Identify Yourself

• ARCHIVES 2008 Explores Professional Identities
• New Fellows and Award Recipients
• Going Digital and Web 2.0
**table of contents**

**features**

Digitizing Entire Collections in Georgia  
Kaye Lanning Minchew  ........................................ 6

Working in a Digital World: Suggested Guidelines  
Nathan Troup  .................................................. 7

**ARCHIVES 2008 in Review** Helen Janousek

Colleagues Connect at West Coast Conference  ........... 8

SAA Names Eight New Fellows at ARCHIVES 2008  ... 12

Crowd Celebrates Award Winners in San Francisco  ... 16

The Next Generation of Archivists  .......................... 20

SAA Council Adopts Selection Criteria for Minority Student Scholarships, Creates Government Affairs Working Group  ........................................ 23

Member Services 2.0  Brian Doyle  .................................. 33

**columns**

President’s Message: Not the “D” Word!  ................... 3

From the Executive Director: FY 2008 Year in Review  .... 4

From the Archivist of the United States: 
At NARA, Bringing the Past into the Digital Age  .......... 24

**departments**

Washington Beat  ................................................. 25

National News Clips  ............................................. 26

World View  ......................................................... 29

Around SAA  ........................................................ 30

Currents  ............................................................. 32

Bulletin Board  ....................................................... 42

On the cover

Identify Yourself  . . . San Francisco was the site of SAA’s 72nd Annual Meeting—ARCHIVES 2008—when 1,700 members convened August 26–30 on the West Coast to explore the evolving identity of the archives profession. Read about conference activities, Council decisions, and the 2008 Fellows and award winners, beginning on page 8.
Not the “D” Word!

By now many of you know that in my closing remarks at the annual meeting in San Francisco I invoked the ‘D’ word—‘dues’—and coupled it with that most dreaded of verbs: “raise.” I start my presidency with this unhappy combination of words for a simple reason—I believe political advocacy is critical to the future of the profession and, to repurpose Gerry Ham’s comment on appraisal, I believe we do it badly. The text of my closing remarks, where I make this point at some length, has been placed on SAA’s website as part of the material from the 2008 Annual Meeting.

After wading through a few bad jokes (yes, I scripted some of those jokes—so now I’ve aired yet more dirty linen), I hope you will consider the issues I used to exemplify our profession’s shortcomings in the area of political advocacy. The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) should not be perennially zeroed out from the President’s budget. Copyright should reflect a more satisfactory balance between the legitimate rights of authors and the equally legitimate rights of users. Privacy legislation should be nuanced to ensure that the traditional understanding is maintained that, for most purposes, privacy ends at death. The public’s right to public records, including presidential documents, should be liberal, as befitting a government, in the words of Mr. Lincoln, “of the people, by the people, [and] for the people.”

To make these things, and others, happen, archivists need a more focused voice in Washington. Although we have done much, our current approach is too much “Mr. Smith Goes to Washington” and too little K Street reality. As much as I personally wish the government truly worked like Frank Capra’s 1939 classic movie, my sad observation is that it does not. We need a permanent, dedicated voice in the Capitol and to get it we need to pay for it. Which brings up dues. At the Annual Meeting I suggested that a more aggressive lobbying presence in Washington would likely cost each member no more than what they planned to spend on dinner that evening. [One wag later reminded me that I had pegged a dues increase to dinner in one of the most expensive cities in the country. I can only say that sometimes a president gets lucky in the financial flexibility afforded him by a particular metaphor. I was very, very lucky.]

More seriously, what will a permanent representative in Washington really cost SAA’s members and what can the Society realistically expect to accomplish though this mechanism? As I mentioned in my presentation, at its August 25 meeting the SAA Council created a new working group to assist it in dealing with political matters. I have asked that this group take up as its first order of business two questions for the Council to consider: a prioritized political agenda defining what it is we would like to accomplish and a discussion of the options that would help SAA accomplish its political agenda, including a price tag. Rather than engage in idle speculation regarding what this initiative might accomplish and what it could cost, I would rather wait a few months for a thoughtful document that lays out the issues, the options, and the costs and then share that document with the membership.

The Council will consider that document and I hope act favorably upon it. Likely the only way to raise the necessary money will be to propose a dues increase. As I said in San Francisco, I realize the popular wisdom is that the Council hates to discuss dues increases and that the members don’t like to adopt them. But as I also said in San Francisco….

I truly believe…

That students will willingly invest in their professional future.

That retirees will willingly help finance a legacy in which they can take pride.

And that the rest of us will act to make the day-to-day practice of the profession take place in a more accommodating political and legal environment.

I realize that what I am asking for is a deep change in the political culture of our profession generally and this organization specifically and that this change will be hard, but there is never an easy time to change.

continued on page 41
FY 2008 Year in Review

The following report was presented at the Annual Membership Meeting of the Society of American Archivists in San Francisco on August 30, 2008.

Today I have the privilege of telling you that the state of your Society remains very strong!

SAA’s membership continued to grow in FY 2008. We ended the year with 4,621 individual members (up 7% from last year) and 593 institutional members (up 5% from FY07), for a grand total of 5,214 members. By the end of the fiscal year, 63 members had transferred to the newly created ID 7 category (representing income of more than $75,000). Student membership totaled 993—making it the single largest category, representing 21.5% of our total individual membership. Students are the profession’s future, and we’re hard at work to find creative ways to get and keep these new professionals engaged in the association. SAA’s very active Membership Committee, led by Chair Diane Kaplan and Vice-Chair James Roth, has everything to do with these strong numbers. And we have the Key Contacts to thank for their relentless pursuit of lapsed members....

Borrowing from Chicago architect Daniel Burnham’s admonition to “Make No Little Plans—Think Big!” we put on the second largest of SAA’s Annual Meetings in our own Sweet Home Chicago—with more than 1,800 archivists in attendance. ARCHIVES/CHICAGO 2007 was highlighted by dynamic education sessions selected by the 2007 Program Committee; by great networking and social events (thanks to the Chicago Host Committee); and who could imagine it—nearly perfect weather.

Mary Jo Pugh completed her second year as editor of The American Archivist and she made good on her promise to make the journal more accessible, both literally and figuratively. Mary Jo has received 87 manuscripts since taking over this role, which is a truly remarkable number! In addition, American Archivist Online was launched in March and 16 of the most recent issues are now available online. A request for proposal for digitizing the backfile was distributed to five vendors in July, and we look forward to reviewing those bids and proceeding with digitizing of the entire backfile.

Peter Wosh of New York University completed the first half of his three-year term as Editor of Print and Electronic Publications, a position that includes chairing the Publications Board. SAA published several new books in FY08: Archival Internships: A Guide for Faculty, Supervisors, and Students, by Jeanette Bastian and Donna Webber; College and University Archives: Readings in Theory and Practice, edited by Chris Prom and Ellen Swain; Managing Congressional Collections, by Cynthia Pease Miller; and Navigating Legal Issues in Archives, by Menzi Behrnb-Klold. And SAA’s bestselling Photographs: Archival Care and Management, by Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler and Diane Vogt-O’Connor, was selected to be part of the IMLS Conservation Bookshelf project under a grant awarded to the American Association for State and Local History, resulting in distribution of more than 1,800 copies of the book to qualifying repositories throughout the country.

The book publishing program also entered the electronic age in FY08, as SAA posted new content to the website that included monographs, case studies, and formal papers that have gone through a peer review process. “Campus Case Studies” are reports by university archivists on working solutions for born-digital records, and currently nine case studies are available. And thanks to the generosity of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the archival classic A Manual of Archive Administration, Including the Problems of War Archives and Archive Making, by Sir Hilary Jenkinson, is now available in a digital version via the SAA website.

Teresa Brinati and I were gratified to see the wonderful turnout yesterday for the “Opportunities for Authors” breakfast, at which Mary Jo and Peter offered tips for submitting articles and book ideas to SAA. They’ll also be looking for ways in which to expand our e-publishing initiatives.

FY2008 was another outstanding year for member access to professional development opportunities, as we offered 56 workshops (one more than last year) on a wide variety of

continued on page 35
2009 Awards Competition and Fellows Nominations

The Society of American Archivists annually recognizes outstanding achievement in the archival profession through an awards competition and the naming of Fellows. SAA offers 16 opportunities for professional recognition and financial assistance, with concentrations in the following areas:

Outstanding Contributions to the Archives Field
- Distinguished Fellows
- Distinguished Service Award
- Sister M. Claude Lane, OP, Memorial Award
- Spotlight Award

Public Awareness
- J. Franklin Jameson Archival Advocacy Award
- Philip M. Hamer – Elizabeth Hamer Kegan Award

Publishing Excellence
- C.F.W. Coker Award
- Fellows’ Ernst Posner Award
- Preservation Publication Award
- Theodore Calvin Pease Award
- Waldo Gifford Leland Award

Financial Assistance
- Colonial Dames of America Scholarships
- Donna Cutts Scholarship
- Donald Peterson Student Scholarship
- Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award
- Oliver Wendell Holmes Travel Award

For more information on selection criteria and nomination forms, go to: Awards: www.archivists.org/recognition/awards.asp Fellows: www.archivists.org/recognition/fellows.asp

Completed forms must be postmarked by Feb. 28, 2009, with exceptions noted.
Digitizing Entire Collections in Georgia

KAYE LANNING MINCHEW, Director, Troup County Archives

Session 402—Digitizing Entire Collections: Project Planning, Cost, and Collaborations—was held August 29 at SAA’s 2008 Annual Meeting in San Francisco and one of its speakers was Kaye L. Minchew, director of the Troup County Archives in LaGrange, Georgia. In the following article, she talks about the project underway to digitize the entire collection at the county’s archives.

The project at the Troup County Archives (TCA) involves scanning more than 110,000 pages of 19th century Superior Court records and adding them to the Digital Library of Georgia’s (DLG) website. Court cases cover a variety of topics including murder, debt, assault, and divorce. The cases are typical of those found in counties throughout the nation.

Volunteers Key to Success

The TCA was fortunate because we were able to call on volunteers. They contributed more than 400 hours of time to flatten documents and prepare them for scanning. Cooperation among the Troup County Archives, the Digital Library of Georgia, GALILEO, and the Georgia Archives is another key factor in the project’s success. The TCA has the original documents from the 19th century and has the experience in scanning its photograph collection, which consists of more than 30,000 items. The DLG has the scanning and technical expertise to add these documents to their website, while also creating minimal file-level metadata that is generated semi-automatically by extracting information from the collection’s finding aid. Hosting and long-term maintenance of the TCA’s images is handled by GALILEO, which provides virtual library services for more than 2,000 educational institutions in Georgia. The Georgia Archives will microfilm the original scanned documents (tiff images) for long-term preservation.

More (and More) Pages to Scan

During the application process, TCA staff agreed that the documents should not be sent outside the county for scanning. And because the records would have to be individually scanned on a flat-bed scanner, we decided to do the scanning in-house. Our small staff at the county’s archives (two full-time and five part-time employees) proved to be a challenge. Just keeping two Epson scanners busy for 35 to 40 hours a week takes careful scheduling, as people take vacation or get sick. Fortunately, interns have been hired from nearby LaGrange College to fill in the gaps.

The TCA has followed DLG recommendations to scan at 300 dpi in RGB color and in professional mode. This means each scan is time-consuming but very clear and can be read easily on a computer monitor. The finding aids, first created in the 1980s, had to be scanned to create a Word document and then converted to an EAD file. A key part of this is consistent file naming, so that files can be linked to the finding aids automatically. The files will be viewable in PDF and DjVu versions.

Cost Is $1.68 Per Page

Despite careful estimations, the project actually includes almost twice as many pages as we originally expected. The original collection was first processed as part of a National Historical Publications and Records Commission project from 1985 to 1987 and it consisted of pages that were folded in thirds for more than 150 years. The actual number of pages ended up being higher than anticipated and the TCA had to request a one-year extension for the project.

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The project is about fifty percent completed at the TCA. The cost per page thus far is $1.68, so final project numbers will change. If extensive metadata were being created record by record, or if the collection were unprocessed, the cost per page would be significantly higher.

Several aspects of this project are innovative. The DLG uses scripts written in the Perl programming language to partially automate the metadata process. The scripts generate file-level Dublin Core records based on information present in the EAD-encoded inventory. Automatic subject analysis is part of this process. DLG staff established a mapping table, matching sub-series and folder titles to related Library of Congress Subject Headings. These are applied to the relevant records. Connecting the TCA records to the DLG site will expose them to the approximately one million different people who use the DLG annually. (For information, go to: http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu.) The Troup County court records also will be crawlable by Google and other search engines.

The Troup County Archives and its partners are excited to make such a large collection of local government documents available via the Internet to genealogists and historians from around the world. To read more about the project, or to ask questions, go to: http://troupscanning.blogspot.com/
Have you made the leap over the digital divide? Are you about to embark on your first electronic records project? If so, here are some suggested guidelines for working with electronic records. They are based on a number of digital projects that I have worked on in the past four years during four internships while earning my MLIS and master’s in history, and now as a manuscript specialist. The work ranged from scanning images and entering metadata to writing the workflows for projects using CONTENTdm and DSpace. These experiences have shaped how I think about digital projects and the assets that go into them, such as websites, finding aids marked up in Encoded Archival Description, databases, and the more traditional digital collection.

**Guideline #1: Description, Collocation, and Access**

The first guideline leads to three ways of discerning the type of data to use: description, collocation, and access. This is not new for archivists. When writing a finding aid, the levels of data need to accurately reflect what is being described. The same goes for digital records. A user should be able to tell by the metadata what they are looking at. Don’t expect a user to click on every single record to determine if it is relevant. Talk with your users. What may be apparent to you may make absolutely no sense to them! Would you like to inherit a collection that is disorganized or one that allows you to almost instantly recognize the filing system?

The second aspect is for collocation—bringing like things together—which can be done through the use of authority controls, such as the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) or the Dewey Decimal System. In archives, we have respect de fonds and series. For databases, fields that belong together are put in the same table. In digital image collections, LCSH can be used to bring records together by subject, a series name can be used to bring like items together. There are a number of authority controls that have been developed to aid in collocation and local controls are always an option. However, if it is possible to become involved in a consortium, the best bet is to use an authority control that is widely used.

The third aspect is retrieval (also referred to as indexing or searching). How will the records be retrieved? You could have a system that lets you search the size of a collection or by number of series, but how does that help your users? Again, keep your users front and center. When determining a schema, it is important to begin by looking at how that information will be retrieved. Everything else is a bonus.

Some readers may be wondering why there isn’t a reference to the three types of metadata—administrative, preservation, and access. Continued on page 34.

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San Francisco’s golden sun came out to shine throughout ARCHIVES 2008, SAA’s 72nd Annual Meeting, August 26-30. Unusually warm temperatures greeted more than 1,700 archivists who gathered on the West Coast at the Hilton Hotel near Union Square. This year’s theme—Archival R/Evolution and Identities—was reflected throughout the week in presentations calling for a set of values to define the profession, changing the public’s perception of archivists, and establishing a more powerful presence in Washington, D.C.

In addition to a bit of identity-searching, there were more than 70 sessions to attend and anything with the word “digital” in its title meant an overflow audience. Roundtables met to discuss their agendas, students displayed poster projects, and job seekers sought advice in the Career Center. More than 50 exhibitors set up shop for the International Archives and Information Technology Expo, which attracted a sizeable crowd during the Golden Opportunities Happy Hour and the San Francisco Treat Brunch. Afghan filmmaker Ahmadi Latif got a standing ovation at the awards ceremony and the San Francisco Public Library was opened exclusively for the All-Attendee Reception with the Anthony Brown Asian American Jazz Orchestra.

Free Access to All

The opening plenary on Thursday, August 28, featured keynote speaker John W. Dean, former White House Counsel to President Richard M. Nixon and now a writer and lecturer based in Beverly Hills, California.

SAA President Mark Greene introduced Dean as a veteran researcher “who knows what is there and what is missing.” When Dean stepped up to the microphone he quipped: “There are great signs in front of me that say ‘This session is being recorded.’ I wish my President had had those signs.” In 1973 Dean was the first member of Nixon’s administration to suggest the White House was involved in the Watergate cover-up.

Dean said he admires archivists, calling them “bright and dedicated.” He recalled how he filed a lawsuit against the author and publisher of a 1991 book “Silent Coup,” which claimed Watergate was a sex scandal involving Dean and his wife Maureen. “Their theory was based on a single source. What they had done was to ignore the mass archival record. Given the record and the assistance I got from the archives, we proved the theory false,” he said.

When dealing with archives and archivists, Dean also noted, “One of the lessons I learned is that wherever my papers go, they are going to be in a user-friendly world with free access by researchers.”

“Who Am I and Why Am I Here?”

SAA President Mark Greene, director of the American Heritage Center at the University of Wyoming, gave the 72nd Presidential Address on Friday, August 29. In the Hilton’s Continental Ballroom, Tony Bennett’s classic song about the City by the Bay floated above the crowd before Dennis Meissner of the Minnesota Historical Society.
stepped to the podium to introduce Greene. Meissner had the audience in stitches as he recounted his many collaborations over the years with Greene. But on the subject of Greene’s professional contributions, Meissner was quite serious, “What I’ve been relating here are what I might call the Mark Greene core values: Intelligence and a high-voltage intellectual energy, original thinking, dedication to his profession and to its audiences, and a pragmatic approach to solving archival problems.”

In his presidential address, “The Power of Archives: Archivists’ Values and Value in the Post-Modern Age,” Greene said those working in the archives profession should “do whatever it takes to build and exercise power for our profession.” To do so, he said SAA members must define ourselves by defining our core values.” He added that the American Library Association has done this and SAA should follow suit. Greene named the ten values he thinks best identify the field: professionalism, collectivity, activism, selection, preservation, democracy, service, diversity, use and access, and history.

Regarding “professionalism” he said, “We have to begin to rally around definitions of why we are here that mean something to non-professionals.” Naming “service” as the seventh value, he stated, “Ultimately, archives and archivists are foremost about people and not things—we serve our users first, not our collections.”

Greene called upon members to wrestle with the set of values and reshape their attitudes, too. “We need to be consistently proud, creative, aggressive, and optimistic. We have to see ourselves and have others see us as the antithesis of the dusty, lonely, downtrodden, and optional bureaucrats we have seemed to resource allocators in the past.”


On a related note, at its meeting earlier in the week on August 25, the SAA Council agreed to create a three-person task force to determine whether it is feasible to develop a values statement for the archives profession. The task force will report to the Council in May 2009.

Got a Revolution?
The Annual Membership Meeting was held on Saturday, August 30. A quorum was present, but no resolutions were brought before voting members. Reports were given by SAA officers, two committee chairs, and the executive director.

Treasurer Ann Russell of the Northeast Document Conservation Center in Andover, Massachusetts, gave the financial report for FY 2008. She reported that association revenue was $2,230,000 and expenditures reached $2,246,000. Although income rose by 5.9 percent, the bottom line had a deficit of $15,706 due to stock market losses and a subsequent drop in the value of the investment portfolio. “When you compare 2008 to previous years, we are sailing with the wind now. But we need to keep an eye on expenses—and opportunities—with an open mind about a need for future dues increases,” Russell said.

Executive Director Nancy Beaumont began by announcing, “the state of your Society is very good.” She pointed out that individual membership rose 7 percent and the number of institutional members climbed 5 percent in Fiscal Year 2008, for a combined total of 5,214 members. Her report covered the association’s activities and accomplishments and can be read in the “From the Executive Director” column on page 4 of this issue.

Nominating Committee Chair Theresa Salazar of the University of California-Berkeley (at right) announced that incoming Council Member Robert Spindler of the Arizona State University Libraries recently resigned the elected post for personal reasons. Sara Hodson of the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, received the next highest number of votes during the election last April and, based on the SAA bylaws, was offered the open position, which she accepted. Hodson will serve until the 2009 Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas. The 2009 ballot will include a two-year term for this Council Member seat.

The report of the Diversity Committee was given by Terry Baxter of the Multnomah County Records Program in Portland, Oregon (at left). Baxter said the committee will seek increased participation from other SAA groups. “We will make sure every recommendation made by the task force is addressed in some way and looked at and acted upon.”

continued on page 10
upon," he noted. He also said the Diversity Committee will exchange members with the Membership Committee to ensure there is collaboration between the two groups. "The revolution proceeds one change at a time," he said. "It is truly up to all of us to be more diverse in our lives, and institutions, and bring that change to SAA."

**The Archives Is on the Case**

Despite the lure of cable cars and Fisherman’s Wharf, a good-sized audience was on hand for the closing plenary on Saturday afternoon [August 30]. Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein updated the audience on the progress that the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has made since he was appointed in 2004. He cited the agency’s involvement in a recent collaboration between Israeli and Palestinian archivists and noted the agency’s impending “brain drain” of experienced archivists. Weinstein said he disagreed with a recent New York Times editorial that said “The Archives need some spine-stiffening.”

“I can assure my colleagues in this audience that as long as I remain Archivist of the United States, my senior staff and I will continue working to achieve in the end the fullest documented record possible of the current administration. Of one thing you can be certain: The Archives has been on the case, is on the case, and will continue to be on the case," he stated.

As he closed his address he touched upon the agency’s top priority: “Its fundamental obligation and most demanding task remains striking the appropriate balance between protecting citizens’ access rights while defending the protection of our sensitive records.”

**A Stronger, More Focused Voice**

Incoming President Frank Boles of Central Michigan University told his listeners that archivists should be able to obtain more money and power through political advocacy. “Being zeroed out of the president’s budget four years in a row makes archivists the poster children for how not to do business in Washington," he said. “That NHPRC is funded annually should be a given, not an annual battle. We get zeroed out because we lack effective political advocacy.”

Targeted and effective advocacy could help change or improve government policy and regulations that would benefit the life of every archivist in the country, he said. Boles cited copyright, privacy, and the public’s right to governmental information as examples that affect daily tasks. He mentioned the importance of the recently introduced Preserving the American Historical Records Act, noting that, “If we wish our archival interests more effectively represented in Washington, then we need to do our political business in a new way. We need our own lobbyist and we need to unite ourselves to support his or her efforts on our behalf."

This might mean raising dues, he said, adding, “For a relatively small amount of money per member, we collectively could make the most significant change in archival political advocacy in a generation.”

Members were welcome to leave their hearts in San Francisco but encouraged to go home with a plan—specifically a plan of action—to claim and exercise power in their local institutions and on the national level.
1. The "Most Historic Bag" contest winner is Eva Mosely of Cambridge, Mass., (now retired) for her tote from SAA's 1981 meeting held in Berkeley, California. Mosely won a prize of $50.

2. Toasting the evening at the Golden Opportunities Happy Hour Reception are from left: Chris Doan (Sisters of the Presentation, San Francisco); Annie Berger (Dominican University of California); Christina Moretta, San Francisco Public Library.

3. Working the Career Center are James Roth (Kennedy Presidential Library), and Dina Kellams (Indiana University).

4. An all-you-can-eat buffet, complimentary champagne, and a live broadcast of the Democratic National Convention kept the room abuzz during the Golden Opportunities Happy Hour in the exhibit hall on August 28.

5. Archivists show their softer, gentler side in an unexpected ballroom dance lesson during Session 406 on "Getting to the Heart of the Performance."

6. A exhibitor talks about audio restoration. The booth was one of 55 at the International Archives and Information Technology Expo.
Eight members were inducted as Fellows of the Society of American Archivists during an Awards Ceremony held August 29 at the Hilton Hotel in San Francisco: Danna Bell-Russel, Bill Landis, Dennis Meissner, Joan Schwartz, Robert Spindler, Sharon Thibodeau, Thomas Wilsted, and Helena Zinkham.

The distinction of Fellow is the highest honor bestowed on individuals by SAA and is awarded for outstanding contributions to the archives profession. The program was established in 1957 and conferred annually. There are currently 182 Fellows.

DANNA BELL-RUSSEL is an educational outreach specialist in the Office of Strategic Initiatives at the Library of Congress, where she handles reference services, conducts workshops for educators, develops content for the library’s website, and coordinates summer teacher institutes. She joined the Library of Congress in 1998, first working as a learning center specialist and then a digital reference specialist.

A colleague who nominated Bell-Russel for Fellow called her “a dedicated servant within SAA, an articulate voice of reason and progress, a pragmatic and committed leader, and an energetic presence who exemplifies the activist archivist.” Another colleague noted, “It was Bell-Russel’s fire that insured that a Diversity Committee be appointed and given its charge to advance diversity in SAA.”

Bell-Russel has been a member of SAA since 1989 and has held several leadership positions, including being elected to the Council, serving as chair of the 2008–2009 Appointments Committee, and co-chair of the 2007 Program Committee.

Bell-Russel holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Miami University and a master’s degree in library science from Long Island University.

Before joining the Library of Congress, Bell-Russel worked as the curator for the National Equal Justice Library at American University and as an archivist for the District of Columbia Public Library and the Henry Lee Moon Library at the NAACP.

She is also an active member of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference and the Special Library Association.

BILL LANDIS is head of processing at Yale University Library. One individual who nominated him as a Fellow wrote, “Bill is one of our great visionaries. He anticipates where we need to be in five or ten years, and determines how we need to adapt our practices to get there.”

Before joining the staff at Yale in 2006, Landis was a metadata coordinator for the California Digital Library and a manuscripts librarian for the University of California, Irvine.

Landis earned a master’s in library and information science from the University of Michigan after picking up a bachelor’s degree in history from the University of California, Santa Cruz. He was a doctoral student in the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies at UCLA.

A colleague recalls watching the younger Landis in action at a conference: “Bill was still a graduate student, but his passion for archival issues and his ability to influence events was already impressively sophisticated.”

He co-edited, with Robin Chandler, Archives in the Digital Library (2007) and also was a contributor to Describing Archives: A Content Standard (2004) and Encoded Archival Description Tag Library (2002).

Along the way he has garnered a few honors: the Faculty Career Development Award from the University of California, Irvine; SAA’s 1998 C.F.W. Coker Award as a member of the Encoded Archival Description Working Group; the Charles F. Scott Graduate Fellowship from UCLA; and the University of Michigan’s Margaret Mann Award, an academic honor based upon demonstration of ability and promise of professional development.

He joined SAA in 1993 and has served on the Task Force on Sections and Roundtables, Committee on Education Task Force on Education Office Guidelines, and the Canadian-U.S. Task Force on Archival Description. Landis is currently a member of the American Archivist Editorial Board.

DENNIS MEISSNER is head of Collections Management for the Minnesota Historical Society, where he is responsible for a 28-employee department with a budget of $850,000.

Meissner’s enthusiastic supporters who nominated him for Fellow refer to him as a: “stimulating thinker,” “absolutely good fellow,” and “a proverbial island of sanity in an increasingly chaotic world.” Many cited his
seemnal contribution to the profession as co-author with Mark Greene of “More Product, Less Process” (American Archivist, Fall/Winter 2005), which proposed radical changes in the way collections are processed.

At the Minnesota Historical Society, which he joined in 1973, Meissner has worked as a records analyst, manuscripts coordinator, and in various processing management positions. He earned his bachelor’s degree in American Studies from Hamline University in Saint Paul, Minn., and took graduate courses in American history at the University of Minnesota.

He has served as a grant evaluator for the National Endowment for the Humanities the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, and as a consultant for the Northwest Archives Processing Initiative and the Henry Ford Museum.

Meissner was instrumental in the development and implementation of Encoded Archival Description, chairing the Research Libraries Group’s EAD Advisory Group in 2001 to create Encoded Archival Description Guidelines. The group received SAA’s 2004 C.F.W. Coker Award for innovative development in archival description for the guidelines. Meissner has also been awarded an NHPRC Fellowship.

A member of SAA since 1980, Meissner most recently chaired the Publications Board and served on the Task Force on Electronic Publications. He is working on a forthcoming book with Greene titled, Effective Processing: An Archival Reader. He currently serves as president of the Midwest Archives Conference.

JOAN SCHWARTZ is an associate professor and Queen’s National Scholar in the Department of Art at Queen’s University in Kingston, Canada. Prior to joining the university, she held a variety of positions at the National Archives of Canada in Ottawa in the photography acquisition, research, and preservation departments.

A colleague who recommended Schwartz to become an SAA Fellow said, “Joan stands almost alone as a visionary, advocate, and ambassador between the profession and academics in the area of visuality, visual materials, and the archives.”

Schwartz holds a Ph.D. in historical geography from Queen’s University and a master’s degree from the University of British Columbia.

Another nominator noted, “Dr. Schwartz’s doctoral research and her many publications have revolutionized how users of historical photographs in archives, including historians, geographers, historical geographers, photographic historians, and other archivists perceive not just photographs, but all visual media.”

Schwartz is the author of the 2003 book Picturing Place: Photography and the Geographical Imagination. Her honors include two W. Kaye Lamb Prizes for the best article in Archivaria: in 1996 for “‘We make our tools and our tools make us’: Lessons from Photographs for the Practice, Politics, and Poetics of Diplomatics,” and in 2001 for “Records of Simple Truth and Precision: Photography, Archives and the Illusion of Control.” She also received the National Archives of Canada 125th Anniversary Award for notable achievement.

Schwartz has served on the SAA Program Committee and as a mentor to upcoming archivists. Her award presenter remarked, “From the students who have benefited from her teachings and mentoring, to the academics and peers who have been influenced by her views, all feel that Joan has profoundly elevated the perceived value of visual resources as essential evidence of the documentary record.”

ROB SPINDLER is head of Archives and Special Collections at Arizona State University-Tempe, where he has been on staff since 1988. When asked to comment on his nomination for Fellow, one associate remarked: “He is the sort of archivist with whom one longs to work on a daily basis, just to experience first-hand his knowledge, enthusiasm, intellect, and collaborative spirit.”

Spindler, a Certified Archivist, earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in history

continued on page 14

Obsolete Happens!

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from Boston University, and then went to Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science to obtain another master’s in archives management.

Spindler has served as chair of SAA’s Task Force on Electronic Publishing, the Description Section, the Nominating Committee, and the Committee on Archival Information Exchange. He was a member of the Encoded Archival Description Working Group that won the C.F.W. Coker Award in 1998 after developing the EAD encoding standard. Most recently he contributed a chapter on electronic publishing to the new SAA book, *College and University Archives: Readings in Theory and Practice*.

A colleague noted: “Rob’s work generally focuses on the most challenging issues of contemporary archives. He does not simply serve on a committee or board—he puts forward intelligent, well-articulated ideas, working tirelessly to ensure the work of the group is accomplished.”

In 2005, Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public Records honored Spindler with a Turtle Award, which recognizes individuals who cherish Arizona’s rich cultural heritage and who have supported the agency’s efforts to accomplish its mission. He is a member of the Society of Southwest Archivists, serves on the Arizona Historical Records Advisory Board, and is past president of the Arizona Paper and Photograph Conservation Group.

**SHARON THIBODEAU** is the deputy assistant archivist for Records Services at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C. She previously served as director of Archival Operations at NARA’s College Park, Maryland, facility.

Colleagues who nominated Thibodeau for Fellow refer to her as “the single most welcoming and helpful person at NARA for many new arrivals, even those in other offices and programs.” One individual said, “I conducted a number of interviews at NARA, and, to a person, when asked who they most admired and trusted, Sharon Thibodeau was the first name offered.”

She earned a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from Colorado State University in 1968, and a Ph.D in the history of science from Yale University in 1972.

Thibodeau joined the National Archives in 1976. Her associates point out her “pioneering work in the early days of the custodial program for electronic records” and her “major role in bringing the National Archives into the mainstream of national and international descriptive practice.”

Thibodeau, a member of SAA since 1979, has been a driving force in archival description. She served on the Working Group on Standards for Archival Description, was part of the team that developed Encoded Archival Description, and was behind the development of two international standards—General International Standard Archival Description and the International Standard Archival Authority Record.

She served on the SAA Council from 1995 to 1998 and has served as chair of the Committee on Archival Information Exchange and on the Program Committee.

She is also active in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, the Society for History in the Federal Government, and the History of Science Society.

**THOMAS WILSTED,** recently retired director of the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, was described by one of his nominators for Fellow as “a dynamic and visionary leader who sees the big picture and commands respect in a very natural and unassuming way.”

The Thomas J. Dodd Research Center was established in 1996 at the University of Connecticut and Wilsted became its first director. “Tom served tirelessly to elevate the stature of the Center and it is under his leadership that it has enjoyed immeasurable successes,” noted his Connecticut colleagues. Wilsted, who retired in June, is now an archival consultant based in Arizona.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Kalamazoo College in 1966 and a master’s degree in American history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1968. A career that would take him around the country and then overseas began that same year when he took his first job as a field services representative for the Illinois State Historical Library.

He then moved to New Zealand to become the manuscripts librarian at the Alexander Trumbull Library in Wellington. His next home was New York City, where he joined the Salvation Army Archives and Research Center as its director. The journey continued when he headed West to serve as director of the American Heritage Center, University of Wyoming.

Wilsted’s honors include the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference’s Arline Custer Memorial Award for best book for his co-authorship of *Managing Archives and Manuscripts Repositories* (SAA, 1991) and the Wyoming State Historical Society’s Henryetta Berry Memorial Award for promoting state history.

A member of SAA since 1982, he wrote *Planning New and Remodeled Archival Facilities* in 2007.

**HELENA ZINKHAM** is currently the acting chief for the Prints and Photographs Division at the Library of Congress. Colleagues who nominated Zinkham for the honor of Fellow refer to her as “one of those magical individuals who brings out the best in others.”
Zinkham began her career working with pictures at the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore. She became the curator of prints and photographs at the New York Historical Society in 1980 and joined the Library of Congress in 1984 as a cataloger in the Prints and Photographs Division.

One of Zinkham’s supporters remarked, “She is grounded in reality and yet grasps the ideals—and can see practical ways to get from here to there.” Another recalled how she was a key member of several groups that created Encoded Archival Description (EAD): “Without Helena’s efforts to organize and focus members through gentle direction of strong personalities, EAD might never have come to fruition. Her tact, firmness, and ability to draw the conversation to points of agreement saved the day.”

Honors for that work include the Bentley Library Fellowship for the Berkeley Finding Aid Project (1995) and the C.F.W. Coker Award for the EAD Group (1998). She also received the JSC Certificate of Appreciation in 2006, the Library of Congress Meritorious Service Award in 1999, and the Library of Congress Special Achievement Award in 1998.

Associates at the Library of Congress cite her work on the Optical Disk Pilot Project and the American Memory Project, and her current effort to move collections into the online FlickR environment: “Once again, Helena is leading the way, introducing the archival and library communities to creative and low-cost ways to implement new technologies that help us build our base of users nationwide.”

Zinkham was a major contributor to SAA’s Photographs: Archival Care and Management, published in 2006. She has been a member of SAA since 1987.

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**HOW TO NOMINATE A FELLOW**

Each year SAA invites members to nominate colleagues for selection as Fellows of the Society of American Archivists. Nominees must be individual members of SAA in good standing for the past seven years. Other criteria on which the committee evaluates nominees are: appropriate academic education, and professional and technical training; a minimum of seven years of professional experience in any of the fields encompassed in the archival profession; writing of superior quality and usefulness in advancing SAA’s objectives; and contributions to the profession through work in and for SAA. The Committee on the Selection of SAA Fellows includes the five most recent past presidents of the Society and three additional members—all Fellows who are elected annually by SAA officers and the Council.

The annual deadline for fellow nominations is February 28. To submit a nomination, you may use the automated online form at: [http://www.archivists.org/recognition/fellow-nomform.asp](http://www.archivists.org/recognition/fellow-nomform.asp). Requests for additional information should be directed to the Chair of the Committee on the Selection of SAA Fellows or sent to:

Chair, Committee on the Selection of SAA Fellows
Society of American Archivists
17 North State Street, Suite 1425
Chicago, IL 60602-3315

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**The Harry Ransom Center presents**

**CREATING A USABLE PAST: WRITERS, ARCHIVES, & INSTITUTIONS**

In response to the ever-increasing global interest in the future of research libraries and archives, digitization, preservation, and the value of original materials, the seventh biennial Flair Symposium brings together leading British and American writers, archivists, agents, and library directors to examine the ways in which they are engaged in creating a literary and personal past for future generations to study.

Speakers include: Lee Blessing, Denis Johnson, Tim O’Brien, Amy Tan, National Endowment for the Arts Chairman Dana Gioia, and library directors Stephen Enniss of Emory University, Kris Kiesling of the University of Minnesota, Breon Mitchell of Indiana University, Richard Ovenden of the University of Oxford, Ben Primer of Princeton University, Michael Ryan of Columbia University, Alice Schreyer of the University of Chicago, Thomas Staley of The University of Texas at Austin, and Frank Turner of Yale University.

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November 13–15, 2008

Harry Ransom Center
The University of Texas at Austin
The Society of American Archivists honored the achievements, efforts, and innovations of professionals in the archives field at a ceremony held August 29 at the Hilton Hotel in San Francisco. A large audience filled the Imperial Ballroom to watch as fourteen awards were presented at ARCHIVES 2008 to individuals and groups that ranged from up-and-coming archivists in graduate school to a filmmaker from Afghanistan who defied the Taliban.

**J. Franklin Jameson Archival Advocacy Award**

The Data-Intensive Cyber Environments (DICE) group, which recently joined the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, is the winner of the 2008 J. Franklin Jameson Archival Advocacy Award. The group was formerly known as the Data-Intensive Computing Environments group and conducted its research at the University of California-San Diego.

The award honors an individual, institution, or organization that promotes greater public awareness, appreciation, or support of archives. Paul Tooby, Antoin de Torey, Chien-yi Hou, and Reagan Moore were on hand to accept the award.

The DICE group is being recognized for its long-time support of the archives profession and its research efforts in developing electronic records archives. In February 2008 it released version 1.0 of the Integrated Rule-Oriented Data System (iRODs), a new open-source approach to managing digital data.

The team has worked on national and international projects that provide data management systems for major grid and distributed research projects, such as the Southern California Earthquake Center, the Worldwide University Network, and the Ocean Observatory Knowledge Integration Grid.

In making its selection the award committee said, "Members of the DICE Group have a genuine interest in, and understanding of, the archives profession, its principles and practices, and its unique challenges, and they have become strong advocates in its favor."

Established in 1989, the award is named for the noted American historian J. Franklin Jameson, who was a long-time advocate for the establishment of a national archives in the United States.

**Distinguished Service Award**

The Thomas J. Dodd Research Center at the University of Connecticut is the winner of the 2008 Distinguished Service Award. The award recognizes an archival institution, education program, nonprofit organization, or governmental organization that has given outstanding service to its public and has made an exemplary contribution to the archives profession.

Thomas Wilsted, the center’s former director, and Acting Director Betsy Pittman accepted the award on behalf of the Dodd Center. The selection committee called it "a center of campus intellectual life that links collection development and preservation to public programming and the academic curriculum in a vital and exciting way."

The Dodd Center was established in 1995 and is named for the late Connecticut Senator Thomas J. Dodd. It houses the university’s archives and focuses on building research collections that document the U.S. Congress, human rights, and public policy. The center contains Senator Dodd’s papers, including his service as chief trial counsel at the Nuremberg Trials, and holds the Alternative Press Collection and the papers of naturalist Edwin Way Teale and children’s author Tomie dePaola. It is known for its collection of Connecticut business history and the creation and development of Connecticut History Online.

One of its recent accomplishments involved the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa. The Dodd Center provided assistance and training to preserve the records kept by the ANC while it was in exile for 30 years.
“The selection committee was particularly impressed with the breadth and depth of the center’s development over the past fifteen years and its outstanding service to multiple constituencies,” said Ohio State Archivist Jelain Chubb, chair of the selection committee.

**C.F.W. Coker Award**

The Archivists’ Toolkit (AT), an open-source archival data management system developed through a collaboration of three university libraries, is the 2008 recipient of the C.F.W. Coker Award. The award recognizes finding aids, finding aid systems, innovative development in archival description, or descriptive tools that enable archivists to produce more effective finding aids.

Bradley Westbrook, the AT’s project manager at the University of California-San Diego, accepted the award on behalf of the project team. The team includes members from the University of California-San Diego Libraries, the New York University Libraries, and the Five Colleges, Inc., Libraries, which is a consortium of Amherst College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College, the University of Massachusetts, and Hampshire College. The Toolkit is the first open-source archival data management system to provide broad, integrated support for the management of archives and can be used by a wide range of archival repositories. It is funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

The Toolkit is an archival management system with description at its core and it is designed to make it easier for archivists to adopt and utilize descriptive standards, according to Chris Burns, curator of manuscripts for the University of Vermont and chair of the selection committee.

“The Archivists’ Toolkit has already made a tremendous impact on archival practice and the promotion and adoption of descriptive standards,” said Burns. “It has been rapidly adopted by archivists. Its creation serves as a truly wonderful model of a collaborative design, testing, and implementation process.”

Established in 1984, the award honors the memory of SAA Fellow C.F.W. Coker.

*continued on page 18*
Waldo Gifford Leland Award

Deidre Simmons (at right) is the winner of the 2008 Waldo Gifford Leland Award for her book *Keepers of the Record: The History of the Hudson’s Bay Company Archives*. The award is given for writing of superior excellence and usefulness in the fields of archival history, theory, or practice.

Simmons, an archives consultant in Victoria, British Columbia, provides a look at the records of the Hudson’s Bay Company and their stewardship from the company’s first year in 1670 to the present. The Hudson’s Bay Company Archives are stored in the Archives of Manitoba, and they trace the history of the fur trade, North American exploration, the growth of a retail empire, and the evolution of Canada as a country. The book was published in January by McGill-Queen’s University Press.

“Simmons has broken new ground in treating a body of archives as something worthy of study itself. Although so many secondary sources may—and do—rely heavily on primary sources to support a broader thesis, this book is a study of the archives itself, its shift from Britain to Canada, and just who has cared for the collection through the decades,” noted the selection committee.

“*Keepers of the Record* displays detailed and deep research—and a superior readability. It bridges the gaps among archivists, historians, and the general public—all the while bringing to life the figures and stories intimately connected with the creation and care of the records,” the committee said.

Established in 1959, the Waldo Gifford Leland Award is named for one of North America’s archival pioneers and SAA’s second president.

Sister M. Claude Lane, O.P., Memorial Award

Mark Thiel (at left), an archivist at Marquette University, is the 2008 recipient of the Sister M. Claude Lane, O.P., Memorial Award. Thiel is being recognized for his work on the five-volume *Guide to Catholic-Related Records About Native Americans*, available in electronic format. The award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the field of religious archives.

Thiel collected information for the guide for more than 25 years from over 1,000 repositories in 43 states and 15 foreign countries. “This reference work has been noted for its thoroughness, its detail, and the precision of its records,” said Brenda McClurkin of the University of Texas, when making the presentation.

A colleague describes Thiel’s work as “probably the most important manuscript guide produced on American Catholic materials in a generation.” Thiel’s project is of interest to scholars of American Indian history and culture and Native Americans looking for their own data and records.

Created in 1974, the award honors Sister M. Claude Lane, O.P., who served at the Catholic Archives of Texas from 1960 until her death in 1974. It is sponsored by SAA in conjunction with and funded by the Society of Southwest Archivists. Nominees for this award must demonstrate involvement and work in the Religious Archives Section of the Society of American Archivists, contributions to archival literature relating to religious archives, leadership in religious archives organizations, and/or leadership in a specific religious archive.

Theodore Calvin Pease Award

Mary Samouelian (at right), a recent graduate of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, is the winner of the 2008 Theodore Calvin Pease Award for her research paper “Embracing Web 2.0: Archives and the Newest Generation of Web Applications.”

The award recognizes superior writing achievement by a student enrolled in archival administration classes or engaged in a formal archival internship program.

Samouelian’s paper, which she wrote while enrolled in a master’s class at UNC’s School of Information and Library Science, explores the use of Web 2.0 technology in archives. It will be published in the Spring/Summer 2009 issue of the *American Archivist*.

“There has been a lot of buzz about Web 2.0, but relatively little research on the nature of these interactive web technologies or how archivists might employ them,” said Mary Jo Pugh, editor of the *American Archivist* and chair of the award’s selection committee. “Her paper fills a void in the archival literature and provides an informative look at current practices, making many observations useful to the profession as more and more archivists begin to use such features to enhance access to, and interest in, repository holdings.”

Pugh noted that Samouelian’s research presents relevant examples of implementation already underway at a variety of institutions and shows how many archivists are able to implement these tools. “Her paper has the capacity to drive adoption of these technologies and user services in many archives.”

Established in 1987, the award is named for the first editor of the *American Archivist*.

Philip M. Hamer and Elizabeth Hamer Kegan Award

The CBC Digital Archives of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (*Les archives de Radio-Canada*) is the 2008 recipient of the Philip M. Hamer and Elizabeth Hamer Kegan Award.
The award recognizes individuals or institutions that have increased public awareness of archival documents. The CBC Digital Archives is being recognized for its outstanding efforts to promote the use of its radio and television collections. In making its selection, the award committee noted, "The CBC Digital Archives makes a vast collection of audio and video, in French and English, accessible to a community of users stretching far beyond Canada."

The CBC Digital Archives has created a website (http://archives.cbc.ca/) to provide access to nearly 12,000 radio and news clips, which contain the voices and images of journalists, performers, citizens, politicians, and artists.

The Hamer-Kegan Award was established in 1973 and is named for two SAA Fellows and former presidents.

**Donald Peterson Student Scholarship**

Katherine Blank (at right), a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM), is the winner of the 2008 Donald Peterson Student Scholarship. The scholarship is given to a graduate student or recent graduate for exceptional leadership and the desire to become actively involved in the archives profession.

Blank is an archival studies project assistant for the School of Information Studies at UWM. She will graduate in December with a master's degree in library and information science and a second master's in history.

Blank was an intern at Marquette University’s Department of Special Collections and University Archives where she developed an arrangement for a complex collection of more than 75,000 photographic images. She is active in SAA's student chapter at UWM, having previously served as vice president and president.

"Her leadership within the student chapter has been valuable to professional archivists from throughout southeastern Wisconsin," one of her nominators wrote. "She has helped organize several enriching programs and workshops, attended not only by graduate students, but working professionals and support staff."

The Donald Peterson Student scholarship was established in 2005 to honor a New York lawyer and philatelist.

**Colonial Dames of America Scholarship**

Amy Moorman of the Archdiocese of St. Louis is the recipient of the 2008 Colonial Dames Scholarship, which gives new archivists the opportunity to attend the Modern Archives Institute at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C. She attended the winter institute, which is held in January.

Moorman is an assistant archivist for the archdiocese in St. Louis, Missouri, where she provides reference services to archives users and arrange and describes collections. The archives contains materials that predate 1826, when the Roman Catholic Church officially created the diocese of St. Louis. Moorman earned a master's degree in history from the University of New Hampshire and a bachelor's degree in American studies from Franklin Pierce College, also in New Hampshire.

The scholarship covers $1,200 of the total tuition, travel, and housing expenses associated with attending the Institute, which also has a summer session in June. To be eligible for this scholarship, individuals must be employed for less than two years as an archivist and work in an archives or manuscript collection in which a fair percentage of the repository's holdings predate 1825. The Colonial Dames of America (CDA), founded in 1890, is an international society of women whose direct ancestors held positions of leadership in the Thirteen Colonies. The award is funded by CDA's Chapter III in Washington, D.C.

**Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award**

Monique Lloyd and Tiffany-Kay Sangwand are the joint recipients of the 2008 Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award. The award recognizes minority graduate students who manifest an interest in becoming professional archivists and active members of SAA, and do so through scholastic achievement.

Lloyd is a graduate student in the School of Library and Information Management at Emporia State University in Portland, Oregon. She serves on committees for the American Indian Library Association and the National Conference of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums. Her article, “Diversity in Library Science: The Underrepresented Native American,” was published in Library Student Journal (February 2007).

Sangwand is a second-year student at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where she is enrolled in the Master of Library and Information Science program and the Latin American Studies program. She has worked on projects...
The Next Generation of Archivists

The next generation of archivists did it the traditional way—Poster 1.0—at ARCHIVES 2008. The graduate students who participated in this year’s Student Poster Presentations put fresh perspectives on display and a little sizzle in the Exhibit Hall. Sixteen SAA student chapters and their members created posters illustrating their archives projects and research activities and were on hand to share their forward-thinking ideas at the International Archives and Information Technology Expo.

1. Sarah Kim of the University of Texas-Austin with “Personal Digital Archives.”

2. Jennifer McElroy with her poster highlighting SAA’s student chapter at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

3. Jennifer Wasman, left, of New York University makes a point about her project on “The Old Problem of New Media: Archivist in the Laboratory.”

4. Julia Wong of the University of Wisconsin at Madison next to her work, “A Century of History: Randall School and its Archives.”

5. Five members of SAA’s student chapter at the University of Texas at Austin with “Rio Grande Valley Trip.” From left, standing: Simon Staats (treasurer), and Caitlin Bumford (vice president). From left, seated: Jessica Sanders, Laurel Rozema (Web master), and Shannon Keith (secretary). Not pictured is Fiona de Young, chapter president.

www.archivists.org
6. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is represented by Paol Gujilde, left, and Noah Lenstra with “At Home and on the Road.”

7. Cassie McClure of New Mexico State University, left, talks about “Patterning in Disciplines: How to Relate to Mathematics in an Archival Collection.”

8. Rebecca Welzenbach of the University of Michigan, right, explains what she did to create “A More Perfect Union: Illinois’ Virtual and Physical Lincoln Archives.”

9. Andrea Medina-Smith of Simmons College shows what its student chapter did with “Archival Outreach: Simmons College and the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra Project.”

10. Sam Meister of San Jose State University, left, listens to a visitor comment on his work “Electronic Records: Case Study at Small Nonprofit Arts Organization.”

11. Parker Kuncl of the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California, with “Archives Don’t Last, Unless They Are Made Out of Twinkies: Introducing the Concept of Play to the Practice of Archiving.”
12. Candice Buchanan of Duquesne University with her work on "Greene Connections: Greene County, Pennsylvania, Photo Archives Project."

13. Lisa Hooper created this work with classmate Sarah Patterson of Indiana University. The poster shows how the team developed classroom activities for grade school students and outreach projects for senior citizens.

14. Allison Krebs of the University of Arizona, at right, explains what she did for "American Indian Records Repository: Linking Arms or Burying Evidence?"

15. Audra Eagle, at left, and Amelia Acker of the University of California at Los Angeles with "Processing in the Off-Hours: Reflections of Archivists-in-Training."

16. Carolyn Schubert of San Jose State University with "San Francisco Public Library LGBTQI Everyday Life Photo Project."
Council Adopts Selection Criteria for Minority Student Scholarships, Creates Government Affairs Working Group

Convening twice at ARCHIVES 2008, the SAA Council approved actions that will enhance the Society’s efforts to diversify the profession, ensure ongoing discussion of cultural property issues, and broaden member involvement in tasks ranging from developing a government affairs agenda to managing SAA’s investments.

At a full-day meeting on August 25 Executive Committee member Carla Summers reported that the Committee had taken several actions on behalf of the Council since its last meeting in late May, including:

- Approved a letter from SAA President Mark Greene commenting on a draft “Strategic Direction 2008-2018” document for the International Council on Archives.

- Approved a Greene letter to the Iraq Memory Foundation in response to that group’s correspondence regarding the Association of Canadian Archivists/SAA joint statement on Iraqi records. The statement was issued via the SAA and ACA websites and email lists on April 22. (See www.archivists.org/statements/IraqiRecords.asp.)

- Following a recommendation from SAA’s Intellectual Property Working Group, agreed to support the Association of Recorded Sound Collections’ effort to insert an amendment into Orphan Works legislation to commission a study on the status of pre-1972 sound recordings.

- Agreed to sign on to an American Association of Law Libraries letter to the Government Accountability Office raising substantive concerns about an exclusive agreement with Thomson West to digitize the GAO’s legislative histories.

- Reviewed the year-end FY08 financial results and discussed the net loss caused by loss on investments.

The Council took the following actions:

- Adopted selection criteria and a process for awarding two $5,000 minority student scholarships per year (budget permitting), and referred to the Foundation Board of Directors for further consideration the establishment of an endowment to fund the scholarships on an ongoing basis.

- Created a Government Affairs Working Group that will draft an advocacy agenda for Council approval and provide ongoing advocacy support to the Council and SAA office.

- Created a three-person task force to examine the feasibility of developing a values statement for the archives profession, with a report to the Council in May 2009.

- Created an Investments Committee whose charge is to review and recommend revisions to SAA’s investment policy and explore options for reinvestment.

- Directed that a Forum on “Protocols for Native American Archival Materials” be held in conjunction with the 2009,
At NARA, Bringing the Past into the Digital Age

Fortuitously, the technology for preserving electronic records is beginning to catch up with the technology for creating them. New technologies and new partnerships are helping the National Archives ensure that the past is not left behind.

The Electronic Records Archives (ERA), which the National Archives is building to preserve the federal government’s increasingly vast output of electronic records, is now open for business.

This summer NARA began moving about 3.5 million computer files to ERA. This fall ERA is accepting records from four federal agencies (the Patent and Trademark Office, the Naval Oceanographic Office, the National Nuclear Security Administration, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics).

ERA’s official launch in June was the latest step in a project whose origins go back to 1970, when NARA first took in electronic records in the form of simple (by today’s standards) data files. The agency continued to monitor the growth of electronic records, and in 2000 the ERA program was created.

Several years ago, together with Lockheed Martin, NARA created a process for preserving electronic records, ensuring their authenticity, and continuing to provide public access to them, in an environment of rapidly changing technology.

The next step for ERA is the deployment of the EOP System, focused on taking in the records of the Executive Office of the President when President Bush leaves office in January 2009.

The EOP System will allow ERA to take in these records and search them more rapidly, while continuing to lay a solid foundation for the subsequent steps in bringing ERA to full capability. This new increment will add staff from the future George W. Bush Presidential Library to the list of users of the ERA system.

First public access via the Internet is currently projected for 2010, with full operating capability projected for 2011. Eventually, all electronic records will be available online—accessible anywhere, at anytime, by anyone. But in preserving today’s and tomorrow’s electronic records, we cannot leave behind the past that is recorded on billions of pieces of paper in our facilities all over the country.

This is where our digitizing projects and partnerships come in.

To date, we have signed nonexclusive agreements with three nongovernmental parties to digitize important records in our holdings: iArchives (Footnote.com), the Genealogical Society of Utah, and the Generations Network, the parent company of Ancestry.com.

Under these agreements, partners pay all costs pertaining to the digitization of mutually agreed-upon records. In return, partners will make the digitized images and indexes available through subscription or at no cost in NARA’s research rooms. After a five-year period, there will be no restrictions on NARA’s use of the images created by the partners, including the right to post them on our website.

To date, Footnote has digitized more than 40 million pages of records from microfilm and made them available on its website. These include investigative case files of the FBI from 1908 to 1922, a collection of Mathew Brady’s Civil War photographs, and papers of the Continental Congress from 1774 to 1789.

The Genealogical Society of Utah will digitize case files of approved pension applications from Union soldiers in the Civil War. In a pilot project, they will make available more than 3,000 of the files, then later digitize more than a million files of Civil War-period widows.

These partners are currently working with the National Archives to digitize and index some of the most frequently consulted records in our holdings. These include photographs of U.S. Army operations in Vietnam (approximately 11,500 items), death reports of American citizens abroad, 1835–1974 (approximately 800,000 pages), photographs by the U.S. Army Air Corps from World War II (approximately 50,000 images), and passenger arrival lists from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (approximately 400,000 pages).

The partners are also working with NARA staff to digitize most of our microfilm publications: to date, more than 30 million images are available online. Through these partnerships, we will provide extensive access to millions of pages of textual documents, still pictures, and motion films that up to now have been available only in our research rooms.

In addition, NARA’s preservation staff has undertaken its own digitizing projects for items that we believe are too fragile, valuable, or complex to turn over to our partners or contractors for digitizing.

Even as we prepare for the records of days to come, we help assure that the past is not left behind. Remember: in the history of the American experience, we find the essential lessons for the future and the concrete wisdom of past generations. The work continues . . . ▼
Federal Court Orders VP Cheney to Preserve Records

On September 20, 2008, U.S. District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly ordered the office of Vice President Dick Cheney to preserve all records related to his office and the performance of his duties. The order came as a result of a lawsuit filed by Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW), together with the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, the Society of American Archivists, the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, and historians Stanley Kutler and Martin Sherwin.

On September 8, CREW filed a complaint against Vice President Cheney, the Office of the Vice President (OVP), the Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein, and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). The petitioners argued that without judicial intervention on January 20, 2009, a vast majority of Vice President Cheney’s records will not be transferred to NARA, as required by the Presidential Records Act (PRA), for eventual release to the public, but instead will remain under the vice president’s custody and control. The plaintiffs sought an order mandating preservation of all of the vice president’s records pending the outcome of the lawsuit.

In granting the preliminary injunction, Judge Kollar-Kotelly’s opinion validates the plaintiffs’ concerns that “Those unprotected documents could be transferred to other entities, destroyed or not preserved, and if any of these events occur, the damage is inherently irreversible; once documentary material is gone, it cannot be retrieved.”

Judge Kollar-Kotelly also felt the order was necessary because it appeared the defendants in the case—the Office of the Vice President and the National Archives—were trying to narrowly define the scope of the records that should be covered by the PRA and to avoid specifying how the records would be transferred to the Archives. She stated, “As such, if Defendants’ interpretation is not correct as a matter of law, there is no question that documents that may be entitled to PRA protection will not receive the statute’s protection.”

The vice president’s office stated it would not comment on the opinion since the matter was still in litigation. It is not clear as yet if the government will appeal the judge’s ruling.

In Executive Order (EO) 13233 issued in 2001, President Bush declared that the PRA applied only to the “executive records” of the vice president. However, neither the PRA nor NARA’s implementing regulations ever reference “executive records”; rather they refer to records created or received by the president and vice president and their staff “in the course of conducting activities which relate to or have an effect upon the carrying out of their[ir] constitutional, statutory, or other official or ceremonial duties.”

Since issuing the EO, the vice president and OVP have maintained that they are not part of the executive branch, and it is such claims that precipitated the lawsuit.

For example, since at least January 2004, the OVP has refused to comply with provisions of the Ethics Reform Act of 1989 requiring executive agencies to file semi-annual reports of payments accepted from non-federal sources, based on claims that OVP is not an agency in the executive branch. On June 26, 2008, VP Chief of Staff David Addington testified before the House Judiciary Committee that the vice president belongs to neither branch but is attached by the Constitution to Congress.

Archivists and Historians Force Release of Rosenberg Grand Jury Records

On September 11, 2008, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) opened formerly secret Grand Jury testimony transcripts from the trial of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg more than fifty years after they were indicted on espionage charges, convicted, and executed. The release of the previously secret transcripts resulted from a successful lawsuit filed by the National Security Archive at George Washington University, the American Historical Association, the American Society for Legal History, the Organization of American Historians, the Society of American Archivists, and *New York Times* reporter Sam Roberts almost eight months ago.

NARA released 940 pages of transcripts from 41 of 45 witnesses’ appearances before the Rosenberg grand jury between August 1950 and March 1951. Testimony of three witnesses: David Greenglass, Max Elichter, and William Danziger, has been withheld due to objections by the witnesses.

In July, Judge Alvin K. Hellerstein of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York said that the government must release most of the sealed grand jury records from the Rosenberg trials. The federal government conceded in a June filing that the Rosenberg case is of “significant historical importance” and said it would not contest the release of testimony of witnesses who have passed away or consented to the disclosure.

The documents include the grand jury testimony of Ethel Rosenberg’s sister-in-law, Ruth Greenglass, in which she describes writing in her own longhand the information her husband obtained at the Los Alamos nuclear installation, for passing on to Julius Rosenberg and the Soviet Union. Records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation show that ten days before the trial against the Rosenbergs commenced, Ruth and David Greenglass for the first time mentioned that Ethel Rosenberg had typed those notes. At trial, Ruth and David Greenglass testified that Ethel Rosenberg had typed up the information
Documents Detailing Early Spy Network Released

Famed chef Julia Child shared a secret with Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg and Chicago White Sox catcher Moe Berg at a time when the Nazis threatened the world. They served in an international spy ring managed by the Office of Strategic Services, an early version of the CIA created in World War II by President Franklin Roosevelt.

The secret came out August 14, all of the names and previously classified files identifying nearly 24,000 spies who formed the first centralized intelligence effort by the United States. The National Archives, which released a list of the names found in the records, will make available for the first time all 750,000 pages identifying the vast spy network of military and civilian operatives.

They were soldiers, actors, historians, lawyers, athletes, professors, reporters. But for several years during World War II, they were known simply as the OSS. They studied military plans, created propaganda, infiltrated enemy ranks and stirred resistance among foreign troops. The release of the OSS personnel files uncoils one of the last secrets from the short-lived wartime intelligence agency, which for the most part was folded into the CIA after President Truman disbanded it in 1945.

The CIA had resisted releasing OSS records for decades. But former CIA Director William Casey, himself an OSS veteran, cleared the way for transfer of millions of OSS documents to the National Archives when he took over the agency in 1981. The personnel files are the latest to be made public. Information about OSS involvement was so guarded that relatives often couldn’t confirm a family member’s work with the group. For more information, see the Index to National Archives OSS personnel files at http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/

— the Associated Press

Old Dominion Opens Digital Collection on School Desegregation

The Old Dominion University Libraries in Norfolk, Virginia, have established a new digital collection, “School Desegregation in Norfolk, Virginia.” In 1954, massive resistance to school desegregation shut down six of Norfolk’s public schools after the Supreme Court’s ruling in the Brown v. Board of Education case.

Primary source materials from the university’s Special Collections document the activities of several prominent citizens in their efforts to reopen the public schools. Highlights of these materials are now available digitally at http://www.lib.odu.edu/special/schooldesegregation. The collection provides access to nearly 3,000 pages of primary source documents that includes correspondence, news articles, reports, speeches and legal papers. Oral history interviews with some of the major figures of the time, including Vivian Carter-Mason, Ruth James and ODU Professor Robert Stern, are also included.

Southern Ute Tribe Museum to Be Built in Colorado

Members of the Southern Ute Tribal Council broke ground August 22, 2008, in Ignacio, Colorado, at the future site of the new Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum (above). The 53,000-square-foot facility will cost $35 million to build and is scheduled to open in 2010. According to the August 29 issue of the Southern Ute Drum, the museum will be the only tribal center in Colorado and is designed "to retain what remains of the Ute culture and recapture what has been lost for future generations." The new museum will house more than 1,000 artifacts and include recaptured artifacts that now belong to other collections. It will be located on the Southern Ute Reservation, which covers 310,000 acres in southwest Colorado.

IMLS Awards Grants for African American History and Culture

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has awarded more than $827,000 to eight institutions as part of its Museum Grants for African American History and Culture program. Recipients include: Spady Cultural Heritage Museum, Delray Beach, Florida; John Gilmore Riley Center and Museum for African American History, Tallahassee, Florida; Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida; Savannah State University, Savannah, Georgia; River Road African American Museum, Donaldsonville, Louisiana; Museum of Contemporary African Diasporian Arts, Brooklyn, New York; Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York; and the Harrison Museum of African American Culture, Roanoke, Virginia. Grants are available to organizations that focus on African American life, art, history, or culture and support professional training, technical assistance, and internships. The next deadline for 2009 grants is January 15, 2009. Go to: www.imls.gov/applicants/grants/AfricanAmerican.shtm.
Texas Revolution Documents Will be Returned to State Archives

Two documents related to the Texas Revolution and the Battle of the Alamo are on their way back to the Texas State Archives collection after a judge in Southeast Texas ruled that they belong to the people of Texas and not to the estate of a prominent Beaumont-area family. After a trial in mid-July, Judge Ronald L. Walker in Jefferson County said that even though he ruled in favor of returning the documents to the state, he thinks former state archivists should have been more rigorous decades ago in protecting historical materials.

Legal struggles over the documents began in May 2004 when a staff member of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission in Austin noticed the names “Bowie” and “Fannin” on a list of items ready for sale by Sotheby’s auction house in New York. One document was a handwritten letter by Texas Revolution heroes James Bowie and James Fannin to Stephen F. Austin. Dated October 29, 1835, it related details of the Battle of Concepción a day after it occurred. The second document was one of 200 “broadsides,” or posters, that were printed February 28, 1836, and distributed among early Texas settlers urging them to join the revolutionary army.

“Any time we see government-type records up for auction, we check our inventory,” State Archivist Christopher LaPlante said. On its website, the state lists 842 archive documents as missing. “We contacted Sotheby’s, they contacted the executors of the (Irma Lou Wilcox) estate that owned the documents, and the executors agreed to have Sotheby’s pull the documents off the auction and let us look at them.”

In October 2004, LaPlante went to Beaumont and studied the yellowed papers, one contained in a box and the other in a plastic sleeve. LaPlante said broadsides that were part of the same printing that produced the broadside owned by the Wilcox estate had marks on the back by the printing company. He said the printer’s mark on the Wilcox broadside had been removed.

“It was obvious portions of the (Wilcox) document had been cut out and there was a large patch placed on the back of the document to cover the holes,” LaPlante said. He says he believes the cuts were an attempt to obscure the marks to make the broadside more difficult to track. Evidence that the letter and the broadside belonged to the state archives came from early records and inventories compiled in the late 1800s, he said. Copies of state records were faxed to Sotheby’s.

Exactly how the documents ended up with the Wilcoxes remains a mystery. Records indicate that at some point after 1909, the letter and the broadside were improperly taken from the archives.

—Austin-American Statesman

continued on page 28
Sporting News’ History Heads East

With Sporting News closing its final St. Louis-based issue in July and moving operations to Charlotte, North Carolina, what’s believed to be the largest collection of baseball information outside of Cooperstown has left. For 22 years, Steve Gietschier organized, cataloged, and played host for the Sporting News Research Center. The archives held books, photos and clippings from all sports, but its wealth of baseball history reflects the publication once known as “The Bible of Baseball.”

The Sporting News was bought by Charlotte-based American City Business Journals two years ago. In 1986, Sporting News celebrated its centennial and Gietschier, a historian by trade, arrived as the first archivist. He dove into a chaotic wave of baseball flotsam and sports jetsam. Every day was Christmas, right down to the "some assembly required."

Outside the office Gietschier left for the last time in July, there were rows of white boxes, holding enough history for a baseball nut to bathe in. "The beauty of this place is that it was a treasure trove of information," Gietschier said. "People in my business, in (the media) business, could come here and get answers. But so could everyone. We were happy to open the archives to the outside world."

—St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Rare Recordings of Boston Symphony Orchestra Restored

The Boston Symphony Orchestra has finished a six-month project to restore a group of audio tapes taken from concerts between 1951 and 1959. You can’t buy or download any of the music taken from the 229 reel-to-reel tapes of the BSO and the Boston Pops recordings of off-radio broadcasts by amateur audio engineer Robert Waddell. To listen, you’ll have to call and make arrangements with Bridget Carr, the BSO’s archivist.

“The recordings are great,” Carr says. “It’s one of about five or six collections we have that document a time when there wasn’t an official radio broadcast archive, so they’re treasures for us. We chose this collection because it was recorded so well, but we’ll be seeking funding to preserve and reformat the others in the future.”

The recordings were found by a couple in Fremont, New Hampshire, who bought Waddell’s house in 1996. Two years later, they donated the collection to the BSO. Why do they matter so much? Because a 1961 fire at WGBH destroyed most of the broadcasts made over the previous decade.

The Waddell tapes captured 125 selected BSO concerts led by Charles Munch. There’s also Leonard Bernstein conducting and performing the Mozart concerto on March 1, 1952, and a recording of WGBH’s first radio broadcast on October 6, 1951. The Grammy Foundation provided funding for the project.

—Boston.com

Arizona State Museum Wins Outstanding Commitment Award

The Arizona State Museum has been selected to receive the 2008 Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections by the Heritage Preservation and the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works. The Arizona State Museum [ASM] is the oldest and largest anthropology museum in the Southwest. The museum’s Preservation Division is responsible for the care and preservation of a world-renowned collection of artifacts from indigenous peoples of the American Southwest and northern Mexico.

Nominations are invited for the 2009 Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections; deadline is December 15, 2008. For additional information, see www.heritagepreservation.org/awards/aic.htm

—Heritage Preservation

Heritage Preservation Task Force Takes Damage Reports

The Heritage Emergency National Task Force at the National Institute for Conservation provides resources to help archives, libraries, historic sites, and museums cope with damage from disasters. You can submit damage reports and find contact information for state agencies at the task force’s Hurricanes and Tropical Storms 2008 web page at: http://www.heritagepreservation.org/PROGRAMS/TFcurrent.html.
**International Tracing Service Digitizes Nazi Labor Camp Records**

In August 2008, the International Tracing Service (ITS) in Bad Arolsen, Germany, announced that it had completed digitizing 6.7 million documents relating to Nazi slave labor programs. Copies of the digitized records will be sent to the U.S. Holocaust Museum, the Yad Vashem Memorial in Jerusalem, and the Institute of National Remembrance in Warsaw. The records concern about 12 million people used as slave laborers during World War II. They include employment records, patient files, insurance documents, and registry cards. The International Tracing Service serves victims of Nazi persecutions and their families by maintaining and providing access to an archive of 26,000 meters of various types of Nazi-era records. In June 2008 ITS made the forced labor records available to a group of fifteen scholars from several countries who surveyed the file content for two weeks.

**International Research Collaboration Produces Second Book**

An electronic version of the International Research on Permanent Authentic records in Electronic Systems (InterPARES) 2 Project book is now available on the IP2 website. Founded in the late 1990s, InterPARES is an international archival research collaboration dedicated to addressing the problems of preserving trustworthy digital records for future use. The book contains eight reports by IP2 task forces on issues of records creation and maintenance; authenticity, reliability and accuracy of digital records; methods of appraisal and preservation; and structuring relationships between records creators and preservers, among other topics. Case studies are also included. The project is headed by Dr. Luciana Duranti of the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia. To access the InterPARES 2 book go to: www.interpares.org/ip2/book.cfm.

**United Nations Holds Conference on Human Rights**

The United Nations’ Department of Information and Non-Governmental Organization representatives held its 61st Conference in Paris in early September. The conference theme was “Reaffirming Human Rights for All: The Universal Declaration at 60.” The conference brought together more than 2,000 representatives and other civil society partners from around the world to address human rights, in particular how to promote the implementation of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. It is the first universal statement setting out the basic principles of the rights and fundamental freedoms that all people in every nation are entitled to have. Speakers included UNESCO Director General Koichiro Matsuura, French Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Human Rights Rama Yade, former French Minister of State Simone Veil, and Bacre Ndiaye of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon addressed the conference via a video message.

**Japan Releases Excerpts of General Tojo’s Diary**

In August 2008 the National Archives of Japan released excerpts from about 20 pages of a diary kept by General Hideki Tojo, military leader and prime minister of Japan during World War II. The excerpts show Tojo to be determined to continue the fight even after the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He criticized the proponents of surrendering to the U.S. as being frightened by the new type of bomb and fearful of the Soviet Union’s entry into the war. Once Emperor Hirohito decided on surrender, Tojo refrained from urging a continuation of military activity. He presaged his unsuccessful suicide attempt in September 1945 in his diary by writing “I am determined to offer an apology [for the deaths of thousands and thousands of Japanese soldiers and civilians] with my death.” He was executed in 1948.

The National Archives of Japan held the first Japan Conference in Celebration of International Archives Day on June 9, 2008, in Tokyo. Nearly 150 people attended the conference to commemorate the founding of the International Council on Archives in 1948. The purpose of the conference was to draw attention to the archival situation in Japan and to advance discussion of the future of Japanese archives. Conference participants swore to do their best to develop archival culture in Japan and further contribute to development of archives around the world. ✯
**Disaster Recovery Fund for Archives Expands Its Scope**

In September 2005, the Society of Southwest Archivists (SSA) and SAA created the SSA-SAA Emergency Disaster Assistance Grant Fund—a fund established to address the stabilization and recovery needs of archival repositories that were directly affected by Hurricane Katrina. The following October, the fund was expanded to include repositories affected by Hurricane Rita. Both SSA and SAA (along with the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference) provided $5,000 in “seed” money to establish the fund.

Working together, SSA and SAA along with the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference have expanded the original scope of the fund to provide grants that support the recovery of archival collections from major disasters, regardless of region or repository type. Any repository that holds archival records or special collections is eligible to apply for a grant from the National Disaster Recovery Fund for Archives. The repository need not be a member of SSA or SAA. Grant monies may be used for the direct recovery of damaged or at-risk archival materials; services such as freeze drying, storage, transportation of materials, and rental facilities; supplies, including acid-free boxes and folders, storage cartons, cleaning materials, plastic milk crates, and protective gear; and to defray the costs for volunteers or other laborers who assist with the recovery.

For more details on how to apply for assistance, or to donate to the fund, go to [www.archivists.org](http://www.archivists.org).

**New Roundtable Holds Inaugural Meeting; Elects Officers**

SAA's new Latin American and Caribbean Cultural Heritage Archives Roundtable (LACCHA) held its first meeting August 27, 2008, during ARCHIVES 2008 in San Francisco. More than 30 people attended the inaugural meeting, electing Marisol Ramos (University of Connecticut) as senior co-chair and Susan Lugo (U.S. Virgin Islands) co-chair.

“Our first meeting was full of energy and great ideas that we hope will translate into a panel or two for next year’s meeting in Austin,” says Ramos. “We want to work on creating collaborative relationships with other SAA roundtables, such as the Archives and Archivists of Color, and the International Affairs Roundtable. We also hope to establish contact with the Seminar for the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials organization.”

**SAA Publishes Books on Legal Issues and Congressional Collections**

*Navigating Legal Issues in Archives* by Menzi Behrnd-Klodt introduces and examines a variety of legal issues in the administration and management of collections. In *Managing Congressional Collections*, Cynthia Pease Miller addresses best practices for managing these unwieldy collections—from soliciting materials and working with a Congress member’s office through detailed processing guidelines to planning effective outreach activities. Both books were published by SAA in August and can be purchased at [www.archivists.org/catalog](http://www.archivists.org/catalog).

**Call for Comments for Draft Statement on Access**

The American Library Association (ALA) and SAA’s Joint Task Force on Access has posted its draft document on SAA’s website and is seeking comments and suggestions from members of the archives community. The document will be open for comment for 60 days. Send your comments to access-tf@forums.archivists.org and indicate the section, subsection, and page number regarding your suggestions. A final draft is expected to be forwarded to the ALA and SAA governing bodies for review in early 2009.

The ALA/SAA Joint Task Force on Access is charged with reviewing, updating, and revising the 1994 ALA/SAA Joint Statement on Access to Original Research Materials. The goal is to prepare a statement that addresses as comprehensively as possible the issues and policies related to researcher access to archives and manuscripts collections (commonly referred to as manuscript collections, special collections, and archives). The current draft builds on a preliminary revision of the statement by an ALA/RBMS task force. The members of the Access Task Force believe that the need for substantive changes in the ALA/RBMS version are minimal, and the edits shown are based primarily on feedback received from members of SAA.

Task Force Members include: ALA representatives Elaine Barone, Buffalo & Erie County Public Library; Timothy Murray, co-chair, University of Delaware; Diane Windham Shaw, Lafayette College; and SAA representatives Joe Anderson, co-chair, American Institute of Physics; Pat Michaelis, Kansas State Historical Society; and Donna Webber, Simmons College.
American Archives Month 2008
Picture This! Contest Winners

“Celebrating the American Record” is the 2008 theme for American Archives Month (held in October) and SAA recently held a “Picture This!” Contest for the best idea, best campaign, and best poster that promotes public awareness about the profession. The judges announced their selections on August 29, 2008, during SAA’s Annual Meeting in San Francisco and $250 prizes were awarded to the following winners.

Best “Successfully Implemented Campaign”: Indiana University Libraries
Each year since 2006, Indiana University Libraries has chosen a theme for its Archives Month program that reflects an area of strength in the libraries’ archives holdings. The libraries build a program of lectures, forums, performances, or exhibits that highlights the theme and the collections for each year. The judges admired Indiana University’s strong definition of its campus and community audiences, the creative program ideas, and the sustainability of the Archives Month program from year to year.

Best “Astonishing Idea” for Archives Month:
American Heritage Center—University of Wyoming
AHC proposes bus tours of local or regional archives for senior citizens during Archives Month. Selecting an audience that takes advantage of bus tours for leisure, entertainment, and education, AHC recommends this idea as a way to introduce people to archives and to raise awareness of archives among the public. It suggests that with enough advance planning and outreach, tours could take senior citizens from a retirement or community center to different archives in a local area. At the archives, the seniors could get a behind-the-scenes look at how an archives operates, hear lectures about specific collections, see exhibits, enjoy time to examine collections, and even have a reception with refreshments. The judges liked this idea and agreed that it clearly defined an audience and provided a viable way to build awareness of archives and appreciation of the value of historical records.

Best Poster for American Archives Month:
University of New Mexico—Health Sciences Library and Informatics Center
The Health Sciences Library and Informatics Center participates in New Mexico’s statewide Archives Month program. For 2008, it developed a program based on a collection of historical images it owns. The poster that announces the exhibit has an excellent design, in the judges’ views. They also concluded that the poster communicates a clear message about an Archives Month program. The Health Sciences Library also worked out a solid plan for distributing the poster to a well-conceived campus audience. The library will use elements of the poster design in flyers and bookmarks as well.

While selecting the Health Sciences Library and Informatics Center as the Best Poster winner, the judges also commended the Idaho State Historical Society’s entry for its eye-catching images and excellent distribution plan, and the Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists’ poster for its outreach to school-age children.
ED GALLOWAY was recently promoted to head of the Archives Service Center for the University of Pittsburgh’s University Library System. Galloway spent the previous eight years as the coordinator of the Digital Research Library. He will now oversee both departments.

JOHN HAMILTON was recently appointed director of Congressional Affairs for the National Archives and Records Administration. For the last 12 years, Hamilton has led federal relations efforts for the University of California (UC) in Washington, D.C.

KERI KOEHLER is now the collections manager in the Cultural Resources and Museum Management Division at the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park. She previously worked as the archives manager for Wells Fargo. Koehler served as the chair of the ARCHIVES 2008 Host Committee.

JESSICA LACHER-FELDMAN has been named curator of Rare Books and Special Collections at the W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

ERICA OLSEN has completed a four-week summer residency at the Center for Land Use Interpretation in Wendover, Utah. Her project involved mapping the intersections of archives, collective memory, and land use in the Wendover area. Olsen is the centennial projects manager at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

ANNE THOMASON is the new assistant archivist at Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana. She will work in the Society of Friends Collection and Archives. Thomason recently graduated from the University of Michigan with a master’s degree in library science and information.

Two New Books from SAA!

Managing Congressional Collections
Cynthia Pease Miller
Society of American Archivists (August 2008)
130 pp., Soft cover / Product Code: BOOKSAA-0535
Member price: $19.95 (List: $19.95)

Navigating Legal Issues in Archives
Menzi Behrnd-Klodt
Society of American Archivists (August 2008)
340 pp., Soft cover / Product Code: BOOKSAA-0530
Member price: $49.95 (List: $69.95)
Do you love being a member of SAA? Do your interactions with the Society—from its visionary leaders to its enthusiastic and helpful staff—make you want to renew your membership each year? I hope that your answer is "yes." I hope that you view SAA as a "member-centric" organization that delivers exceptional value.

Meeting member needs and providing value is not always as easy as it sounds. According to authors Jay Younger and Wes Trochlil, consistently exceeding expectations demands a balanced approach that includes: a service-oriented organizational culture; benchmarks for success; market research; state-of-the-art technology; and the ability to target programs to meet the needs and preferences of different members (Association Management, December 2004). Many associations succeed at a few of these goals. Few master them all. That is why computer scientists invented the upgrade.

One thing that I believe we do well here at SAA is listen to members. Two current developments reflect this ability to listen, understand where improvements are needed, and roll up our sleeves to make SAA the kind of association you love to be a part of.

Revised Policies on Roundtable Membership

In August 2007, the Council revised SAA’s policies on sections and roundtables. Included in the changes was a charge to staff to provide dedicated email discussion lists to every roundtable, to administer official roundtable rosters, and to begin tracking roundtable membership on the same model long used for SAA sections. Every SAA member may officially join up to two roundtables. Members and nonmembers alike may participate in an unlimited number of roundtable discussion lists.

At the 2008 Leadership Orientation and Forum in San Francisco, a number of roundtable leaders expressed concerns about a requirement that roundtables maintain 50 official members. Questions were also raised about how SAA members should designate their official roundtable memberships. The SAA Council intends to review the 50-member policy for roundtables. However, in the meantime, it is important for SAA members to formally designate their selected roundtables.

Like sections, roundtable membership is designated via the member application or dues renewal form. Members may review and confirm their active selections by logging in at www.archivists.org/login.asp, clicking "My SAA Profile," and choosing the menu option, "Active SAA Group Roles." If you need to designate your roundtable memberships, you may send an email to SAA staff at servicecenter@archivists.org.

SAA to Launch Open-Source Content Management System in 2009

For several years, there has been a keen and growing interest among SAA’s members in the deployment of a robust content management system (CMS) featuring state-of-the-art Web 2.0 applications—wikis, blogs, RSS feeds, etc.

In Fall 2007, the SAA Council charged a Website Working Group (WWG) to “investigate, evaluate, and recommend strategies for the effective management of online content created and/or maintained by the Society." The working group’s May 2008 Council report presented a set of draft specifications. The August 2008 report identified three preferred CMS systems. SAA staff subsequently presented a recommendation (which was approved) to select one of these systems—Drupal—as SAA’s new Web development platform. (To read the WWG’s complete August report, visit: www.archivists.org/governance/taskforces/WWG-FinalReport-Aug08.pdf.)

Highly regarded for balancing power with ease of use, Drupal is an open-source system. Although there are other CMS solutions that match or even exceed Drupal in terms of technical capability, Drupal is a very attractive proposition for several reasons. It provides built-in wiki, blogging, and file distribution functionality; a taxonomy system to classify content; functions for content approval, versioning, and audit trails; and the ability to host multiple sites through one software deployment. It also uses the so-called “LAMP” framework (i.e., Linux, Apache, MySQL, PHP), a popular open-source development configuration that should enable SAA to be more responsive to future Web needs and trends.

Drupal will not replace SAA’s existing member database or the dynamic Web pages that it publishes (e.g., the online membership directory, section and roundtable rosters, etc.). Rather, it will provide essential new tools for online collaboration between group leaders and members. The next steps in this important project are to develop a project plan, to issue a request for proposals and hire a contract Drupal site developer, and to launch the new CMS in advance of SAA’s 2009 Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas.

These efforts are part of continuing work in progress. No upgrade is ever the last one. Unanticipated challenges may require a patch or two. Along the way, your feedback helps us make adjustments and sustain SAA as a “member-centric” organization focused on understanding and delivering value as you see it.
Guideline #2: Cost Considerations

Before simply deciding that everything will be entered into a system for future use, there are cost considerations. This leads to my second guideline: The information entered must be justified by the cost of inputting the data. Think “Less is more.” It is easy to get carried away when developing a schema. What started with the creator, title, and description fields suddenly becomes a list of ten to fifteen fields. While many of them can be justified for descriptive purposes, each one must be scrutinized by its cost. Is the information readily available, or does it need to be researched? Even if the information is readily available and takes five seconds to input into the system, it is important to think of that field in terms of its cost. Five seconds is not a long time, but five seconds for each entry multiplied by thousands of entries can add up quickly! If the field is not needed for description, collocation, or retrieval, it should be carefully scrutinized.

This is one of my current concerns about Dublin Core. I’ve been a big fan of the metadata schema since I learned it in 2004. Since then, Dublin Core has gone from a flexible schema of fifteen terms to one with a number of qualifiers. Although these terms help describe an item in greater detail, the simple availability of the qualifiers often leads to the addition of fields when developing a schema. These terms are usually looked at or included for no better reason than that they are available.

Guideline #3: Exploit Your Project

The third guideline is still in development: Exploit your project before moving onto another. This is also known as: “Sometimes the old ways are the best.” I learned about digital collections when they were still considered something new, and have been glad to see them mature into a staple of many archives. Furthermore, I have taken heart in reading the current debates about new technologies, such as wikis and Second Life. Digital projects can be a great way to reach new users, but they are also expensive and time consuming. Before using more resources, take the time to investigate what’s already out there and find out how these digital collections that are already up and running can be further exploited.

Digital Publishing

I have a great interest in seeing the advancement of digital publishing in archives. Many institutions are concerned about maintaining control of the digital assets that make available to the public. However, finding aids are often overlooked. Next to the actual collections, the finding aids are the most valuable asset an archives has. Many institutions are currently using Encoded Archival Description (EAD) or the web to disseminate their finding aids. For those that do not, they most likely use a word processor. Archivists come and go, but finding aids help users get to what matters—the collections themselves.

Better yet, they are the one digital asset that an archives should be happy to have passed around!

Archives can use different methods of electronic publishing, such as e-books of their finding aids, or push unused collections into the spotlight on the front page of their website. Archives also should pursue digital publishing for a number of reasons. Here’s why.

For as many people out there who think Gen X-ers are good with computers, I’ll let you in on a secret: I have friends who hate getting online. Their preference is to download an e-book to their desktop rather than going online, finding the website, and then figuring out where to find the information. Furthermore, it requires access to a computer. An e-book of the finding aid provides greater options for an archives. In addition to electronic availability, an archives also could make print copies available for a fee and then mail out as needed. No more pre-ordering a large number of hard copies only to have them sit in the back room taking up valuable space. Finally, by disseminating the finding aids, you are also protecting vital records.

A Digital World

Keeping up with trends, standards, and the migration of data can be a headache, and especially expensive. However, if done correctly, digital projects allow an archives to control digital assets that can be recycled in numerous ways, often at minimal cost. While I find Web 2.0 technologies exciting, useful, and something to be embraced rather than ignored, it is also important not to let valuable resources fall short of their full potential. With the scarce resources that many archives have, it doesn’t make sense to ignore the equivalent of a hidden collection, even if such electronic records are the by-product of an archive’s normal workflow.
topics and in many locations, serving the needs of more than 1,400 attendees. Locations included Loma Linda, California; Denver and Fort Collins, Colorado; Provo, Utah; Tucson; Columbia, Missouri; Minneapolis; New Orleans; Hattiesburg, Mississippi; Atlanta; Baltimore; Haverford, Pennsylvania; and New Haven, Connecticut. Education Director Solveig De Sutter made liberal use of our enhanced list serve capabilities, and of the bi-weekly Online News, to notify members of workshops in their vicinity as well as of SAA's entire education calendar.

Two live web seminars—"A Beginner’s Guide to Metadata" and "A Guide to Privacy and Health Information"—delivered important information to 395 participants at 68 sites nationwide, and archivists have also taken advantage of the two online, on-demand seminars on "Preservation Options of PDF" and "Thinking Digital: A Practical Session to Get You Started."

And we spent time preparing for two offerings, in July and August, of the very popular Electronic Records Summer Camp, held in conjunction with the San Diego Supercomputer Center, the National Archives and Records Administration, and the University of Maryland. These limited-enrollment, 5-day, hands-on, intensive programs address directly SAA's strategic priority to ensure that "Archivists have a variety of educational opportunities to acquire and improve electronic records-related competencies at the introductory, advanced, and continuing education levels."

Development of new offerings continued, as we secured 20 new program co-sponsors and offered 10 new program topics. Solveig would now remind me to be sure to let you know that if you would like to host or co-sponsor a workshop, please contact her at SAA Headquarters.

On the Advocacy front:

Once again the Bush Administration zeroed out the National Historical Publications and Records Commission in its draft budget, and once again SAA—together with a broad coalition of archives and history groups—went to work to influence Congress’s deliberations. Both the House and the Senate Appropriations Committees have come forward with funding at $10 million for NHPRC, so we’re keeping our fingers crossed as we await resolution of the federal budget.

We continued to work with our partners, the Council of State Archivists and the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators, to build and implement an advocacy plan for the Preserving the American Historical Record Act, a state-based formula grant program that would devote $50 million annually to the preservation of state and local government records. PAHR was introduced in the House on May 14 by
Representatives Maurice Hinchey of New York and Chris Cannon of Utah. We have 25 co-sponsors for the bill, but need a lot more and hope that you will communicate with your members of Congress about the importance of the PAHR legislation and ask them to sign on to the legislation. The Senate is the next step.

In May SAA provided testimony, given by former Maine State Archivist Jim Henderson, at an oversight hearing for NARA and the NHPRC.

SAA continued to weigh in on Executive Order 13233, which gives former presidents and their heirs the right to keep White House papers secret in perpetuity. HR 1255, which would rescind the EO, passed in the House on March 14 on a vote of 333 in favor and 93 opposed. Unfortunately, similar legislation in the Senate is on personal hold by Senator Jeff Sessions of Alabama. If you’re a constituent of Senator Sessions, please contact him to urge that he lift his hold.

Mark Greene rallied member support for the National Endowment for the Humanities as that agency faced a 45% reduction in funding for its Division of Preservation and Access, the division from which most archival grants derive. We anxiously await further action based on resolution and adoption of the federal budget.

Throughout the year, SAA was involved in communication about the state of the Iraq National Library and its holdings, and in June, working with the Association of Canadian Archivists, we issued a joint statement expressing our concern about the whereabouts, current custody, and ultimate fate of records captured or otherwise obtained by the U.S., and those removed by private parties, during the first and second Gulf Wars. (www.archivists.org/statements/IraqiRecords.asp).

There are many more examples of SAA’s advocacy efforts in FY08, and I encourage you to pay attention to the bi-weekly Online News to learn about actions as they occur.

Year 3 of SAA’s MayDay initiative drew increased attention, having been adopted by the Heritage Emergency National Task Force and its member organizations. A significantly enhanced annotated bibliography on the SAA website now points readers to a wide variety of resources that can help you develop and implement disaster plans for your repositories. The MayDay initiative spread to the other side of the globe as your Australian colleagues adopted the logo and materials for use in their own efforts to do something on May 1—even if it’s something simple—to help ensure their preparation to respond to a disaster. You’ll see more about MayDay in early 2009—and I hope that you’ll share your MayDay stories with SAA so that we can post them for others to read.

FY 2008 saw publication of two American Archives Month Public Relations Kits—one in late August 2007 that highlighted spreading the archives message to young people and the second in May 2008, highlighting the care and management of photographs. We’re pleased to have been able to alter the publication schedule to make the 2008 kit available to you several months in advance of the October celebration so that you have time to implement one or more of the ideas presented.

The kit is available online and is enhanced by online-only materials, such as examples of press releases and advice about dealing with the media. We’re grateful for the generosity of Lockheed Martin Corporation, whose support underwrote the printing of the American Archives Month poster. If your institution already has Archives Week or Month plans in place, great! We hope you’ll join in a national effort next year. And if you have no plans in place, here’s an opportunity to start small and give it a try.

In addition,

• We worked with the Congressional Papers Roundtable to publish the NHPRC-funded book entitled Managing Congressional Collections, which was available at this meeting in the SAA bookstore.

• We worked with the very dynamic Archival Facilities Guidelines Group to get up and running on development of archival facilities guidelines for archivists, librarians, architects, and engineers. The draft of the group’s work is now available on the SAA website for public comment.

• When our 10-year office lease expired in January, we relocated the SAA Headquarters to the historic Charles A. Stevens Department Store building in Chicago’s Loop—and we haven’t looked back. Access to the SAA office is considerably improved in our central Loop location, and we look forward to welcoming you the next time you’re in town!

• We focused on improving customer service by reorganizing the SAA staff to create a centralized member service center, made possible by implementation of the real-time processing e-commerce capabilities of our association management software system.

• We launched a software application, Lyris ListManager, to connect committees, sections, and roundtables via email lists that are generated dynamically by our year-old association management software system.

• The Website Working Group and Brian Doyle investigated options for re-developing SAA’s website, and recommended to the Council on Monday [August 25] that SAA adopt an open-source content management system called Drupal. We expect to deploy the new website in advance of the 2009 Annual Meeting.

• And we worked to enhance the timeliness of member communication by creating Online News—a brief, bulleted, bi-weekly online publication to which all staff members contribute as we become aware of issues, deadlines, news, and concerns.

continued on page 41
from the Los Alamos nuclear installation. Ruth Greenglass was never herself prosecuted for her role. The lead prosecutor used the Greenglass testimony as the culmination of his closing speech to the jury, saying that Ethel Rosenberg sat at that typewriter and "struck the keys, blow-by-blow, against her own ing speech to the jury, saying that Ethel Rosenberg sat at that

grand jury version, in contradiction to the trial version, in the VENONA intercepts of Soviet intelligence communications, which describe key information on Los Alamos coming from David Greenglass through Julius Rosenberg in hand-written form in January 1945.

David Vladeck, lead attorney for the plaintiffs, remarked that today's release was only the fourth time in history that historical grand jury testimony has been released to the public. Vladeck called the release the "first act in a two-act play," referring to the still-withheld grand jury testimony from the Brothman-Moskowitz trial, which served as a "tune-up" for the Rosenberg trial. "It is quite clear that if the trial were held today, the government would have had a very difficult time establishing that Ethel Rosenberg was an active participant in this conspiracy and indeed it looks like the key testimony against her was perjured," commented Vladeck. "It is clear that at some point the government strategy took a dramatic turn. Grand jury testimony reveals that there was a great deal of espionage on conventional munitions but none of that came out at trial. Why not? It may be that the government did not want to reveal the extent to which Rosenberg and other Soviet spy rings had managed to penetrate the U.S. defense establishment."  

Steven Usdin, author of Engineering Communism: How Two Americans Spied for Stalin and Founded the Soviet Silicon Valley, commented that there is no question about the guilt of Julius Rosenberg and those associated with him in spying for the Soviet Union, "but the new records suggest that the government committed its own misconduct in the way it prosecuted the Rosenbergs." In Usdin's view, the grand jury testimony was also important for what was not there—evidence on the industrial espionage carried out by the group around Julius Rosenberg, which the government apparently did not pursue.

Bruce Craig, professor of History at the University of Prince Edward Island, Canada and author of Treasonable Doubt: The Harry Dexter White Spy Case, remarked that the new evidence raised significant questions about whether the trial was fair, whether the prosecution strategy was improper, and whether the prosecutors manipulated the grand jury. Martin Sherwin, University Professor of History at George Mason University and co-author of the 2006 Pulitzer Prize winning American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer, cautioned that the real analogy between the Rosenberg trial and today was not so much any similarity between Communists and Islamists, but the "charged atmosphere" to the point of hysteria in which the government reacted in both the early Cold War and post 9/11. The transcripts are available on both the National Security Archive, http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/news/20080911/index.htm and NARA's website http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/topics/courts/rosenberg-jury.html. The National Archives Regional Archives Research Room in New York City, located at 201 Varick Street, 12th Floor, has reference copies of the documents.

National Archives to Open New Personnel Records Center in St. Louis

The National Archives and Records Administration announced plans to lease a new built-to-suit facility in St. Louis, Missouri, to replace the 1950s-era Military Personnel Records Center and a portion of the Civilian Personnel Records Center. Initial occupancy of the new building is scheduled for March 2010.

The new facility will house the National Personnel Records Center. The center contains 56 million personnel files of twentieth-century military service veterans, and 25 million Federal civilian personnel files dating from the early twentieth-century to the 1970s. All of these files are designated as permanent, historic records. Each year, a portion of the military personnel files are transferred from military services' ownership to the legal custody of the National Archives, when 62 years has elapsed since an individual's separation from service. Civilian personnel files will also be accessioned into National Archives custody in the near future.

In addition to records storage, the new facility will contain public research rooms, an archival preservation laboratory, public meeting rooms, and staff offices. Six-hundred National Archives staff will work at the new building.

Historians Urge Congress to Strengthen the Presidential Records Act

On September 5, 2008, the Center for American Progress Action sent a letter from thirty prominent historians to the leadership of the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate urging reform of the Presidential Records Act. The American Historical Association, Organization of American Historians and the National Coalition for History also endorsed the letter. Action in Congress on legislation (H.R 1255, S. 886) to revoke President Bush's Executive Order 13233 has been stymied by Senate Republicans. The EO 13233 granted unprecedented powers to delay the release of a president's and vice president's records after they leave office. Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL) has a hold on the bill and it is highly unlikely the legislation will come to the Senate floor before it adjourns this year. The House passed the Presidential Records Reform bill by an overwhelming margin in 2007, with far more votes than needed to override a threatened veto by President Bush.

The letter to Congress points to the example of millions of Bush Administration e-mails generated between October 2003 and March 2005 as an example of why greater oversight and penalties for non-compliance with the Presidential Records Act are needed.
2010, and 2011 SAA annual meetings as a means of educating members about the “Protocols” document; that the specific programs for the Forums be developed by the Diversity Committee and the Native American Archives Roundtable; and that a representative of the Diversity Committee be responsible for publishing an annual report on Forum activities as well as a final summary report about the conversations related to the “Protocols.”

- Created a Task Force on Cultural Property that, over the course of three years, will consider a broad array of cultural property issues in archives. In the short term, the Task Force will present to the Council by February 2009 a list of specific desired outcomes for its work and a draft workplan.

- In response to a recommendation from 38 SAA members that the Council create a task force to examine the desirability and feasibility of SAA accreditation of graduate archival education programs, referred the matter to an existing group—the Committee on Education—with a report to the Council at its May 2009 meeting.

- Directed the SAA staff to issue a request for proposal and select an application service provider to conduct the 2009 SAA national elections online.

- Approved a recommendation that SAA conduct a survey of the Archives and Archivists List subscribers to obtain widespread comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the current List Terms of Participation in order that the terms might be revised appropriately.

- Broadened the criteria for selection of SAA Fellows by adding to “writings of superior quality and usefulness contributing to the realization of the Society’s objectives” the notion that “presentations and/or educational services (such as workshops or webinars)” are also appropriate.

- Directed the SAA staff to develop a project plan, issue a request for proposal, and deploy a new open-source content management system (Drupal) on the website in advance of the 2009 Annual Meeting.

- Created a standing Council Handbook Subcommittee, made up of the second-year Council members, both to identify long-needed updates and to ensure that new Council actions are reflected quickly in the relevant Handbook sections.

At a brief meeting on August 30 chaired by newly seated SAA President Frank Boles, the Council voted to place primary responsibility for mid-year appointments with the vice president, in consultation with the president. This process will free the president to focus on overseeing matters of policy and moving forward the Society’s overall agenda, while the vice president becomes responsible for appointing members to serve the Society in a variety of roles.

If you are interested in serving on a newly created task force or working group, please contact SAA President Frank Boles (boles1fj@cmich.edu), Vice President Peter Gottlieb (peter.gottlieb@wisconsinhistory.org), or Executive Director Nancy Beaumont (nbeaumont@archivists.org).

Apply for SAA Scholarships to Help Pay Tuition

Two new student scholarships are available to SAA members: The Minority Student Scholarship Award and the F. Gerald Ham Scholarship, awarded for the first time in 2008.

The Minority Student Scholarship Award was established in 2008 to promote diversification of the American archives profession. This scholarship provides financial and mentoring support to minority students pursuing graduate education in archival science. Up to two $5,000 scholarships will be awarded in 2009.

The F. Gerald Ham Scholarship provides $7,500 in support to graduate students in their second year of study in an archives program at a U.S. university. It was established by SAA Fellow and past president F. Gerald Ham.

The application deadline for both scholarships is February 28, 2009. You can find more information on how to apply at: www.archivists.org/recognition/awards.asp.

Minutes of the May 2008 Council meeting were approved and posted on the SAA website (www.archivists.org/governance/minutes/index.asp) on July 16. Minutes of the August 2008 meetings will be posted no later than October 28. The SAA Council and the SAA Foundation Board of Directors will meet again in February in Washington, D.C. (meeting jointly with the Council of State Archivists board of directors for at least half a day), and in late May or early June in Chicago. If you have questions or concerns to bring to the Council’s attention, contact SAA President Frank Boles (boles1fj@cmich.edu) or Executive Director Nancy Beaumont (nbeaumont@archivists.org). The deadline for recommendations for the Council’s winter meeting will be published in Online News and on the SAA website as soon as the meeting date is set, but not later than November 1. ✩
for the UCLA Special Collections Ethnomusicology Archive, the Center for the Study of Women, and the June L. Mazer Lesbian Collection. Sangwand is a member of SAA’s student chapter at UCLA.

The minority student award honors the late Dr. Harold T. Pinkett, who served with distinction during his long tenure at the National Archives and Records Administration and who was a Fellow of SAA.

**Fellows’ Ernst Posner Award**

Ph.D candidate Magia Ghetu Krause [at left], both of the University of Michigan’s School of Information, are joint recipients of the 2008 Fellows’ Ernst Posner Award for their essay, "Interaction in Virtual Archives: The Polar Bear Expedition Digital Collections Next Generation Finding Aid," in the *American Archivist*, volume 70.

The award recognizes an outstanding essay that explores some facet of archival administration, history, theory, or methodology and that was published in SAA’s semi-annual journal during the preceding year. “As many professionals [in the field] are in institutions that do not have funds to support training, this article can be a starting point to expose them to Internet concepts and the possibilities for their application to archival finding aids,” noted the selection committee.

“The outstanding benefit of this article is that the reader not only is introduced to new technologies and concepts, but is also offered the option to review, use, and interact with the actual Polar Bear website. [It] explains the development and design of an actual electronic-record, web-based finding aid project, and incorporates “next generation” electronic technology to introduce a new way of designing an archival finding aid,” the committee added.

Established in 1982, the award is named for Ernst Posner, an SAA Fellow and former president.

**Preservation Publication Award**

*The Digital Dilemma*, produced by the Science and Technology Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, is the 2008 winner of the Preservation Publication Award. The award, which was established in 1993, recognizes an outstanding published work related to archives preservation.

The award committee called *The Digital Dilemma* "a groundbreaking publication that is the product of more than nine months of investigative research into the daunting and largely uncharted arena of preserving digital motion picture materials."

Dalton presented the award to Ray Feeney [at right], chair of the Science and Technology Council. The report outlines critical issues that movie studios are facing as they undergo a transition from film-based to digital storage technology. “Through the movie studios are especially spotlighted, both the scope and implications of this publication extend well beyond that industry,” noted Steve Dalton, preservation manager at Boston College and chair of the selection committee.

“The studios’ experiences are, in fact, intentionally framed within the broader context of preservation strategies already employed by institutions well-known to [the archives] profession, such as the National Archives and Records Administration and the Library of Congress,” Dalton added.

The 2008 selection committee also gave an **Honorable Mention to Rescuing Family Records: A Disaster Planning Guide**, which was produced by David Carmichael of the Georgia State Archives and distributed by the Council of State Archivists. The committee said, “This timely work puts the expertise of the archives profession at the service of the general public and meets a vitally important need in the process.”

**Spotlight Award**

This year Afghan Film and filmmaker Ahmadi Latif [at left] received the Spotlight Award for risking their lives to save films that chronicle Afghanistan’s culture and history. The Spotlight Award recognizes individuals who work for the good of the profession and archival collections, work that does not typically receive public recognition.

When the Taliban seized power of Afghanistan in 1996, eight of the 120 employees working at Afghan Film stepped up to save film reels documenting their country’s culture and history. “Scholars and historians around the world will appreciate your great act of courage,” the SAA award committee said when announcing its selection.

Ahmadi Latif is the director of Afghan Film, which kept the country’s major film and TV archive. Earlier this year he told ABC News, “When the Taliban came, they decided to turn our institute into a war museum and decreed they would burn all the reels. The employees who remained hid the Afghan movies in a lab on the second floor of the building.”

Eight employees were able to hide 6,000 film reels, showing the Taliban only the foreign films on the first floor. “They knew,” Latif said, “that if the Taliban discovered the lab all of... continued on page 40
them would have been killed.” The award committee took note of their “extraordinary personal and moral courage, resolve, and their great personal risk in protecting and saving the documentary evidence of Afghan culture and heritage from destruction by the Taliban.”

When Diane Dimkoff of the National Archives and Records Administration presented the award, the audience rose and gave Latif a standing ovation. See more about the “Heroes of Saving the Afghan Film Archives” on YouTube at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t0jmcfq_Vqg. Afghan Film is the third recipient of the Spotlight Award, which was established in 2005.

**Council Exemplary Service Award**

The Council Exemplary Service Award was given to one institution and two individuals in 2008 for outstanding service to SAA and the archives profession. This year’s recipients are the Troup County (Georgia) Archives; Larry Gates of Hollinger Metal Edge, Inc.; and Teresa Brinati, SAA’s director of publishing.

The Troup County Archives was established in 1983 and is being recognized for providing outstanding service to residents, researchers, and writers and for serving as a model of how local governments can work together to care for their records. Director Kaye Lanning Minchew (at left) accepted the award on behalf of the archives.

The Troup County Archives, based in LaGrange, Georgia, houses historical papers and local government records. The archives is currently involved in a number of projects, including: scanning 19th-century court records made available by the Digital Library of Georgia; indexing LaGrange newspapers that date back to 1843; and assisting the Troup County Historical Society with a pictorial history publication.

The citation notes that the Troup County archives has “fostered a vision of how local government records are among the most important records created in the United States, touching the lives of their citizens more directly than records stored in any other kind of archives.”

Larry Gates of Hollinger Metal Edge, Inc. (at right) also received a Council Exemplary Service Award. Gates is being honored for taking Hollinger Box, a manufacturer of ammunition boxes, and developing it into one of the leading archival, museum, library, and preservation supply houses. The company recently merged with Metal Edge, Inc., which also manufactures and distributes archival storage products and conservation supplies.

The SAA Council praised Gates for establishing strong partnerships with archivists to create innovative new products that advance the profession. He is also being noted for consistently supporting the work of archives associations, from the state to the national level, setting a precedent for national vendors to appreciate the work of regional archives organizations.

The citation also recognizes Gates for offering financial support to a wide variety of archives events; acting as a strong supporter of the emergency disaster fund established to assist archives and repositories immediately following Hurricane Katrina; and supporting archives scholarship programs, student chapters, and archives awards programs.

The final 2008 Council Exemplary Service Award was given to Teresa Brinati (at right), SAA’s director of publishing, who was recognized for providing 20 years of service to the professional association, having joined the staff as managing editor in 1988. The SAA Council surprised Brinati with the award—she was not listed in the program—and the audience gave her a standing ovation.

The SAA Council noted that Brinati has “worked effectively with five editors to shepherd the development of The American Archivist to become the world’s leading archives journal” and that with “unflagging energy and enthusiasm she has stimulated and supported the growth of one of the most robust book publishing enterprises of any national professional association, regardless of size.” Her work on Archival Outlook and Online News was also commended.

In addition, Brinati has represented SAA in other countries via service on the Editorial Board of Comma, the International Journal on Archives, and helped to build an international awareness of SAA’s publishing program. Locally, she has shared her publishing expertise via service on the Editorial Board of Forum, the monthly magazine of the Association Forum of Chicagoland.
SAA relies on hundreds of volunteers, thousands of members, and a dozen staff to ensure the organization’s success. Thanks to all of you—and thanks also to our staff members: Publications Director Teresa Brinati; Education Director Solveig De Sutter; Member and Technical Services Director Brian Doyle; Finance and Administration Director Tom Jurczak; Service Center Manager Carlos Salgado; Service Center Representatives Jeanette Spears, Rodney Franklin, and Lee Gonzalez; Project Assistant René Mueller; Editorial and Production Assistant Helen Janousek; and Education Coordinator Veronica Parrish.

I’d also like to introduce our outstanding meeting management team from Conference and Logistics Consultants: Conference Manager Letiscia Perrin, Alison Perrelli, and Steve LeGrand, as well as our AV pros Steve McLaughlin and Shane Pothier. You’ve seen them racing around putting out fires. We couldn’t provide a meeting at this level without them!

And speaking of getting ready for this meeting: It was well worth it! As of this morning, the total number of ARCHIVES 2008 paid attendees is 1,719—which makes this SAA’s largest-ever West Coast meeting!

Among the volunteers who commit significant time and energy to your organization are SAA’s Council members. Four of them are retiring from the Council today.

I’ll miss Ben Primer, who is generous with his praise, with his provocative opinions, and with his cash—to SAA’s benefit. I’ve lost a series of wagers to Ben, but it’s always been my pleasure to pay up to the SAA Special Funds.

I’ll miss Carla Summers, whose passion for all things Foundation—from establishment of the Emergency Disaster Assistance Fund in conjunction with the Society of Southwest Archivists to ensuring that the Foundation has a structure on which to build—has been wonderful to behold.

I’ll miss Sherry Williams, perpetually the voice of both reason and compassion. Sherry provides balance, always seeks the right way—and has an amazing collection of jewelry that many of us covet.

And I’ll miss SAA President Mark Greene, who has a formidable intellect and outstanding writing skills, both of which may leave a general impression that he’s a tough guy. I know the truth—that he’s as tough as he needs to be, and also thoughtful, fair, generous, and a gentle spirit.

I look forward to the coming year, and to helping you make good things happen for archives and archivists. And I hope that, individually and collectively, we will continue to make no little plans—but instead will continue to THINK BIG! ❖

I realize that the economy is bad and that some members are likely pinching pennies to make ends meet, but there is never a good time to ask for a dues increase.

I realize that I am asking for a great deal, but we as a profession have a great deal to give to our society, to the culture and people who trust us to document their lives and ensure that that documentation is passed to and used by the next generation. It is our job. It is our duty. It is our calling. And as a part of that job, and duty, and calling it is our responsibility to ensure that the law of the land helps us do it better.

Make no mistake, in the end, involvement in the political environment is not optional—it is fundamental to what we are called to do when we decide to become an archivist. It’s part of the job. It’s part of the duty. It’s part of the calling.

Despite the bad jokes in the speech and a general refusal to take myself too seriously, I do indeed believe this. I hope that you do as well—and that these principles will serve as a common ground from which we can move forward collectively. ❖

ROMANCE IN THE ROTUNDA

Twelve years after they first became an item, Matt Whitmer surprised his longtime sweetheart Leigh Lacy by proposing to her before hundreds of surprised and then cheering visitors in the National Archives Rotunda near the Charters of Freedom. Matt popped the question on July 29 at the site where they first kissed on an eighth-grade field trip, in front of the Declaration of Independence. “I am delighted for Matt and Leigh. This proposal confirms that the National Archives is a must-see destination for Washingtonians, tourists, and true romantics alike,” said Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein (above right). No word yet on a wedding date for the couple, but the National Archives staff suggested a July 4th celebration would be appropriate.
SAA EDUCATION CALENDAR

Photography Rights, Archive Management, and Permissions
October 17 • Albany, NY

Encoded Archival Description
October 30–31 • Minneapolis, MN

Grant Proposal Writing
October 31 • Loveland, CO

Association Archives—Managing Your Institutional Memory
October 30 • Washington, D.C.

Basic Electronic Records
November 3 • San Antonio, TX

Financial Management Basics for Archivists
November 6 • Knoxville, TN

Style Sheets for EAD: Delivering Your Finding Aids on the Web
November 6–7 • Riverside, CA

Management of Cultural Institutions
November 7 • Knoxville, TN

Implementing DACS in Integrated Content Management Systems:
Using the Archivists Toolkit™
January 15–16, 2009
New York, NY

For details or to register, visit www.archivists.org and click on Education.
Questions? Contact us at education@archivists.org or 312-606-0722. We are continually planning and adding programs to our schedule; check the website periodically!

CALENDAR

October 2-4
The International Congress of Archives and Human Rights will hold a conference in Sarrià de Ter, Spain on "Access and Declassification of Documents." For more information, see www.arxivors.org.

October 19-24
The Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research will hold a five-day training program on digital preservation at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. The program continues the curriculum developed by Anne Kenney and Nancy McGovern at Cornell University Libraries. Registration for "Digital Preservation Management: Short-Term Solutions for Long-Term Problems" is available at: www.icpsr.umich.edu/

November 6-8
Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference will hold its Fall 2008 Conference—Making History Local—at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Silver Spring, Maryland. For details, go to: www.lib.umd.edu/MARAC/conferences/conferences.html#fall08

November 7–8
2008 Fall Symposium of the Midwest Archives Conference in Lawrence, Kansas. Topic is "Digital Preservation." For more info, go to: www.midwestarchives.org/2008Fall/.

November 12–15
The Association of Moving Image Archivists annual conference in Savannah, Georgia. For more info, go to: www.amianet.org./

November 13–15
The Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at The University of Texas, Austin is holding registration for the seventh Fleur Cowles Flair Symposium on "Creating a Usable Past: Writers, Archives and Institutions." Symposium information, including limited discounted student registration, is available at www.hrc.utexas.edu/flair.

November 14–15
The New England Archivists will hold their Fall Meeting at Simmons College in Boston. For more information, go to: www.newenglandarchivists.org.

November 17
The General Assembly of the European Regional Branch of the International Congress on Archives will meet in Paris, France. Hosted by Direction of the Archive of France. For more information, go to www.ica.org.

November 20
The North Carolina Preservation Consortium hosts its annual conference at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. “Cultural Respect in Preservation and Conservation” is the theme.

April 30-May 2, 2009
The Midwest Archives Conference Spring 2009 annual meeting in St. Louis at the Hyatt Regency St. Louis Riverfront. The conference will be a joint meeting of MAC, the Association of St. Louis Area Archivists and the St. Louis Area Religious Archivists. For more information, go to: www.midwestarchives.org or contact Scott Grimwood at Scott_grimwood@ssmhc.com.

FUNDING

SAA Scholarships
The SAA Minority Student Scholarship Award, established in 2008 to promote diversification of the American archives profession, provides financial and mentoring support to minority students pursuing graduate education in archival science. Up to two $5,000 scholarships will be awarded in 2009. The SAA F. Gerald Ham Scholarship provides $7,500 in support to graduate students in their second year of study in an archives program at a U.S. university. It was established by SAA Fellow and past president F. Gerald Ham. The application deadline for both scholarships is February 28, 2009. For more information, go to: www.archivists.org/recognitions/awards.asp

2009 Doctoral Fellowships in Archival Studies
Doctoral Fellowships in Archival Studies are currently available through a new eight-campus initiative for individuals who are interested in pursuing careers as educators and scholars and who would be entering doctoral programs in Fall 2009. Applicants must apply for both the Fellowship and admission to one or more of the eight participating doctoral programs: University of California, Los Angeles; University of Michigan; University of Maryland; University of Texas, Austin; Simmons College; University of Wisconsin, Madison; University of Pittsburgh; and University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Each Fellowship will provide full tuition and annual stipends of $20,000 to Fellows for the first two years of their doctoral study at partnering academic programs. Those academic programs will provide full tuition and stipends to their Fellows for two additional years of study.

To underscore the Fellowship initiatives, emphasis on strengthening archival education and scholarship, all Doctoral Fellows will attend, expenses-paid, annual Archival Education and Research Institutes (AERI). These week-long institutes will be held each year for doctoral students and faculty in Archival Science from academic institutions nationally and around the world.
The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) invites applications for collaborative residencies to the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) during the week of July 6th, 2009. A limited number of additional scholarships to attend the institutes will be available each year for doctoral students who are enrolled in any U.S. Program. Further information about the AERI is available at http://aeri.gseis.ucla.edu/.

Application deadline is January 9, 2009.

Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident in the U.S. Persons of minority racial and ethnic backgrounds are particularly encouraged to apply. Further details on the Fellowship and how to apply may be found at http://aeri.gseis.ucla.edu/fellowships.htm. Information on each participating university’s specializations in Archival Science as well as contact information may be found at http://aeri.gseis.ucla.edu/institutions.htm. For questions about the Fellowship application process, please contact Joshua Sternfeld: joshua@ucla.edu.

This initiative is directed by the UCLA Center for Information as Evidence and is made possible in part by support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) invites applications for its 2009-2010 Scholars in Residence Program, including applications for collaborative residencies. The Scholars in Residence Program provides support for up to eight weeks of full-time research and study in manuscript and/or artifact collections maintained by any PHMC facility, including the Pennsylvania State Archives, The State Museum of Pennsylvania, and 25 historic sites and museums in the state.

Collaborative residencies fund research that relates to the interpretive mission and advances the goals of a PHMC program or facility, including the agency’s historic sites and museums. The application must be filed jointly by the interested scholar and host program/facility. Residency programs are open to those conducting research on Pennsylvania history, including academic scholars, public sector professionals, independent scholars, graduate students, educators, writers, filmmakers, and others.

Residencies may be scheduled for up to eight weeks anytime from May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010; stipends are awarded at the rate of $375 per week. For a full description of the residency program and application materials, as well as information about Commission research collections, go to the PHMC web site: www.phmc.state.pa.us. You may also write: Scholars in Residence Program, Bureau of Archives and History, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 350 North St., Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-0090; phone: 717-772-3257; or email: RA-PHMCscholars@state.pa.us. Application deadline: January 9, 2009. Notification of awards will be made in March 2009.

Digital Initiatives Librarian/Assistant Professor
The University of Toledo Carlson Library

Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections, Toledo, Ohio

The University of Toledo Libraries, eLearning, and Academic Support seeks applicants for the position of Digital Initiatives Librarian for the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections. This position is a full-time tenure track position that holds the rank of Assistant Professor of Library Administration.

The Digital Initiatives Librarian will have a primary assignment in the Ward M. Canaday Center to develop, manage, and expand the digital collections of the Canaday Center. This position will also serve as the lead position for digital initiatives for the University Libraries and represent The University of Toledo regarding OhioLINK’s Digital Resource Commons and regional collaborations. The position will also consult with other university constituencies on developing and managing digital assets, including the Mulford Library on UT’s Health Sciences Campus.

The position will be responsible for content development for Toledo’s Attic, a virtual museum to 20th century Toledo history, in coordination with the project’s community partners. In coordination with the university archivist, will also develop policies and procedures for the preservation and management of the university’s electronic records.

Required: Master’s degree in library or information science from an ALA-accredited program with specialized training or experience in archives administration. Preferred: Specialized training in archives administration ALA-accredited program. Experience in archives administration. Experience in managing digital collections and/or managing electronic records desirable. For complete job description, see http://library.utoledo.edu/inf/DigInitArchivist.html. For additional information about the University Libraries, please visit http://library.utoledo.edu.

The 12-month appointment will be made at the rank of Assistant Professor with a beginning salary of $55,000. Review of applications will begin immediately, and will continue until the position is filled. Send letter of application; current vita; and names, addresses, and contact information for three professional references. Please use only one method of application. The University of Toledo is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer and Educator.

To apply: Tyna Derhay, The University of Toledo, Carlson Library - MS 509, 2801 W. Bancroft St., Toledo, OH 43606, 419-530-4488, fax 419-530-2403, tyna.derhay@utoledo.edu http://library.utoledo.edu

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Do you have an item you’d like to see in the next issue of Archival Outlook?
Send to: Editorial/Production Assistant Helen Janousek at hjanousek@archivists.org.
SAA welcomes your comments and suggestions.

AUTHOR’S QUERY

Author of book on 1963 March on Washington seeking materials—oral histories, diaries and journals, newsletters, articles, photos—about the event. Charles Euchner, the author or editor of nine books, teaches writing at Yale University and is an expert on political and social movements. Please send leads and other information to charles.euchner@yale.edu. For more information about him, see www.euchner.us.
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