That’s the Ticket!

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Make a Difference (pg. 16)
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On the cover

That’s the ticket! . . . Two sample Ohio ballots from
Abraham Lincoln’s 1864 presidential campaign. Such
samples encouraged support for a political party’s ticket
and, in Cincinnati, were printed in English and German
to accommodate the large population of immigrants.
The American Archives Month Public Relations Kit,
mailed with this issue of the newsletter, is your ticket to
a successful campaign to raise awareness about archives and archivists! Artwork courtesy of the Cincinnati Museum
Center, Ephemera Collection, and part of the “Lincoln
Originals” online exhibit.
A Final Word

What will be among the last published statements of my presidency seems to call out for profound insight and gifted language. Some of my predecessors have written a parting column that admirably accomplished this task. My aim, however, is a bit different—simply to offer a few reflections about SAA and its members after having seen it in as much detail as any volunteer can.

Let me start by simply observing that SAA is an amazing organization. Relatively small and relatively lean in budget compared to many other organizations, nevertheless it accomplishes an incredible array of successful activities.

The Society is a linchpin of archival education, both for those newly entering the profession and those long familiar with archival ways. Because of the Society a steady stream of professional literature, commentary, and educational opportunities is made available to the members, as well as to the public generally. That is an accomplishment that enriches us all and in which we can all take justifiable pride.

SAA serves a critical mission in the area of standards. Its ability to serve as a common ground for the meeting of minds is irreplaceable. Its role in consensus building is essential. In the end, our professional practice is enriched because SAA gives us the opportunity to meet, speak, and agree upon standards and other professional criteria that require us to develop consensus. As with our educational activity and literature, this is an accomplishment in which we should take great pride.

The Society and its members have done much to change the face of our profession and the profiles of our collections to better reflect the faces that make up America. Most importantly, we as a profession have made the commitment to try, harder and often, to better reflect the people who live in America at the beginning of the twenty-first century. We need to continue to work to accomplish our goals, but we also need to reflect on where we have been, and what we have done, and to take pride in the journey we already have made.

Although the Society is officially a legally incorporated professional organization, it is really a social network supporting the hard work and good judgment of archivists spread thinly across the nation. The Society is, occasionally, a needed shoulder to cry on among archivists who have suffered professional or personal tragedy, and it is a rallying point to aid those in need. We have raised money and volunteered time to help colleagues in need and we should take pride in those actions.

The Society’s volunteer structure makes it possible for our profession to accomplish great things. Individual archivists pour tremendous time and energy into the organization and, as a result, publications, education, standard setting, diversity, and collegiality grow among us in a way that brings rigor to our work and comfort to our souls.

You all have made possible what SAA does and you all, collectively, serve a mission that no other group of professionals in our nation fulfills.

You all have made possible what SAA does and you all, collectively, serve a mission that no other group of professionals in our nation fulfills.
The Impact of Archives

This issue of Archival Outlook carries with it the 2009 American Archives Month Public Relations Kit and poster. Given SAA’s Illinois link, we were leaning toward featuring Lincoln’s image in honor of his bicentennial but were worried that Abe might be a bit “overexposed”—until we saw and fell in love with the striking Declan McCullagh photograph that graces the kit cover and the poster.

Doesn’t it make you want to “Celebrate the American Record”?

This year’s kit points to many more tools and ideas that reside at www.archivists.org/archives-month and on the Council of State Archivists’ website at www.statearchivists.org. Please take some time to view on those sites what your colleagues have done in celebration of Archives Week or Month in the past. A critical mass of PR tips, outreach ideas, and Archives Month participants seems to be forming....

New to this PR kit is a concept that came up during the SAA Council’s strategic planning session in February: Could we collect statistics to measure—nationwide—the “impact of archives”?

State Archivist David Carmicheal describes in “Heritage Tourism Is a Peach in Georgia” (page 6) his real-world experience in surveying out-of-state visitors to the Georgia Archives and translating the survey results into a partnership with the state tourism agency. We’ve borrowed David’s survey questions to create the “Visitors2Archives” Survey that we’ll post at www.archivists.org/archives-month on August 3.

We’re under no illusion that a simple metric or two will enable us to calculate the return on investment of archives. But what your survey responses may do is help us craft a BIG message for policymakers or public audiences that serves as an ice-breaker in our advocacy and public relations efforts. (In my former life with the American Physical Therapy Association, we surveyed members to determine the number of patients they treated, on average, in a month or a year. Extrapolating that number, we were able to claim that “Physical therapists serve a million patients a day.” That’s an attention-getter!)

As Abe said, “If we could first know where we are, and whither we are tending, we could then better judge what to do, and how to do it.” Please do participate in the Visitors2Archives Survey [page 7 of the kit], in the Make an Impact! Contest [page 8 of the kit], and in American Archives Month in October.

* * *

Speaking of celebrating: Please take a look at pages 16–17 for SAA’s celebration of the contributors to the Special Funds in FY 2009. We are especially grateful to Linda Henry for her extraordinary gift to SAA. Linda loved her profession and her professional association, and her legacy will live on within SAA.
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Heritage Tourism Is a Peach in Georgia

DAVID CARMICHEAL, Director, Georgia State Archives

“Tolled for hours and hours and was completely out of my environment. My greeting was warm Southern hospitality at its best.” So wrote a visitor about her trip to the Georgia Archives in Morrow, just south of Atlanta.

She went on to describe the work she had done, the discoveries made. It was well worth the trip, she concluded. “An experience like that you can’t get by mail.” High gasoline prices and economic downturn may have pushed more researchers to conduct their archival research by mail, but archives remain at the very heart of heritage tourism.

In 2003, and again in 2005, the Georgia Archives used a simple survey of out-of-state visitors to demonstrate the value of archives as a tourist destination. Twelve simple questions told us when they visited, why they came, how long they stayed, and how much they spent while in Georgia (see box below). The snapshot provided evidence that the archives brings tourists into the state in numbers that are significant enough to warrant the attention of tourism officials. The survey produced at least three tangible results:

PRESS COVERAGE. So far as we know, only one journalist picked up our press information about the survey, but his article was republished in newspapers statewide. The reporter discussed the unique advantages of in-person research and emphasized the out-of-state dollars that accrue to the state when tourists visit archives.

STATE TOURISM ATTENTION. Our simple survey helped to capture the attention of the state’s tourism agency. Tourism officials were aware that people will travel great distances to visit historic sites, but more than one said she had never thought of archives as a tourist destination. Our figures suggested that out-of-state visitors to the Georgia Archives alone add some $1 million to Georgia’s economy each year, enough to intrigue the tourism agency and prompt them to offer assistance in our efforts to attract others.

LOCAL ATTENTION. The tourism agency of the county in which the state archives is located was already enthusiastic about having both a state archives and a branch of the National Archives within their borders; our survey encouraged them to expend even more effort to attract visitors. The tourism agency became involved in the Friends of the Georgia Archives and began placing the archives on its itinerary when tour operators visited the county.

Our survey took very little time—a simple Zoomerang setup made it easy for the user to complete and easy for us to compile results—but paid tangible dividends.

Archives can be part of a rewarding tourist experience. One survey respondent researched her great-grandfather at the state archives and then wrote about the highlight of her trip, on her last day in Georgia: “Fourth day—Sunday—we attended Primitive Baptist Church in Zebulon where my great-grandfather preached over a 100 years ago.”

Now that’s an experience you can’t get online!

Twelve Simple Survey Questions

1. What was your home zip code at the time you visited the Georgia Archives?
2. In what month did you visit the Georgia Archives?
3. Including yourself, how many people traveled with you to Georgia?
4. While you visited the Georgia Archives, where did you stay?
5. If you stayed in a motel/hotel, how did you learn about the specific motel/hotel you selected?
6. Which BEST describes the reason you visited Georgia? (Archives, Archives & Other Activities, Unrelated Activities)
7. How did you learn about the Georgia Archives? (Please list the name of the website, publication or organization.)
8. What was the purpose of your visit to the Georgia Archives?
9. How many days and nights did you stay in Georgia?
10. While you were in Georgia, did you visit other areas and sites or take part in other activities?
11. Please use this space to comment on your visit to the Georgia Archives, the service you received, or other information you would like us to know.
12. OPTIONAL: Please estimate your total expenditures during your entire stay in Georgia. (This data helps us determine the economic impact of out-of-state visitors.)
Reappraisal and Deaccessioning: Share Your Professional Opinion

TARA Z. LAVER, Curator of Manuscripts, Louisiana State University

The Acquisition and Appraisal Section Steering Committee presented a proposal to develop guidelines for reappraisal and deaccessioning to the Standards Committee in February 2008. With the encouragement and support of the Standards Committee and the SAA Council, the section leadership is moving forward with the effort. Since these guidelines will have broad professional application, interested members of SAA—not just those who belong to the Acquisition and Appraisal Section—are invited to participate directly in their development. Please plan to attend a preliminary planning meeting on developing reappraisal and deaccessioning guidelines August 13, from noon to 1:30 p.m., during the Joint Annual Meeting of SAA and CoSA in Austin at the Hilton.

Reappraisal and deaccessioning have been controversial topics since at least the publication of a series of articles in the Winter 1984 issue of American Archivist, in which Karen Benedict, Richard Haas, Leonard Rapport, F. Gerald Ham, and Jutta Reed-Scott debated the practical and theoretical merits of each. As the historical record continues to grow and repositories’ resources do not keep pace with this growth, and with the example of successful reappraisal and deaccessioning projects at the Minnesota Historical Society and the American Heritage Center (AHC), more repositories are willing to consider employing reappraisal and deaccessioning as tools in managing their collections.

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission’s funding of AHC’s large-scale project also evidences increased approval and support at the national level. Further, if attendance at SAA sessions on the topic in 2005 and 2008 is any indication, practitioners are interested in learning more about reappraisal and deaccessioning and are looking for guidance and resources.

Two archivists who presented their deaccessioning experiences at the 2008 session called for the establishment of profession-wide guidelines for deaccessioning, but as Mark Greene notes in a recently published article, the archival profession has not provided guidelines or addressed the question in the Code of Ethics for Archivists, as our colleagues in the allied professions of librarianship and museum curatorship have done. Consequently, projects at archival repositories have had to rely on standards from those fields in creating their own policies. (See Mark Greene, "I’ve Deaccessioned and Lived to Tell about It: Confessions of an Unrepentant Reappraiser," Archival Issues 30:1 [2006]: 7-22.)

This project seeks to rectify that oversight. The guidelines produced will provide informed direction and professional sanction for archivists and repositories that choose to manage their collections in this way.

“The guidelines produced will provide informed direction and professional sanction for archivists and repositories that choose to manage their collections in this way.”

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Austin Rocks With Vibrant Music Scene

REBECCA ROMANCHUK, Texas State Library and Archives Commission

What makes Austin such a magnetic gathering place for musicians of all kinds? Singer-songwriter, folk, rock in all its many forms, blues, jazz, R&B, hip-hop, rap, country, western swing, the rich variety of Latino styles, and more are standard fare here. Enthusiastic audiences, a congenial environment with natural beauty and a mild climate, the roots of folk music of several cultures thriving here over the decades—all of that, and the communities that musicians create among themselves for support and inspiration, have made Austin one of the country’s most vibrant cities for music performance and appreciation.

We don’t keep it a secret, either, touting ourselves as the “Live Music Capital of the World,” hosting the internationally known, multi-day music festivals SXSW (South by Southwest) and Austin City Limits Fest, and airing a nationally syndicated television program devoted to music from Texas and elsewhere, Austin City Limits, now in its 35th season. Local archives and museums participate, too, preserving the memory of our musical past and keeping up with the current scene.

The Night Is Young . . .

A visit to our city is not complete without sampling the sounds to be heard in our clubs, dance halls, restaurants, and outdoor concert areas. It would be possible to fill this space with merely the names of well-known musicians with connections to Austin, past and present. More to the point is to let you know about those you’ll get a chance to see during August 10–17, when you are in town for Sustainable Archives: AUSTIN 2009. The best way to do that is to view The Austin Chronicle music listings for those dates at www.austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Calendar/MusicListings. Shows for August 10–13 [Monday–Thursday] will be online August 6, and listings for August 14–17 [Friday–Sunday] will be available August 13. By browsing the Chronicle you can identify establishments that host the sort of music you prefer and then visit the websites of those music venues.

Music Districts and Traditions

Austin has several distinct music districts, some well known for a particular musical genre but most showcasing an eclectic mix of performers. In the downtown area are two streets (both close to the Hilton Hotel) lined with clubs and restaurants featuring live music every night of the week. Sixth Street has a long history as an entertainment hub and serves as Austin’s version of New Orleans’ French Quarter. Especially on weekend nights, the sidewalks are full of club-hoppers and sightseers passing restaurants, bars, and dance clubs whose open doors add to the musical volume of the street life. Most popular music styles are represented, from various brands of rock to hip-hop, salsa, and soul. While Sixth Street maintains a high-energy party environment, it’s the social scene that dominates.

In the past decade, Red River Street has taken over as the most concentrated area of clubs where the emphasis is fully on the music. Two blocks east of the Hilton is Red River, which doesn’t have the strolling atmosphere of Sixth Street, but it delivers in the quality of local and national bands who regularly play there.

Music districts are spread across the city, from the Warehouse District and West Sixth Street on the west side of downtown, to the University area north, and south of Lady Bird Lake—especially between Congress Avenue and Lamar Boulevard. The east side of Austin is home to the blues, jazz, R&B, and gospel tradition of the African American population historically concentrated there. The legendary Victory Grill, opened on V-J Day in 1945, is the city’s oldest blues club and was part of the “Chitlin Circuit” of the segregated South. Listed on the National Registry of Historic Places, the club is undergoing renovation but still hosts music events. Its story and those of other clubs and musicians on the east side is lovingly documented at the Blues Family Tree Project (www.diversearts.org/BFT/bft_about.html) in video oral histories, photographs, audio files, and essays. Many Latino clubs share the musical territory in this part of town and on the southeast side of Lady Bird Lake, providing social gathering spots for the burgeoning music scene that includes Tejano, Norteño, conjunto, salsa, ranchera, mariachi, cumbia, and orquesta styles, all of which are getting greater exposure in Austin’s new Pachanga Latino Music Festival, held for the second year this May.

Country music and western swing have deep roots in Texas, and several venerable Austin landmarks keep those sounds alive. Among them: the Broken Spoke is one of Texas’ remaining old-fashioned dance halls; the Continental Club is
a more citified spot in the trendy South Congress district; and the County Line on the Hill keeps the roadhouse spirit going on the weekend.

Several local archives document past country and western swing in other genres, and in doing so, help us remember to support and preserve surviving places like these. Texas State University’s Southwestern Writers Collection Music Archives ([alkek.library.texas.state.edu/swwc/archives/music/index.html]) and the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History Music Resources ([www.cah.utexas.edu/collections/music.php]) at the University of Texas, Austin, house archival collections of artists such as Willie Nelson (appointed as Texas State Musician for 2009), Jerry Jeff Walker, Mance Lipscomb, and Townes Van Zandt, the Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame, and venues that are no more—like the Soap Creek Saloon—a honky-tonk roadhouse featured in the 1977 film Outlaw Blues.

“I Wanna Go Home With the Armadillo”

One of the most important past venues in Austin is the Armadillo World Headquarters, which from 1970 to 1980 held court as the most eclectic music hall the city has likely ever seen. Beginning as a psychedelic rock concert hall, it fostered the cosmic cowboy sound, but any night’s bill might include country, blues, jazz, and eventually punk. Its spirit truly lives on in the city’s “Keep Austin Weird” ethic and is documented visually and in written remembrances by the South Austin Museum of Popular Culture ([www.samopc.com/about.htm]) and by UT’s Briscoe Center Texas Poster Art Collection ([www.cah.utexas.edu/feature/tpa/essay.php]) and their Armadillo World Headquarters Archives.

Another vital place in the city’s music history is the original “Old No. 1” Threadgill’s, a down-home restaurant on North Lamar open since the 1930s (it also has a more recent southern satellite next to where the Armadillo used to be on Barton Springs Road). Owner Kenneth Threadgill brought his own country-flavored musical talent to his place and other spots in town, and hosted musicians through the decades, most famously a young Janis Joplin during her folk days. A Threadgill oral history is held by the Austin History Center and his music is included in their sound recordings collection, among other artists. Perhaps the largest video archive gathered by any city of live performances around town (captured since the mid-1990s by local music television networks) is also in their holdings.

Now well into its third decade, Antone’s was founded as a blues club by larger-than-life owner Clifford Antone, who helped Stevie Ray Vaughan and other local musicians get the necessary exposure to make their names. While a typical night’s bill might also feature country or rock, the blues probably figures somewhere in the genetics of the sound. Almost every blues legend has played there, including Muddy Waters, John Lee Hooker, and B.B. King. Antone’s is located downtown at Fifth and Lavaca Streets on the northern edge of the Warehouse District. When Clifford Antone passed away in 2006, the city’s mayor cited him as one of the major reasons why Austin is known as the Live Music Capital of the World.

Waltz Across Texas, and Glide Into Austin

These are just a few of the iconic people and places that have built Austin’s music heritage. Did you know that John Lomax, the renowned folk musicologist, conducted part of his work while on staff at UT Austin? Or that one of Texas’ twentieth-century governors, W. Lee “Pappy” O’Daniel, rose to political power partly through the music of the western swing group the Light Crust Doughboys? Or that one of the few places where the audience did not boo Bob Dylan on his 1965 electric tour with the Hawks (later known as the Band) was at Austin’s Municipal Auditorium—which after recent renovation became the Long Center—the site of the conference’s All-Attendee Reception on August 14?

Learn more about the music of Austin and Central Texas at the Texas Music Museum ([www.texasmusicmuseum.org]) with exhibits devoted to all forms of local music. And while you’re in town, do independent research and catch some live music of whatever style you like. If you arrive at the airport in the afternoon, you’ll probably hear one of the regularly scheduled live music performances in the terminal. Then you’ll begin to understand what Austinites believe, as a philosopher once put it, “Without music, life would be a mistake.”

www.archivists.org
Mentors Motivate Future Archivists

HELEN JANouseK, SAA Editorial and Production Assistant

SAA members can create their own stimulus act by joining the association’s Mentoring Program, which gives those entering the archives field a chance to kick-start their new career by matching them with an experienced colleague who can provide inspiration and advice.

Mentors Motivate Future Archivists

HELEN JANouseK, SAA Editorial and Production Assistant

SAA members can create their own stimulus act by joining the association’s Mentoring Program, which gives those entering the archives field a chance to kick-start their new career by matching them with an experienced colleague who can provide inspiration and advice.

A Few Good Mentors

Teresa Yoder, an archival specialist for the Chicago Public Library, is the program’s coordinator. She says individuals who have acquired several years of varied experience in the field and are willing to help future archivists will make a good mentor. “They can offer the protégé a realistic view of the archivist’s work, including the challenges and the rewards, and impart knowledge about the responsibilities of working in archives. They can also encourage them to become involved in local and national organizations.”

Mentors are encouraged to give their entry-level colleagues a boost by suggesting appropriate continuing education, serving as a resource for policy and procedures, and introducing them to other archivists.

Protégés and mentors work on building resumes, determining career goals, exploring trends in the profession, and getting involved in SAA’s committees, sections, and roundtables.

The program currently has 268 participants and a waiting list for those who want to join as a protégé. With 107 mentors currently in the program and 151 protégés, some mentors have taken on two people.

Due to the program’s popularity, the Membership Committee (which established and manages it) has just created a new subcommittee to assist with its ongoing development. Membership Committee Chair James Roth of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Boston, says the committee also collaborates with Sections and Roundtables to help their members connect with mentors or protégés.

Get With the Program

Any SAA member is eligible to participate as a mentor or protégé—students, educators, working archivists, records managers, or those who have retired. Mentors and protégés determine for themselves how and when they meet.

You can apply to be a mentor or a protégé by completing an online application form at http://www.archivists.org/membership/mentoring-app.asp. You can request to be matched with someone who lives in your area, indicate your preference for gender and ask to be paired with someone who has expertise in a particular area such as museum archives or visual materials. SAA will contact you after processing your application.

Coffee Talk

There will be a Mentor Coffee Break at Sustainable Archives: AUSTIN 2009. It will be held in the Career Center at the Hilton Austin on August 13 at 8 a.m. and is open to current participants and those interested in learning more about the program.

Do you have a story or an idea for the next issue of Outlook?

Send to: Editorial/Production Assistant Helen Janousek at hjanousek@archivists.org.

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Visit www.archivists.org/careers/ today!
Strategic Priorities Proposed for Next Three Years

PETER GOTTLIEB, SAA Vice President, State Archivist and Director, Wisconsin Historical Society

SAA's strategic planning process is in full swing and your feedback is welcome! At its February and May 2009 meetings, the SAA Council reviewed, discussed, and modified SAA's strategic priorities and developed new “desired outcomes” and activities to address the priorities in fiscal years 2010–2013.

Council members agreed to retain the top three strategic priorities—technology, diversity, and public awareness/advocacy—that were originally identified as challenges to the profession in 2005, but chose to revise the issue statement associated with each priority. Their discussions, as well as work done by a subgroup of Council members and staff in March and April, yielded new desired outcomes for each priority and new measurable activities to address them.

In molding these new activities, the Council set its sights on improving the ability of archives and archivists to manage and preserve electronic records, bringing more minority members into SAA and helping archivists diversify the documentary record in their repositories, and adopting an SAA legislative agenda.

In addition, the Council adopted a new technology outcome that addresses SAA’s internal workings: SAA will make increasingly effective use of current and emerging technology, such as social networking tools, in order to enhance communication with internal and external audiences and stimulate collaboration among its constituents.

The Council welcomes ongoing feedback—from members, component groups, allied groups, and others—about the priorities, outcomes, and activities, and we’re especially interested in learning about any activities that individuals and groups may be undertaking to address these priorities. Check out the Strategic Plan at http://www.archivists.org/governance/strategic_priorities.asp.

Component group representatives attending Sustainable Archives: AUSTIN 2009 in August will have an opportunity to comment on the strategic priorities at the Leadership Forum on Wednesday, August 12, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

But we hope to hear from many more members between now and then! To share your ideas and comments, please send them to saahq@archivists.org. A “final” draft of the plan will be published in the fall and, with your input, the Council will continue to review and revise the plan over time.

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Council Adopts Budget for Fiscal Year 2010

Leaders Approve ALA/SAA Access Statement, Eliminate Roundtable Limits

Against the backdrop of newly refined strategic priorities, the SAA Council reviewed and adopted a Fiscal Year 2010 Budget with revenues of $2,174,368, expenses of $2,165,200, and a projected net gain of $9,168.

Included in the budget workplan are a host of activities directed to moving SAA toward the desired outcomes associated with Technology, Diversity, and Public Awareness/Advocacy that the Council had developed at its February 2009 meeting.

(For an update on the strategic priorities and how you can contribute to the Council’s discussion of priorities, see related story on page 12.)

Among the other actions taken at its May 31–June 2 meeting in Chicago, the SAA Council:

• Approved the Education Committee’s recommendation not to pursue development and implementation of an accreditation program in graduate archival education. The Committee will hold an open forum at AUSTIN 2009 on Wednesday, August 12, to discuss its findings and SAA’s options going forward.

• Approved a final draft of the “ALA/SAA Joint Statement on Access to Research Materials in Archives and Special Collections Libraries.” The statement is available at http://www.archivists.org/statements/.

• Reviewed a draft "Advocacy Agenda 2009–2010," prepared by the Government Affairs Working Group, as a working document to be distributed to members for comment from June to August 2009. Once the agenda is in place, the Working Group will develop a series of “issue briefs” that provide background on each issue. (See related story on pages 14–15.)

• Adopted “Orphan Works: Statement of Best Practices,” developed by the Intellectual Property Working Group [IPWG], to be posted as a PDF on the IPWG section of the SAA website by mid-July.

• Approved a motion eliminating the limitation of two Roundtable memberships and instead permitting an unlimited number of Roundtable memberships per SAA member. Non-SAA members may continue to participate in an unlimited number of Roundtables by registering with SAA.

• Approved proposed Terms for Copyright of SAA Component Publications as submitted by SAA’s Intellectual Property Working Group. Component leaders may contact the SAA office for a copy of the terms or view them at http://www.archivists.org/governance/minutes/min0509.asp.

• Approved revisions of the Committee on Ethics and Professional Conduct’s duties and responsibilities to reflect the fact that the Committee does not adjudicate alleged violations of SAA’s Code of Ethics for Archivists.

In addition, Council members:

• Discussed the complexities of Annual Meeting site selection, including such considerations as member demographics, hotel capacities, and budget. The staff will prepare an article for a future issue of Archival Outlook to inform members about the site selection process.

• Discussed a concern raised by the Society of California Archivists about the proposed relocation of NARA’s Laguna Niguel facility. SAA President Frank Boles will share the Council’s discussion with Acting Archivist of the United States Adrienne Thomas.

• Elected second-year Council member Margery Sly to the 2009–2010 Executive Committee. Bruce Ambacher and Diane Vogt-O’Connor will serve on the 2010 Nominating Committee.

Minutes of the meeting are posted at http://www.archivists.org/governance/minutes/index.asp.

Agenda Items for August Meeting

The next meeting of the SAA Council will take place on Monday, August 10, in conjunction with Sustainable Archives: AUSTIN 2009. To submit an agenda item for that meeting, please contact SAA President Frank Boles (bolesfj1@cmich.edu) or Executive Director Nancy Beaumont [nbeaumont@archivists.org] no later than Friday, July 10. ♦
Among SAA’s highest priorities is to advocate for issues on behalf of archives and archivists. In August 2008 the Council approved formation of a Government Affairs Working Group and charged that group to begin its work by developing an Advocacy Agenda for Council approval. Development and ongoing review and refinement of an Advocacy Agenda provides the Society with a means to organize its advocacy efforts, make conscious decisions about its priorities, frame its messages, work proactively on key issues, and respond quickly and effectively to policymaker and media inquiries.

At its May 31–June 2 meeting the Council adopted the following motion:

THAT the “Advocacy Agenda 2009–2010 (version 053109),” as drafted by the Government Affairs Working Group and revised by the Council, be adopted as a working document that will be distributed to the SAA membership from June to August 2009 for comment and refinement; and

THAT a revision incorporating member comment be reviewed by the SAA Council at its August 10, 2009, meeting; and

THAT the Government Affairs Working Group develop a series of issue briefs, beginning with those Advocacy Agenda issues that are of the highest priority for member, policymaker, and public awareness, and submit those briefs for Council or Executive Committee review and comment as they are completed, with a goal of completing an issue brief for each issue identified in the Advocacy Agenda by the time of the May 2010 Council meeting.

The Agenda will outline the issues that are most important to the profession. A simple statement on each issue will be supplemented with a white paper or issue brief that provides the details needed by various interested audiences (such as members, policymakers, and the media) to have a full understanding of the issue and SAA’s stance on it. (For an example, see the National Humanities Alliance’s “Issues at a Glance” on its website at www.nhalliance.org.) The SAA staff will develop a more robust “Advocacy” Web page that highlights the Agenda, with appropriate links to discussion papers, calls for action, other organizations’ agendas, and additional information.

The Agenda is intended to be an evolving and changeable document that is updated as needed, and at least annually. To ensure that the Advocacy Agenda represents broad interests, the Council stressed the importance of soliciting member comment.

Members are invited to submit comments about the draft Advocacy Agenda to any member of the Council or via saahq@archivists.org by July 31, 2009. Some questions to consider:

- Are the right issues addressed? What’s missing?
- Are the issues in appropriate priority order?
- Do you agree with the approach to framing the broad issues?
- Do you agree with the approach to framing specific issues? (In each case the Government Affairs Working Group will draft an “SAA supports” statement and an issue brief. As appropriate, a “Call to Action” statement will be developed and updated as needed to stimulate action by SAA members and other networks.)
The Society of American Archivists has developed this Advocacy Agenda to ensure that attention is given to those issues that affect or support the critical role that archives and archivists fulfill in ensuring the preservation of an authentic American historical record and making it broadly accessible to the public.

The Public’s Right to Equal and Equitable Access to Information
America’s citizens have a right to know the actions of their government and the thoughts of their government leaders. Government at all levels should assume that the public has the right to any document prepared by government officials. Although in some instances national security, privacy legislation, or another intervening factor may make it necessary to withhold information from the public temporarily, it should be the obligation of all officials to declassify or otherwise release embargoed documents as quickly as possible.

[Link to specific legislative items or current issues, such as declassification of federal records.]

The Public’s Right to Timely and Reasonable Use of Information
In 1790, America’s first copyright act made published works freely available for public use after a maximum of 28 years. Today works do not enter the public domain until 75 years after the death of the author. A more appropriate balance must be struck between the right of authors to benefit personally from the fruits of their labor for a limited time and the right of the public to make use of material freely for the greater benefit of society.

[Link to specific legislative items or current issues, such as orphan works and Section 108 copyright revisions. For example:

Copyright: Updating copyright and intellectual property laws to meet the challenges of the networked environment has been a key focus for Congress, the courts, and state legislatures for several years.

• Orphan Works: Many archival repositories hold literary and other manuscripts that may fall under the category of “orphan works,” defined as those whose owners are difficult or even impossible to locate. SAA supports current efforts by the U.S. Copyright Office to address this issue.

• Section 108 Revisions: The Section 108 Study Group has provided recommendations on how to revise the copyright law to ensure an appropriate balance among the interests of creators and other copyright holders, archives, and libraries in a manner that best serves the national interest. SAA supports the recommendations of the Section 108 Study Group.]

The Public’s Right to Personal Privacy
A person’s right to privacy has historically been balanced against the public’s right to information. Personal privacy should be protected throughout an individual’s lifetime in appropriate ways. Documents recording information about living Americans should be involuntarily disclosed only when disclosure accomplishes a greater public purpose.

[Link to specific legislative items or current issues.]

The Public’s Need for a Comprehensive, Comprehensible American Historical Record
The actions of the government and people of this country cannot be documented accurately unless an authentic record is preserved of the critical individuals, events, and actions taken over time. To hold government accountable and to provide evidence of the diverse and complicated elements of the human experience, it is essential that concerted efforts are undertaken to preserve and make accessible a credible and reasonably complete historical account of government and other aspects of society.

[Link to specific legislative items or current issues.]
Contributors Make a Difference

SAA Salutes Donors Who Gave to Special Funds in FY 2009

SAA recognizes the nearly 250 individuals and half dozen organizations who made contributions to the SAA Special Funds in Fiscal Year 2009 (July 1, 2008—June 30, 2009). These donors gave $27,915.33 to support scholarships, programs, and awards that promote public awareness, publishing excellence, and outstanding contributions to the archives field. SAA thanks the following for their generosity.

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Linda Henry Leaves Legacy to SAA

Linda Jean Henry’s friends and colleagues have described her in many ways: author, teacher, enthusiastic archivist, seamstress, cat lover. They would probably not be surprised to learn of her generosity, too—she left the Society of American Archivists $342,405 in her will.

Henry, 64, died of cancer on March 30, 2008, in Harwood, Maryland. She spent almost 25 years at the National Archives and Records Administration, retiring in 2007 as a senior archivist in the Electronic and Special Media Records Services Division.

She contributed to SAA in diverse and substantive ways since she became a member in 1977. She chaired the Program Committee in 1983, served on the Council from 1983 to 1986, and was SAA Treasurer from 1988 to 1991. Henry was an active member of committees and task forces, notably the Status of Women Committee and the Task Force to Revise the Constitution. For many years she directed the Modern Archives Institute at the National Archives and taught workshops for SAA and other organizations.

Henry was named an SAA Fellow in 1987. Her 1998 article “Schellenberg in Cyberspace” was published in the American Archivist (Vol. 61, No. 2) and is often required reading in many archival education courses. The piece refutes the perceived wisdom of the ‘new paradigm’ for processing electronic records, and calls instead for archivists to reflect on the practical heritage of Schellenberg’s appraisal considerations of both informational and evidential value in all records, regardless of format.

Plans are underway by SAA to determine how best to honor Linda Henry’s legacy. The Linda Henry Estate also bequeathed similar amounts to the Ms. Foundation for Women (which encourages women to govern their own lives) and The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation (committed to improving the lives of Washington, D.C., residents).
NARA Works to Improve Regional Facilities

This spring, the National Archives in Kansas City officially opened its new quarters in the heart of downtown Kansas City’s cultural, retail and historic district. This is a big step. For years, this regional archives was located in an aging General Services Administration (GSA) building difficult for the public to access.

This move was just the latest in a series of moves involving eight of our regional archives to new locations within their respective regions. They are part of a comprehensive program we undertook recently to improve the facilities of our network of thirteen regional archives, primarily to meet our archival records preservation standards. None of the thirteen is closing.

Some moves are necessary because the current facilities cannot be upgraded to meet NARA’s records storage standards. In the cases of four facilities, we are renovating and upgrading them to meet the standards; they are Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, and Seattle. Most work will be completed by the end of 2010. The Southeast Regional Archives in Atlanta occupies a new building that is only five years old. Here is the status of the eight planned moves.

NEW YORK CITY. We are considering moving from the Varick Street federal office building to the Customs House, a federal building in lower Manhattan that also houses the Smithsonian American Indian Museum, draws 300,000 visitors annually, and is centrally located near the Ellis Island and Statue of Liberty ferry landings. A feasibility study is currently underway. Because of the high cost of archival storage in Manhattan, we plan to move 80 percent of New York City holdings to our Federal Records Center (FRC) in northeast Philadelphia to a new archival bay. The most heavily used records and significant “treasures” from the holdings will remain in New York. No existing staff will be relocated. In the future, it is possible that positions will be reassigned when vacancies occur.

PHILADELPHIA. As is the case in New York City, we plan to move 80 percent of [the] holdings from the current Market Street facility to the FRC in northeast Philadelphia. The Center City location is five blocks from Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell.

ST. LOUIS. Working with GSA, we have signed a lease for a new, shared FRC and archives building in St. Louis, about 10 miles from the current location of the Military Personnel Records Center. The St. Louis facility houses the National Personnel Records Center. Construction began in spring, with initial occupancy in late 2010, and completion of the move of all records in 2012. This building will replace an aging structure that was built around 1950 and renovated after a disastrous fire in 1973.

KANSAS CITY. GSA ended our lease at the aging Bannister Road federal depot, and we’ve moved to the new leased facility in downtown Kansas City. Half of the regional holdings will be stored in NARA’s nearby FRC in Lee’s Summit, Missouri, while the remaining records have been moved to the new downtown facility.

FORT WORTH. Also at GSA direction, we must leave the deteriorating federal office depot, which is being closed. We are moving the holdings and textual research operations to NARA’s new FRC in Fort Worth, about five miles from the old depot. We have also leased education program meeting space near the city’s cultural district. Moves will be completed in August.

DENVER. We are leaving a deteriorating building on the federal campus in Lakewood. We are working with GSA to procure new leased space in the greater Denver metropolitan area for a joint FRC and archives building. Move completion is expected by end of 2010.

LAGUNA NIGUEL, CALIF. We are moving out of the massive Chet Holifield Federal office building, which formerly housed both the FRC and the archives, as well as many other federal agencies. The Holifield building cannot be renovated to meet standards. In addition, visitorship and usage is low and does not justify the very high rent. Therefore, the archives will rejoin the FRC at its new facility in Riverside, which is about 50 miles from Laguna Niguel. The move is expected to be complete by spring in 2010. As was the case when the FRC moved, Laguna Niguel staff whose commute is significantly increased will be offered relocation expenses.

ANCHORAGE. The planned move to a new government-owned site is on hold pending the availability of funding for a new or leased building. Meanwhile, the archives remains at a leased federal office building in downtown Anchorage. Steps have been taken to improve environmental conditions at the old facility, but it does not fully meet the standards.

Where possible in these moves, we are also improving public spaces for research, access, and education programs. The improvements include converting obsolete microfilm research spaces to computer research stations. This change reflects an 80 percent decrease in microfilm use and a growing use of electronic records and indexes. Ensuring that these records are properly preserved and making it as easy as possible for the public to access and use them is of paramount importance to NARA, and we believe these moves will help us in this important mission.
Hearing Focuses on Challenges Facing Next U.S. Archivist

The House Oversight and Government Reform Committee’s Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census and the National Archives held a hearing on May 21 to consider the policy issues facing a new Archivist of the United States. Dr. Thomas Battle, director of the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center at Howard University, submitted testimony on behalf of SAA. A summary of the key issues that will face the next Archivist of the United States is listed below.

Any consideration of the issues facing the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) must begin with a discussion of resources, both financial and human. Congress and various administrations have given NARA additional responsibilities without a commensurate increase in funding. The top priority for the new Archivist should be to address the growing processing backlog. Congress should give NARA the financial resources necessary to not only process the existing backlogs of historical materials, but also to keep up with the exponential increase of new records. NARA is also facing the retirement of a large percentage of its workforce and the agency must employ and train a new generation of archives professionals.

A report measuring job satisfaction among federal employees was recently issued and the National Archives finished twenty-ninth out of thirty large federal agencies. The first challenge the new Archivist will face is improving NARA’s organizational culture and restoring morale at the agency.

The next Archivist of the United States will need the full backing of the president, as well as vigilant congressional oversight, to ensure that all branches of the government adhere to the legal requirements of the Federal Records Act and the Presidential Records Act.

Last fall Congress directed NARA to prepare a report (due this summer) that suggests alternative models for the presidential library system. Reforming the operations, maintenance, and funding of the libraries should be a priority.

The long-delayed Electronic Records Archives (ERA) system is an essential tool for the NARA of today and tomorrow. Mandatory use of the ERA by all federal agencies is currently scheduled to begin in January 2011 and the new Archivist must ensure that the ERA meets this deadline.

Over-classification of government information not only denies or delays public access to records, but also squanders resources by adding to the backlog of records that go through the convoluted declassification process. The Archivist should play a key role within the administration in the development of the forthcoming government-wide Controlled Unclassified Information policy. The new Archivist should also advocate for the establishment of a National Declassification Center at NARA.

NARA must expand online access to finding aids and digitized portions of its collections and maintain extended research hours so that citizens can access materials that are only available at NARA’s facilities.

The records and artifacts entrusted to NARA’s stewardship are truly national treasures. To improve historical and civic literacy, NARA should continue to expand its excellent educational and public programs.

Support the National Historical Publications and Records Commission’s grant program. The administration and the new Archivist should work towards the passage of legislation (H.R. 1556) to reauthorize the NHPRC at an annual level of $20 million for fiscal years 2010–2014.

National Coalition for History Comments on NARA Proposal to Reform the Presidential Library System

NARA sought public comment in March on cost effective ways to modify the current system of archiving and providing public access to presidential records. The National Coalition for History (NCH) submitted its comments to NARA on April 29. To see a copy of NCH’s letter to NARA, go to: http://historycoalition.org/advocacy/live-pages/nch-comments-on-nara-presidential-library-system/

The Presidential Historical Records Preservation Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-404) contains several provisions regarding presidential libraries and the system for archiving presidential records. The Act requires the Archivist of the United States to submit to Congress a report providing alternative models for presidential libraries that will: reduce the financial burden on the federal government; improve the preservation of presidential records; and reduce the delay in public access to all presidential records.

Comments made by the NCH focused on six topics: funding, centralization, declassification, White House coordination with NARA, technological issues, and balancing the demands of preservation and access. The following is a summary of the major points made by the NCH.

Funding. NCH expressed concerns that Congress and administrations from both parties continually place heavier burdens on the National Archives while not providing the commensurate funding to meet these new obligations. Presidential libraries should not merit special earmarks for facilities maintenance while core services and programs both at the libraries and throughout NARA (such as research room hours, archives staff and the NHPRC) are cut or face elimination.

Centralization. The presidential library system is by definition de-centralized geographically, operationally, and financially. However, significant opportunities exist to meet Congress’ objectives by providing for centralized operations in key areas that include: declassification; improved integration of White House and NARA procedures and processes for continued on page 28
AIC Says No on Certification for Conservators

On March 6, the American Institute for Conservation’s Board of Directors announced the results of the member vote on implementing a certification program for conservators. Seventy-three percent of AIC members cast a vote, with 59 percent opposed to it and 41 percent in favor of it. The board said it will end all work on developing a certification program for the foreseeable future.

Newspaper Archive Posts One Millionth Page

Through an extensive database launched two years ago, decades of the country’s newspapers can be searched online for major events and history-making names, as well as family connections and local celebrations. The Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities have worked together for 20 years to preserve old newspapers, first through microfilm and now digitization. On June 16, officials from both federally funded agencies gathered at the Newseum in Washington, D.C., to announce that Chronicling America (chroniclingamerica.loc.gov) has now posted its millionth page. The site allows viewers access to newspaper pages from 1880 to 1922 and to find information about American newspapers published between 1690 and the present.

Library of Congress and National Archives on YouTube

On April 6 the Library of Congress launched a channel on YouTube that features an initial selection of 75 videos drawn from the Library’s historical collections and from recent events filmed at the Library. Find it at: http://www.youtube.com/libraryofcongress. On June 19 the National Archives launched its YouTube channel to showcase popular archived films and promote its exhibits. Find it at: www.youtube.com/USNationalArchives.

Report Explores Open Source Public Workstations in Libraries

The April issue of Library Technology Reports includes an article by John Houser on the potential benefits of open-source workstations for libraries. Houser prepared the report while a senior technology consultant for PALINET, a regional library cooperative. (PALINET and SOLINET merged and formed a new organization, Lyrasis, in April.) Case studies explore open-source implementations in several public libraries, track their success, and include implications for the profession as a whole. This report will help library decision makers with alternatives to Microsoft Windows-based PCs running Microsoft Office. Learn more at: http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/.
Miriam Nisbet Appointed Director of the Office of Government Information Services

Acting Archivist of the United States Adrienne Thomas announced June 10 that Miriam Nisbet (left) has been appointed director of the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) within the National Archives and Records Administration. The OGIS is a new organization established under the OPEN Government Act of 2007 and will provide policy guidance and mediation services for Freedom of Information Act activities government-wide. Since 2007, Nisbet has been director of the Information Society Division of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), located in Paris. She is responsible for two major UNESCO programs: Information for All and Memory of the World. Her division also supports libraries and archives, particularly in developing countries, and promotes the use of information and communication technologies for education, culture, science, and development. Prior to her UNESCO appointment, Nisbet was the legislative counsel at the American Library Association. She served as Special Counsel for Information Policy at the National Archives from 1994 to 1999.

—National Archives

Immigration Files to Become Part of National Archives

Historical government files that chronicle the lives of immigrants in the U.S. will become part of the National Archives instead of being destroyed, officials announced June 3. The “alien registration files,” or A-files, document both legal and illegal immigrants’ interaction with the government through registration forms, interview transcripts, health records, photographs, marriage licenses and recordings. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services began transferring the documents for preservation by archivists in June. The immigration agency maintains about 53 million A-files and will transfer them 100 years after an individual’s birth date, with the first files expected to be available next summer. In the past A-files were considered “temporary records” and could be discarded 75 years from the date of last action.

—Los Angeles Times

Mormon Church Opens History Library

A new Latter-day Saints Church History Library opened in Salt Lake City on June 22, located at the northeast corner of Temple Square, site of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. “This will be the first time that the Church’s historical library will have a public face,” said Church History Department managing director Steven Olsen. The Church’s historical records have been kept in its Church Office Building until now. The new facility has ten main storage rooms.

—Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Penn Historical Society Builds Center for Americana

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia has established the “Digital Center for Americana,” a new branch of the archives department that will use innovative methods to process collections and make them available online. The pilot project will focus on cataloguing 51 of the Society’s significant 19th-century collections and digitizing thousands of letters, photographs, artwork, and other documents in time to commemorate the Civil War’s sesquicentennial in 2011–2015. The Society plans to begin the 16-month project this summer, and will purchase digitization equipment and hire several project staff.

University of Pittsburgh Press Titles Available Again

The University of Pittsburgh Press, in collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh Library System and the Chicago Digital Distribution Center, is making nearly 500 out-of-print titles available again for scholars and students. The book titles are new part of the University of Pittsburgh Press Digital Editions (UPPDE) collection, fully searchable and freely accessible on the Internet through the University of Pittsburgh Library System’s D-Scribe Digital Publishing Program. Check it out at www.upress.pitt.edu [click on “Digital Editions”].

—University of Pittsburgh

Toolkit Helps Library Advocates Make Their Case

The American Library Association has a Web-based resource to help library advocates make the case for libraries during tough economic times. The “Advocating in a Tough Economy” toolkit is available at www.ala.org/tougheconomy-toolkit. The toolkit contains information on how to work with decision-makers and the media, and offers talking points.
National Archives of Scotland Salutes Whiskey Month

The National Archives of Scotland created a special exhibition to mark Whiskey Month as part of Homecoming Scotland 2009, a year-long celebration of Scottish heritage and ancestry. The exhibition ran in Edinburgh in May and June. On display was the parchment Exchequer Roll of 1494, the earliest Scottish document to mention whiskey. The roll (not normally on display due to its age and fragility) records that Friar John Cor was allowed “eight bolls of malt from royal lands to make aquavitae.” The exhibit also covers the wreck of the S.S. Politician in 1941 and the unauthorized salvaging of its whiskey cargo by Outer Hebrides islanders. The novel and film “Whiskey Galore!” were based on the wreck. Other items on exhibit came from the collections of Diageo plc, John Dewar & Sons Ltd, and a private collector of whiskey memorabilia.

Copenhagen Conference Looks at Archives and Human Rights

A conference on “Memory, Archives and Human Rights” was held in Copenhagen, Denmark, and Malmo, Sweden, in early June. Discussion topics included forced deportations in Finland, ethnic identity, archives and transitional justice, the politics of archives and memory, the records of apartheid, and the Palestinian refugee records project. A reception was held at the Malmo Museum to coincide with the opening of a traveling exhibit on Nelson Mandela mounted by the Nelson Mandela Foundation.

Caron Named Librarian and Archivist of Canada

Daniel J. Caron has been appointed the Librarian and Archivist of Canada, effective April 24. He succeeds Ian Wilson, who retired in April. Caron has held various positions in the Canadian government since 1982. Caron joined the National Archives of Canada in 2003 as the director general of the Corporate Management Branch and then moved into the newly created Library and Archives Canada. In 2008, he became senior assistant deputy minister of the Corporate Management and Horizontal Integration Sector. He earned a master’s degree in economics from the Université Laval and a Ph.D in applied human sciences from the Université de Montréal.

State Department to Send U.S. Archivist to Italy’s Abruzzo Region

The U.S. Department of State has joined forces with the National Italian American Foundation in a public-private partnership to bring an American response to the people of Abruzzo, Italy, after the devastation caused by the April 6 earthquake. The focus of this partnership is to direct aid to L’Aquila University to restore its role as an academic, social, and economic engine for the Abruzzo region. Among the initial projects is “Preserving Archives.” The State Department will send a U.S. archivist in the fall or early next year to perform an in-depth assessment of information resources in L’Aquila and to evaluate the needs of various libraries in L’Aquila, including digitalization of records.

—U.S. Department of State

Archives Reveal Secrets of the Stasi

The archives of former East Germany’s secret police force—the Stasi—have revealed that a West German police officer who shot and killed a student protester in 1967 was an East German agent. In May 2009, researchers working in the Birthler Agency (which oversees the Stasi files) came across seventeen volumes of documents relating to Sergeant Karl-Heinz Kurras, whose Stasi code name was Otto Bohl. Kurras shot Benno Ohnesorg on June 2, 1967, during a Berlin protest against the Shah of Iran’s visit to West Germany. The killing set off the West German student protest movement that led to the nationwide turmoil of 1968. Kurras had been a member of the East German Socialist Unity Party and a Stasi agent since 1955.

After the discovery of the Kurras files, questions were raised as to whether the policeman was acting on direct orders from the East. Though tried twice for negligent homicide, Kurras was acquitted both times. After the release of the files, new charges were brought against him by the Association of Victims of Stalinism. There have also been calls for stripping him of his pension (Kurras is now 81 and remains unrepentant). It is believed that 50,000 people worked for the Stasi in West Germany and only a fraction of the Stasi archives have been officially registered, so other cases of Stasi infiltration are expected to come to light.
Around SAA . . .

Make an Impact with the American Archives Month PR Kit

October is American Archives Month and the 2009 American Archives Month Public Relations Kit created by SAA provides basic materials to help archivists make their archives program more visible and appreciated. “Celebrate the American Record” and make an impact on the public and decision-makers by using ideas presented in the kit. Included are tips to develop a communication plan, talking points on the value of archives, easy steps to obtain media coverage, and a poster. The kit is enclosed with this issue of Archival Outlook.

Enter SAA’s Make an Impact Contest

In conjunction with American Archives Month (October), SAA is holding the “Make an Impact!” Contest to find out how members best promote and celebrate their archives. You can enter in three categories: Best Poster to Promote 2009 Archives Month/Week; Best Successfully Implemented Campaign; and Best Astonishing Idea. For details, see the American Archives Month Public Relations Kit. Entries must be submitted by October 31, 2009, to SAA at saahq@archivists.org. Submissions will be displayed online at www.archivists.org so SAA members can vote for the best entry in each category. Voting will take place online from November 9 to 30. One winner from each category will be announced the first week of December.

American Archivist in JSTOR

SAA signed an agreement in April for the American Archivist to participate in JSTOR, an independent not-for-profit organization that is dedicated to making a wide range of intellectual content available in a trusted digital archive. The JSTOR archive includes the complete back runs of more than 800 journals, which are available to libraries. The American Archivist will be part of the newly developing Arts and Sciences VII collection under “Library and Information Sciences.” The entire run of the journal is projected to debut in 2010. Recently retired SAA Fellow Charles Schultz has generously donated his back issues of the journal (1963 through 2008) for use by JSTOR. SAA is seeking issues from 1938–1962. Contact Teresa Brinati at 312/606-0722 if you would like to share your back issues for this project.

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Society of American Archivists (SAA) Annual Meeting Booth 31 • Austin, TX August 13–14, 2009

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- OhioNET
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- SOLINET
- WILS

Promoting Library Excellence Through Efficiency
ELIZABETH ADKINS has accepted a position as senior manager of Global Records and Information Management for the Computer Sciences Corporation in Falls Church, Virginia. She begins her new job on July 13. Adkins previously worked for the Ford Motor Company as manager of Global Archives and Audiovisual Assets. She served as SAA President in 2006–2007.

ALAN L. BAIN retired from the Smithsonian Institution Archives (SIA) on May 8, 2009. Bain was an historian, assistant and associate archivist, archivist and director of the Archives Division, and director of the Technical Services Division. He began working at the Smithsonian in 1971. Under his supervision the SIA microfilmed the United States National Museum accession records, developed SIA’s first automated system for name and subject indices to finding aids, carried out archival and records management surveys, and produced the first published general records disposition schedules in 1985.

BRENDA BANKS of Banks Archives Consultants and the GEORGIA ARCHIVES received the Governor’s Award from the Georgia Humanities Council in May. The award recognizes local community members who are working to increase the understanding and appreciation of the humanities in Georgia.

BETTY SUE FLOWERS retired as director of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum in May, a post she held for seven years. According to Tom Johnson, chairman of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation, Flowers’s initiatives at the LBJ Library and Museum include launching the Presidential Timeline of the 20th Century project, the release of recorded phone conversations from the Johnson administration, activities commemorating President Johnson’s 100th birthday, the tribute to Lady Bird Johnson, and repair of the LBJ Plaza.

SUSAN HAMBURGER, manuscripts cataloging librarian at Pennsylvania State University in University Park, has been promoted from associate university librarian to university librarian effective July 1. Hamburger joined Penn State in 1994.

ROD HOUSE was appointed Idaho’s state archivist by the Idaho State Historical Society in April. House has been an archivist with the agency since 1999 and recently served as interim state archivist from November 2008 to April 2009.

MAGGIE KIMBALL retired as Stanford University’s archivist on July 2. Kimball has worked on the Stanford campus in Palo Alto, California, for more than 26 years. She became its third university archivist in 1990. Stanford awarded her the Cuthbertson Award in 2003 for her contributions to the university. Kimball will move to New Mexico with her husband and her thoroughbred horse, Misty.

DEBRA KIMOK is one of seven recipients of the 2009 Chancellor’s Award for Excellence awarded by the State University of New York (SUNY). Kimok, senior assistant librarian for SUNY in Plattsburgh, received the “Excellence in Librarianship” for her work in the Feinberg Library’s Special Collections and in the library instruction program. Kimok is currently vice-chair of SAA’s Records Management Roundtable.

The OhioLINK EAD FACTORY (Finding Aid Creation Tool and Online Repository) recently won a Society of Ohio Archivists Merit Award. The FACTORY is a joint project of the EAD Task Force and Kent State University Libraries. The award was presented at the Society of Ohio Archivists annual meeting in May. Task force members include JANET CARLETON (Ohio University), David Gaj and CARA GILGENBACH (Kent State), BETH KATTELMAN and Amy McCrory (Ohio State), Rhonda Rinehart (University of Akron), Meg Spernoga and Sheila Yeh (OhioLINK), and TONI VANDEN BOS (Wright State).

The California Historical Records Advisory Board has awarded the ‘Archival Award of Excellence’ to BRADLEY WESTBROOK for his role in developing the Archivists Toolkit (AT). Westbrook works for the University of California, San Diego Libraries as head of the Metadata Analysis and Specification Unit. The award is funded by the Society of California Archivists. Westbrook has been the AT project manager since its inception in 2004.
In Memoriam

HARRIET OSTROFF DICKER, 79, the longtime editor of the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC) at the Library of Congress, died April 12, 2009. She earned a master’s degree in library science from Columbia University. Dicker found employment at the Library of Congress in 1952. She retired in 1994 as head of the Manuscripts Section in the Special Materials Cataloging Division. Dicker was an enthusiastic advocate for manuscript cataloging and for the NUCMC. A resolution of the Council of the Society of American Archivists on the occasion of her retirement recognized her important role in widening bibliographic access to the nation’s documentary heritage. Dicker’s love of organizing and classification spilled over into her hobbies as well. She had a huge collection of catalogued recipes and cookbooks and co-produced a subject guide to specialty cookbooks.

LUCILE M. KANE, 89, a distinguished archivist and historian, died May 30, 2009, in Wisconsin. Kane was curator of manuscripts at the Minnesota Historical Society and later head of its Division of Archives and Manuscripts from 1948 until her retirement in 1979. She wrote A Guide to the Care and Administration of Manuscripts, published in 1966 by the American Association for State and Local History. Her historical publications include The Falls of St. Anthony: The Waterfall that Built Minneapolis and Military Life in the Dakotas: The Journal of Philippe Regis de Trobriand. Kane discovered a celebrated cache of original records of the Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1803–1806, and directed the acquisition of the corporate records of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific railroads. She was an SAA Fellow, and active in the organization for many years.

BROTHER PAUL NOVOSAL, S.M., 90, died May 24, 2009, in San Antonio, Texas. Novosal entered the Society of Mary (Marianists) in 1936 and served as a teacher, librarian, and archivist. He worked on the campus of St. Mary’s University in San Antonio for more than 60 years and was instrumental in the development and construction of two libraries on campus. Novosal was responsible for the Province Archives at St. Mary’s for 35 years, working there until 2008.
The 2010 Program Committee invites submissions for session proposals for the Joint Meeting of the Council of State Archivists, the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators, and the Society of American Archivists in Washington, D.C., August 10–15, 2010. We invite you to propose sessions that will be of interest to the profession or volunteer to share your own knowledge and expertise as a presenter.

An important goal of DC 2010 is to broaden our perspectives and to focus on the commonalities among archivists in all specializations and records administrators working in different settings. The Committee actively seeks proposals that incorporate the concerns of those working in government settings and that address topics of concern to all the sponsoring groups. Proposals that address other aspects of contemporary archival theory and practice also are strongly encouraged and welcome. Suggestions and tips for preparing a successful proposal are available on the conference website at: www.archivists.org/conference/proposals101.

Proposals will be evaluated on the strength of the 75-word abstract, the diversity of the speakers and their experience, the completeness of the proposal, and attention to the meeting’s organizing goals. To improve your chance of acceptance, please submit a fully fleshed-out session proposal, including the names and contact information for the proposed chair and all speakers. (Proposals that are submitted without this information will not be considered.)

An important reminder: Archivists and records managers who participate in the program must register and secure institutional or personal funding. Participants who are not archivists or records managers, or who are from outside the United States and Canada, may be eligible for complimentary registration upon request. CoSA, NAGARA, and SAA cannot provide funding for speakers, whether they are international, non-archivists, non-records managers, members, or nonmembers.

For additional information, contact 2010 Program Committee Co-chairs Jelain Chubb and Ben Primer at: conference@archivists.org.

To submit a proposal, please use the form on the conference website at: www.archivists.org/conference/.

PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY SEPTEMBER 24, 2009. Proposals received after the deadline cannot be considered.

The Program Committee encourages submissions of proposals that may include, but are not limited to, the following formats:

- **Traditional.** Open session (i.e., unlimited attendance) of 90 minutes, consisting of two or three fully prepared papers of 15 minutes each and a comment-and-discussion period. Please do not propose a session of more than three speakers. *A chair is not required for this format; chair duties may be performed by one of the speakers, who must also be designated as the key contact for the session. Paper titles are required.*

- **Work in Progress.** Open session (i.e., unlimited attendance) of 90 minutes, consisting of three presentations of 15 minutes each, describing ongoing research topics and including at least 45 minutes for feedback and discussion. Paper titles are required.

- **Panel Discussion.** Open session (i.e., unlimited attendance) of 90 minutes, consisting of a panel of three to five individuals who informally discuss a variety of theories or perspectives on the given topic. No paper titles are required. A moderator or commentator is recommended.

- **Workshop.** Limited-enrollment session of 90 minutes, usually designed to teach or refine skills. No paper titles are required.

- **Seminar/Roundtable.** Limited-enrollment session of 90 minutes, usually designed as a directed discussion among attendees sharing a common experience or preparation.

- **Special Focus Session.** Open session (i.e., unlimited attendance) of 60 minutes designed to highlight innovative archives or records management programs, new techniques, and research projects. Audience participation is significant. No paper titles are required.

- **Poster Presentation.** Report in which information is summarized using brief written statements and graphic materials, such as photographs, charts, graphs, and/or diagrams mounted on a poster board. Posters will be on display during the meeting, and presenters will be assigned a specific time at which they must be with their poster to discuss it with attendees.
The Committee on Education of the Society of American Archivists invites submission of proposals for half-day, one-day, or two-day workshops and seminars throughout the year. Proposals that are accepted may be offered at various locations around the country, including as pre-conference workshops at SAA’s annual meeting.

Proposals must be e-mailed (preferred) and include all supporting materials required by the Committee on Education in order to be considered. Criteria for workshop material and what reviewers look for can be found in the “Program Development” section under the “Education and Events” menu on SAA’s website at www.archivists.org. Contact education@archivists.org if you have questions.

Proposals submitted by October 1, 2009, will be reviewed specifically for the pre-conference programs that will be held in conjunction with the Joint Meeting of the Council of State Archivists, the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators, and the Society of American Archivists in Washington, D.C., August 10–15, 2010.

Proposals should be in response to the Committee on Education’s current Request for Proposals at http://www.archivists.org/prof-education/programDevelopment.asp or build on (or enhance) SAA’s current continuing education curriculum at http://www.archivists.org/prof-education/course_catalog.asp.

Proposals may be developed with a specific group in mind or for the broader audience of all SAA members. Programs are presented in one of the following formats:

- **Workshop.** Intensive, problem-focused learning experience that actively involves up to 35 participants in identifying and analyzing problems and in developing and evaluating solutions.

- **Seminar.** Education session in which 45 or more participants obtain information from a knowledgeable resource person in a given content area that allows time for questions, interaction, and discussion.

- **Web Seminar.** A 90-minute session that involves the use of a PC and telephone, allowing instructors to present a short program using a PowerPoint™ presentation and interact with participants via phone and e-mail.

Send your proposal(s) to: Solveig De Sutter, Director of Education, Society of American Archivists, 17 North State Street, Suite 1425, Chicago, IL 60602-3315; via fax at 312-606-0728; or via e-mail to sdesutter@archivists.org.
The Public’s Need for Strong Institutional Stewardship of the American Historical Record

The records found in our nation’s archives ensure administrative continuity, help hold government officials accountable for their actions, and create documentary sources through which we come to understand our society. Because of the importance of these functions, archival institutions at all levels of government and throughout society must be adequately funded. Funding should include both sufficient support for ongoing operations and opportunities (such as grants) for extraordinary funding to enable archives to preserve for the public unusual documentary opportunities.

Federal Legislative Authorization and Funding: The National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), other federal agencies, and the proposed Preserving America’s Historical Record Act (PAHR) are sources of special funding for archives that support innovative, and often collaborative, projects that help to establish best practices that can be fostered throughout the archives community.

- **NHPRC**: SAA supports reauthorization of NHPRC by the 111th Congress with a funding level of $20 million. This funding level will ensure that the agency can adequately and appropriately support projects not only to preserve and make accessible nationally significant records, but also to serve as models of best practices for archives of all types.

- **PAHR**: The Preserving America’s Historical Record Act (H.R. 2256) would create a federally funded formula grant program to provide essential resources to support and enhance the ability of state and local records sources to provide access to the “other half” of America’s story—that is, those significant records that are kept by sources other than the federal government. SAA supports authorization and funding of PAHR at $50 million.

Washington Beat

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creation; acquisition; transfer of records and artifacts destined for a presidential library; and the use of technology.

**Declassification.** NCH supports the creation of a National Declassification Center in Washington, D.C., to expedite the declassification of materials held by federal departments and agencies. This center would house all future classified presidential records from the end of an administration until their eventual declassification. At that time they would be transferred to the appropriate presidential library and made available to the public.

**Greater White House and NARA Coordination.** For years archivists and historians have called for improved coordination between NARA and the White House for the effective transfer of records and artifacts from the Executive Office of the President to NARA. There is room for significant savings over the lifecycle of presidential records and artifacts if issues related to these materials are consistently coordinated from the beginning of each administration. Another benefit of such integrated efforts would be the reliable identification and preservation of all presidential records of enduring value and preventing the loss of such essential evidence before it reaches NARA's custody.

**Technology.** Effective use of various tools such as the Electronic Records Archive (ERA) system and digital scanning technology will change the way we do research. These tools will allow for centralized preservation and storage of records and broadly decentralized access to these materials. NARA needs to plan carefully for this transition and coordinate with the Obama Administration (and future administrations) to ensure that taxpayers and patrons realize the full benefit of these technological advancements.

**Balancing Preservation and Access.** As one alternative model in the notice seeking comment, NARA asserts that “Presidential records can be processed more efficiently if they are processed systematically, rather than under FOIA, during the years in which the Presidential Records Act restrictions apply.” The work of systematic processing need not—and should not—be done at the expense of public access to public records. The NCH strongly opposes any alternative that would set efforts to process records systematically over and above public access to presidential records via the Freedom of Information Act during the twelve-year period when the Presidential Records Act restrictions apply. On the contrary, the FOIA should be given greater support. Indeed, as suggested above, the nature and extent of past and current FOIA requests should be factored into processing schedules. NCH recommends that NARA make its approach to establishing processing priorities for presidential records more systematic and transparent.
Life After Retiring: Eva Moseley

Editor’s Note: In the Nov./Dec. 2008 issue of Archival Outlook, we asked SAA members who have retired to tell us what they are doing now. Eva Moseley enthusiastically responded to our request. Moseley, of Cambridge, Massachusetts, retired in 1999 after working for 28 years for the Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America at Radcliffe College. She was the curator of manuscripts from 1972 to 1999 and served as its acting director in 1994/1995. Moseley is a Certified Archivist and an SAA Fellow. She served on the SAA Council from 1984 to 1987.

IN HER OWN WORDS

George W. Bush became president nineteen months after I retired. His disastrous wars, assault on civil liberties, and excessive secrecy led me to change the emphasis of my retirement years, increasingly toward anti-war and other political work. (Even with a new and better president, there is plenty to lobby and protest about.)

Before that, though, I launched three archival projects: conducted oral histories of “inmates” living in an old folks home across the street from my house; formed the Cambridge Archives Committee (CAC), bringing together large and small repositories with records of Cambridge (and doing so with a co-chair who is not an archivist); and created an exhibition on children that includes documents from more than a dozen Harvard University repositories (including the Schlesinger Library, where I’d worked for 28 years).

All of these projects entailed supervision, scheduling, budgeting, and other administrative tasks. Rushing to finish a second grant proposal for the CAC, I realized that what I was doing was a lot like work.

The exhibition, “Growing Up Is Hard To Do” appeared in 2005, other volunteers took over the oral history project, and both CAC projects were funded. Now others are running the committee, while I just go to meetings and try not to keep reminding the members how we used to do things (better).

My advice to new retirees is volunteer—in archival work or not—if you’re so inclined. But unless you’re extremely dedicated and energetic, or still have something to prove, don’t create and run your own projects. At least not more than one at a time!
## SAA Education Calendar

### Sustainable Archives—Joint Annual Meeting Pre-Conference Workshops

#### @ Hilton Austin
#### August 9 and August 10
- Understanding Archives: An Introduction to Principles and Practices
- Records Management for Archivists

#### August 10
- Meeting Patron Needs: User Centered Design & Usability Studies
- Research Skills Tutorial
- Understanding Digital Scanner and Camera Imaging Performance

#### August 11
- Achieving Email Account Preservation with XML
  - Session One: 8:30 am–12:00 pm
  - Session Two: 1:30 pm–5:00 pm
- Raising Private Monies to Support Archival Programs
- Visual Literacy for Photograph Collections

#### @ University of Texas
#### August 10 and August 11
- Implement DACS in Integrated CMS: Using Archon
- Style Sheets for EAD: Delivering Your Finding Aids on the Webs
- Rare Books for Archivists

#### August 11
- Big E-Reference on a Little Budget

### 2009/2010 Workshops

#### Understanding Archives: Introduction to Principles and Practices
  - October 1–2 • Mount Carroll, IL

#### Implementing “More Product, Less Process”
  - October 13 • New York, NY
  - October 23 • Frankfort, KY

#### Achieving Email Account Preservation with XML
  - October 23 • Denver, CO

#### Records Management for Archivists
  - November 2–3 • Princeton, NJ

#### Understanding Photos: Introduction to Principles and Practices
  - November 5–6 • New Orleans, LA

#### Advanced Appraisal for Archivists
  - November 6 • Boston, MA

#### Association Archives—Managing Your Institutional Memory
  - November 6 • Spring Arbor, MI

#### Grant Proposal Writing
  - November 16 • College Station, TX

#### Archivists’ Guide to Balancing Legal Issues in Photo Collections
  - November 20 • Fort Worth, TX

#### Encoded Archival Description
  - February 25–26 • New Orleans, LA

#### Fundamentals of Acquisition & Appraisal
  - March 15 • Princeton, NJ

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**For more information, visit [www.archivists.org](http://www.archivists.org) and click on Education & Events. Questions? Contact us at education@archivists.org or 312-606-0722.**

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### Calendar

#### September 8–11
The International Council on Archives’ “Section on University and Research Institution Archives” will hold its conference and fourth meeting on scientific archives in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Theme is “Nature of University and Research Institution Archives: An International Perspective.” For more information, see [http://www.dundee.ac.uk/archives/SU2009/welcome-eng.htm](http://www.dundee.ac.uk/archives/SU2009/welcome-eng.htm).

#### September 17–20
Archivists for Congregations of Women Religious will hold its 6th Triennial Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Theme: “Trailblazers: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.” For more information, contact Jan Harvey at 513-347-4080 or acwr@juno.com.

#### September 20–23

#### September 20–25

#### September 22–23
The Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts will hold a two-day program on “Focusing on Photographs: Identification and Preservation” in Philadelphia. Through lectures and hands-on demonstrations, learn how to identify different types of photographic media, re-house your photographic materials for preservation; plan safe storage environments [including cold storage options]; and develop appropriate collections care and handling procedures. For more information, go to: [www.ccaha.org](http://www.ccaha.org).
October 17
Home Movie Day will be held on this Saturday to provide individuals and families an opportunity to see and share their own home movies with their community and to see their neighbors too. It’s also a chance to learn how best to care for these films. For more information about the event and locations, go to: www.homemovieday.com.

October 19–22
The Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums 2009 National Conference will be held in Portland, Oregon. Theme is “Streams of Language, Memory and Lifeways.” For more information, visit www.tribalconference.org.

FUNDING

American Institute of Physics
The Center for the History of Physics and the Niels Bohr Library and Archives at the American Institute of Physics announces the 2009 “Grants to Archives.” The grants are available for physics, astronomy, and geophysics collections. The grants are intended to make accessible records, papers, and other primary sources that document the history of modern physics and allied fields (such as astronomy, geophysics, and optics). Grants may be up to $10,000 each and can be used to cover direct expenses connected with preserving, inventoring, arranging, describing, or cataloging appropriate collections. Expenses can include staff salaries and benefits and archival storage materials but not overhead or equipment. Application deadline is August 14, 2009. The center’s mission is to help preserve and make known the history of modern physics, astronomy, and allied sciences, and the grant program is intended to help support significant work to make original sources in these fields accessible to researchers. Preference will be given to medium-size or larger projects for which the grant will be matched by the parent organization or other funding sources. For grant guidelines see http://www.aip.org/history/grntgde.htm or call (301) 209-3165. Inquiries are welcome, and sample proposals are available.

CALL FOR PAPERS

2010 Virginia Forum
The Fifth Annual Virginia Forum will meet at Christopher Newport University in Newport News (located in Hampton Roads) Virginia, April 15–17, 2010. It will include a visit to the Mariners’ Museum, adjacent to the campus. The Virginia Forum invites proposals for presentations on all topics in Virginia history and culture, but the Hampton Roads area’s relationship to the Atlantic Ocean, Chesapeake Bay, and other waterways offers a special opportunity to reflect on maritime history and culture. Proposals from graduate and undergraduate students conducting research in Virginia history are encouraged. The Virginia Forum invites proposals for individual papers or complete panel sessions, roundtable discussions, workshops, poster sessions, or electronic multimedia presentations. Proposals for individual papers, posters or electronic presentations should be no more than one page, single-spaced in standard font. The proposal should include a title, the name of the participant(s) and his/her affiliation, and an abstract of the presentation that discusses the sources used and the significance of the topic presented. Proposals for complete panel sessions, workshops, etc., should include a one-page description of the overall session, as well as a separate, one-page description for each individual presentation in the session. Additional information is available online at www.virginiaforum.org. Deadline is September 15, 2009.

8th European Conference on Digital Archiving
The International Council on Archives’ (ICA) European Regional Branch and the Section on Professional Associations, together with the Swiss Federal Archives, invite proposals for presentations at the 8th European Conference on Digital Archiving. The conference will be held April 28–30, 2010 in Geneva, Switzerland. Find information on topics, procedures, and deadlines at: www.bar.admin.ch/eca2010.
Waltz Across Texas and Glide Into Austin

Meet your colleagues in Austin, Texas, August 11–16 for the Joint Annual Meeting of the Council of State Archivists and the Society of American Archivists. You can find the conference schedule and online registration form for Sustainable Archives: AUSTIN 2009 at www.archivists.org. See ya’ll there!