day life of Dallas’ West End during the late 19th and early 20th century. Primarily gleaned from the collections of the Dallas Municipal Archives, the *Dallas Morning News*, and the Dallas Public Library, it traces the space from frontier birthplace of Dallas, to farm implement warehouse district, to public park. Today the plaza is the second most-visited historic site in Texas behind the Alamo, attracting over two million visitors annually.

Slate’s second book, co-authored with City of Dallas Historic Preservation Officer Mark Doty, explores the homes, businesses, and sites in North Texas connected to John F. Kennedy. Sites include the Carswell Air Force Base and the River Oaks neighborhood in Fort Worth, the Ruth Paine home in Irving (restored by the Irving Municipal Archives), Oswald’s rooming houses, Love Field, and the Texas Theater. *JFK Sites* looks at the architectural history of the these structures and answers the question, why preserve? Perhaps Kennedy said it best when he remarked at Amherst College in October 1963, “I look forward to an America... which will preserve the great old American houses and squares and parks of our national past.”

Slate has also prepared two exhibits for November 22nd: first, a semi-permanent exhibit on the history of the Municipal Building, Dallas’ former city hall, built in 1914. The building is best known as the site of Lee Harvey Oswald’s murder by Jack Ruby in its basement. The exhibit incorporates historic photos and documents from the Municipal Archives and was funded in part by an NEH re-grant from Humanities Texas.

Using typescript City of Dallas documents, artifacts, and prints struck directly from vintage 1963 4x5 negatives, “Code Three: Selections from the John F. Kennedy/Dallas Police Department Collection” is a second exhibit that tells the story of the Kennedy tragedy from the city’s perspective. It will include a never-before-seen motorcycle radio from the JFK motorcade, and previously unexhibited manuscript notes regarding Air Force One’s arrival and departure from Dallas Love Field, the city’s municipal airport and site of the swearing-in of President Lyndon B. Johnson. The exhibit will be open November 1 through December 2, 2013 in Dallas City Hall.

A public event on Wednesday, November 20th will commemorate the entire re-digitization of the Dallas Police collection and its inclusion on the Portal to Texas History, the statewide digital library hosted by the University of North Texas. Former Mayor and 1960s Dallas news reporter Wes Wise will provide reminiscences about Kennedy’s trip to Dallas and about the importance of preserving and making available the Dallas Police Department collection. The digitization project, which also included the digitization of photographs and documents from the collections of the Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza, was funded by a $22,000 TexTreasures grant to the University of North Texas Digital Projects Unit from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

To view the JFK-Dallas Police Department Collection, please visit [http://texashistory.unt.edu/explore/collections/JFKDP/](http://texashistory.unt.edu/explore/collections/JFKDP/).

![Only known color image of Lee Harvey Oswald in Dallas Police custody, 11/22/1963, John F Kennedy/Dallas Police Department Collection, Dallas Municipal Archives.](image-url)
The Cushing Memorial Library at Texas A&M University (TAMU) is proud to present this exhibition as a tribute to the memory of all those who have served our country. The University has a strong military tradition and our former students have fought in every war in living memory. During World War I, the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas (now TAMU), contributed more servicemen than any other college or university in the country. More than 2,200 served on active duty, but 55 never returned. They are still remembered, and still honored every Veteran’s Day by the Corps of Cadets in a ceremony at the west end of Simpson Drill Field.

This exhibition honors those 55 who died with a replica of the flag that was first raised in May 1918 and hung from the fourth-floor rotunda of the Academic Building. A copy of the replica flag was specially created and framed for the exhibition. The exhibit also includes letters, diaries, sheet music, photographs, documents, trench art (created while soldiers were idle between fighting); weaponry, uniforms, and helmets; and German, French, and American art, some created by the soldiers. The exhibit also showcases numerous posters and prints, some in French and German, that documents how the war effort was not only for those fighting, but also the importance of propaganda that encouraged the support of those on the home front.

The exhibition was a collaboration of TAMU’s Cushing Memorial Library & Archives’ librarians, curators, and staff including David Chroust, Anton duPlessis, Robin Hutchinson, Michael Jackson, Felicia Piscitelli, Lauren Schiller, Jenna Unterseher, and many more. For more information please contact Rebecca Hankins at rhankins@tamu.edu. Replica, World War I service flag, Courtesy TAMU
When the producers of the upcoming film *Dallas Buyers Club* needed photos of Dallas’ gay community during the 1980s to accurately depict it on film, they turned to the University of North Texas Libraries, which holds 50 years of the history of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender social movements in its archives. Items from this collection — formerly the contents of the Resource Center’s Phil Johnson Historic Archives and Research Library — will be on display in an exhibit at Archives and Rare Books, at UNT’s Willis Library.

“The Resource Center LGBT Collection: 50 Years of LGBT History in Dallas” will run through Jan. 2. Archives and Rare Books hosted an opening reception from on October 17. Some of the LGBT activists who are featured in the exhibit were invited to attend. The reception was followed by the Dallas Way’s [www.thedallasway.org](http://www.thedallasway.org) Outrageous Oral storytelling series. Established in 2011, the Dallas Way seeks to preserve the history of the LGBT community of the city and relay it through volunteer speakers.

The Phil Johnson Historic Archives and Research Library was established in 1994 after Phil Johnson, the creator of Dallas’ first gay advocacy organization, donated his personal collection of LGBT artifacts and materials to Resource Center, which is one of the largest LGBT community centers in the U.S. More than 60,000 clients use the center’s programs and services each year. In August 2012, Resource Center donated the archives to the UNT Libraries. The collection, now known as the Resource Center LGBT Collection, includes approximately 100,000 items

During the exhibit, items from the collection will be displayed in six large wall cases in Archives and Rare Books and two smaller table cases. The items include medals from the Dallas Gay Games, a megaphone from an LGBT cheerleading squad, a button and T-shirt from the 1979 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights; T-shirts from the Dallas Gay Alliance and other organizations; and many posters, newspaper clippings and photos.

One display case is devoted Phil Johnson, while another shows major political movement and triumphs for Dallas’ LGBT community. Another case displays newsletters of the Dallas Buyer’s Club, the subject of the movie of the same name. The club was started by Ron Woodroof, a heterosexual Dallas man who was diagnosed with HIV infection in 1986 and began smuggling non-toxic, anti-viral medications that were illegal in the U.S. after he was given 30 days to live. Matthew McConaughey portrays Woodroof, who lived for six years after his diagnosis, in *Dallas Buyers Club*, which premieres in theaters November 1. Other display cases focus on religion, with materials from Dallas’ Cathedral of Hope; hate crimes; and individuals who were influential in the LGBT community or allies to the community.

For more information please contact Morgan Davis Gieringer at 940-369-8657 or morgan.gieringer@unt.edu.
Texas A&M University and The University of Texas recently collaborated to open the Joint Library Facility. The 18,000 square foot facility uses High Bay Racks to provide storage for over one million print books and journals, which will be made available for use by other academic and medical institutions. The library will allow both universities to reduce the costs associated with storing print books and journals. A 2010 study showed the cost of storing one volume in open library stacks is $4.26 per year, taking into account personnel, lighting, maintenance, and heating and cooling costs. The Joint Library Facility reduces the cost to just 86 cents per volume, which represents a savings of $3.40 per volume.

Southwest Solutions Group designed and installed the High Bay Racks for the Joint Library Facility. With space on campus at a premium and limited financial resources, the universities wanted a cost-efficient solution to free up space for higher circulating materials and new study areas for students. The Joint Library Facility represented that solution, and the High Bay Racks used to store archival print books and journals helped to keep building costs down. Because the High Bay Racks extend vertically to increase storage density, the universities were able to reduce the footprint of the building. For more information please contact Shelley Kilpatrick at (512) 364-0899 or marketing1@southwestsolutions.com.

The Archives of the Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America (POSNA), located within Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas, Texas, is pleased to announce a major donation from the family of George W. Simons, a prominent pediatric orthopaedic surgeon and lecturer. The donation was shipped via cargo ship during the summer of 2012 from Dr. Simons’ home in Iceland. Included in the collection are slides and notes from his many international lectures, research and documentation for his published book on the history of club foot, patient x-rays and charts from his decades long career, personal awards, and letters of thanks.

Dr. Simons completed his residency and an MS in Orthopaedics at Mayo Clinic. He went on to do post-graduate work in Oxford and London, England, and Edinburgh, Scotland before settling at Children’s Hospital in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Dr. Simons was a proponent of international sharing of ideas and was integral in separating adult orthopaedics from children’s orthopaedics.

During his retirement, Simons and his wife Sigrun Magnusdottir returned to her native Iceland. Sigrun and one of her daughters, Christina Simons, who lives in Australia, collaborated internationally to donate the collection to the POSNA Archives. POSNA is pleased to announce that the collection is processed and open to researchers. A finding aid is available electronically upon request, and a display dedicated to Dr. Simons life can be seen by the public at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas. For more information please contact Holly Stevens at POSNA.Archivist@tsrh.org, or (214)559-8545.

1. Appraisal-The act of deciding the historical value of documents based on their overall context.
   Corresponding Vampire Rule → Vampires must be invited in.

2. Preservation- protecting materials by minimizing threats. Some ways to minimize threats are (in general) to keep items in a dark, stable, cool, secure environment, with a controlled temperature and relative RH.
   Corresponding Vampire Rule → Vampires do not like sunlight and vampires sleep in a coffin

3. Arrangement and Description- organizing documents according to their provenance (original order) and recording details for identification.
   Corresponding Vampire Rule → Vampires enjoy counting and organizing tiny objects. They are the quintessential obsessive compulsive personality.

4. Effects of being in an archival environment on human beings: Paper materials are known for sucking moisture out of a person who is in constant contact with them. That’s why archivists’ hands are very dry.
   Corresponding Vampire Rule → Enough said.
“More than Dreidels and Bagels,” a yearlong exhibit at Fort Worth’s two synagogues, commemorates the 60th anniversary of the city’s oldest preschool, which opened in 1952 with six children. Today called the Lil Goldman Early Learning Center, the preschool is staging an alumni reunion this fall. To set the stage, the Fort Worth Jewish Archives Committee combed its collections for photos, scrapbooks, and memorabilia about kids.

The oldest items on display are from confirmation exercises a century ago. Class pictures show girls wearing frilly white dresses, white boots that buttoned up, and white bows in their hair. Boys wore black bowties and dark suits. Confirmation robes were introduced in 1931. The exhibit shows a sample of the white poplin fabric from which these robes were made as well as correspondence from Wanamaker’s of Philadelphia encouraging the switch to identical white robes.

Among the materials that the Archives Committee breathed new life into is a Cradle Roll certificate, on which are listed the names of seventeen Jewish children born in Fort Worth between 1963 and 1965. The handsome certificate, printed in Cincinnati, had been tucked away in a flat, oversized box. Five of those children were tracked down and asked to contribute a photo of themselves as toddlers and a brief biography. For the exhibit, the certificate was framed, with those childhood snapshots incorporated into the matting. A caption tells what those five individuals are presently doing in their religious and civic communities.

“Tzedakah,” a Yiddish term that means charity, justice, and much more, is the theme of another exhibit case. This display pictures a WWI war orphan and a letter she wrote in Czech to the Sabbath School in 1923 thanking the children for sending money collected from their pennies, nickels, and dimes.

In September, the Alamo and the Texas General Land Office premiered the follow-up to the highly successful “Travis Letter” exhibit with an exhibition of rare, original Spanish documents dating back to the founding of the Alamo and the mission system in San Antonio in the 1700s. “Alamo Origins: The Birth of Spanish Texas,” on display through December, is the first large-scale public exhibit at the Alamo to specifically examine the origins of the Alamo and the Spanish mission system, and their roles in the creation of Texas.

This exhibit is the first of two exhibits that highlight the Hispanic contribution to Texas and the Alamo; the second installment is slated for the spring of 2014. The story of the Alamo story often focuses on its Anglo defenders and the Texas Revolution. In contrast, “Alamo Origins: The Birth of Spanish Texas” features sixteen original documents in Spanish — with English translations provided — that tell the story of the mission’s founding, the daily lives of the Native Americans who sought protection there and the eventual secularization, or transfer of ownership, of mission property.

The sixteen documents that are displayed inside the Alamo are part of the archival collections of the Texas General Land Office, the Alamo, and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library. These fragile Spanish maps and documents provide fascinating insight into the missions as frontier outposts vital to the Spanish Empire’s control of the region and defense against incursions by the French.

Since Jews are called the “people of the book,” the exhibit includes scrapbooks from Jewish community youth groups, day camps, Sunday school classes, and a year-by-year look at class photos from the Lil Goldman preschool. An adult who still had a set of plaster handprints he made while a preschooler in the 1950s, loaned the exhibit this fragile piece of children’s art.

For more information about the exhibit please contact Hollace Weiner at hollacew@att.net or (817) 731-3685.
The collections at A&M-Corpus Christi Special Collections & Archives comprise a local resource of national significance. The list of the holdings, in the thousands of linear feet they comprise, is too long to recount in this essay. The Dan Kilgore Collection of Texana, the Dr. Hector P. Garcia Papers, and many others rank as the university’s most prized possessions, and their donors are valued supporters of the institution. Moreover, the Special Collections & Archives Department focuses on Mexican American materials, which empower that important population.

I began my tenure as head of that department in 1990 and retired in 2012. Like most professionals, I could look back on dealing with some stellar materials and some magnificent donors. From the time I announced that I would leave, donors and researchers began to ask about my replacement. A year after my departure from campus as Associate Director for Special Collections & Archives, there was still no job announcement, and the department relied on paraprofessionals. This delay contrasted with the expeditious manner in which the university, through the efforts of then library director Richard L. O’Keeffe, had acted twenty-two years before to offer me the position.

In late June 2013, I attended the ninetieth birthday celebration of Ralph Galván, Jr.—patriarch of Corpus Christi’s historic Galván family, the person who had been key to documenting that family’s past, and a genuinely decent man. Seeing him surrounded by many of his relatives, all personal friends of mine who had entrusted the Special Collections with their materials, compelled me to act. On the one-year anniversary of my leaving campus, I wrote a letter to the university provost expressing concern over this delay. Among other things, my letter noted the invaluable nature of the collections, how perilous such a postponement could be to their care, how we should not violate the donors’ trust, and our obligation to have a professional directly manage the department.

I sent copies of this letter to select donors, researchers, and supporters. Among the first persons to whom I forwarded a copy was Elaine Marsilio, education reporter, for the Corpus Christi Caller-Times, the city’s major newspaper. Marsilio previously had shown appreciation for the work of the Special Collections & Archives Department. In response, she wrote a lengthy article that appeared on July 22, 2013. In her report, she demonstrated great balance between my comments and those of the provost, whom she also interviewed, and who stated that they first needed to hire a new library director. Marsilio’s article also included the opinions of community spokespeople. Dr. Nancy Vera, educator and president of LULAC Council 4444, commented that “the least thing the university can do” is take care of our history. Ms. Terri Longoria, whose efforts led to the Special Collections acquiring the records of a leading Hispanic women’s club, expressed concern about any future donations.

The Corpus Christi Caller-Times placed the article as its front page, headline story, underscoring the significance that this subject had for its readership. Seldom does such media attention focus on archival matters. No one could miss the fact that the issue resonated in Corpus Christi, Texas. Two subsequent letters to the editor in the Caller-Times regarding the topic called for filling the position posthaste. The first was written by Rebecca Lyons, a past president of the A&M-Corpus Christi’s Honors Student Association, while the other came from Dr. Vera, who more fully explained her dismay.

While popular support of Special Collections & Archives mounted, the university’s search for a new library director failed. This development, in combination with inquiries from other prominent donors, had a desired result. In late September 2013, the university posted the position for Special Collections Librarian and University Archivist. Unfortunately, this new position has problems. It does not carry the administrative title of Associate Director. The recent degrading of professional librarian employment status at A&M-Corpus Christi also needs to be dealt with to attract the best candidates. However, those of us who advocated for the institution to act are cautiously optimistic.

Archivists and curators continue to have ethical obligations to donors, the collections, and future researchers of the holdings they once managed. We must speak when those interests might be compromised. And, the community’s appreciation of what we do on the local level will help preserve our documentary treasures.

For more information about this issue please contact Thomas H. Kreneck at 830-583-3190 or thomas.kreneck@ymail.com.
The Tarrant County Archives is excited to announce that the Julian Umbenhour/Kathryn Johns Halbower Papers is available for research with a newly created finding aid. Julian Umbenhour (1874-1970) was a stage manager at the Majestic Theatre in Fort Worth around 1910-1920. Umbenhour was an active member in the stage community in Fort Worth, and most of the 13 linear feet collection is comprised of theater programs, advertisements, posters, and blueprints for stage productions.

Most materials in this collection focus on Fort Worth theaters such as Greenwall’s Opera House, Byers’ Opera House, and the Majestic Theatre. Included are programs and stage requirements from famous performers Harry Houdini, Mae West, Fred and Adele Astaire, and Will Rogers. From the number of maps and programs from numerous theaters outside of Texas, it seems Mr. Umbenhour enjoyed traveling as well. Programs from New York, Chicago, and New Orleans are included within the collection, as well as a program from the World’s Columbian Exposition (Chicago World’s Fair) in 1893. Mr. Umbenhour was also an avid scrapbooker, and there are 29 scrapbooks included in the collection, which are being scanned and made available online. Most scrapbooks relate to performing arts, and are comprised of clippings, advertisements, and programs from performers and theaters. Visitors to the archives may also view materials from the collection in the Early Theater in Fort Worth exhibit currently on display.

For more information about the Umbenhour/Halbower Papers, or if you are interested in a Summer Internship with the Tarrant County Archives, please visit the website http://www.tarrantcounty.com/e-archives/ or contact the Archivist, Dr. Dawn Youngblood at 817-884-3272 or dayoungblood@tarrantcounty.com.

The Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library (SWC) at Texas Tech University has been involved in an ongoing project to digitize many of its collections. Many repositories have discovered that this process can be a slow one, requiring a thoroughness oftentimes exceeding that required to simply arrange and process a collection. That being said, the SWC is proud to announce that after several long months of work our first complete digital collection, the United Confederate Veterans (UCV) Records, 1863-1967 and undated, is now hosted on the Southwest Collection’s DSpace page at http://collections.swco.ttu.edu/handle/10605/45428.

This project was completed in collaboration with the Texas Tech University Library’s Digital Library Unit, led by Digital Resources Librarian Joy Perrin. Her team collaborated with the SWC not only to digitize the manuscript material and provide its attendant optical character recognition (OCR), but also to create a robust set of metadata that has already guided many researchers to view the collection online.

The UCV Records contains correspondence, ledgers, minutes of organizational meetings, periodicals, books, and other printed material. Almost materials pertain to Confederate Civil War veterans and the reunions they held at the Robert E. Lee Camp No. 158 in Fort Worth, Texas, during the late 1890s through the 1920s. The archival significance of the Camp No. 158 is the accumulation of stories from veterans who had fought for the Confederate States of America. For example, the collection’s sizable correspondence materials contain the veterans’ written experiences in the war that they mailed to the UCV, as well as to former comrades and officers. The ledgers are rosters of members who attended the reunions. Many of the official publications available in the collection include the Century Warbook: Battles and Leaders of the Civil War and The Confederate Soldier in the Civil War series.

Interested researchers may use the link above to find the digitized items, peruse the finding aid on Texas Archival Resources Online (TARO) at http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/ttusw/00119/tsw-00119.html, or contact the SWC Reference Department via http://swco.ttu.edu/Reference/policies.php.
Samantha Dodd, CA, archivist for the Dallas Historical Society, successfully passed the certified archivist exam administered by the Academy of Certified Archivists. Samantha has worked for the DHS since 2011. She started as an intern in the archives, before moving up to research associate and now certified archivist. Currently, Samantha oversees all research requests and appointments, manages the internship program, and acquires and processes archival collections.

Jennifer Hecker, Archivist at the University of Texas Libraries, and Kate L. Blalack, CA, Archivist for the Woody Guthrie Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma, each earned a Digital Archives Specialist Certificate from the Society of American Archivists this August. They successfully completed required coursework and passed both course and comprehensive examinations.

JoAnn Pospisil, Director of the Baylor College of Medicine Archives in the Texas Medical Center, Houston, was named Baylor College of Medicine’s Educational Leader for the Second Quarter of Fiscal Year 2013.

Krishna Shenoy, Librarian/Archivist at The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza presented “Reflections on John F. Kennedy: A Texas Resource Guide” in April at the Texas Library Association 2013 annual conference in Fort Worth. In October, she presented as a general session speaker at the South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association 2013 annual conference in Fort Worth, speaking on “The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza and JFK: Collections and Reflections on 50 Years.”
The problem

I think we can all agree with the EAC Working Group that “Since materials by or about a single entity might be found in many fonds or many repositories, there is much redundant effort in recording information about the same entity. In addition, these duplicative efforts can result in great inconsistency, which bedevils both users, in finding and interpreting materials, and archivists, in creating accurate and complete references to such entities.” (eac.staatsbibliothek-berlin.de/about/development.html)

As we transition from an analog-based to a born-digital and hybrid world, the way we approach some basic tasks may need to change. The good news is that we can harness this digital power to improve the usefulness (and re-usefulness) of our descriptive data by parsing out certain of its component parts. This way, the machines we use for searching can search more precisely, but also more thoroughly.

Consider archival description, and specifically the finding aid, in this modern era of search: “…currently descriptions of people are intermixed with the description of records in a single apparatus, the finding aid. Archivists have advocated for several decades to separate the description of people from the description of records in order to make description more economic, flexible, accurate, and effective.” (socialarchive.iath.virginia.edu/NAAC_meeting1_report.html) But how?

The solution

Metadata standards to the rescue! In development since 1998, and formally adopted by the Society of American Archivists in 2011, EAC-CPF, or Encoded Archival Context – Corporate Bodies, Persons and Families, is a communication standard for archival authority control. It is useful to archivists for identifying, standardizing, and sharing descriptions of record creators and subjects, and provides a mechanism for encoding their relationships to one another. It can provide context for understanding the current, fonds-centric conception.

EAC-CPF began offering EAC-CPF training workshops, with the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) providing generous scholarship funding. Over the past couple of years, a multitude of projects large and small have cropped up. The following is a very small sample:

- Connecting the Dots: Using EAC-CPF to Reunite Samuel Johnson and His Circle osclab.harvard.edu/liblab/proj/connecting-dots-using-eac-cpf-reunite-samuel-johnson-and-his-circle
- An Archivist at Brown University is using a custom FilemakerPro database to create EAC_CPF records blogs.brown.edu/hallhoag/2013/02/05/eac-cpf-creation
- The National Library of Australia’s TROVE “People and Organisations” interface is a fantastic example of the kind of exploration EAC-CPF makes possible. It allows users to discover biographical information about significant people and organisations, and find resources by and about them and their relationships to other parties. trove.nla.gov.au/people
- Something similar is taking shape here in the beautiful USA, thanks to SNAC: The Social Networks and Archival Context Project. Definitely check this project out if you haven’t already – it’s the biggest project of its kind and it is shaping the way EAC-CPF records might be stored and shared here in America. socialarchive.iath.virginia.edu
- SAA offers a 90-minute introductory webinar for $119 (members) saa.archivists.org/events/what-is-eac-cpf-web-seminar/222
- Check out some example EAC-CPF records, courtesy of the SNAC Project at www3.iath.virginia.edu/eac/cpf/examples/list.html.
- Generate some records by hand using your go-to EAD markup tool, or try out some of the tools your colleagues are building: MARC-to-EAC Web Service: socialarchive.iath.virginia.edu/dev
RAMP: github.com/UMiamiLibraries/RAMP
xEAC: gaditor.blogspot.com/2012/07/xeac-xforms-for-eac-cpf-beta-released.html

Drawbacks

Despite the exciting possibilities, adding steps to archivist workflows is an unpopular proposition these days. However, it is possible that, in the interest of long-term sustainability, all stakeholders could benefit from allowing wider participation via a wiki-like model proposed by NAAC, comprising archivists, librarians, and scholars.

For more information on EAC-CPF, follow any of the links here, and find the full bibliography on the SSA website “Forums” section.
Make your collections searchable and accessible
Save time and reduce duplicative work
Generate EAD finding aids and deeds of gift from your catalog

See how one archives expanded public access with
STAR Knowledge Center for Archives. Get the case study at

www.cuadra.com/study

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