FEATURE
Pearls of Wisdom. 30 Years of the Archives of Women in the Southwest 1993-2023

TALK OF THE REGION
Opening Night: Beginnings of the Houston Ballet Archive

REPOSITORY NEWS
New Exhibit Featuring Alamo City History: Meet Me in San Antonio: HemisFair '68
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.

Annual Membership dues are $25.00 for individuals, with a reduced rate of $15.00 for students and retirees. Institutional membership ranges from $50 - $150.

More information about membership can be found at our website southwestarchivists.org
Welcome to the first issue of the new year! This one is a great example of the variety of archival material repositories across our region are processing and making accessible, from cookbooks, children's art, historical films, ballet scores, and state government papers.

This quarter's feature article recognizes the 30 year anniversary of an archive devoted to the women of the Southwest, which so far has preserved the names of 200 women who, otherwise, would be lost to history. The Local Arrangement Committee has the latest news about the Annual Meeting and this year's guest plenary speaker!

This is my last issue as Editor of *The Southwestern Archivist*. I joined the Publications Committee as the Leadership Log Liaison in 2013, when I was a library student at University of North Texas. Three years later in 2016, I was attending the SSA annual conference in Oklahoma City and while touring the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum, Amanda Norman (the Editor at the time) spent the duration of the tour attempting to convince me to become co-editor, in 2019! Can we get a round of applause for Amanda Norman and appreciation for her playing the long game! I’m so glad I succumbed to her powers of persuasion.

Since my first issue as co-editor in May 2019, I’ve seen the newsletter transform from a black and white, primarily print publication to the full-color, interactive, digital publication of today. I’m grateful to Nicholas Wojcik, former Editor, for his generosity and patience during the steep learning curve of those first couple of issues. During my tenure as an Editor, I got to know and work with an amazing team of State Liaisons, in addition to the Executive Committee members, and Committee Chairs. And to every SSA member, I emailed over the years to solicit an article or clarify a submission or request an image…Thanks to you all!

In this issue, the Letter from the President lays out a scenario, where the wind has died from our sails when it comes to volunteering for professional organizations. What can I say about the value of building your human network of archivists? Conversations, like the one I had with Amanda, can change the trajectory of your life. It’s easy to underestimate these connections. Occasionally, these conversations matter and occasionally, they matter in a very BIG way. These serendipitous connections aren’t always optimized or obvious immediately, but given time, they build upon each other and they account for a lot. They enrich your life and the broader archival community.

Where does the time go? After 10 years as a member of the Publications Committee, I’m signing off with gratitude. Thank you!

New leadership coming to the Publications Committee.

Janine Smith, Editor and Chair
Alana Inman, Co-Editor and Vice-Chair

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Pearls of Wisdom: 30 Years of the Archives of Women of the Southwest 1993-2023

By Samantha Dodd, CA, Curator of the Archives of Women of the Southwest, Southern Methodist University

In 1987 Southern Methodist University Provost Ruth Morgan asked Maureen Pastine, Director of Central University Libraries, and David Farmer, Director of DeGolyer, to develop a proposal for a women’s archives. Pastine submitted the planning group’s report to the Provost. The proposal called for establishing “a special collection by and about women who have helped shape Southwestern culture, arts, business, social issues, government, and other spheres.” The report carried the provisional title of “Regional Center for Notable Women.” The stated objective of the Advisory Council was “to assist and to advise the librarians on collection development and such other matters as the Librarians refer to this Council.”

The First meeting of the Advisory Council for the Center for Notable Women in the Southwest was held on April 28, 1993. During the meeting the program was discussed at length, leading to a name change to Archives of Women of the Southwest (AWSW). The primary mission of the Archives of Women of the Southwest is to document the historical experience of women in the Southwest, with special emphasis on Dallas and North Texas, as well as a regional focus that includes Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, and the Spanish Borderlands.

As part of the 25th anniversary celebration, on Sunday, March 11, 2018, the Advisory Board of the Archives of the Women of the Southwest celebrated the completion of the “Remember the Ladies!” campaign which raised $1,000,000, to endow an archivist position dedicated solely to supporting the Archives of Women of the Southwest at SMU’s DeGolyer Library. Inspired by the quote from Abigail Adams, the Campaign offered family and friends an opportunity to honor significant women in their lives while ensuring the preservation of the rare documents and manuscript materials that compose the AWSW Collection.
Many of us who become leaders in archival professional organizations have done so for different reasons - camaraderie, resume boosting for advancement, a desire to create positive change in the industry, all of the above. Some of us have needed strong encouragement to engage in leadership while others have done so on their own accord.

That said, it has been difficult finding people to nominate themselves or others for SSA leadership positions. As a leader, and especially as SSA President, I keep track of industry trends via social media where I can get an idea of what is happening nationally and not just in our neck of the woods. This has proven extremely useful over the past two years when conferences were canceled or went virtual. While perusing the dumpster fire that is Twitter, last year I noticed a tweet from a fellow archival leader of a regional organization, which mentioned their difficulty finding people to run for leadership positions. This led to a meeting of our peers to discuss sustainability issues, and although people had some great ideas for solutions, I couldn’t help feeling these were band-aids for a perpetual issue that has been intensified by the pandemic. There has been a lot of focus on burnout and self-care

**Most of us are wearing at least three hats, so I do not blame people for not wanting to take on more responsibility, especially when it involves unpaid labor. Not only is it becoming more difficult to find leaders, SSA is now in a position where we are exploring alternative annual meeting ideas since we are getting fewer applications for host sites.**

in our industry lately, which has been exacerbated by the never-ending issue of low pay and being told we should just be happy we have a job or that our passion for the work should sustain us.

Most of us are wearing at least three hats, so I do not blame people for not wanting to take on more responsibility, especially when it involves unpaid labor. Not only is it becoming more difficult to find leaders, SSA is now in a position where we are exploring alternative annual meeting ideas since we are getting fewer applications for host sites. (The 2024 annual meeting will more than likely be virtual since we cannot find a host institution.) Planning an annual meeting is difficult and thankless work. I had a blast on the few that I’ve participated in or co-chaired, but they are time-consuming and a lot to ask of people when we are already pushing ourselves to the limits to make ends meet. I remember when it used to be FUN to work with colleagues to plan an annual meeting or sit on the board - doing the work, getting things done, trying to make the profession better even if just a little bit. It’s difficult to maintain that level of engagement when there is so much *gestures broadly at everything* to contend with in addition to our jobs and personal lives.

Plenty of research exists demonstrating how stress stifles creativity, and releasing even some of that pressure from leadership would help them focus on providing more resources for our membership, and ultimately, the profession. Perhaps it would even encourage more people to nominate themselves to serve as an SSA leader. We

Continued on page 7
could offer leadership a financial stipend, but that wouldn’t remove the stress-inducing responsibilities that still need to be performed. While talking with a former SSA president about this, she mentioned a potential solution for how the organization could recapture that convivial atmosphere - hire an association management company. Many professional organizations get to a point where it benefits them to hire an association management firm to alleviate some of the stress around leadership while providing much-needed consistency regarding event planning and governance. I have already reached out to one firm and will be drafting an RFP to see what they, and others, can provide SSA while keeping our budget in mind. Hopefully, this will be a step in the right direction, and I look forward to providing more news on this front in the future.

*For all the talk of work and stress, there are some exciting changes and events ahead of us! Please consider becoming an SSA leader, and if you’re thinking about it but have questions, feel free to contact me.*

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**LET'S START THE CONVERSATION. SALES@ATLAS-SYS.COM**
The Nominating Committee is working to approve a slate of candidates for the 2023 election. Once a slate has been settled on, an email will be circulated to membership with a link to vote and a deadline for voting in advance of the 2023 Annual Meeting.

Publications Committee Welcomes New Editor and Co-Editor & Seeks New Liaisons
Krishna Shenoy, Publications Committee Chair

Lots of changes are happening with the Publications Committee. Krishna Shenoy, MLIS is stepping down as Editor. She has been a member of the Publications Committee since 2013, serving as the Leadership Log Liaison and Vice-Chair/Co-Editor, prior to becoming the Chair/Editor.

Replacing Krishna, will be Janine Smith, MLIS, CA, the current Vice-Chair/Co-Editor. Janine joined the Publications Committee one year ago in February 2022. Janine is the Campus Librarian and Marketing and Outreach Coordinator at Northshore Technical Community College in Lacombe, LA. Janine’s debut as Editor will be the upcoming May 2023 issue.

The Publications Committee is fortunate to have a deep bench! We are delighted that the current South-Texas Liaison, Alana Inman, has stepped up to accept the Vice-Chair/Co-Editor position left vacant by Janine. Alana is Manager at the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center located just outside Houston in Liberty, Texas.

Alana’s move will leave a vacancy and the need to fill the South Texas Liaison position.

Shannon Lausch is stepping down from her position as Arkansas State Liaison. Shannon joined the Publications Committee in 2107 and we are grateful for her service.

All this shifting, leaves the Publications Committee with two vacancies to fill:

South Texas Liaison and Arkansas Liaison.

To learn more about these roles and responsibilities
email ssaeditor@southwestarchivists.org.
The reconstituted State Partnerships and Outreach Committee held their inaugural meeting on December 7, 2022, and preliminarily decided to prioritize two or three goals for this year, main action items to achieve those goals, and asking committee members to commit to working on at least one initiative.

The first committee goal is to update the SPOC Regional Organizations and Meetings spreadsheet’s annual meeting information, and to expand upon it by adding organizations that are not archives adjacent. This spreadsheet will be added to the SPOC webpage upon completion to serve as a resource for SSA members.

The Vice-Chair Kristy Sorensen updated the committee roster on the SSA website.

The next meeting will be held in late January, and the targets for that meeting will be to solidify goals, action items, and committee member assignments. Meanwhile, committee members have the option to add new organizations and updated annual meeting information to the SPOC Regional Organizations and Meetings spreadsheet.

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**PDC Offering Workshop on Reparative Work in Archives**

*Patrice-Andre "Max" Prud'homme, Professional Development Committee Chair*

The Professional Development Committee (PDC) looks forward to having its second workshop on reparative work in archives.

The PDC will host Stephanie Luke, Assistant Professor-Metadata Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to give a virtual workshop on “Responsible curation, ethical presentation, and reparative description: A workshop on handling sensitive materials in archival and digital collections” on January 27, 2023, 12:30-2:30 pm CST. Please visit Society of Southwest Archivists for more information.

As always, the PDC is open to hearing your ideas for SSA-hosted workshops and webinars. More information will be available soon on the SSA website. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to reach out to us via email at pdc@southwestarchivists.org.
Newly local to the Tucson area, archival consultant Anita Mechler advises organizations in applying for the Preservation Assistance Grant for Smaller Institutions, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. With her help, two organizations in the US have been awarded this $10,000 grant: the Ox-Bow School of Art & Artists’ Residency in Saugatuck, Michigan (with grant work completed) and Women’s Studio Workshop located in Kingston, NY (with grant work currently in progress). Anita Mechler Consulting (AMC) has worked to help create more permanent and equitable archival positions such as the Hauser & Wirth Institute Archivist for Women’s Studio Workshop.

Diversity Committee Aims to Highlight “Perseverance” at SSA 2023 Conference

*Julie Tanaka, Diversity Committee Chair*

The Diversity Committee met on December 2, 2022. The committee finalized its proposal for a discussion panel on “Perseverance” and submitted it for the SSA 2023 conference. Gerri Schaad submitted a request for Community Outreach funds to sponsor a SSA booth at the 2023 International Conference of Indigenous Archives, Libraries, and Museums in Oklahoma City (October 24-26, 2023). The Diversity Committee is working with the Local Arrangements Committee about the above proposed suggestions.

SSA Membership Continues to Rise

*Katie Gray, Membership Committee Chair*

Happy New Year from your colleagues on the Membership Committee!

The Membership Committee is happy to report that 99 people joined our ranks in 2022, giving SSA a current total of 508 active members. We hope to see many of you at the annual conference in Albuquerque, NM in April.

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 membership@southwestarchivists.org, and she will help facilitate your involvement.
Proposals Coming from In and Out of Region
Norie Guthrie, Annual Meeting Program Committee Chair

Respect For Hybridity: Creating Inclusive and Accessible Archives
ALBUQUERQUE 2023

The Annual Meeting Program Committee is responsible for organizing and scheduling the educational sessions of the conference program. The Program Committee ended its call for proposals in early December and has been hard at work evaluating the submissions. Because of the hybrid conference, we even had submissions from outside the region. We should have a program put together by the end of January, if not sooner. Thank you to everyone on the Program Committee for their hard work and to everyone that submitted proposals.

Treasurer and Finance Committee Report
Sylvia Podwika, Treasurer

Treasurer Report
In my second year as Treasurer, we have seen a wonderfully successful Annual Meeting in Houston. Final wrap-up for the Houston meeting was concluded in August and the first portion of the Local Arrangement Committee (LAC) handover for the New Mexico meeting occurred in September with Jonathan Pringle serving as the LAC 2023’s Treasurer.

Other duties include working with the Professional Development Committee to track their revenue and issuing honorariums to speakers, as PDC puts on some excellent and exciting webinars to further serve the archives community. I have also been working in Wild Apricot to solve any membership quandaries that have arisen, keeping track of our new memberships, and generally keeping it tidy.

This fiscal year has also seen a bear market which caused a dip in our investments but nothing too drastic. Our financial advisor, Sandra Solis, recommended staying the course instead of moving our riskier investments around, as we were still generating income from most of our accounts. Though things seem to have settled, a warning that a recession may be on the horizon has been mentioned. I’ll continue to keep my eye on the markets and report any insights.

Finance Committee Report
The 2022-2023 Finance Committee members are Sylvia Podwika (Chair), Melissa Gonzales, Krista Hollis, David Peters, and Mike Miller. The October 31st Quarterly Financial report was circulated to the committee with responses from all members of the committee. Additionally suggestions for tweaking the LAC budget were submitted and have been passed onto LAC. We met Dec 2, 2022 to discuss items such as PDC’s request for an upgraded Zoom account, future purchases of possibly some OWLs for hybrid and virtual conferences, and remittance from San Jose State University in sponsorship monies for the previous Houston conference.
APPLY NOW FOR 2023 SCHOLARSHIPS!

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

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.

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, Katie Rojas, at scholarships@southwestarchivists.org
The Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums, also known as ATALM, is an international non-profit organization that maintains a network of support for indigenous programs, provides culturally relevant programming and services, encourages collaboration among tribal and non-tribal cultural institutions, and articulates contemporary issues related to developing and sustaining the cultural sovereignty of Native Nations.

ATALM incorporated in 2010 and adopted the name of association. But the efforts of supporting tribal libraries, archives and museums began in 2002 with the National Conference of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums meeting held in Mesa, Arizona and sponsored by the Arizona State Museum and the Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public Records. The conference was focused on teaching about ways to preserve language, memory, and lifeways for indigenous people in the United States and consisted of primarily native presenters.

Subsequent conferences, workshops, and institutes were held in Phoenix in 2005, again sponsored by Arizona State Museum and the Arizona State Library; in Oklahoma City in 2007 and 2008, sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Libraries and the Oklahoma Museums Association; and in Portland, Oregon in 2009, sponsored by the Oregon State Library. These early conferences were funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services with grant awards made to the Arizona State Museum and the Western Council of State Libraries.

In September 2010, ATALM partnered with the American Association for State and Local History to present tribal-specific programming at the 2010 Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City. In 2011, ATALM sponsored a three-day institute focusing on challenges specific to the care of indigenous materials in Colorado and co-sponsored a conference in Hawaii with the Western Museum Association. Beginning in 2012, ATALM began holding yearly conferences. These conferences are still supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Society of Southwest Archivists has been involved in ATALM for many years in different ways from SSAers who are also tribal members, with SSAers who have volunteered to present, to teach, to help behind the scenes, and also with SSA formally sponsoring exhibitor tables (beginning in 2007, but primarily from 2015 forward). The region covered by SSA is a region rich in federally recognized Tribes. Two of our mission statements are to foster opportunities for education and training of archivists and records managers and to strengthen relations with others in allied disciplines and with organizations and institutions having mutual interests in the preservation and use of our recorded heritage. Supporting our tribal colleagues and being aware of ATALM is an ideal way for SSA to uphold our mission statement.
The Local Arrangements Committee for the 2023 Annual Meeting is pleased to announce the plenary speaker for this year’s conference, “Respect for Hybridity: Creating Inclusive and Accessible Archives,” which will be held Albuquerque from April 26-29, 2023. This year’s distinguished speaker is anthropologist, historian, and cultural consultant, Dr. Estevan Rael-Gálvez. Dr. Rael-Gálvez has served as the former Senior Vice President at the National Trust for Historic Preservation, executive director of the National Hispanic Cultural Center, and as the state historian of New Mexico. He is currently the Executive Director of Native Bound-Unbound: Archive of the Indigenous Enslaved, a digital initiative supported by the Mellon Foundation.

Native Bound-Unbound is an unprecedented digital project centered on Indigenous people whose lives were shaped by slavery. Beginning in 1492, millions of indigenous people in North and South America experienced slavery and these histories are maintained in archival collections in letters, wills, newspapers, photographs, and other documents. When it is completed, the initiative will offer distinctive materials and information that have never been organized into a single collection, housed in a database and repository and amplified through an interactive digital website.

The Annual Meeting will take place in the Hotel Albuquerque, located in historic Old Town, conveniently located near restaurants, museums, attractions, and shopping. Getting to the conference is easy, Albuquerque has one airport, the Albuquerque International Sunport (ABQ), and the hotel is only 15 minutes away. The conference room rate is $159/night plus a $10 amenity fee. The link for the group reservation rate can be accessed on the conference website.

The rate is available for attendees before March 27, 2023.

To find out more about ground transportation from the airport to the hotel and around town, please check out the SSA Annual Meeting Website. For anyone who might be driving or renting a car, self-parking is complimentary to all hotel visitors and valet parking is included in the amenity fee for guests.
Registration is now available for conference attendees. In person, early bird registration starts at $175.00 for SSA members. Pricing is also available for non-SSA members, students, and single day registrants. For virtual attendees, there is a flat fee of $50.00, regardless of membership or student status. Please see our registration form for more information.

Tours will be available at several of the repositories around Albuquerque. Locations include the Photo Archives at the Albuquerque Museum, the Center for Southwest Research at the University of New Mexico, the National Park Service Chaco Culture Archives, the New Mexico Museum of Natural History, the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Special Collections Library, the National Hispanic Cultural
Center and the Historic Fairview Cemetery.

Virtual tours will also be available for viewing for the virtual attendees. These virtual tours will be able to take people beyond Albuquerque to different parts of New Mexico and the repositories located there. There will also be social events for the virtual attendees. Information will be posted on the conference website as it becomes available, so check for the most updated information.

The all-attendee reception on Friday evening will be held at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center. The IPCC serves as a gathering place where Pueblo Culture is celebrated through creative and cultural experiences. Attendees will be able to view the permanent exhibition, “We Are of This Place: The Pueblo Story,” as well as any temporary exhibitions during the reception.

To stay updated with the latest program and registration information regarding the 2023 SSA Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, NM, please be sure to visit the conference website at: https://nm2023.southwestarchivists.org/
Housed in the DeGolyer Library, the Archives currently has over 200 collections that fall into two areas: letters, diaries, and journals of women who settled in or traveled through the West in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and the papers of 20th and 21st century women who have influenced women’s roles in society and shaped the culture, arts, business, social issues, law, and politics in Texas and the Southwest. Examples of the latter include papers of leaders in women’s organizations and social and political reform movements; papers of outstanding women in the professions, the arts, and voluntary service; papers of families and of women in private life; records of women’s organizations and organizations concerned with women’s issues; and oral history interviews. The collection comprises letters, diaries, speeches, photographs, scrapbooks, periodicals, and other print, audio and video materials.

A forthcoming digital exhibition coming early spring, Pearls of Wisdom, will feature voices from archives and highlight these women’s contributions to Dallas, to Texas, and beyond.

For more information, please contact Samantha Dodd, CA at smdodd@mail.smu.edu or call 214 768 0829.
Founded in 1969, the Houston Ballet Foundation has catapulted over the past 54 years from a regional ballet theater to the third-largest ballet company in the United States. Boasting a company of 61 world-class dancers, a budget exceeding 33.9 million, an extensive repertory, and state-of-the-art facilities, all in the heart of downtown Houston.

The history of the Houston Ballet archives started with a small records room in the 1990s, later absorbed into the marketing department, tended by various staff and volunteers over the years. Unfortunately, in 2017, it suffered significant losses when the Margaret Alkek Williams Center for Dance building flooded during Hurricane Harvey. Following the Ballet's 50th anniversary in 2019, leadership decided that the organization would invest in creating an archive to match the caliber and status of Houston Ballet itself.

In 2020 a committee was formed to begin this momentous undertaking. Their first step was to hire the national nonprofit Dance USA's Dance Heritage Coalition to do an archival assessment report which provided recommendations on creating the Houston Ballet Archive and revitalizing its collections. Following the recommendation of this report, the organization's first full-time professional archivist was hired in January 2022 to establish the new Houston Ballet Archive.

Now one year into this endeavor, the Houston Ballet Archive is finding its footing within the organization and the broader archival community. The Ballet's new Archive Manager began by conducting an inventory of materials stored throughout the building while collecting basic identifying information regarding potential collections. Information collected included location, description, creator, bulk dates, extent, preservation concerns, and possible restrictions. In total, approximately 400 boxes, binders, and packets of record materials were collected. The archivist then began processing collections from this inventory in
formation in 1969 had already passed away. Through this program, Houston Ballet was able to begin preserving its early history through the narratives of early members while also filling any gaps which may exist in the historical record.

While the Houston Ballet Archive had a fruitful first season, this is just the beginning. Over the coming years, the organization plans to expand its archival holdings and availability to researchers through continued processing, digitization, oral history interviews and the acquisition of a digital asset management system. Houston Ballet has much to look forward to as it begins to look back.

Order of importance, transferring items into archival folders and boxes while also creating DACS-compliant finding aids and detailed item-level inventories.

In addition to existing print material, the archive contains a collection of approximately 900 tapes in analog formats. These were inventoried, assigned unique identifiers, and labeled following established naming conventions. Houston Ballet made a significant financial investment in digitizing most of these materials from BetaCam, VHS, and reel-to-reel formats to ensure their survival for the organization’s future.

The third project undertaken by the Houston Ballet Archive in its fledgling year was the formation of the Houston Ballet Archive Oral History Program. This project was deemed urgent as many original artistic directors, dancers and staff from Houston Ballet’s...
The Art & Archives Program started in 2019 initially as a call to local artists to display their work at the 2020 Austin Archives Bazaar juried art show. Like most gatherings in 2020, the bi-annual event showcasing archives of Central Texas was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Born out of the need for public programming to be primarily virtual and the desire to engage with the Austin artist community, the Art & Archives juried art show was transformed into a series of virtual discussions between archivists and artists, in addition to, an exhibit at the Austin History Center. These events would also serve to promote the 2022 Austin Archives Bazaar.

The Art & Archives speaker series hosted by Archivists of Central Texas (ACT) provides a space for local artists to come together in conversation with archives and library professionals to explore how their practice engages with archival materials and historical narratives. The series of programs sponsored by a Summerlee Foundation grant, kicked off in March of 2022 featuring artists Dave McClinton and Veronica Ceci in a conversation moderated by Aaron Goldman, Program Specialist for Austin Public Library. Strategic planning was led by Austin History Center (AHC) staff members Kelly Harrell, Processing Archivist and Digital Archivist Nikki Koehlert, with additional support from Lilies Benson Black Diaspora Archivist Rachel E. Winston, Lauren Davis, Archivist at Texas State Library and Archives (TSLAC), and Aaron Goldman (APL). The March 22nd virtual talk was recorded live on Zoom, and later made available on the Austin Archives Bazaar and Austin History Center YouTube webpages: [bit.ly/3GKrYeD](http://bit.ly/3GKrYeD).


Additionally, a short video introducing what an archival repository is preceded each virtual
talk and was created by Nikki Koehlert and former AHC Audiovisual Archivist Afsheen Nomai: bit.ly/3Xg6tYN.

In the fall of 2022, AHC hosted an exhibit featuring the work of Veronica Ceci, a Queer intermedia artist known for portraiture and public artworks focusing on forgotten histories. Ceci’s relationship to the archives is multifold. They have been a researcher, donor of personal records, and a community collaborator with the Austin History Center over the past five years. For the works represented in the Art and Archives exhibit, Ceci conducted research of AHC collections to find images, reports, correspondence, and other documentation of the people and organizations that she wanted to represent in the work. Where gaps existed in the AHC collections, Ceci pulled research from other local organizations and archives and donated their collected research materials to the AHC with other planning materials and documentation of both public art projects. This exhibit was also documented online using Storymaps: bit.ly/3QjmMBQ

What came out of the conversations with Dave, Veronica, Adrian and Semente was a dynamic exchange examining the role of archives in the community, the amazing stories found within them, but also the silences.

Clockwise from top left: Cut paper portrait of Wilhelmina Delco (AR.2022.023); Meander detail (AR.2019.012); Ofelia Rodriguez and friend with their portraits (AR.2019.012); Wilhelmina Delco (AS-68.59640); Veronica Ceci painting Meander on North Lamar (AR.2019.012); Print of Ceci Gratias (AR-2019-012-097); Quinquagenary with an observer (AR.2022.023); Mural image: Mural design mock-up (AR-2019-012)
found there. Archivists can play a bigger role in acting as allies within the community and participating in active listening to better inform their archival praxis. The artists responded to questions drafted by archivists Kelly Harrell and Nikki Koehlert, but they also asked questions of each other and responded to audience questions during the Q&A sessions following each discussion, which made for a more engaging experience for everyone all around. By recording these events, a wider reach for the program was achieved during the pandemic, and we can continue to promote the program going forward.

As is often the case with programming involving several committee members and program participants, scheduling was a challenge, and it was difficult to coordinate planning meetings, so we had to be flexible as much as possible and utilize Zoom and Google Docs to virtually interact and execute tasks. When organizing the in-person exhibit program, we initially wanted several artists to participate, but due to conflicting schedules and limited funding for artist stipends, we ended up displaying the work of one artist instead of our initial goal of a group exhibition.

We received such great feedback from audience members, the participating artists, and members of the archives community that we hope to continue this program bi-annually to coincide with the Austin Archives Bazaar, and to continue building relationships within the Austin artist community whose work utilizes, or is inspired by, the stories fond in the archives.

**To see work by the participating artists:**

- [https://davemcclinton.com/](https://davemcclinton.com/)
- [https://www.veronicaceci.com/](https://www.veronicaceci.com/)
- [https://www.adrianaguilera.com/](https://www.adrianaguilera.com/)
- [https://geogalleries.com/artbysemente](https://geogalleries.com/artbysemente)

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**TIME TO THINK ABOUT SLOTTO**

The SLOTTO raffle puts the fun in fundraising for SSA scholarships and helps you find homes for oddities, books, swag, and almost anything else!

Are you crafty? Contributions for the silent auction are welcome! Share your talents and help SSA!

If you cannot pack your items for the April 26-29, 2023 meeting in Albuquerque, please contact Tim Blevins to coordinate shipping: [timblevins@utexas.edu](mailto:timblevins@utexas.edu).
Scholarships Available to Attend the 2023 Rare Books & Manuscripts Conference.
Lisa Cruces, First-Year Experience, Transfer Initiatives, and Liaison Librarian, University Libraries, Texas State University

**Talk of the Region**

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**Scholarship funding** for the [2023 Conference in Bloomington, Indiana, June 27-30](https://example.com), is available for first-time RBMS conference participants. A limited number of scholarships are available to previous conference attendees. **Submissions are due Friday, January 20, 2023.** All applicants will be notified in early March 2023.

**Full scholarships** include a conference registration fee waiver (a $140 – $340 value depending on registration type) plus a travel stipend ($750).

**Partial scholarships** provide complimentary registration (a $140 – $340 value depending on registration type) and may or may not include a travel stipend depending on applicant need/location ($400).

**Eligibility**

Individuals enrolled in a library, information science, or archival studies program; a graduate of such a program; OR currently employed or volunteering as a professional or paraprofessional in rare books, special collections, or archives capacity are invited to apply.

Application Criteria:

- The following criteria will be evaluated when reviewing applicants:
- Evidence of commitment to and interest in the rare books, special collections, and archives fields
- For first-time conference participants: Interest in contributing to the profession
- For returning conference participants: Interest in contributing to the profession through proposed conference participation (speaker/moderator) and RBMS committee participation
- Potential to benefit professionally from attendance at the conference
- Financial need
- Incomplete applications without initials on the final question may not be considered.

**Requirements**

Scholarship recipients are required to attend the RBMS conference and complete the conference evaluation. To help us ensure the ongoing improvement of the scholarship program, all scholarship recipients will be required to submit a post-conference evaluation letter by July 31, 2023.

If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Borderud at Jennifer_Borderud@baylor.edu.
Welcome back to another new year! As I sat down to write this final update as Chair of TARO’s steering committee, I was blown away by how quickly the year passed and how far we’ve come since beginning the TARO redesign project. With the support of the Texas Historical Records Advisory Board (THRAB), the TARO Steering Committee applied for funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and TARO was awarded $98,000 for continued development which is currently ongoing. Throughout 2022, TARO continued to grow, adding new repositories and participants to our Summerlee Project. Last fall, TARO received the Texas Historical Records Advisory Board’s Advocacy for Archives award! I am excited to see all the possibilities, and potential that 2023 holds in store. Best wishes to all, and thank you for your dedication to TARO.

**Introducing the 2023 Steering Committee**

TARO held its annual Steering Committee open-office election in November, filling the calendar year 2023 vacancies for the offices of Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Member-At-Large member, and Secretary. Officers who completed their terms this year are Penny Castillo, Member-At-Large, and Alexandra Suarez, Secretary. Their dedication to their duties and excellent work are much appreciated. Officers for this year are:

**Chair:** Maristella Feustle, University of North Texas  
**Vice Chair:** Matthew Richardson, Texas Medical Center Library  
**Secretary (2023-2024):** Rachael Zipperer, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  
**At-Large Member (2022-2023, 2-year term):** Kristi Nedderman, Dallas Municipal Archives,  
**At-large Member (2022-2023, 2-year term):** Kathryn Slover, University of Texas at Arlington  
**At-Large Member (2023-2024, 2-year term):** Molly Tepera, UT Dallas McDermott Library  
**UT Libraries Representative:** Aaron Choate, UT Libraries  
**Past Chair:** Robert Weaver, Texas Tech University  
**Past Chair:** Robert Weaver, Texas Tech University

**News and Accomplishments**

**New Members**

TARO continued to grow, adding new sustaining members as well as Summerlee repositories. We are over 80 repositories strong!!
NEW 2022 TARO MEMBERS

Our Lady of the Lake University (San Antonio, TX)
Botanical Research Institute of Texas Library
Texas A&M University-San Antonio Archives & Special Collections
The University of Texas at Dallas
Rothko Chapel Archives
H. Carroll Center For Baptist Heritage & Mission
South Texas College of Law Houston Fred Parks Law Library
Dominican Sisters of Houston Archives

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 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 libraries. Check out the article in the latest American Archivist about finding aid aggregation sites: Jodi Allison-Bunnell; Finding Aid Aggregation: Toward a Robust Future. The American Archivist 1 September 2022; 85 (2): 556–586. doi: https://doi.org/10.17723/2327-9702-85.2.556

Looking Ahead (Calendar 2023)

TARO will be hosting several in-person trainings in 2023, dates and location announcements will be coming soon. Save the date for a TARO webinar. The Standards subcommittee will be conducting a walkthrough of the newly updated and revised Best Practice Guide (BPG) on February 13th.

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 2023 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 Maristella Feustle (Maristella.Feustle@unt.edu). There has never been a better time to join TARO!\n
Stay in Touch

TARO Today blog: http://sites.utexas.edu/taro/
TARO working wiki: http://texasaro.pbworks.com/
The Wittliff Collections at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas is pleased to offer a limited number of awards to help defray travel costs for scholars using its resources on site. These are: the William J. Hill Visiting Researcher Travel Awards, the Mitzie Wittliff Visiting Scholar Travel Awards, and the Eleanor Alexander Stribling Wittliff Collections Travel Awards. The Wittliff has awarded travel grants since 2015, with the inaugural William J. Hill Award, providing 44 awards to researchers to date, across all three awards.

Past awardees have conducted research using the papers of Sam Shepard, Cormac McCarthy, Sandra Cisneros, Dick Reavis (Ashes of Waco and the Waco Siege), Marc Simmons, Texas Musicians, Mexican photography, and others. Finding aids for Wittliff collections are available to search and browse at https://archivesspace.library.txstate.edu/repositories/4.

Of note is Daniel Ramos, who originally came to the Wittliff to study the photo postcards and border photographs on a research grant, and recently had an exhibition of his own work inspired by those resources entitled Tell Me Who You’re With & I’ll Let You Know Who You Are / Dime Con Quién Andas y Te Diré Quién Eres.

More information about that exhibit here: https://www.thewittliffcollections.txst.edu/exhibitions/DanielRamos.html, as well as a playlist on YouTube of Ramos discussing his work here: https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLE44lM6EDbKEyuau0GQgmvlGlz3bsIhVV.

Award levels are determined by location of travel. In-state awards range from $250-$500, and are reserved for in-state residents of Texas who must travel to San Marcos for short-term research projects. Domestic Awards can be up to $1,200, for researchers within the United States (including Texas) who must travel to San Marcos for longer-term research projects. International awards are up to $1,700, for researchers who must travel from outside the United States for research projects.

Anyone engaged in a research project that requires travel to San Marcos for substantial use of the archives at The Wittliff is eligible to apply. This includes undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral students, as well other scholars and documentarians. We strongly encourage past applicants who were not selected to reapply. Previous recipients are also welcome to apply for funding, although preference will be given to those who have not received an award in the past. Wittliff curators and archivists will evaluate the applications based on the following criteria: demonstrated applicability of the resources at The Wittliff to the research project; scholarly contribution of the project; and originality of the research.
Applicants for a Travel Award must provide an abstract of the project that includes a brief explanation of the project, the goals of the research (i.e., article, book, dissertation, documentary, preferably with title) and description of which collection(s) they plan on using at The Wittliff. The description should not exceed 1,000 words and should indicate how the collections relate to the research. Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact an archivist or curator in advance to help determine available resources. Applicants should also provide a current CV or resume; and proposed budget estimating travel, lodging, and other anticipated expenses.

Undergraduate, Masters, and Doctoral students should provide a letter of recommendation from their advisers. Please submit completed applications in PDF to Katie Salzmann at ks31@txstate.edu. The deadline for applications for a 2023/2024 Travel Award is March 1, 2023. Awards will be announced in April, 2023 and the recipients must conduct their research at The Wittliff between May 1, 2023 and May 1, 2024.

We encourage you to share this information widely, available at https://www.thewittliffcollections.txst.edu/research/travelgrants.html. Research staff are happy to assist with locating archival materials and determining research needs.

The Wittliff Collections Reading Room at Texas State University, 2015. Image courtesy of The Wittliff Collections.
Austin, Texas, January 31, 2023 — The Texas Archive of the Moving Image (TAMI) is proud to announce a new exhibit, Meet Me in San Antonio: HemisFair ’68 on Film. HemisFair ’68 was an event that changed San Antonio. The World's Fair was a sixth-month celebration of San Antonio’s 250th anniversary with the theme “Confluence of Civilizations in the Americas,” highlighting the various ethnic groups which settled in the western hemisphere.

View the exhibit beginning January 31 at: TexasArchive.org/meet-me-in-san-antonio.

"Drawing from home movies, television news coverage, promotional films, and more, the exhibit will explore the planning and execution of the event as well as its lasting legacy in San Antonio,” says TAMI Curator Katharine Austin.

6.3 million people attended HemisFair. Some for jobs, others for fun. Many never left. From the landscape to tourism, the city would never be the same.

"HemisFair, specifically the Tower of the Americas, changed the San Antonio skyline forever,” said Elizabeth Hansen, TAMI Managing Director. "As captured by these films, you can see the change HemisFair brought to San Antonio as well as the event that drew millions of visitors."

Many of the historic films featured in the exhibit came to TAMI through the Texas Film Round-Up. The Texas Film Round-Up is a preservation program presented by TAMI and the Office of the Governor’s Texas Film Commission (TFC). Since 2008, thousands of residents, businesses and cultural institutions have
participated in Film Round-Up events hosted in locations across Texas. The Texas Film Round-Up has resulted in the digitization of more than 50,000 films and videotapes. A curated collection of more than 6,000 videos is available to watch at texasarchive.org.

The Texas Archive of the Moving Image (TAMI) is an independent non-profit organization founded in 2002 to discover, preserve, make accessible and serve community interest in Texas’ moving image heritage.

To learn more about the Texas Archive of the Moving Image, visit texasarchive.org.

Additional support for TAMI comes from Humanities Texas and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).
DIY Humidification Chamber Allows Greater Accessibility to Archival Images
Jessica Erwin, MAPH & James Wethington, MLIS, UA Little Rock Center for Arkansas History and Culture

The Center for Arkansas History and Culture (CAHC) is a teaching archive affiliated with the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. While processing the photographic series of the Victor F. Snyder Congressional papers and Paul Greenberg papers, CAHC archivists encountered several challenges with a group of negatives and prints. The two collections faced different problems that both ultimately required humidification, so the archivists adapted a method of humidification that was both cost-effective and space-saving.

While processing the Victor F. Snyder Congressional papers, processing archivist Jessica Erwin encountered issues with a particular type of photographic film common during the late 1990s. The Snyder papers consist of ~300 linear feet of materials related to Snyder’s service as a U.S. Congressman for Arkansas’s 2nd congressional district from 1997 to 2011, including 40 rolls of 24 mm Advanced Photo System (APS) film. Both the film size and original housing presented a unique challenge. During the film developing process, APS film is rolled back into its original cassette for storage—less than ideal housing for long-term archival preservation and access.

Several months later, archivist James Wethington faced a frequently seen photographic problem within the Paul Greenberg papers. The Greenberg papers, approximately 70 linear feet of material featuring Greenberg’s work as a Pulitzer Prize winning editorial writer for the Pine Bluff Commercial and Arkansas Democrat-Gazette newspapers, contained 8 to 10 “clusters” of photographs adhered together. Storage in an uncontrolled climate environment prior to the collection’s acquisition caused the photographs to stick together in groups of 5 to 10 prints, and Wethington could not separate them without causing damage.

While researching techniques for flattening negatives, CAHC archivists found and modified a method for flattening using a DIY humidification chamber. They made a simple but effective humidification chamber out of a clear plastic 54-quart storage.

Adhered photographs from Paul Greenberg papers in the humidification chamber.


Continued on page 31
container filled with 1-inch of distilled water and a wire cooling rack. With this DIY humidification chamber, they were able to flatten the APS film negatives and separate the photograph clusters.

For the negatives in the Snyder papers, Erwin used tweezers and a micro spatula to open the APS cassettes then loaded the film onto modified Paterson Auto Load adjustable film development reels. She placed the reels in the humidification chamber for 24 hours. Next, Erwin sandwiched the film between layers of spunbonded polyester reemay and blotting paper, back rolled it onto a 6-inch cardboard tube, and dried it for several days. This method yielded dramatic results; negatives transformed from tight, ringlet curls to flattened with a slight curve. She was then able to trim the negatives for storage in polyethylene negative preservation pages.

Following the success of the humidification chamber with the negatives from the Snyder Congressional papers, Wethington applied a similar process to the Greenberg photographs. He placed the photograph clusters inside of the humidification chamber for 24 to 48 hours, depending on the number of photographs stuck together. After the clusters were rehydrated, Wethington carefully separated each photograph using a micro spatula. Then, he stacked them between layers of blotting paper and applied a light weight to flattened them for 24 to 48 hours. Once flattened, he placed the photographs into polyethylene sleeves for preservation. Because of the humidification chamber, around sixty photographs of Little Rock and its surrounding neighborhoods were saved.

Through the use of this simple, cost-effective humidification chamber, CAHC has been able to create greater accessibility and preserve Arkansas’s visual history.

For More Information
For more information about these projects: contact Jessica Erwin at jferwin@ualr.edu, or James Wethington at jwethington@ualr.edu.
This fall, DeGolyer Library premiered a new exhibit: The Joy of Cooking: Two Centuries of Cookbooks at the DeGolyer Library. This exhibit explored the vast collection of cookbooks preserved in our library and highlighted nearly 100 works from our collection of more than 6,000 titles. These cookbooks are a storehouse of recipes, as well as a sign of technological, sociological, cultural, and economic change over time. From handwritten recipe collections and household guides of the 19th century, to ‘reducing’ cookbooks of the 1920s and the rationing cookbooks of World War II, this exhibit charts changing attitudes and approaches to home-cooked meals.

Beyond taking a chronological look at cookbooks over the last two centuries, our cookbook examined food communities in America, including Jewish cuisine, African American foodways, Chinese food in the United States, and church and community cookbooks. The exhibit also highlighted the evolution of cookbooks published in Texas, California, and Mexico.

Curating The Joy of Cooking exhibit meant choosing which small fraction of our 6,000 cookbooks would be featured. The first selection was a manuscript cookbook, written in Mexico by Dona Maria Tapia in 1816.

I often tell people it’s not just my favorite cookbook on display, but one of my favorite items in our library. Also included in the exhibit are several handwritten cookbooks in English and Spanish, mostly from the 19th century. These cookbooks speak to the common family tradition of gathering favorite recipes and passing them down through the generations.

A notable Texas highlight is our 1883 copy of The Texas Cook Book, the first one printed in the state. The Texas Cook Book has an interesting mix of recipes—cookbooks from the 1800s mixed the medicinal with the culinary, alongside the practical. Printed cookbooks were more like household, or lifestyle guides. The Texas Cook Book features a striking blend of information—recipes for Charlotte Russe cake and cough syrup, but few standard dinner entrée dishes. What’s helpful is that previous home chefs let us know what information they found useful in these early cookbooks in the form of stains on the page, notes, and crossed-out recipes—in our copy of The Texas Cook Book, the previously mentioned cough syrup recipe is penciled over with the note “do not use.”

Our exhibit featured famous cookbooks that have a place of honor in many home libraries, as well as cookbooks from unknown, or unnamed authors. The majority of cookbooks displayed were by female authors, often with distinct voices, including Ruth
Gaskins, a Virginia housewife who wrote a charity cookbook, *A Good Heart and A Light Hand*, to document an integral part of her local Black community. A year later, Simon and Shuster republished her work nationally.

Buwei Yang Chao was a physician from China who lived near Harvard with her linguist husband during World War II. Buwei would host dinner parties for their coworkers and students, who urged her to publish her recipes. Working alongside her husband and daughter, she wrote *How to Cook and Eat in Chinese*, one of the most important cookbooks of the 20th century—a runaway bestseller that coined the phrases ‘stir-fry’ and ‘pot-stickers’.

Josefina Velazquez de Leon created a media empire in Mexico through her radio programs and monthly mini cookbooks like *Tele-Cocina*, mailed to paid subscribers. She went on to host the first televised cooking program aired in Mexico.

These three cookbooks, alongside the others included in our exhibit, say so much beyond how to make the perfect meal. If we are what we eat, cookbooks can tell us much about our character in the past.

Our exhibit ran from October 6th through December 22nd and is available online at [https://degolyer.omeka.net](https://degolyer.omeka.net).

For more information, reach out to Christina Jensen at [cwjensen@smu.edu](mailto:cwjensen@smu.edu).
Rosenberg Library’s Galveston and Texas History Center recently processed a collection of children's paintings by Admiral Perry Duane Ellis, as well as correspondence from pediatric hospitals and dignitaries from all over the world thanking him for sending them samples of his work. Admiral Ellis completed the paintings free of charge and sent them to hospitals such as University of Texas Medical Branch, Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, Shriners Hospitals for Children, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The dignitaries who received his artwork include current and former U.S. presidents Bill Clinton, Barack Obama, and Joe Biden; vice presidents Kamala Harris and Al Gore; first ladies Hillary Clinton and Laura Bush; former Texas governor Ann Richards and former Mexico president Enrique Peña Nieto; the Vatican and Buckingham Palace; and scientists Carl Sagan and Stephen Hawking.

The collection also contains Admiral Ellis’s personal narratives and historical writings documenting his 44 years
of service in the United States Merchant Marine and the United States Navy, as well as the history of the U.S. Merchant Marine. Ellis also writes about his struggles growing up with severe dyslexia and how it affected his education and upbringing. Despite saying in one letter that he has to dictate all his correspondence to someone else, Carl Sagan’s letter (May 3, 1996) credits Ellis’s writing, saying he never would have guessed that Ellis had the condition.

For more information, contact Kevin Kinney at (409) 763-8854, ext. 126 or kkinney@rosenberg-library.org.

Painting featuring Doctors Without Borders ship, completed by Admiral Perry Ellis. Perry Ellis papers, MS2022-0015, OS Box, File 1. Rosenberg Library, Galveston, Texas.

Painting featuring the S. S. Michael J. Fox, completed by Admiral Perry Ellis. Perry Ellis papers, MS2022-0015, OS Box, File 1. Rosenberg Library, Galveston, Texas.
Texas Governors and Their Times, 1846-1946, the latest exhibit on view at the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) in Austin, offers an overview of the first century of the state’s governors and the political and cultural landscape in which they moved and sought to shape. Exhibit curators pulled from the extensive records of past governors and state offices, artifacts, photographs, and publications to portray the dealings of chief executives over time.

The holdings of the State Archives contain the hand-written correspondence of the early decades where concerned citizens, law enforcement officials and others expressed their thoughts on paper and sent them to the highest office in their government. A group of women in Sunter, Texas petitioned Governor Francis R. Lubbock (1861-1863) in 1863 requesting an exemption for their town doctor not to be sent off to fight in the Civil War, for example, and a district attorney in Madison County wrote to Governor Richard Coke (1874-1876) about the lawbreaking gangs in his neck of the woods. “If you will offer suitable rewards I will have every desperado in this district captured or killed,” wrote District Attorney J.G. McDonald. Later documentation in governors’ records reflect technological changes of the eras as correspondence in the form of telegrams and typescript pages inform us of events and issues faced by each administration.

Governors selected represent early statehood, the Civil War and reconstruction, the “Wild West,” the progressive era of the early twentieth century, and the Texas-sized personalities of the Fergusons and W. Lee “Pappy” O’Daniel (1939-1941). O’Daniel was a radio star famous across rural Texas with his down-home talk and hillbilly music who parlayed his fame into votes to become governor. On view is the illustrated sheet music for the song he wrote both the words and music for called “Beautiful Texas.”

Governor James Ferguson (1915-1917) engaged in ethically dubious behavior and was ultimately impeached and prevented from holding elected office in Texas. A work-around emerged when his wife Miriam Amanda or “Ma” Ferguson became Texas’ first woman governor, ultimately serving two staggered terms from 1925-1927 and 1933-1935.

With the slogan, “two for the price of one,” they ran the administration together. He even produced their


Continued on page 37
own publication, *The Ferguson Forum*, an image of which is on display.

*Texas Governors* also showcases memorabilia and artifacts of the office of the governor and the home of the chief executive. Dance cards from inaugural balls are on view, as are images of the Governor’s Mansion and its contents. The Governor’s Mansion in Austin was built beginning in 1854 and opened in 1856 during the first E.M. Pease administration (1853-1857;1867-1869). The Greek Revival style structure continues to serve as the residence for the Texas governor and his or her family, preserving the history of those who have held the office in its own unique way. Former First Lady Jean Houston Baldwin Daniel, wife to Governor Price Daniel (1957-1963) was apparently captivated enough by the home that she embarked upon a project to research the history and publish a book about the dwelling. With the assistance of a researcher and her husband, TSLAC published the book, *The Texas Governor’s Mansion* in 1984. The research files for the publication are held in the State Archives and contribute to the current exhibit. *Texas Governors and Their Times, 1846-1946* runs through May 15, 2023, and is available online at [https://www.tsl.texas.gov/lobbyexhibits/governorsexhibit](https://www.tsl.texas.gov/lobbyexhibits/governorsexhibit)

For more information contact Peggy Price at pprice tsl.texas.gov or 512-463-9807.

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Petition on behalf of 20 out of 25 ladies of Sumpter (Trinity County) to Governor Lubbock, August 30, 1863. Texas Governor Francis Richard Lubbock records, 2014/092-5. TSLAC.
Submission guidelines are as follows:

- Repository news items showcase 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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- Job Announcements

LOGIN REQUIRED

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