Hello, fellow SSA-ers! My name is Stephanie Bayless. I am one of your proud board members and will be running for the Society of American Archivists Council this spring. I’m here to tell you a little bit about myself and encourage you to vote if you are an SAA member. The voter turnout for the recent membership dues increase—an issue that affects every single member—was discouraging. Make your voice heard and make SAA work for you! Visit archivists.org/governance/election/2016 to see the full ballot and read statements from each candidate.

Okay, so let me tell you about my background. I am the Archivist and Assistant Manager of the Research Services Division at the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, which is the Arkansas history and genealogy department of the Central Arkansas Library System. I’ve been with the Butler Center for almost nine years, originally starting as an archival assistant in 2007. Like most of you, I do a little bit of everything, including processing collections and creating finding aids, accessioning collections, creating/managing digital collections, working with donors, and helping patrons in our research room. I am solely responsible for creating collection records and uploading finding aids for online access.

Currently, my main project is processing the congressional papers of Senator Blanche Lincoln, the second female senator from Arkansas and the youngest woman elected to the Senate. My personal research interest is in women’s history with a focus on grassroots political participation. My first book, Obliged to Help: Adolphine Fletcher Terry and the Progressive South, was published in 2011. I hope to find the time to write a second book . . . soon.

I am a Certified Archivist who is enthusiastic about both professional and community service. Locally, I serve as a board member for the Arkansas Women’s History Institute and just finished two years as an ex-officio trustee for the Arkansas Arts Center. With the Society of American Archivists, I am the Key Contact for Arkansas (2012-2018), a member of the Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award Subcommittee (2015-2016), served as co-chair of the Women’s
THE SOCIETY OF SOUTHWEST ARCHIVISTS

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

We invite you to join or extend your membership. Membership registration is available via the SSA website at http://southwestarchivists.org/membership.

Southwestern Archivist is the quarterly newsletter of the SSA. The editor gives priority to submissions of news items about repositories in the SSA region and about the professional accomplishments of SSA members. Out-of-region submissions will be published as space permits. Short feature articles on topics and issues relating to current trends in archival enterprise are also welcome, as are longer Spotlight columns. Please query Editor Amanda Norman (amanda_norman@baylor.edu) or your area liaison if you have any questions about a proposed article.

Submission process: Please send all final submissions to one of the state liaisons listed below. The preferred submission format is a Word document attached via e-mail. The document should include a title; the author’s name, institutional affiliation, and contact information; and captions and citations for images. Please send images as separate JPG attachments.

Submissions may be edited to conform to style conventions and available space. Due to space limitations the editors reserve the right to omit submissions or hold them over for a future issue.

Arizona submissions
Lindsey Stegemoller
lstegemoller@icloud.com

Arkansas submissions
Stephanie Bayless
sabayless@cals.org

Louisiana submissions
Jennifer Mitchell
jmitc84@lsu.edu

New Mexico submissions
Lynn Gates
legates@nmhu.edu

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

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

South Texas submissions
Phyllis Kinnison
pkinnison@mosthistory.org

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

Leadership Log Submissions
Krishna Shenoy
krishnas@jfk.org

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Amanda Norman
amanda.norman@baylor.edu

Assistant Editor
Dara Flinn
dflinn@rice.edu

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

“Native Routes” will be leading us to Oklahoma City for the 2016 Annual Meeting. In this issue, learn about some of the exciting sessions and tours the Program and Local Arrangements Committees have been hard at work putting together (pages 6-7). Of particular note is the special Saturday session on Native American issues in the archives. Start making plans to attend!

Please note also the great professional development opportunities coming up, scholarship deadlines (February 19 by mail, February 21 by email), and the ballot for the 2016 SSA election (page 10). As always, start setting things aside for SLOTTO and let the Scholarship Committee chair, Pati Threatt, know if you have an item for the silent auction. And this year, you can quilt for a cause! See page 11 for information about the SSA Scholarships Quilting Bee.

You will also see in this issue that SSA members have been hard at work applying to—and receiving!—grants. Learn about these and other exciting repository news, starting on page 12.

Thank you for your readership and contributions. We’re looking forward to a great 2016!

**FOLLOW SSA ON FACEBOOK**

SSA reminders and updates, local repository news, jobs, and more! [https://www.facebook.com/southwestarchivists](https://www.facebook.com/southwestarchivists)

**FOLLOW SSA ON TWITTER**

Every Facebook post gets Tweeted, along with nonregional news and events. Follow us at [https://Twitter.com/SWarchivists](https://Twitter.com/SWarchivists)

**ADVERTISING**

Interested in getting your name and product in front of archivists in six states (and beyond)?

As of December 2015, the Society of Southwest Archivists includes and serves more than 500 individual and institutional members in Arizona, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Texas, and out-of-region.

Please see our rate sheet online at [http://www.southwestarchivists.org/newsletter](http://www.southwestarchivists.org/newsletter) or contact Dara Flinn at dflinn@rice.edu.

Full page, half page, quarter page, and business card sizes are available, and discounts apply for purchase of 1 year (4 consecutive issues).
On August 21, 2015, I interviewed Brenda Gunn for StoryCorps at the 2015 SAA meeting in Cleveland. She spoke on a number of topics, including growing up in Tyler, coming to our profession, and David Gracy and other mentors and role models. When I asked about what she was most proud of in her career, Brenda stated that it was the development of the SSA, SAA Disaster Recovery Assistance Fund that she spearheaded with Robert Pierce Moses when he was president of SAA and she was president of SSA.

Brenda was SSA President when Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans on August 29, 2005. In the interview, Gunn explained, “The hurricane hit . . . and the levies broke a couple of days later. That was the flooding that caused all of the devastation. Many of the archivists had to leave the city and their archives were inundated with water, dirty filthy water.”

People came to Gunn asking what SSA was going to do. “Most of the organizations had insurance, but the insurance mechanism and machine grinds very slowly, so what we were able to do is to come up with an application process, literally overnight once the decision was made, and the regional SSA and the national SAA committed to seeding the fund with five thousand dollars each.” Gunn added:

We came up with an application that was very straightforward. The last thing we wanted to do was have people labor over a burdensome application process . . . . The people who were on the review committee . . . reviewed those applications immediately . . . . I am really proud that we had a turn-around time of four and a half days sometimes to let these people know that help was coming. And SAA did a fantastic job through their accounting infrastructure to send the checks out within a week.

The grant responded to both physical and emotional needs, Gunn observed: “These folks had to leave their homes and their archives that they had worked in for many, many years. It was an emotional toll that it took.”

SSA and the UT iSchool also created a blog, SSA Cares, after Katrina. “For about two weeks before the archivists could get situated . . . they communicated through the blog. So that became psychologically important—for the folks displaced to check in. And important for everybody else to go to the blog to see Lee Miller is okay or the folks from the Notarial Archives are situated and doing fine.”

The grant was expanded to benefit archives affected by Hurricane Rita, which hit the gulf coast in September 2005. Gunn added, “[T]wo years after Hurricane Katrina and the establishment of the grant that we began to talk about what to do with the funds. The idea came up to repurpose it as a national fund.” Thus, SAA’s National Disaster Recovery Fund for Archives was born.

Our interview ended more conversationally, with a main topic being the value of making time during our busy days to do what archivists do and enjoy best—sharing our treasures with the public, “When you slow down . . . and are able to interact with your researcher and you see that spark in them and you are reignited, and you are refueled and reenergized, and the passion is rekindled.” It was an inspiring talk with my “archives sister.”
SSA 2016 Annual Meeting Program
Claudia Rivers, CA, SSA Vice President and 2016 Program Committee Chair

The Program Committee for the 2016 Annual Meeting is putting together an informative and entertaining program for you to enjoy in Oklahoma City from May 18 to 21. We look forward to seeing you there!

The meeting theme, “Native Routes,” encouraged sessions relating transportation and communication, among other topics. Also encouraged were submissions on themes of interest to tribal archives and about Native American archival issues. A special Saturday program will feature morning sessions that focus on indigenous culture and an afternoon three-hour introduction to preservation.

The 2016 program will include panels, traditional educational presentations, a lightning session with short single papers, and a poster session. Among the presentations that will broaden your knowledge of current archival issues are the following:

**Making It Count: A Data-Driven Approach to Special Collections Assessment.** This boot-camp-style training session will help archivists learn how to use the statistics they gather.

**How to Prepare Yourself for Writing a Local History Book…or, What the Heck Were You Thinking?** Many archivists are approached to put together materials for local history publications. This session will help you be prepared for the pitfalls ahead.

**Century Chest: 100 Years in the Making.** A panel discussion of efforts to collect representative materials on Oklahoma history for a time capsule.

Plus traditional sessions on such diverse topics as teaching archival literacy to college students, ethnic immigration collections, digital humanities projects, digitization of various kinds of materials, and collaborative projects. Look out for additional details and program highlights in the May 2016 issue of *Southwestern Archivist* and on the SSA website.

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**Welcome from the 2016 Oklahoma City Local Arrangements Committee**

Oklahoma City welcomes the Society of Southwest Archivists for their annual meeting. This year will be a time to share stories of place and history, and explore our “Native Routes”.

Home to almost 40 federally recognized tribes, Oklahoma has a unique history and an important responsibility to promote informed and respectful preservation of our cultural archives and artifacts. Migrants, tourists, commuters, and explorers all know this land well. With over 400 miles of Route 66, the intersection of three major interstates, the historic Chisholm Cattle Trail, and the US’s farthest inland seaport, Oklahoma is a land well-known to travelers, including American treasures Woody Guthrie and Will Rogers. Won’t you join us and share your story?

**Hotel & Registration Information**


The hotel block is being held until April 18, 2016. Single and double occupancy will be $139/night.

**Registration Rates**

Early bird registration through April 15
- Member Early Bird $150 – Regular $185
- Non-Member Early Bird $175 –Regular $225
- Student Early Bird $85 –Regular $105
- Single Day (Thursday/Friday/Saturday) $75
- Saturday Afternoon Workshop $40
Transportation

- Public transportation is available downtown with many food and leisure options within walking distance of the hotel. We will supply a map of things to do to help you get to know our town!
- Driving? Downtown OKC is at the crossroads of Interstates 35 and 40. Interstate 44 connects to both.
- Flying? Will Rogers Airport is located west of downtown.
- Train? The OKC Amtrak station is two blocks from the Renaissance Hotel.

Wednesday Pre-Conference Workshops
SSA’s Professional Development Committee will be offering three pre-conference workshops. Please see p. 6 to learn more.

Thursday Tours
All tours are free of charge and will include transportation to and from a guided tour of the archives, and time to explore the museum exhibits.

- Oklahoma History Center (okhistory.org)
- National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum (nationalcowboymuseum.org)
- The Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum (oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org)

Keynote Speaker
Thursday: Brenda Toineeta Pipestem, Associate Supreme Court Justice at Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Brenda Toineeta Pipestem, a citizen of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians based in Cherokee, North Carolina, serves as the Chair of the Repatriation Committee of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian Board of Trustees. Pipestem is an Associate Justice for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Supreme Court, an appointment she has held since the year 2000. She also serves as an Associate Justice for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Supreme Court, an appointment she has held since 2008. Pipestem worked for six years in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs and Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs at the U.S. Department of the Interior. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy Studies from Duke University and her Juris Doctor from Columbia University School of Law.

Saturday Extended Session
This year’s Annual Meeting will include an extended Saturday Session focused on Native American issues in archiving. The day will include a session block focused on issues faced by tribal cultural centers and non-Native institutions that house indigenous records; a roundtable discussion led by Dr. Daniel Swan; and conclude with workshop led by Rebecca Elder on Archives Basics and Preservation. All conference attendees are encouraged to attend this special Saturday programming.

Dr. Swan is an Anthropology Professor at the University of Oklahoma, and a Curator of Ethnology at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History. He serves as the Interim Director of the Native American Languages Program at SNOMNH. Ms. Elder is the founder of Rebecca Elder Cultural Heritage Preservation. She serves as adjunct faculty at the University of Texas School of Information.

This year’s local arrangements committee is co-chaired by Christina Wolf and Jennifer Day and includes: Judie Matthews, Sarah Milligan, Kate Blalack, J.A. Pryse, Gerri Schaad, Nathan Gerth, Bill Welge, JJ Compton, Brad Robison, Claudia Rivers, Karen Meites, Veronica Pipestem, Wendy Gabrielson, and Nicholas Wojcik.

Brenda Toineeta Pipestem
The Professional Development Committee is looking forward to a wonderful slate of workshops in 2016. In April we are co-sponsoring a free POWRR Digitization workshop in Little Rock, AR. We also have three workshops planned for the Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City. We hope you will be able to join us for one or more of these offerings.

**POWRR Digitization**  
**Date:** Friday, April 22  
**Time:** full day  
**Cost:** FREE  
**Location:** Central Arkansas Library System, Little Rock, AR

The Digital POWRR (Preserving Digital Objects with Restricted Resources) Workshop was created as a result of an IMLS-funded study on identifying digital preservation solutions for small-and mid-sized institutions looking to begin digital preservation practices. We continue to bring these workshops across the country thanks to funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

This full-day workshop is designed specifically for front-line practitioners who routinely complete collections processing work. If you understand the need for digital preservation, and are now seeking to build daily workflows that incorporate accessioning digital materials, processing them, and planning for their long-term preservation, this workshop is for you.

This is a hands-on workshop that deals with the “How” of digital preservation, rather than the “Why.” Attendees will practice the accession of a digital collection using a simple, open-source tool; learn about several digital preservation tools and services; and create an institution-specific action plan for making progress towards digital preservation goals.

Registration information for POWRR will be available on the SSA website soon.

**Workshops planned for the 2016 Annual Meeting**

**Preserving Digital Archives (SAA DAS course)**  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 18  
**Time:** 9 am – 5 pm (lunch on your own)  
**Location:** SSA Conference Hotel  
**Trainer:** Liz Bishoff

How do you start a digital preservation program? This full-day course is designed to help practitioners move from understanding the core vocabulary, standards, and best practices of digital preservation toward program planning, policy development, and systems evaluation. Through presentation, discussion, and hands-on exercises, the course will build on core concepts; explore organizational aspects of digital preservation; introduce tools and standards for technical and preservation metadata; and examine factors to consider in evaluating and selecting digital preservation systems. Full day Tactical & Strategic level course offered in partial fulfillment of the DAS program. For more details, cost, and to register visit: [http://saa.archivists.org/events/preserving-digital-archives-1646/650/](http://saa.archivists.org/events/preserving-digital-archives-1646/650/)

**Disaster Preparedness/Recovery**  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 18  
**Time:** 9 am - 4 pm (lunch on your own, 12-1)  
**Cost:** $100  
**Location:** St. Paul’s Cathedral, Boardroom, 127 NW 7th St.  
**Trainer:** Rebecca Elder

An emergency preparedness plan is a crucial document for any collecting institution, yet they are often not in place because the writing seems like such a large and complex task. In this day long workshop, we will break down the components of emergency planning and show you how to write your own plan. We will also discuss disaster response and allow you to practice handling wet archival materials in a mock salvage exercise. You will leave equipped to safeguard your own collections against disasters large and small.

**Introduction to Exhibit Development in Special Collections/Archives**  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 18  
**Time:** 1-5 pm  
**Cost:** $50  
**Location:** SSA Conference Hotel  
**Trainer:** Jessica Lacher-Feldman

Description: Get practical training and theoretical knowledge of developing an exhibit in a special collections setting from the initial idea through planning, exhibiting, and beyond…. Create discussion and collaboration beyond the archives—by advertising and marketing the exhibit, outreach and education, adding impact through the development of related events, working with the media to publicize your event, reaching a broader audience, and developing a digital component to the exhibit. Also included are practical tips on the use of readily-available materials to create a professional, informative, and attractive exhibit without compromising the source.

Please visit the SSA website for more information: [http://societyofsouthwestarchivists.wildapricot.org/education](http://societyofsouthwestarchivists.wildapricot.org/education) or contact Rebecca Russell, russellr@rice.edu.
2016 SSA Scholarships

Don’t miss these opportunities to obtain assistance in professional development and annual meeting attendance! All mailed applications must be postmarked by **February 19, 2016**. Emailed applications must be sent by **February 21, 2016**.

**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, or group of members, 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, or group of archivists, 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.

For eligibility requirements and application guidelines, see: [http://southwestarchivists.org/scholarships](http://southwestarchivists.org/scholarships)

For more information, contact:

Pati Threatt  
Chair, SSA Scholarships Committee  
Box 91445 Frazar Memorial Library  
McNeese State University  
Lake Charles, LA 70609  
pthreatt@mcneese.edu  
(337) 475-5731
The SSA Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of candidates for the 2016 election.

**Vice President/President-Elect**
- Jennifer Day
- Tim Nutt

**Secretary**
- Melissa Gonzales

**Executive Board (3 positions)**
- Barry Cowan
- Morgan Gieringer
- Adam Heien
- Abra Schnur
- Krishna Shenoy
- Felicia Williamson

**Nominating Committee**
- Anton duPlessis
- Holly Hasenfratz
- Vince Lee
  
- Katie Rojas
- Laura Treat

**Scholarship Committee**
- Samantha Dodd
- AnnElise Golden
- Joyce Martin
- Karin Strohbeck
- Leslie Wagner

Thank you to all who agreed to run in this year’s election. Your offer of service and leadership is truly a gift to SSA and your fellow archivists!

This year’s election will be held electronically in March. Paper ballots are available upon request for those unable to vote online; please contact a member of the Nominating Committee (Mike Miller, Kate Blalack, or Lynn Whitfield) to obtain a paper ballot. Also, remember that only current members will be eligible to vote, so pay your dues for 2016, if you haven’t already, so you can vote.
SLOTTO TIME!
Pati Threatt, Chair, SSA Scholarships Committee

It is time once again to start gathering items for the wonderful, wacky, wildness that is SLOTTO!!

Please consider donating items to SLOTTO 2016 in Oklahoma City. The proceeds from SLOTTO raffle tickets support scholarships for archivists and students for professional development, conference attendance, educational support, and more.

We accept anything—extra copies of books and posters, re-gifts, freebies, ceramic chickens, T-shirts, or whatever you’ve got lying around on your desk.

Bring your items to the registration desk at the Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City, and the Scholarships Committee will sort and bundle. If you would like to donate items for the silent auction, contact Pati Threatt at pthreatt@mcneese.edu. Thanks, and don’t forget to buy your SLOTTO tickets in OKC!

JOIN THE SSA SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDRAISER QUILTING BEE
Amanda Focke, CA, Rice University

Sign up to join your fellow quilters in SSA to create a beautiful quilt for the silent auction at SSA 2016 in Oklahoma City.

Proceeds will benefit the SSA Scholarship Fund, and participants will make fun new SSA connections. Fabric and instructions will be provided, no expertise is required.

Join us to piece one block—or more!


Questions?
Email Jennifer Hecker at jenniferrarhecker@gmail.com or Amanda Focke at amandafocke@yahoo.com

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE REPORT
William D. Welge, CA, SSA Diversity Committee Chair

In 2012, the executive board of SSA was approached by Donna Guerra regarding the development of a statement of outreach to members and possible new members in order to diversify our organization’s membership.

The executive board formed an ad-hoc committee on Diversity with Ms. Guerra as chair. A call for volunteers was made with LaToya Devezin of the Austin History Center and me, Bill Welge of the Oklahoma Historical Society, comprising the core committee. The executive board also sought to encourage aspects of diversity at the 2013 annual meeting in New Orleans.

The annual meetings at New Orleans and Arlington provided opportunities for inclusiveness with outreach to Native Americans, African-Americans, and the LGBT community with presentations that initially opened opportunities to underserved professionals in the region.

The Diversity Committee has had a change in leadership and is progressing towards representation on the committee from throughout the region. President Mary Manning earlier this year appointed me as committee chair, and I have recruited individuals who can provide guidance and leadership to strengthen the organization. New members who have agreed to serve are Dr. Rose Diaz of the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Albuquerque, NM, and Veronica Pipestem, Archivist, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Ms. Pipestem is Otoe and Osage. Recruitment for possible additional members from Arizona, Arkansas, and Louisiana is on-going. It is the committee’s intent to move forward in that goal this year.
SSA members may recall that Gerri Schaad and Lauren Goodley attended the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums meeting in Washington, DC last September. SSA generously purchased a booth in the exhibitors’ area, and the Local Arrangements Committee for SSA 2016 provided a free SSA registration for a raffle. Looking at membership data, we estimate that eight new professionals joined SSA from our efforts, and one institutional sponsor for the Annual Meeting. Our report to the board and article in the December Southwestern Archivist both reported on the quantitative metrics of our work. This article will focus on the qualitative aspects of what we learned and what can be applied and shared with the SSA association and its members.

Judie Matthews of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries is a Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) member tasked with hosting a Saturday schedule at SSA 2016 focusing on archiving and Native populations. She describes the special Saturday sessions thusly:

“As archivists we are trained to deal with storage, handling, and use of cultural objects from a preservation or conservation perspective, but we still have much to learn about proper etiquette and exhibition concerning Native documents, art, and ephemera. The goal of the 2016 OKC LAC is to create a space for an educational dialogue between archivists and Native cultural heritage representatives. We hope that this event will foster a cross-cultural communication, educating all participants to their individual needs.

“The Society of Southwest Archivists strives to create an opportunity that moves beyond the cultural imperialism that has plagued collecting cultural heritage materials in previous centuries, and honors contemporary Native people and their authority and expertise in managing their cultural items. While we are prepared to instruct in archival techniques during this session, SSA is also ready to listen more than we talk. By offering this special Saturday, we aim to form working relationships with tribal institutions in the SSA area, and create a more diverse and worldly archival organization.”

It is in this spirit that we attended and now report on our endeavor.

Conversation and Cultural Competency

We found that most ATALM attendees had not heard of SSA. We often used the opening line of the upcoming OKC meeting as a way to begin a conversation at the booth. Also, interestingly, most attendees did not self-identify as archivists, although many do have archival duties. Professionals who manage a one-stop-shop of library/archive/museum tended to identify as librarians. We also had a great experience with a cultural mediator. Erin Hollingsworth, Public Services Librarian at Tuzzy Consortium Library in Barrow, Alaska, studied archives and First Nations in Canada, and serves Native populations in her current position. Erin sat with us at lunch and explained to a table of non-Native Americans everything from food customs to family relationships to language acquisition. It was a fantastic way to learn about a culture and some of the current library and archives issues they face.

Community

There was also an effort on the part of the ATALM organizers to foster a sense of community and inclusivity at the conference. We were served breakfast and lunch each day. During these meals, we were treated to a speaker, awards were presented, and any logistical updates on the conference were given. These meals also served as a time to network with colleagues and interact with individuals from many organizations and share ideas across disciplines and interests.

Sessions

Gerri and Lauren each attended two sessions and found that ATALM accepts numerous presentations on a variety of topics. Many sessions consisted of archivists sharing information about archival resources on Native American topics at their institutions, including how to access and use them, and how they were described. (For example, names are often problematic, with a history of giving false names, or having Indian and American names.) We encourage SSA members with Native American subject holdings to submit proposals and share these resources with Tribal and Native American researchers.

Outcomes and Suggestions

We will give a brief presentation at the SSA Past, Present, and Future session at the SSA annual meeting. We hope to see you there, and if you cannot attend, we will tweet and of course publish in the May newsletter. For more information contact Lauren Goodley at lgoodley@txstate.edu.
**Broadcasting History with Radio CALS**

Stephanie Bayless, CA, Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Little Rock, AR

The Central Arkansas Library System (CALS) is taking to the airwaves with a weekly radio show on KABF beginning on Friday, January 8, from noon-2 p.m. Radio CALS will feature a combination of Arkansas-related music and library-related news and interviews that are conducted by staff.

The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, CALS’ Arkansas history department, has an extensive collection of music by Arkansas musicians and about Arkansas, as well as oral history interviews and previously recorded public lectures. These audio files will be included in the programming, which is a way to promote a greater understanding and appreciation of Arkansas history, literature, art, and culture. In the future, programming may expand to include readings of historical letters, diaries, and documents. Links to resources mentioned on the show and to previously aired shows will be available on the Butler Center blog at [http://butlercenter.blogspot.com](http://butlercenter.blogspot.com).

CALS Director Bobby Roberts said, “[This] will enable us to offer news of CALS programming, recordings of public appearances by authors and other speakers, and excerpts of oral histories and other historical materials in free, readily accessible ways. This will be of special benefit to people who are homebound or who have visual limitations.”

KABF 88.3FM is a community-based, listener-supported, noncommercial, nonprofit tax exempt organization.

KABF has been on the air for 31 years as the “Voice of the People” in Arkansas, with 50,000 listeners weekly. KABF provides block programming across all of the musical and public affairs interests from jazz to blues to gospel to rock, as well as uniquely providing the first Spanish, Indian, and other voices in Arkansas that cannot be heard anywhere else. KABF is live streamed at [www.kabf.org](http://www.kabf.org), distributed around the country and globally to other stations with many shows available on podcasts on our website as well.

For more information, contact the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies at 501-320-5700.

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**Grant Awarded to Process Business Records of Henry E. Beisman**

Lynn Gates, New Mexico Highlands University

In May 2015, New Mexico Highlands University’s Thomas C. Donnelly Library was awarded $4,892.63 through the New Mexico Historical Records Advisory Board Regrant (NMHRAB) Program for a project titled The Business of a Lifetime: the Records of H.E. Beisman, Surveyor. The Library received official permission to begin the project at the end of September.

The NMHRAB Regrant provided funds for purchase of supplies to process and rehouse thousands of plat descriptions, Storrie Irrigation Project records, correspondence, and other business records from the Henry E. Beisman Collection. In addition to processing these records, the grant supports the digitization of the plat descriptions by Portable Micrographics, Inc., of Albuquerque, NM, for eventual online access by Donnelly Library.

The Henry E. Beisman Collection was donated to Donnelly Library in 2009 by Mr. Beisman’s sons, Gary and Gene Beisman. Mr. Beisman and his predecessors, V.K. Jones and J.B. Franzini, were surveyors and engineers active in northeastern New Mexico in the early 20th century.

In addition to the records included in the grant project, the collection includes over 7,500 maps, survey equipment, field notebooks, a survey/engineering library, and a roll-top desk.

*Above: The wood filing cabinet holding the plat descriptions written by Henry C. Beisman.*

*Left: Example of folder containing plat descriptions. Images courtesy of NMHU.*
The University of North Texas Libraries (UNT) has been awarded $11,840 by the National Endowment for the Humanities’ Common Heritage grant program, which was recently created in 2015 as part of The Common Good: The Humanities in the Public Square. “Spotlight on North Texas” is a collaboration between UNT’s Moving Image Preservation Librarian, Laura Treat, and the Texas Archive of the Moving Image (TAMI), to preserve and provide access to the amateur and professional visual histories of North Texas including home movies, regionally-produced films, photographs, theater advertisements, and other related items.

On Saturday, April 30, 2016, UNT will host a community digitization and outreach event at the Willis Library from 10 am to 5 pm. Photographs and documents will be digitized on-site by UNT’s Digital Project Unit while film and videotape will be digitized off-site by TAMI and the UNT Media Library. Participants will receive free digital copies and information about long-term preservation. A selection of digitized materials will be freely accessible online through the Portal to Texas History and TAMI’s Web site in 2017. In spring 2017, UNT will also host a lecture on the history of Texas filmmaking and a community screening of digitized materials.

Treat, who began overseeing the preservation and digitization of UNT’s growing moving image collections in February 2015, believes that personal records such as home movies are vital components of the historical record and that such records may enrich or challenge popularly accepted perspectives on well-known events. This perspective aligns well with that of TAMI, whose mission is to “discover, preserve, provide access to, and educate the community about Texas’ film heritage.”

Through this project, Treat hopes to collect and preserve materials that can contribute to one relatively unexplored area of Texas’ film heritage. Denton County’s film history dates back to 1913, when a local theater owner and the Denton Chamber of Commerce teamed up to finance a film starring local residents, and continues through the 1940s, when Clara Lou “Ann” Sheridan hosted a Warner Bros.-sponsored glamour contest in her hometown. Although these spectacular and elaborate events continued through the late 1960s and included a star-studded Southwestern premiere of Bonnie and Clyde (1967), little community documentation exists. Through this public digitization and access program, the UNT Libraries plan to address this significant gap in film history and Denton County’s community history while also illuminating the value of personal records to the creation of the historical and scholarly record.

For more information about the NEH-funded project or other ongoing moving image preservation projects, please contact Laura Treat at laura.treat@unt.edu.

Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this article do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.
Here is One Reason Why Employers Hire Certified Archivists:

“Numerous employers including myself have found that the CA designation informs search committees that an applicant has a clear level of competence for any archival position. When you receive dozens of resumes for an archival position, the CA is extremely helpful in evaluating a candidate’s essential qualifications.”

-- Pam Hackbart-Dean, Southern Illinois University

Included among the employers who have recently advertised for Certified Archivists are: Southern Illinois University, State of Oregon, University of Texas, National Art Gallery, University of California at Davis, Library of Virginia, State University of New York at Fredonia, Arizona Historical Society, Loyola University, State of New Mexico, University of Arkansas, History Associates, and Texas A&M.

More information about becoming a Certified Archivist is available at http://www.certifiedarchivists.org or by contacting the Academy of Certified Archivists at aca@caphill.com or 518-694-8471.

Make plans now for the next Certified Archivist examination August 3, 2016, to be held in Boston, Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Seattle and Los Angeles -- and wherever 5 or more candidates wish to take it!
NEW TITLES ADDED TO HMRC’S COOKBOOK COLLECTION
Clinton Drake, Collection Development Librarian, Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston Public Library

Elizabeth White, a retired librarian who spent her career at the Houston Area Medical Library, has been an avid cookbook collector for the past 25 years. In the early years of collecting, she scoured garage sales for new titles, and later, acquired many online. She has worked with Baylor University’s Texas Collection since 2009 and has deposited about two-thirds of her collection and counting (about 1,600 volumes), making theirs one of the largest collections of Texas cookbooks. In addition to collecting, White has published a bibliography of Texas cookbooks from 1855-1936 called Sweets and Meats: Early Texas Cookbooks.

In May 2015, White approached the Houston Metropolitan Research Center (HMRC) and expressed an interest in donating her remaining Houston titles. Over the next few months, White continued to weed her collection and made several subsequent donations, adding nearly 80 new titles to HMRC’s collection.

White’s donation will enhance HMRC’s existing holdings, which include the first Houston-based cookbook entitled Texas Cookbook: A Thorough Treatise on the Art of Cookery, edited by the Ladies of the First Presbyterian Church of Houston, and published in 1883. The Ladies may have curated the contents; however, the recipes, as the preface specifies, were collected “from our best housekeepers and cooks.” The 186-page cookbook includes basic, timeless fare, such as steak with onions, but also contains many recipes that are less common by today’s standards, such as pickled brains and an asthma preventative (“take one teaspoonful of Sulphur every morning before breakfast”). The recipe entitled “Cockroach Destroyer,” which calls for sprinkling borax into crevices inhabited by the pests, remains effective.

White’s donation included many Houston-area charity cookbooks, with religious congregation cookbooks being the most popular subset. Congregations represented in White’s donation range across denominations, faiths, and years. Some women’s organizations which published cookbooks include: Houston Chapter of Executive Women International (1979), Charity Guild of Catholic Women (1965), Methodist Hospital Women’s Auxiliary (1960s), and Houston Dental Society Woman’s Auxiliary (1950). Another interesting title is the Handbook of Recipes for Use in Homemaking Classes (1948), compiled by the Houston Independent School District. The earliest title is Bread Time Stories (1925), published by Houston-based American Maid Flour Company, containing poetry for children and recipes using American Maid Flour.

For more information contact Clinton Drake at Clinton.Drake@houstontx.gov.

Dallas Municipal Archives: New Additions to Portal to Texas History
John H. Slate, CA, Dallas Municipal Archives

The Dallas Municipal Archives announces its latest additions to the existing Dallas Park Department Photograph Collection, digitized through the Rescuing Texas History (RTH) 2015 re-granting program of the University of North Texas’ Portal to Texas History. A longtime partner with the Portal, the Municipal Archives contributed several hundred more selected historic images of City of Dallas parks, including rare images of formerly segregated parks and other historic Dallas parks. The majority of photographs were made approximately 1940–1970.

Past RTH projects have included the archives’ John F. Kennedy/Dallas Police Department Records, Clyde Barrow Gang police records, and other collections.

The Rescuing Texas History program is generously funded by the University of North Texas Libraries.
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Stephanie Bayless for SAA Council

...continued from page 1


SAA members want an organization that works for them. Going forward, Council needs to take an honest look at what we are offering members unable to attend the annual meetings and/or take advantage of educational opportunities. Living in an area I consider underserved by SAA, my personal interest in the organization grew exponentially as financial stability allowed me to attend meetings. My experience should not be the norm. To remain relevant, we must build an SAA where every member sees the benefit of their dues and no one feels like they are simply paying a fee to network or to add a line to their resume. Simply put, we should consider new ways to connect with members in all phases of their career.

The recent push for diversity and advocacy is positive and has been successful, so let’s use our momentum to push even further. I feel we have room for improvement in our support for archivists in the workforce. Council should study what steps we can take to fight for a living wage, job security, and professionalization. These problems are not unique, of course, but who better to advocate for archivists than SAA? We know our strengths and we know our obstacles like we know our documents. Today, we have a perfect opportunity to shape the future of our profession—a future we can all benefit from. Council is and can continue to be a driving force in the world of archives. I am ready to help.

Sandra Cisneros Papers Have a New Home

Katie Salzmann, Texas State University

The Wittliff Collections at Texas State University acquired the papers of celebrated author, Sandra Cisneros, in fall 2015. As one of America’s leading writers, Cisneros helped launch the Latino literary boom and is the recipient of a MacArthur “Genius” Grant. She is the author of poetry, a memoir, essays, children’s books and fiction, including The House on Mango Street, which has sold more than 6 million copies and inspired generations of readers worldwide.

“We are delighted that Ms. Cisneros’ papers will serve as a foundational archive for the Wittliff Collections,” Texas State President Denise M. Trauth said. “Ms. Cisneros is among this country’s unique literary voices, and her writings about the Mexican-American experience are not only relevant to an international audience, but treasured by individuals from all backgrounds.”

Cisneros was one of the first Latina writers to be published by a major press, and her books have been translated into more than 20 languages. Hundreds of articles and scholarly studies have been written on her work, testifying to her extraordinary talent, vision and influence.

“It’s important to me that my archives have found a home where I’ve felt at home and respected in my lifetime,” said Cisneros. “The Wittliff Collection reflects an admiration and appreciation for Texas’ Mexican and Tejano legacy. Their support of Tejano writing projects and Tejano writers firm my final decision.

“One more consideration: I think it imperative scholars studying my work travel to the world I knew and called home to better understand my work. I’m grateful and thrilled to have my archives at home finally at the Wittliff,” she said.

The Sandra Cisneros Papers comprise 250 file boxes documenting the entirety of her literary career. Included are manuscripts for all of her major works, personal diaries, travel journals, correspondence, photographs, videos, awards, publicity material, personal effects, interviews and speeches, original drawings by Cisneros, files on her famous “Purple House” in San Antonio, and the Canon portable typewriter she used to create many of her works.

Wittliff Collections Lead Archivist, Katie Salzmann, is currently processing the papers with an anticipated opening date of December 2016.
The Witte Museum will host the exhibit *Mapping Texas: From Frontier to the Lone Star State* from April 29 through September 5, 2016 in the Russell Hill Rogers Texas Art Gallery. Admission to the exhibit will be included with museum admission.

Explore a stunning collection of rare Texas maps from the collections of the Texas General Land Office, the Witte Museum and the private collection of Carol and Frank Holcomb. See four of the original maps used by Stephen F. Austin for his colony in what was then Mexico, as well as a selection of rare maps dating from the 1600s to the late 1800s that reveal the shifting boundaries of Texas that affected all maps of the United States and Mexico. The exhibition also features important artifacts and documents relating to and complementing these significant maps.

For further information contact James Harkins at 512-463-3289 or james.harkins@glo.texas.gov.

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The Texas State Library and Archives Commission is pleased to announce the opening of its latest exhibit, *Wish You Were Here*, on April 4, 2016. Featuring over 100 postcards, photographs, and documents, this exhibit explores Texas tourism by region, highlighting familiar Lone Star locales and destinations.

*Wish You Were Here* draws from more than 3,000 postcards in the holdings of the Texas State Library and Archives. Notable collections featured in the exhibit are the Don Kelly Southeast Texas postcard collection, the Rigsbee collection and the R. Niles Graham collection. The postcard collections represent an important contribution to understanding the development and evolution of Texas regional history in the early to mid-20th century.

The exhibit incorporates interactive elements, a first for the TSLAC exhibit team. Visitors will have the opportunity to view a slideshow of select postcards and photographs. The slideshow comes complete with headphones to hear excerpts from correspondence written on postcards. Visitors are also invited to take a “selfie” with an oversize reproduction of a “Greetings from Texas” postcard for sharing and posting on social media.

To kick off the exhibit, TSLAC will host an evening with Richard Eisenhower, President of the Austin Postcard Club and owner of the largest collection of Texas Gulf Coast postcards, on April 7, 2016 from 7 pm to 9 pm. Eisenhower will speak on the beauty and value of postcards. Attendees will have the opportunity to view select postcards from Eisenhower’s collection and view the new exhibit. The Friends of Libraries and Archives of Texas will provide light refreshments.

The exhibit and evening reception are free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Ashley D. Stevens, Education and Outreach Coordinator, at astevens@tsl.texas.gov.
Historically significant Arkansas documents will be available and preserved together in digital formats for the first time, thanks to a $106,908 grant obtained by University of Arkansas at Little Rock researchers.

The UALR Center for Arkansas History and Culture (CAHC) received the award to digitize materials related to the history of segregation and integration of Arkansas’ education system.

Digitizing this unique group of archival collections will provide scholars of civil rights, race, education, and law an opportunity to study the evolution of education in central Arkansas through the lens of religion, the judicial system, and contemporary students and educators.

The grant is part of the “Digitizing Hidden Collections and Archives” initiative sponsored by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR). CAHC’s proposal was one of 18 chosen for the 2015 award cycle.

This 18-month project involves the collaboration of CAHC, the Central Arkansas Library System’s Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, and the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site. The partnership of a university, public library, and national park is unique, and the strength of this combined institutional partnership is multifaceted.

This work will result in a rare meta-collection of materials housed in three different archives yet digitally available in a single location.

The documents include an FBI report on the National Guard turning away nine black students from Central High School in 1957; papers from Federal Judge Harry Lemley, whose ruling temporarily stopped the integration of Central High; and papers of Bishop Robert Brown, who spoke against Gov. Orval Faubus’ handling of the integration. Also included are materials from Central High teacher Elizabeth Huckaby, Dunbar High School, the Office of Desegregation Monitoring and the school.

The Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) is funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

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**Scholarship Contributions**

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

- **Tim Blevins**, $30 to the Gracy Scholarship, in memory of Ann Massmann
- **Susan Novick**, $50 to the General Scholarship Fund
- **Paul R. Scott**, $25 to the Gracy Scholarship and $25 to the Sister M. Claude Lane Award
- **Warren Stricker**, $50 to the Gracy Scholarship

Please find information about making a donation on the website at http://southwestarchivists.org/Donations.
In July 2015, the Xavier University of Louisiana Archives and Special Collections received a two-year Museum Grant for African American History and Culture from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Under the auspices of this grant, the Charles F. Heartman Manuscripts of Slavery Collection, consisting of some 8,000 individual documents, will be scanned, digitized, and rehoused.

Charles F. Heartman (1883-1953) was a prominent Mississippi book dealer known for his collection of manuscripts, documents, and other ephemera related to African American history in the South. Contrary to his contemporaries, he refuted the idea that he collected on outmoded ideologies and pursued materials related to slavery because no one else expressed interest. Despite dissuasion by many, Heartman continued to amass his collection throughout the Great Depression. His vision and appreciation for the value of the component annals were based on a discerning eye that placed him ahead of most of his Southern contemporaries.

When Heartman decided to deaccession his archives in the late 1940s, Xavier University was able to acquire the portion of the collection that pertained to Louisiana, as well as adjacent territories. Approximately half of the collection consists of municipal records from the city of New Orleans, which had the largest population of free people of color in the nation. The collection illuminates the condition of enslaved and free blacks in Louisiana, offering a broad view of their activity that covers colonial times, early statehood, the antebellum period, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the end of the nineteenth century.

Thousands of items relating to the social, economic, and legal status of slaves and free people of color, including clerical books, particularly those of the Third Municipality, provide valuable data concerning their labor and leisurely undertakings in the early nineteenth century. For researchers not solely focused on slavery, the comprehensive tax records and business bonds provide invaluable insight into their economic activities. There are also rosters of U.S. Army Negro soldiers from the Civil War, as well as records of societies of Freemen dating from Reconstruction and beyond. The bulk of the Heartman Collection is documents in French and English in roughly equal proportions along with a small number of Spanish Documents.

Overseen by Digital Project Archivist Vincent S. Barraza, the Xavier University Library Archives and Special Collections department provides a comprehensive program building the accessibility for students and scholars alike. The library’s concerted conservation efforts act to avert deterioration of physical manuscripts through precise housing and environmental control and digital conversion of content while administering the highest quality of archival standards. This thorough process guarantees the longevity of the physical collection and limitless accessibility for all audiences. After the collections undergo any necessary preservation processes, they are then inserted into the CONTENTdm digital collection management system and become immediately accessible within the Xavier Library Digital Collections gateway. This ongoing digitization process continues past university president Mother M. Agatha Ryan’s mission to not only accumulate, but also educate on the history of slavery in the South in order to preserve African American cultural heritage.

For more information about the Charles F. Heartman Manuscripts of Slavery Collection, please contact Vincent S. Barraza at vbarraza@xula.edu or 504-520-7213.
Felicia Williamson, CA, is the new Archivist at the Dallas Holocaust Museum, where she manages all artifacts and archival collections for the Museum. This new position combines skills gained as a Certified Archivist and an academic background in Holocaust Studies. Felicia graduated summa cum laude from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville in 2003 and worked at the University of Arkansas Libraries (primarily as a congressional archivist) before leaving Arkansas to attend LSU in 2009. In 2011 Felicia graduated from LSU School of Library and Information Science and was the Head of Special Collections at Sam Houston State University from 2011-2015. Felicia and her husband, James Williamson, are happy to make their new home in the Dallas area.

James Williamson, CA, DAS, is the new Digital Production Librarian at Southern Methodist University, where he manages digitization projects for the Norwick Center for Digital Services. He is a graduate of Louisiana State University with two degrees. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts in History in 2009 and a Master of Library and Information Science degree in 2011. From 2012-2015, James served as the Digital Resources Librarian at Sam Houston State University. James and his wife, Felicia Williamson, look forward to seeing all that the Dallas area has to offer.

Samantha Dodd, CA, is the new Special Collections Archivist in Special Collections at the University of Texas at Arlington Libraries. An alumni of UT Arlington, Samantha received her BA in history in 2009. She went on to earn her MA in history from UT Dallas in 2012.
and shortly after returned to UT Arlington to obtain her graduate certificate in archival administration before becoming a Certified Archivist in 2013. In 2014 Samantha earned her MLIS from the University of North Texas. Samantha has served as the archivist for the Dallas Historical Society since 2011. She is delighted to be returning to her original alma mater once again and looks forward to working with the staff of Special Collections at UT Arlington.

Dallas Jewish Historical Society was presented with the Heritage Preservation Award by the Dallas Genealogical Society at their annual award luncheon in December 2015. The 2015 Dallas Genealogical Society Service Award for Heritage Preservation was presented to the DJHS “In Recognition of Its Contributions to Preserve, Conserve, House or Collect Family History.”

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