

FEBRUARY 2022 VOLUME 45 NUMBER 1

The **Southwestern
Archivist**



FEATURE

Implementing Cloud-Sourced Transcription in the College Classroom

SSA AT 50

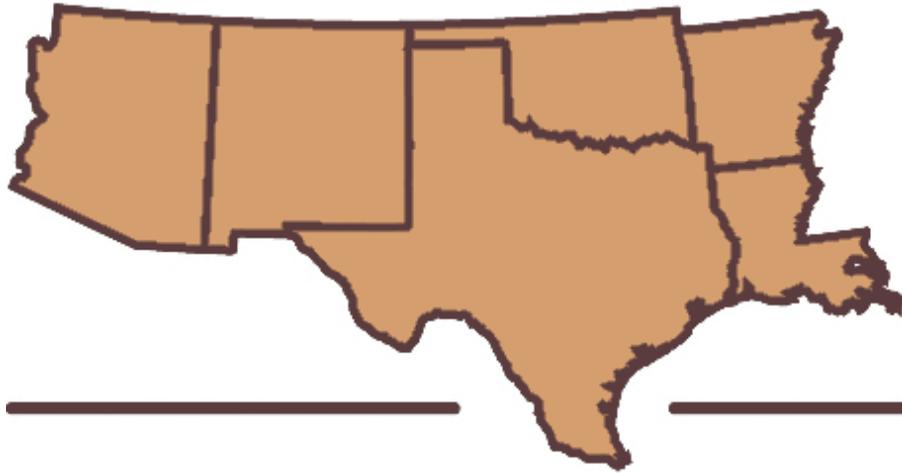
Honored Guests

IN MEMORIAM

Mary Linn Wernet



— Society of —
**SOUTHWEST
ARCHIVISTS**



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

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FROM THE EDITOR



The first issue of a new year always puts me in inspired mood and the contributions for February 2022, do not disappoint. The feature article, "Implementing Cloud-Sourced Transcription in the College Classroom" (p. 5) is a creative example of applying technology to engage with primary source materials in archival collections. Baylor University Archivist, Benna Vaughan walks us through the paces of launching a crowd-sourced transcription project from start to finish. It's an informative read for anyone considering such an endeavor.

February is Black History Month and the Diversity and Outreach Committee showcases the grassroots organization, Remembering Black Dallas (RBD) in an interview with its founder Dr. George Keaton, Jr. (p. 24). RBD holds ambitious goals of creating a repository for collecting and preserving Dallas' Black heritage for research and public use.

Speaking of ambitious goals, don't miss reading about the accomplishments achieved by Texas Archive Resources Online (TARO) in 2021 (p. 21). From the massive data remediation efforts early in the year, to diligent testing and feedback, TARO 2.0 is now easier to navigate and find collections. The Steering Committee is also offering several workshop opportunities across the state of Texas in 2022.

There is always a sense of anticipation surrounding the February issue. Traditionally, it contains the announcement of the plenary speaker for the upcoming annual meeting ("Small Steps, Giant Leaps: 2022 SSA Annual Meeting" p. 13). This year the plenary speaker will be scholar, teacher, and thinker--Alex Byrd, Professor of History and Vice Provost for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Rice University. Professor Byrd is known for his enthusiastic and captivating teaching style and I'm really looking forward to his opening remarks at the meeting.

Ever wonder about plenary speakers of the past? Our third installment in a series of articles commemorating the 50th anniversary of the SSA dives into notable speakers from past annual meetings ("SSA at 50: Honored Guests" p. 22).

The next newsletter will be published in May, just before the annual meeting. Expect to learn more details from the Local Arrangements Committee and Program Committee in that issue.

Finally, we are saddened to learn the passing of longtime SSA member and friend Mary Linn Wernet (p. 27). Wernet was a champion for Louisiana history and the archives profession. Our condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues.

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Krishna Shenoy at
kedarkima@hotmail.com



CONTENTS

FEATURE

- 5
Implementing Cloud-Sourced Transcription in the College Classroom
Benna Vaughan, CA, Baylor University

SSA NEWS

- 3
From the Editor
Krishna Shenoy
- 6
From the President
Daniel Alonzo
- 8
Professional Development Committee
Dylan McDonald
- 8
Treasurer's Report
Sylvia Podwika
- 9
Publications Committee
Krishna Shenoy
- 9
Membership Committee
Katie Gray
- 10
SSA Elections 2022
Shannon Lausch
- 11
Leadership Log
Blake Relle
- 11
Scholarship Committee Report
Holly Hansenfratz
- 11
Scholarship Donations
Sylvia Podwika

- 13
Small Steps, Giant Leaps: 2022 Annual Meeting
Mary Manning
- 15
Program Committee Report
Melissa Gonzalez
- 18
SSA at 50: Honored Guests
John Slate
- 27
In Memoriam: Mary Linn Wernet
Laura McLemore

TALK OF THE REGION

- 21
TARO: Fall/Winter 2021 Update
Robert Weaver

REPOSITORY NEWS

- 24
Remembering Black Dallas
Allison D. Olivarez

Implementing Cloud-Sourced Transcription in the College Classroom

By Benna Vaughan CA,
Baylor University

In July of 2021, our director was approached by Dr. Julie DeGraffenried about working with our resources on a project for her HIS 1300 class. She had seen some cloud-sourced transcription work at From the Page and the Smithsonian websites and thought that a project of this type would be great to use for her civic engagement component with new freshmen. I was asked if I wanted to work with this class and I jumped at the opportunity. I saw this as a chance to work with a respected professor, get primary sources into another classroom, and see if this kind of project would work well with our resources in this setting. I contacted Dr. DeGraffenried and asked for particulars. We discussed her expectations and what she was teaching, and I agreed to try to find a resource that would fit this project.

There were a few concerns initially and I will touch on those briefly at the end. My priority was finding a

resource that would work for the class. She was teaching on the development of modern childhood in history and wanted something that could speak to that topic. She was originally looking for a diary that might discuss childhood and children's development. I didn't have a diary or teaching records of that nature, but luckily this professor was open to other possibilities. What I found was a minute book of the "Evangelia Settlement Children's Home Executive Board" that covered the period from December 1914-December 1916. The minute book was handwritten and would provide cursive text for the students to transcribe. It had 24 entries covering almost every month of that period, and she had 22 students in the class. The breadth of the book would give a good picture of the programs and running of the children's home as well as the thoughts and ideas of those in charge. It was perfect for this project.

Continued on page 16

FEATURE

The screenshot shows the 'Evangelia Settlement Minute Book Project' page on the 'From the Page' platform. The page has a navigation bar at the top with 'Find A Project', 'Dashboard', and 'Signed In As Baylor HIS 1300 (DeGra...)'.

Evangelia Settlement Minute Book Project

Overview | Statistics | Subjects | Review | Collaborators | Settings | Export | Add Work | Works List

About

Evangelia Settlement was founded in Waco, Texas in 1907 by Ethel Dickson and Nell Symes and was chartered by the state of Texas on 1912 June 1 in McLennan County. It was formed for the purpose of "support of benevolent, charitable, educational and missionary undertakings being purely public in its nature." Evangelia Settlement became the first day care program for underprivileged children in Waco. It was also one of eighteen known settlement houses in urban areas of Texas in the early 1900s. Settlement houses were established from the 1890s through the early part of the 1900s primarily by white, young, middle-class men and women who were interested in religious and social concerns. These men and women moved into urban areas of cities and established homes where they lived and worked to improve conditions for residents through financial, material, social, and educational venues. Evangelia Settlement served as a daycare facility and over the years transformed into a neighborhood center. In the late 1960s, through private donations and grants from foundations such as the Cooper Foundation and United Way, Evangelia established the Emergency Baby Cottage to provide long-term care to infants and young children. By the 1970s Evangelia was licensed by the state to care for 147 children up to age twelve and had a lengthy waiting list. Evangelia Settlement continued to make contributions to the greater Waco community until 2007, when the organization lost legal standing with the state and closed its doors. This minute book represents the period from December 1914 to December 1916, and contains the minutes and discussions of the Evangelia Executive Board.

Works

1914-12

4 pages: 0% indexed, 100% transcribed, 100% needs review

Recent Notes

about 1 month ago
Lauren7692 wrote I've done my best to check this page but I do not feel right in approving it because there are lo...

about 1 month ago
sophiasnider1 wrote I'm pretty sure it is Susie Jones! I found her name while I was checking 1915-06-02!

about 1 month ago
sophiasnider1 wrote Unsure about the second word in Line 15...

about 1 month ago
sophiasnider1 wrote The name in Line 1 could be "Susie Jones", but I'm not sure.

about 1 month ago
sophiasnider1 wrote Unsure about the last word in Line 23...

about 1 month ago
sophiasnider1 wrote I'm not sure about the name on Line 25.

Evangelia project page. Baylor University.



FROM THE PRESIDENT



Back before the pandemic I looked forward to the annual meeting like some people looked forward to a spa weekend at "Rancho Relaxo". The meeting would reset and reinvigorate me for another year of archival work. This year I look on the annual meeting like a drowning man reaching out desperately for a life raft.

Since the end of last year's virtual annual meeting, I have pinned all of my hopes on an in-person meeting in 2022; and not just in-person, but as close to "normal" as possible.

Maybe you are shaking (or nodding) your head at my naive optimism! But there are two reasons why I believe the meeting in Houston will be a success: 1) All attendees will be vaccinated. And while being vaccinated isn't the Covid-free paradise originally envisioned, at least you won't have to worry that the archivist next to you in the coffee line is the Covid version of Pigpen, ensconced in a cloud of virus. 2) SSA cannot get out of our hotel contract with the Hyatt Regency unless the State of Texas, County of Harris, or City of Houston declares a similar State of Emergency that allowed us to get out of our 2020 contract in Denton. Since the chances of that happening are about as good as me winning an award for writing, there will be an annual meeting even if it is just me and the LAC.

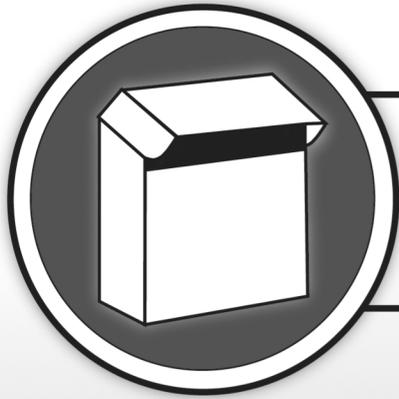
And speaking of the LAC...

In normal times, there is a payoff to executing a successful annual meeting: the satisfaction of creating something from nothing. I played a small part in the 2013 Austin LAC and it was a great experience. Everyone did their part well and we had a great meeting. In 2020, the Denton LAC was denied any reward for their efforts. In 2021, the Baton Rouge LAC put together a very successful virtual annual meeting. But it wasn't quite the same, was it? After the meeting ended, we were all still sitting alone in front of a computer weren't we? For 2022, the LAC has had the difficult task of planning for an in-person meeting during the same pandemic, holding their breath, and hoping that the end comes fast enough for SSA'ers to get comfortable with the idea.

I recognize that risking one's health for the sake of a regional archives association's annual meeting is absurd. I recognize that some of you will never come back, and that is okay. What I am hoping is that those of you contemplating your attendance keep an informed eye on the conditions in Houston throughout the early spring. I am hoping that Harris County Public Health gives you the green light. I am hoping this all works out.

Drinks on me!

<https://covid-harriscounty.hub.arcgis.com>



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Professional Development Committee (PDC) Report

Dylan McDonald, CA, Professional Development Committee Chair



SSA COMMITTEES

The PDC kicked off the New Year with the webinar “To be a Certified Archivist, What Does it Take?” on January 27th. Co-sponsored with the Academy of Certified Archivists (ACA), the free event drew over 100 registrants, many from outside SSA. Joshua Kitchens, ACA Regent for Outreach, spoke to entry-level archival professionals and graduate students about the benefits and requirements of becoming a Certified Archivist. Beyond that webinar, the committee is hard at work attempting to arrange further educational offerings on such topics as reparative archival description, the ethics of collecting community trauma, cybersecurity, and the care and identification of photographic materials.

In planning for the upcoming meeting in Houston, the committee is working with our colleagues in the Local Arrangements, Program, and Diversity and Outreach committees to offer professional development opportunities requested by SSA members. We hope to offer a mixture of full and half-day in-person trainings. Stay tuned for an announcement regarding the pre-conference workshops.

Finally, we hope to complete in the coming months a new resource through the SSA website to keep our members aware of other professional development offerings in the region and around the country. One outcome of the pandemic is the rapid rise in free and fee-based online educational content, both synchronous and asynchronous, created by the GLAM (galleries, libraries, archives, & museums), history/genealogy, humanities, records management, and preservation fields. We hope to build a tool that members can use to find professional development content that best meets their career needs.

As always, we are open to hearing your ideas for SSA-hosted workshops and webinars. Send us an email at fdc@southwestarchivists.org.

Treasurer's Report

Sylvia Podwika, SSA Treasurer

As we are over half way through the fiscal year, the Society's finances are solid, largely thanks to continued support from our returning and new members. With the pandemic at the forefront, operations have largely been virtual and thank you to all who make this work possible. This year brings the Society of Southwest Archivists 50th Anniversary and the Local Arrangements Committee is working hard to achieve and acknowledge this moment in SSA history.. This year's celebration will be hosted in Houston and I hope to see y'all there to commemorate this milestone. For more information, please visit: <https://houston2022.southwestarchivists.org/>



Switching gears, it is a given that our members support the Society in many ways and AmazonSmile is another way to do so. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. Every item available for purchase on <https://www.amazon.com/> is available at <https://smile.amazon.com/> for the same price. To register, go to <https://smile.amazon.com/>, log in to your Amazon account, choose Society of Southwest Archivists as the charity you want to support. The product detail page will show "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" if it is a qualifying purchase. Encourage your friends and family to register to support SSA on smile.amazon.com.

SSA is an independent 501(c)3, and every donation counts. Please find information about making a donation on the website at <https://www.southwestarchivists.org/donate/>.

Publications Committee Seeking Co-Editor/Vice-Chair

Krishna Shenoy, Editor and Publications Committee Chair



Join Our TEAM

SSA COMMITTEES

The Publications Committee is seeking a Co-Editor/Vice-Chair to join our team. This is a two-year position, leading into a two-year Editor/Chair position. If you are even remotely interested in how a publication is put together, I highly recommend this position. This is a great learning opportunity, as well as a way to serve SSA and the archive community in our region. We are a quarterly publication, so time commitment required is reasonable. For more information email the Editor at kedarkima@hotmail.com.



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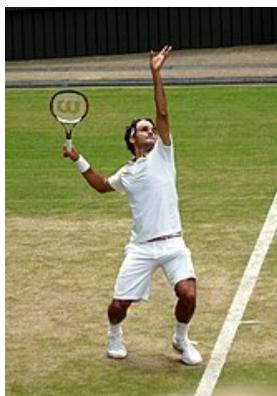
Membership Committee News

Katie Gray, Membership Committee Chair

Happy New Year from your colleagues on the Membership Committee!

The Membership Committee is happy to report that 80 people joined our ranks in 2021, giving SSA a current total of 461 active members. 2022 promises to be an exciting year as our organization celebrates its 50th anniversary. We hope to see many of you at our annual conference in May.

**461
ACTIVE
MEMBERS**



ARE YOU READY TO SERVE?

The Membership Committee currently has members from all states, except Arizona. Anyone wishing to participate on this committee (or any other committees), can contact the Membership Chair, Katie Gray at kathleengray@nmhu.edu, and she will help facilitate your involvement.

Wikimedia CC



SSA COMMITTEES

The SSA Nominating Committee is pleased to present the slate of candidates for the 2022 election.

Descriptions of the responsibilities of the positions to be voted upon are given in the [Officers & Committees Procedures Manual](#). Information about voting will be forthcoming soon. If you require a paper ballot, please send an email requesting one to smlausch@ualr.edu.

Our by-laws state that paper ballots must be received by the Nominating Committee Chair by the date scheduled for the electronic ballot in order to be counted.

We extend our sincere thanks to those who expressed interest in serving SSA by nominating themselves or by accepting nomination. We also are grateful to those who made nominations and encouraged people to serve.

Vice-President/President-Elect

Norie Guthrie

Executive Committee

Danielle Butler

Ayshea Kahn

Jaimi Parker

Blake Relle

Secretary

Whitney Russell

Nominating Committee

Zach Tompkins

Sawyer Magnus

Scholarships Committee

Sawyer Magnus

Meagan May

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Leadership Log

Blake Relle, Leadership Log Liaison, Publications Committee



SSA COMMITTEES



SSA Member Ayshea Khan (Austin, TX) is excited to announce her new role as Board President for the South Asian American Digital Archive. If you are interested in learning more about SAADA and how to support its work, feel free to reach out to Ayshea at aysheakhan@gmail.com or visit www.saada.org.

Scholarship Committee Report

Holly Hasenfratz, CA, Scholarship Committee Chair

The deadline to apply for a 2022 scholarship is approaching! All scholarship descriptions and instructions to apply can be found on the website at: <https://www.southwestarchivists.org/scholarships/>

SSA offers four scholarships to further the continuing education and professional development of our members. These scholarships provide financial assistance to defray the costs of attending the annual meeting, student tuition and book fees, attendance at a professional workshop or other continuing education opportunity.

The deadline to apply for all scholarships is February 18th, 2022. If you have any questions, or need accessibility help, please email Holly Hasenfratz at scholarships@southwestarchivists.org or holly.hasenfratz@libraries.ok.gov

We can't wait to see all of you in Houston for the Annual Meeting in May – *Small Steps, Giant Leaps!*

It's not too early to start thinking about SLOTTTO, and anything you might want to donate. SLOTTTO proceeds help support the SSA scholarships fund.

Scholarship Donations

Sylvia Podwika, SSA Treasurer

Thank you to the following donors.

Archivists of the Houston Area for General Scholarship Fund

Micheal Miller for David B. Gracy II Student Scholarship

Mark Lambert for David B. Gracy II Student Scholarship

Rebecca Romanchuk David B. Gracy II Student Scholarship

This contribution is in honor of everyone involved with the Texas Archives Resources Online Steering Committee, especially the recent 2021 Chair Robert Weaver.

Paul R. Scott for David B. Gracy II Student Scholarship and Otis Herbert, Jr. Continuing Education Scholarship

William D. Welge for John Michael Caldwell Scholarship



2022 SCHOLARSHIPS

Don't miss these opportunities to obtain assistance in professional development and annual meeting attendance!

Otis Hebert Jr. Continuing Education Scholarship

This scholarship honoring SSA's founding president is intended to further the professional training of working archivists in the region.

John Michael Caldwell Scholarship

Provides annual meeting registration for SSA members enrolled in a graduate archival program.

Annual Meeting Scholarship

This scholarship provides financial assistance to a working archivist with limited funding in order to attend the SSA Annual Meeting.

David B. Gracy, II Student Scholarship

Provides book, fee, and tuition assistance to SSA student members enrolled in a graduate archival education program at an institution within the SSA region.

Applications open November 15, 2021 through February 18, 2022.

More information and applications are at southwestarchivists.org/scholarships.

Have questions? Need assistance or accessibility intervention? Don't hesitate to email the SSA Scholarships Committee Chair, Holly Hasenfratz, at scholarships@southwestarchivists.org.



SSA COMMITTEES



Society of Southwest Archivists Annual Meeting Houston, May 18-21, 2022

PLENARY SPEAKER

The SSA Local Arrangement Committee 2022 is thrilled to announce the plenary speaker for this year's conference, "Small Steps, Giant Leaps", which will be held in the "Space City" from May 18– 22, 2022.

This year's distinguished speaker, and avid archives user and enthusiast, is Alex Byrd, Rice University's vice provost for diversity and inclusion and a co-chair of its Task Force on Slavery, Segregation and Racial Injustice (<https://taskforce.rice.edu/>).



Plenary speaker, Alex Byrd, Professor of History and Vice Provost for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Rice University

Rice University formed the task force in 2019 to address Rice University's complicated history with

racial injustice, including historical connections to slavery and the segregation and racial disparities that resulted from it. The task force recognizes Rice's obligation to understand its racist history and that history's relationship to the present. Read Rice University President David Leebron's message to students and staff about the purpose of the task force. (<https://president.rice.edu/messages/message-rice-community-june-4-2019>).

As part of its work, the task force researched William Marsh Rice's life and business practices using archival records at Rice University's special collections at the



Statue of William Marsh Rice, founder of Rice University

Continued on page 14



SSA COMMITTEES

Woodson Research Center and Houston's Heritage Society. These and additional documents were scanned that provide evidence of an active Ku Klux Klan presence on campus in the 1920s. Other digitized documents include early brochures from Rice's Black Student Union (later the Black Student Association) in the 1970s and a landmark report on the state of Black life at Rice from the 1990s. These archival resources collectively form the digital collection: Task Force on Slavery, Segregation, and Racial Injustice Records (<https://scholarship.rice.edu/handle/1911/110605>).

Byrd is an associate professor of history whose "area of expertise is Afro America, especially Black life in the Atlantic world and the Jim Crow South. His study of free and forced transatlantic Black migration during the American Revolution is entitled "Captives & Voyagers". It follows the two largest streams of free and forced transoceanic Black migration across the

eighteenth-century British Atlantic world: enslaved Black migration to Jamaica and free Black migration to Sierra Leone. Byrd adeptly marries his academic expertise with an engaging speaking style. We are looking forward to his plenary.

(<https://profiles.rice.edu/faculty/alexander-byrd>).

ANNUAL MEETING HOTEL

There are many reasons to attend the annual meeting in 2022. As usual, there will be educational programming and workshops—and SLOTTTO! On top of all that, the Annual Meeting will take place at the newly renovated Hyatt Regency in downtown Houston, which connects to restaurants and services via the city's famous seven-mile tunnel system. The Hyatt is in the heart of downtown's thriving business and entertainment districts, and from the hotel's iconic revolving restaurant Spindletop, you can enjoy a 360-degree view of the city as you dine.

*For up-to-date information about the SSA 2022 conference, visit
<https://houston2022.southwestarchivists.org/>*



Continued on page 15



SSA COMMITTEES

And getting to the hotel is easy. Houston has two airports. William P. Hobby Airport (HOU) is the quickest option if your travel allows since it is much closer to downtown. George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) is a much larger airport than HOU and is about 16 miles to the Hyatt.

To find out more about ground transportation from the airports and around town, discover extraordinary things to do in Houston, and find maps and hotel and airport info, check out the SSA Annual Meeting website (<https://houston2022.southwestarchivists.org/>).



Program Committee Report

*Melissa G. Gonzales, Vice President,
Chair, Program Committee*

As we prepare for what will hopefully be our first in-person Annual Meeting in two years, the Program Committee was thoroughly excited to send out our Call for Proposals. Given how long the pandemic has lasted, we have all experienced its impact at our institutions in some form or another, so the committee wanted to hear how SSA's members have met those challenges, including how they have made "Small Steps, Giant Leaps" in developing solutions and learning to work in this "new normal" from an information management perspective.

Our initial deadline was December 18th, and since we had not received enough submissions to meet the program's needs, we decided to extend that deadline to January 28, 2022.

Under normal circumstances, the Program Committee would have provided a preliminary session outlook for this issue. Instead, we will push program details via social media and email, once proposal selections have been made and their organizers notified.

Thank you for your patience, and we hope to see you in May!

Implementing Cloud-Sourced Transcription in the College Classrooms (continued from page 5)



After some research, we decided to use From the Page (FTP) for the project. They provided us with a contract to cover the duration of the class and I signed up as an individual researcher. I researched the platform and figured out how it worked, then scanned the documents and uploaded them to the software, filling in the narratives to fit the parameters. I divided up the months in the minute book so that every student would have between 3-5 pages to transcribe. Most months fell within this framework on their own, with only one or two students having more than one month to transcribe. Once the professor, her Teaching Assistant (TA), and I had played around in the program, we were ready to introduce the class to the project.

This instruction took the form of a typical introduction to The Texas Collection, an in-depth introduction to the FTP website, and how to work with the project. We

asked them to bring their laptops to class so they could sign up and I could show them how to use the program in real time. Most did, but phones worked fine as well. Once they signed up, I had to go in and add each of them as collaborators and editors. I did this while the professor talked about the class and what was expected. Once I had them entered, they were able to pull up the project and begin to look at their individual assignments. The students asked good questions and most seemed genuinely interested in the project. Luckily, all the students knew cursive handwriting, so we didn't have to worry about one of them not being able to do the assignment, but I had other documents from the collection in mind in case that issue arose. The students not only had to transcribe their documents, but also had to review and edit the transcriptions of the other students. They also were required to read the whole minute book in the archive, or the transcriptions of each student in chronological order, to gain an understanding of how this book fit in with their class topic. The students were given until mid-November to complete the assignment, along with a reflection piece on the project.

FEATURE

Evangelia Settlement Minute Book Project -- 1914-12

page_0001

Overview Transcribe Versions Help Settings

Facsimile Transcription

June 1st 1915
Officers and members of Board of
Evangelia Settlement House
Phone
new, old
Pres. Mrs. R. Y. Patton [check mark] 799
Vice " H. J. Higley [check mark] 1251 201
" C. H. Carrington 696 (crossed out) m 518
Treas. Mrs. T. A. Hinchell 1 1181 [check mark]
Sec. " H. H. Hoodson 1851 [check mark] 2209
Press con. " M. E. Manton 1737
House " Minnie C. King [check mark] 85 517
Day Nanny " Sid Burrows [check mark] 241
Sewing " E. B. Carrington [check mark] 696
Boys Club " J. T. Strain 1453
Cooking " Allen D. Sanford m 2480 1367
Grounds " Louis Crow [check mark] 1025
" M. B Hillis [check mark] 2304 1731
" Frank Allen 104
" J. C. Lattimore m 162 (cross out) 516
" Jennie Myers 1737
" Julia Henry [check mark] 653
" D. K. Moss [check mark] 1193
Miss Nell Symes 1029
" Gertrude Bush m [check mark] 378
Kindergarten Mrs. H. J. Higley

Notes and Questions

Nobody has written a note for this page yet

Write a new note or ask a question...

Example of working transcription page with space for notes.

Evangelia Settlement Minute Book Project

1914-12

Read About Contents Versions Download Settings Pages Help

page_0001

Needs Review

June 1st 1915 Officers and members of Board of Evangelia Settlement House Phone new, old Pres. Mrs. R. Y. Patton [check mark] 799 Vice " H. J. Higley [check mark] 1251 201 " C. H. Carrington 696 (crossed out) m 518 Treas. Mrs. T. A. Hinchell 1 1181 [check mark] Sec. " H. H. Hoodson 1851 [check mark] 2209 Press con. " M. E. Manton 1737 House " Minnie C. King [check mark] 85 517 Day Nanny " Sid Burrows [check mark] 241 Sewing " E. B. Carrington [check mark] 696 Boys Club " J. T. Strain 1453 Cooking " Allen D. Sanford m 2480 1367 Grounds " Louis Crow [check mark] 1025 " M. B Hillis [check mark] 2304 1731 " Frank Allen 104 " J. C. Lattimore m 162 (cross out) 516 " Jennie Myers 1737 " Julia Henry [check mark] 653 " D. K. Moss [check mark] 1193 Miss Nell Symes 1029 " Gertrude Bush m [check mark] 378 Kindergarten Mrs. H. J. Higley

Last edit about 1 month ago by [Aaron Baldwin](#)

page_0002

Needs Review

The Evangelia Board held its regular monthly meeting Wed. Dec. 2 - 14. Nine members present. The meeting was opened by prayer from Miss Symes. Mrs. Patton reported for finance committee that there would be \$65.00 per month for running expenses: \$52.50 from pledges + \$12.50 from Mr. [sgitt's] board. This \$65.00 was offered to Mrs. Mc Celvey and she was to make her own arrangement in regard to help. Drum for stove \$2.75. Mr. Godshaw gave linoleum for kitchen. Canvass to screen the porch. Mrs. Carrington and Mrs. Patton offered to have their men come out & tack it on. Mrs. Strain volunteering to superintend. Mrs. Jesse Grey Smith offered to donate some kindling. Miss Symes promised to ask for it. Miss Dilworth offered to come every morning during December

Last edit about 1 month ago by [Julie deGraffenried](#)

Work in progress, showing that it needs review.

Continued on page 17

Implementing Cloud-Sourced Transcription in the College Classrooms (continued from page 16)

My work with the project was not over once this introduction was finished. A couple of the students weren't there the day of class, so they had to come in individually and get their introduction and instruction. During the semester, some of the students had questions about transcribing, and I remained available to them for any questions about the program, transcription issues, or the resource itself. Only one student came into the archive to use the actual minute book for his reading. The professor included me in the course on Canvas, so I was able to see how this assignment fit in with her class as well as the students' reflections at the end of the project.

For the most part, the reflections were positive, and the project was a success. Once all the transcriptions were in, I went to FTP and exported the transcriptions in varying formats (pdf, html, etc.). The plan is to edit the transcriptions and add them to the collection, with a note from the professor and myself as to their origin and purpose. This way, the student's work is preserved and any future researchers in the collection understand that it is student work. I also have the digital files in case we decide to put them online in the future.

I loved working on this project, and I can see uses for cloud-sourced transcription in many different disciplines. FTP was amazing to work with (coming highly recommended by SSA member Jennifer Hecker) and I recommend them to anyone embarking on a project like this. Dr. DeGraffenried has talked about the project in faculty meetings and to colleagues, and that has piqued more interest in projects of this type.

There are many considerations, however, about a project like this that need to be addressed that are not listed here, such as student privacy issues, existing campus technology practices and policies, and intended uses of student output from the project.

I would be happy to discuss any of these and others in depth with anyone is interested in learning more about our process. I feel the project was well worth the effort to get our primary resources into the classroom and work with them in a new and interesting way. For questions, please contact Benna Vaughan at Benna_Vaughan@baylor.edu or call at 254-710-6031.

FEATURE

The screenshot displays the ArchivEra website interface. On the left, the Lucidea logo is at the top, followed by the ArchivEra logo and the tagline "Solves today's archives collections management challenges, ready for tomorrow's". Below this, it says "Archives Collections Management INNOVATIVE, UNRIVALED" and "Purpose-built to a higher standard... yours". The main content area shows a "BROWSE COLLECTIONS" page with a search bar, navigation tabs (SEARCH, BROWSE COLLECTIONS, BROWSE CREATORS, BROWSE SUBJECTS, CART, SUPPORT), and a "MAKE A REQUEST" link. The page lists various collections with thumbnail images and titles, including "Air Protection Society Collection 1979-1990", "Avalon Corporation Records 1939-1978", "Brandywine Ranch 1902-1989", "Commission on Cancer Collection 1915-1958", "Council on Dental Education 1940-1949", "David Warren Brubeck Papers 1960-2012", "Emil Burjot Papers 1880-1934", "Fraternal Order of Eagles 1903", "Helen Eleanor Kai Collection 1967-1968", and "Horace M. Kallen Papers 1913-1958".

Request a free demo to see what ArchivEra can do for your archives! sales@lucidea.com

lucidea.com/archivera

Honored Guests:

Highlights of Keynote Speakers and VIPs at SSA Annual Meetings

John Slate, 50th Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee Chair



This is the third installment of a series of articles that commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Society of Southwest Archivists.

Since the very first annual meeting in 1973, SSA has featured speakers from both inside and outside the archives world, apart from educational sessions. The subject matter of speakers over 50 years has varied from the standard “Why archives are important” address to issues of ethics, race, gender, inclusion, technology, and social justice in archives. Regardless of approach, a central theme in almost every one of these speeches is the vital role archives play in the Humanities.

With great frequency invited speakers have been members of the academic community or people who have greatly benefited from using archival materials in research. These friends of archives have always been welcome, occasionally confrontational, but mostly a refreshing opportunity to see the creative process in research and writing.

For the first few years, guests spoke at an evening dinner. The very first featured speaker in 1973 was A.M. Gibson, George L Cross Research Professor of History, University of Oklahoma. Gibson discussed the use of archives in his extensive research into Oklahoma and New Mexico history. 1974’s second annual meeting featured F. Gerald Ham, then president of the Society of American Archivists and a pioneer of appraisal theory.



SSA Annual Meeting 1988 at the University of Texas at Arlington. From left to right: university benefactor Jenkins Garrett; Archivist of the United States Don W. Wilson; University of Texas at Arlington Director of Libraries Charles B. Lowry; university benefactor Virginia Garrett; SAA Executive Director Donn C. Neal. Wilson and Neal were the featured speakers. (SSA Archives)

Continued on page 19

Honored Guests: Highlights of Keynote Speakers and VIPs at SSA Annual Meetings (continued from page 18)



Subject topics turned inward to the profession at the 1979 Houston meeting. David Horn, university archivist of DePauw University, talked about SAA's soon-to-be-adopted Code of Ethics. Horn was chairman of the committee drafting the code, a document that has become a standard for professional behavior in the archives workplace.

SSA hasn't had a lot of celebrity VIPs address the membership, but there have been a few. At the Austin meeting in 1980, a reception was held at the Lyndon Johnson Library and Museum. Records of the planning are unclear, but Lady Bird Johnson made an appearance, accompanied by lights and a camera crew at the opening session.

There's also been a trend in inviting archives professionals. Such speakers have offered up thoughts about the profession, as well as the status of institutions and programs. The 1988 Fort Worth/Arlington annual meeting opened with a dinner in the Special Collections department of the University of Texas at Arlington Libraries; the new Archivist of the United States Don W. Wilson, spoke about the future of the National Archives. At the time the National Archives was undergoing major changes. Wilson was followed by Society of American Archivists Executive Director Donn Neal, who spoke about the future of the archival profession. This meeting was significant because it marked the first time SAA focused significant attention on SSA and its membership.

In 2006 L. Reynolds Cahoon, Senior Advisor on Electronic Records, National Archives, led a sobering discussion about the challenge of preserving email and other electronic records in multiple formats and software. This was just a few years into NARA's planning and implementation of its Electronic Records Archives program.



Dr. Matthew Whitaker, 2012 (photo by Jennifer Green)

In several instances, invitees have addressed the impact of archival enterprise on regions within SSA. For the 1991 Tempe joint meeting with the Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists, Dr. David Berman, Arizona State University, discussed the theme "Documenting the West," following a panel discussion by ASU faculty. At the 1994 El Paso meeting, local historian and SSA founding member Leon Metz gave a stirring, thoroughly engaging thirty-minute History of El Paso. At the El Paso business meeting in 2006, historian and author David Dorado Romo delivered "Exploring the Different Layers of Micro-History," about using archival resources to uncover the cultural history of El Paso and Juarez.

In recent years the Society has continued its tradition of engaging speakers to include a much wider variety of experiences and backgrounds. The 2000 meeting in Fayetteville featured "Ozark Surrealist" author Donald Harington, who gave a stirring talk about the impact of archives on his writing career.

Continued on page 20

Honored Guests: Highlights of Keynote Speakers and VIPs at SSA Annual Meetings (continued from page 19)



Dr. Tomás Ybarra-Frausto, 2018 (photo by Melissa Gonzalez)

Attendees at the Santa Fe meeting in 2010 were treated to a singularly memorable talk/rant/love poem to archives by John Nichols, author, *The Milagro Beanfield War*; *Nirvana Blues*; and *The Sterile Cuckoo*. Nichols' address, punctuated with a few choice expletives, was titled "I Was a Teenage Packrat for the FBI."

At Oklahoma City in 2016, SSA welcomed Brenda Toineeta Pipestem, a justice in several tribal supreme courts and chair of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian Board of Trustees. She spoke about repatriation, a foreign concept to the archivists of a half-century ago. Tomás Ybarra-Frausto, widely known scholar of Latina/o arts and culture, was the plenary speaker for the 2018 Annual Meeting in San Antonio.

Humor and humility sometimes save the day. For sheer perseverance, the award for follow-through most likely goes to Dr. Andrew Torget, University of North Texas, plenary speaker for the 2015 meeting in Arlington. His subject, digital archives, was imperiled when the power went out after lightning struck the hotel. In the words of Past President Claudia Rivers, "He soldiered on without slides, gesturing at the blank screen and describing what would have been projected there, had there been electricity. The title was "Promise and Perils of Digital Archives." The perils, at least, were demonstrated.



Michelle Light, 2019 (former), Director of Special Collections and Archives at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (photo by SSA member)



TALK OF THE REGION



TARO 2021 a year in review

It was a long and hard road to TARO2.0, but thanks to our repositories, volunteers, our amazing Valkyrie Squad and others from around the state coming together to the consortium, 2021 was an amazing year for TARO. From the massive data remediation efforts early in the year, to diligent testing and feedback, we somehow accomplished the debut of the new txarchives.org (or “TARO 2.0”). And we did it all despite continuing to negotiate COVID, winter storms, and other challenges. We on the TARO Steering Committee cannot thank every single one of you enough for all your hard work.

Introducing the 2022 Steering Committee:

Chair: Samantha Dodd, Southern Methodist University

Vice Chair: Maristella Feustle, University of North Texas

Secretary (2021-2022): Alexandria Suarez, University of Texas at Austin

At-Large Member (2020-2022, 3-year term): Penny Castillo

At-Large Member (2020-2021, 2-year term): Kristi Nedderman, Dallas Municipal Archives,

At-large Member (2020-2021, 2-year term): Kathryn Slover, University of Texas at Arlington

UT Libraries Representative: Aaron Choate, UT Libraries

Programmer: J.J. Bennett, UT Libraries

Immediate Past Chair: Robert Weaver, Texas Tech University



TALK OF THE REGION

News and Accomplishments

NEH Implementation Grant



TARO kicked off development of the new [“TARO 2.0” website](#) in March. Development, testing, and continual enhancements continued throughout the year. In December 2021 the site debuted after tireless work by our grant-funded web applications developer, Minnie Rangel, as part of the Valkyrie Squad at UT Libraries. This work included a comprehensive functional and aesthetic redesign of the TARO website that will assist patrons, archivists, and others with finding our repositories’ valuable research materials. Enhancements include an improved search interface, the ability to browse the site using common subject headings, and improved finding aid management tools for TARO repositories. Carla Alvarez (UT Libraries Benson Latin American Collection Latino/a Archivist) served as the Product Owner for the project, spending countless hours meeting with the Valkyrie Squad, gathering website testing feedback from TARO members, and coordinating communication between developers and TARO repositories.

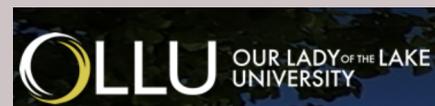
Metadata Remediation Project



In order for existing finding aids to integrate with the TARO 2.0 website, repositories had to ensure that their files were formatted correctly. This entailed updating thousands upon thousands of data points across almost 16,000 finding aids – a Herculean task that brought together volunteers from across TARO to assist repositories with the work.

Help is still available! Grant funds via the Texas State Library and Archives Commission were allocated to contract a “Remediator” to hand-correct finding aids, a task taken on by archivist Sarah Stephenson. If you still have finding aids needing remediation for TARO2.0 contact Samantha Dodd (smdodd@mail.smu.edu) for assistance.

New Members



Welcome to our new TARO member Our Lady of the Lake of San Antonio! Our Lady of the Lake University houses rare books and special collections materials in the Sueltenfuss Library and the Center for Mexican American Studies and Research. The central theme of these special collections is the people, history, culture, and institutions of San Antonio and Texas from the Spanish colonial period to the late 20th century, with particular emphasis on Mexican American history.

NAFAN Update



TARO continues its work as one of twelve finding aid aggregator partners in the [Building a National Finding Aid Network initiative](#) led by the California Digital Library. Ongoing work funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) includes bi-monthly partner meetings, surveys of archivists and researchers, and focus

Continued on page 23



TALK OF THE REGION

groups. Most exciting is a site created by NAFAN in conjunction with [OCLC](#)--also an integral partner--that has aggregated metadata elements common to the hundreds of participating archives. This will prove invaluable as the project continues. Although not yet available to all repositories, those interested in accessing it should contact Samantha Dodd (Chair) at smdodd@smu.edu for more information.

Looking Ahead (Calendar 2022)

TARO will be hosting several in-person trainings.

April 1, 2022	May 18, 2022	TDB 2022	Fall 2022/Spring 2023
Texas State University, San Marcos	Annual Meeting, Houston	Southern Methodist University, Dallas	West Texas, Texas Panhandle Rio Grande Valley

Join TARO!

Is your institution interested in becoming a TARO member? There are two ways to join. One is through our Summerlee Foundation grant-funded New Member Initiative, which supports vendor encoding of finding aids to help new or dormant TARO member repositories participate in TARO. This initiative now has over 15 participants, and we seek several more to join every year. The project is overseen by the immediate past chair of the TARO Steering Committee (which for 2022 is Robert Weaver) and supported by a quality assurance team of seasoned encoding volunteers from TARO member repositories. For this opportunity, or to become a member if you already create your own XML finding aids, contact current TARO Steering Committee Chair Samantha Dodd (smdodd@smu.edu). There has never been a better time to join TARO, where over 60 institutions across Texas see their finding aids used by thousands of researchers worldwide.

Stay in Touch

TARO Today blog: <http://sites.utexas.edu/taro/>

TARO working wiki: <http://texastaro.pbworks.com/>

Remembering Black Dallas

Allison D. Olivarez, CA, Associate Archivist and Special Collections Manager,
Amon Carter Museum



REPOSITORY NEWS

This is the fifth installment in a series developed in consultation with the Diversity and Outreach Committee to spotlight diverse archives and archivists in the Southwest.

It was the new historical marker in downtown Dallas, “The lynching of Allen Brooks,” that brought the organization Remembering Black Dallas to my attention late last year. It’s founder, Dr. George Keaton, Jr. recently talked to me, from the comforts of our respective office computers—mine filled with unfinished to-do lists and processing notes, his with framed historic images and a thriving orchid in the corner—about the organization’s history and upcoming projects.

Dr. Keaton founded Remembering Black Dallas seven years ago after retiring from Dallas Independent School District as a successor of the defunct Black Dallas Remembers. The nonprofit organization was established “to preserve and promote the African American life, history, artifacts, and culture of Dallas and its surrounding cities.” Their outreach efforts include bus tours of the hidden history of Black Dallas, conducting oral histories, erecting historical markers, curriculum development, public presentations, a living history play geared towards K-12 students, and publications. In the past three years Dr. Keaton has also led the Dallas County Justice Initiative, a part of the Equal Justice Initiative, which “honors the victims of racial terror in Dallas County and shed light on the legacy of racial violence.”



Dr. George Keaton, Jr.



Allison D. Olivarez

Q: What are some of the more recent projects or initiatives that you’re particularly proud of?

Well, I’m actually proud of all of them! We recently published an annual calendar...this year’s particular focus was on African American women of Dallas. Prior to the calendar, we did a cookbook, and it holds recipes from native people of Dallas, and many of those people if they were still living would be over 100 years old. So, we try to collect local recipes from the people who actually lived here. Also, speaking of redoing books, Black Dallas Remembers had two volumes of historical documentation and it had gone out of print and we’ve republished it...basically it’s information that’s very rare [on African American history]. So that’s kind of a big thing because

Continued on page 25

Remembering Black Dallas (continued from page 24)



REPOSITORY NEWS

that's just the pieces of Dallas history that if we did not reprint it, it would be truly lost.



Remembering Black Dallas themed calendar

Our goal this year, and our mission will be, to document, document, document. Because with the Critical Race Theory thing going on, I'm in fear that some of the things that we can do we'll not be able to do in the future, even doing the state markers. I think it might trickle down to that. So, we're on a mission right now, we have about ten markers that we will start doing this month to meet the state deadline by May.

Q: How is all of this material and recording kept?

We're recording it first through state markers. We're putting it out on the streets and on the curb where it supposedly will forever be.... We're really trying to not do so much hardcopy and we're trying to get it more in the electronic world where it will be more accessible, and then not only that, we are re-doing the Black Dallas Remembered book which came out of print over 20, 30 years ago, and it's a source of history, but because it went out of print it doesn't even have an ISBN number. So, what we're doing is bringing it into the 21st century by documenting it more properly with ISBN numbers and making an eBook...In our office, we're very organized, but we want it out more than just in our office. I like to say that we are housing probably the largest collection of Dallas Black history here in this office, and yes, I would love for it to be used as a resource. And then as funding becomes available then maybe we can digitize even more of the documents that we have, and we have digitized some things on the local level. So, we're documenting in many and all of the ways that are available to us in modern times.

Q: On that topic, what memories are most at risk of being lost that your organization is striving to preserve?

We were doing oral histories for people who have lived in Dallas, and five years ago probably all of those that were interviewed, most of them have passed away, one of them is about 103 now... We're capturing people who lived in Dallas in the forties and fifties, and those memories and those histories that they held individually will soon be gone, and no one will ever know. So, it was very important to me that we captured that piece of history.

On the bus tour I point out a lot of that, people, they don't realize that under I-30 and 75, there were Black communities there. Most people don't know, you just see a freeway. It wiped out thousands of homes...it went right through the Black neighborhood. I mean five years from now, if we don't document that, who remembers? If we don't record that and make it known, it would just be forever lost.

Continued on page 26

Remembering Black Dallas

(continued from page 25)



REPOSITORY NEWS

Q: What does Remembering Black Dallas need right now? What type of support?

We really need volunteers. For example, we're trying to get about ten state markers and the deadline is like, sometime in April or May. And that's a lot of research, it takes research... I would say people, manpower, it'd be wonderful to have someone who can do the logistics, the technology, the record-keeping, of the regular business. And I'm a right-brain person...that's just not me!

Q: How have you dealt with the emotional labor of this project?

First of all, I'm a licensed, trained counselor, so I'm very much aware of my emotional needs. So, I'm able to handle it I think because of that. And then also I'm an educator and I realize that these are things that have to get out there, and so I guess I learned over the years how to detach myself from the gravity of it because yes, lynching is a very, very significant thing, but there's some—atonement or peace when you realize that you are able to get that type of information out to where people can, and will, embrace it and become educated and know more about it... And it's a spiritual thing. Africans and African Americans work on a spiritual level and we kind of lean on our spiritual realm sometimes to help bring us through difficult times, so that's kind of how I manage to get through it.

Q: What advice would you give to someone wanting to start an organization like yours in their community?

I don't think there is any advice because someone who wants to do that must have a passion for it, and if they have that passion for it, it will come naturally... When you take on that passion you must learn how to take care of yourself along the way, because it's taxing—emotionally, physically, mentally—in every aspect. So, the advice would be along the way learn how, and always, take care of yourself because if you go down you won't be able to do the job that you set out to do.

Q: Parting thoughts on your organization?

Hopefully this will remain a place where people can come and find Dallas Black history. I hope the electronic part of it remains intact, and the markers, and everything that we're doing.

To learn more about the work, or to get involved with Remembering Black Dallas you can visit their website at www.rememberingblackdallas.org or visit their Facebook page for presentation recordings and upcoming events.



J.L. Turner was a pioneering Black attorney, born and raised in Dallas, where he practiced law from 1898 to his death in 1951. At one time, he was one of only 12 Black lawyers in the state of Texas. RBD is fundraising for a State marker, commemorating his place in Texas history. [Read more about the J.L. Turner Collection in the Underwood Law Library at SMU.](#)



IN MEMORIAM



I started my morning with the news that one of my oldest, dearest friends and colleagues, Mary Linn Wernet, passed away unexpectedly over the weekend. I met Mary Linn at my very first Society of Southwest Archivists meeting in 1987. We've been fast friends ever since. Last week, we were planning a session proposal for the Gulf South Historical Association meeting on diversity and inclusion in our respective archival collections.

Mary Linn Wernet was a Certified Archivist, Associate Professor, Head Archivist and University Records Officer at Northwestern State University of Louisiana in Natchitoches. She has been at the helm of NSU's Cammie G. Henry Research Center since 1988.

In 2017, she received the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association I, Bruce Turner Distinguished Service Award in recognition of outstanding dedication and service to the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts

Association and valued contributions to the archival community in Louisiana. In 2014, she received the Louisiana Association of Museums Elizabeth McLundie Bolton Award in recognition of extraordinary achievement in service to and outstanding support of Louisiana Museums outside the museum profession. She has worked as an appraisal archivist with the Louisiana State Archives.

Mary Linn held an M.A. in History with a concentration in Archives from Northwestern State University of Louisiana, a B.A. in History and Political Science from Ball State University and an A.S. in Liberal Arts from Vincennes University Junior College. She has authored several articles and book reviews on Louisiana topics in *Louisiana History*, *North Louisiana History*, *Louisiana Library Association Bulletin* and *Southwestern Archivist* and *Minerva Journal of Women and War*.

Mary Linn was full of energy and good humor, passion for her work, and love of history. She was an original, irreplaceable and sorely missed.

She has been project director of two Louisiana related grants and a participant in more than a dozen grants including review panelist for NEH-Division of Preservation & Access Preservation for Smaller Institutions in 2005. She has served as a committee member and officer of several historical and archival associations, including Society of Southwest Archivists and Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association. At present, she was Secretary of the North Louisiana Historical Association and a member of the Louisiana Historical Association Publications, Bylaws and Archives Committee. She has delivered hundreds of presentations and mounted dozens of exhibitions highlighting the collections of the Cammie G. Henry Research Center.

The Southwestern Archivist

Submissions

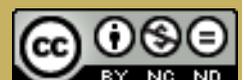
Submission guidelines are as follows:

- Repository news items showcases significant projects, donations or purchases, exhibitions, grants received, and similar activities.
- Leadership Log items highlight professional accomplishments such as promotions, career changes, retirement, awards, publications, and presentations.
- Submissions are written in a style consistent with a professional publication, including a title, the author's name, institutional affiliation, and contact information.
- Suggested word count is 150-600 words.
- Images, sent as separate files, with captions and attributions, are encouraged.
- Articles may be edited to conform to style conventions and space limitations.

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The Ender

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- ▶ 6 - 12 week residency.
- ▶ Includes one year membership to SSA.
- ▶ Applicants and host institution must reside within the SSA region.

**Applications open December 1, 2021
and are due March 1, 2022.**

Find more information at: southwestarchivists.org/ssa-archivist-in-residence-program/



Did you serve as an officer or committee chair on the SSA Board? Are your records in the SSA Archives?

This year, make a special effort to turn over your SSA records (digital or analog) to the SSA Archives by contacting Benna Vaughan [benna_vaughan@baylor.edu] at Baylor University.

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