

archival outlook

Back to the Drawing Board

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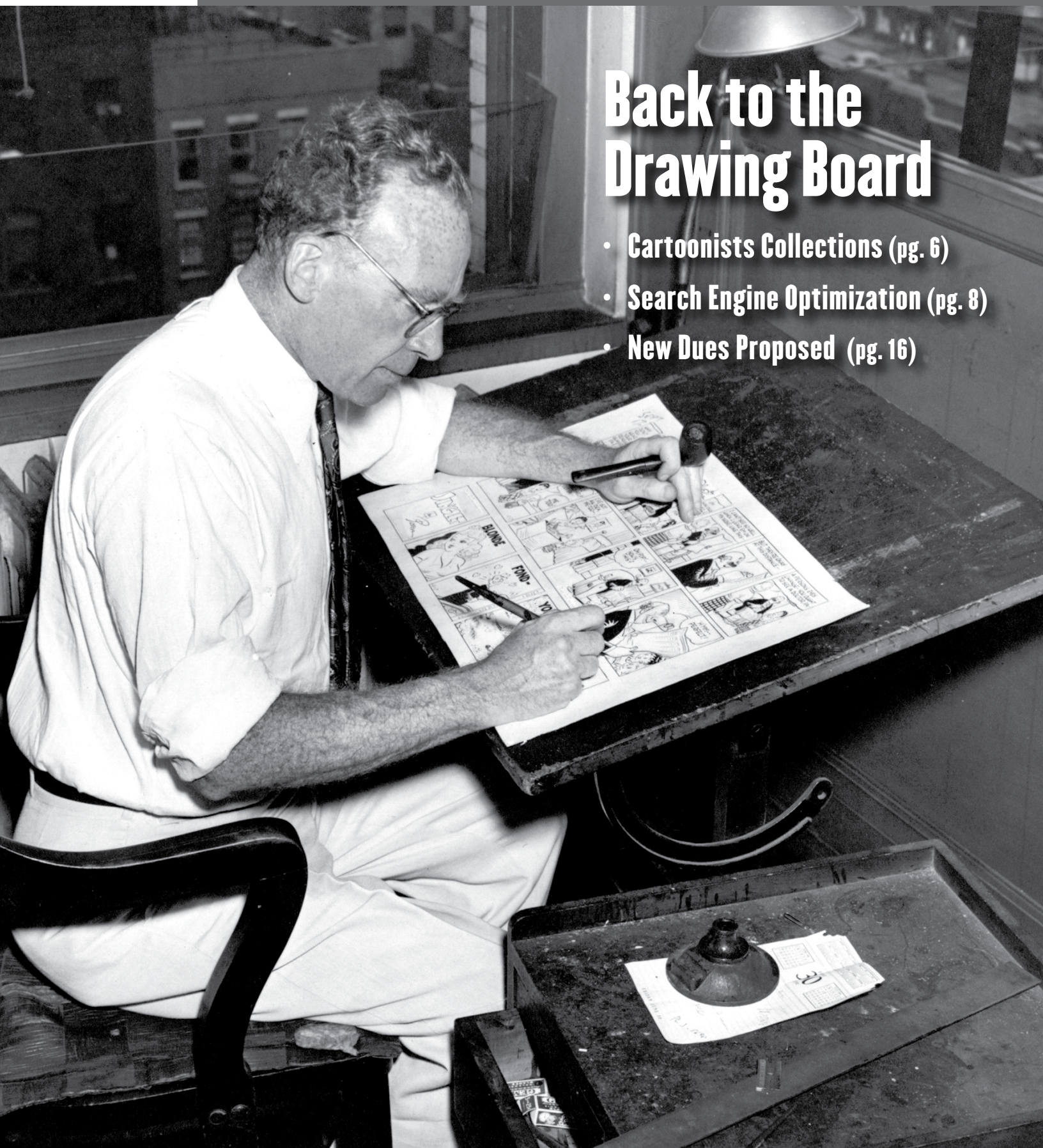


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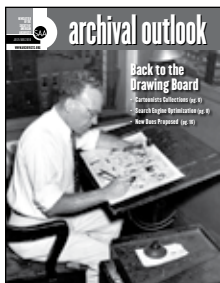
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On the cover

Back to the Drawing Board . . . Al Posen (1895-1960), cartoonist for the comic strip *Sweeney and Son*. From the Alvah Posen Papers, Special Collections Research Center, Syracuse University Library. Turn to page 6 to read about the approaches that institutions like Syracuse take to provide access to collections containing cartoons.

archival outlook

the society of american archivists
serves the education and information needs
of its members and provides leadership to
help ensure the identification, preservation
and use of the nation's historical record.

NANCY P. BEAUMONT

Executive Director
nbeaumont@archivists.org

TERESA M. BRINATI

Director of Publishing
tbrinati@archivists.org

SOLVEIG DE SUTTER

Director of Education
sdesutter@archivists.org

BRIAN P. DOYLE

Director of Member and Technical Services
bdoyle@archivists.org

LEE GONZALEZ

Service Center Representative
lgonzalez@archivists.org

TOM JURCZAK

Director of Finance and Administration
tjurczak@archivists.org

RENÉ MUELLER

Project Assistant
rmueller@archivists.org

CARLOS R. SALGADO

Service Center Manager
csalgado@archivists.org

JENNY SCHOOLEY

Editorial and Production Assistant
jschooley@archivists.org

JEANETTE SPEARS

Service Center Representative
jspears@archivists.org

Archival Outlook (ISSN 1520-3379) is published six times a year and distributed as a membership benefit by the Society of American Archivists. Contents of the newsletter may be reproduced in whole or in part provided that credit is given. Direct all advertising inquiries and general correspondence to: Jenny Schooley, Society of American Archivists, 17 North State Street, Suite 1425, Chicago, IL 60602; 312-606-0722; toll free 866-SAA-7858; fax 312-606-0728; jschooley@archivists.org; www.archivists.org.

∞ *Archival Outlook* is printed on paper that meets the requirements of the American National Standards Institute—Permanence of Paper, ANSI Z39.48-1992.



Raising the Bar for SAA

Among several actions at its May 2010 meeting, the SAA Council took two related steps that elevate our sights for the coming years—it set exciting new goals in a revised version of SAA's strategic plan for 2010–2014 (available on the SAA website at www.archivists.org) and adopted a proposal for a phased-in dues increase to strengthen SAA's finances (see page 16) for a detailed explanation and analysis).

We have an opportunity through the Council's actions to recommit ourselves to the work we believe in and the values we share.

Although the Council played its leadership role for SAA in these actions, the outcomes for both decisions depend on all of us in SAA. Only diligent work by many members and staff can move us toward the plan's lofty goals, and only members' approval of the dues increase proposal at the Annual Membership Meeting in August can secure the financial foundation we need to pursue these goals and strengthen SAA.

Using members' comments and suggestions on earlier versions of the plan, the Council aims high in this final draft. While the plan carries forward the three priorities that SAA first adopted in 2005—technology, diversity, and advocacy/public awareness—it tackles them with new goals ("desired outcomes") and actions.

For technology, it commits SAA to develop or endorse new standards for preserving and managing digital archives, including the International Standards Organization's digital repository standard, and directs SAA staff and others to deploy new and emerging technologies to improve communications among members and with external audiences. For the diversity priority, the plan calls for the expansion of SAA's new Mosaic Scholarships into a full program of professional support for minority students in graduate archival education programs. For advocacy/public awareness, new goals focus on amplifying our public relations through a better understanding of users' and employers' perceptions of archives. These are just some examples of the ambitious sights the plan sets.

We are not waiting to start working on other goals in the strategic plan that took final form some time ago. For example, new working groups on government affairs and cultural property already began defining issues that can focus future work in these key areas for SAA. Surveys of workshop instructors and SAA members provided information on how continuing education on electronic records management can be improved. SAA staff members started redesigning the SAA website to improve communications. This energy and enthusiasm sets a great example for the total effort that we all must make to reach our strategic goals.

In addition to the actual work the plan requires, we must also find the funds to support the progress we want to make. The Council's decision to propose a dues increase looks to the same future envisioned by the plan—a future in which SAA better serves its members and continually strengthens the archives profession. Our current financial resources cannot accomplish this, and we need the proposed modest rise in member dues to lay the necessary foundation for fiscal stability. We must also build on that foundation by gaining additional revenues through fundraising, grants, and earned income at the same time that we maintain SAA's tradition of frugality. The Council's review of SAA's budget for Fiscal Year 2011 led to cutbacks in several categories. SAA staff members continue to keep operation expenditures in check, just as they have for many years.

The new strategic plan and the proposed dues increase are parts of a whole, and that whole is about SAA's future. The Council took a fresh look at what we must do to address long-standing issues and fulfill our dreams. The planning goals and the dues increase raise the bar for SAA and the archives profession. We have an opportunity through the Council's actions to recommit ourselves to the work we believe in and the values we share. I call on all SAA members to find the parts of the plan that most interest you and to pitch in. I also ask you to read the dues increase proposal carefully, consider the stakes for SAA, and vote your support at the Annual Membership Meeting in August. ❖



An Archivist's Last Day on the Job

A remarkable and touching story by staff writer Margaret Matray about an archivist's last day on the job appeared on the *Casper (Wyoming) Star-Tribune's* trib.com website on Monday, July 5 (posted at 2:00 am!).*

The archivist is Kevin Anderson, a long-time SAA member. The repository is the Casper College Western History Center. The article describes Kevin's last day before retirement, at the age of 56, from a job that he held for 18 years: "He came to the Goodstein Foundation Library in 1987, working first in technical services and later in acquisitions and automation. He took the archivist position with special collections in 1992. He became a certified archivist, and the collections became the Western History Center in 2007."

Matray writes: "Years ago, Anderson realized what the Western History Center could be. He wanted to help create a repository he would like to find if he were doing research." And she quotes him: "'This is my dream job,' he says. 'But I have other dreams.'"

But this article does so much more than describe Kevin's last day:

To those who haven't visited, the name of the center might suggest the archives serve as a collection of cowboy and ranching stories, all things West. But one of Anderson's first patron requests helped a family reconnect. He has helped find information to prove legal cases, locate lost loves, uncover stories of historic homes. 'Many times the information we have actually makes a difference in the quality of someone's life,' Anderson says. 'It has consequences.'

What seems most important about the story is that Kevin's role as an archivist is both exemplary and typical. There are so many in the archives profession who do the same work in their own communities and for their own users. Kevin may minimize his role when he says that he's "the steward, just delivering information from the archives to the patrons."

Enhancing public awareness of archives and archivists is a long-standing challenge for, and oft-repeated goal of, the Society of American Archivists. It's a tough nut to crack—especially with very limited resources. Is our goal to increase funding for archives? Increase archivists' salaries? Make "archivist" a household word? All of the above? How will we measure success?

The SAA Council discussed these and other questions during its February 2010 strategic planning session on public awareness. Working with a PR expert as facilitator, Council members and staff made some changes in the public awareness strategic priority, including a shift in our strategy for American Archives Month. (See the strategic plan at: <http://www2.archivists.org/governance/strategic-priorities>)

You didn't receive the *American Archives Month Public Relations Kit* and Poster with this year's May/June issue of *Archival Outlook* because we're busy re-tooling it to support a new desired outcome: "Using American Archives Month as one communication vehicle, plan and implement a public relations campaign, directed to users of archives, whose goals are to 1) increase users' appreciation of archives, 2) continue to 'brand' American Archives Month as a profession-wide opportunity to build public awareness, and 3) increase archivists' involvement in public awareness activities. (FY 2011–FY 2014)"

That campaign will be built on the idea—expressed so beautifully in the article about Kevin Anderson—that what you do "has consequences." Watch for it soon after the annual meeting.

SAA does not—and likely will not—have the significant resources needed to buy national advertising or ongoing public relations counsel. Our FY 2011 budget does include some funding for PR counsel to help us get started in this new direction, but we will rely on the grassroots—you—to help spread the word. ❖

Three items of business will be brought before the membership at the Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, August 14, 2010, 12:45–1:45 pm, at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Salon 2: 1) a constitutional amendment on "Foreign Associate Members' Eligibility for Fellowship," 2) a constitutional amendment on "Membership 'Grace' Period," and 3) a proposal for a phased-in dues increase, effective July 1, 2011.

For more information about the proposed constitutional amendments, see page 15. For more information about the proposed dues increase, see Treasurer Aimee Felker's article on page 16.

*See http://trib.com/news/local/article_8442a857-cf19-5b97-b50c-ecc579afb023.html

DC 2010

Archives ★ Records

Marriott Wardman Park
August 10–15

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION RATES

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ADVANCE (online, postmarked, or faxed by July 13)

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See www.archivists.org/conference
for details.



Joint Annual Meeting

Behind Cartoon Archives

SUSAN KLINE, Special Collections Research Center, Syracuse University Library

Cartoons try to make us laugh, tell stories, and express political opinions. They are part of our popular and visual culture. However, for archivists, curators, and librarians responsible for collections containing these works, it can be challenging to provide access to these historical records.

Cartoons draw interest from various groups: scholars in how particular topics are depicted in caricatures; artists in differing techniques; publishers in how to reprint full runs of classic comic strips; and fans and collectors in expressing their continued passion for this art form.

In fact, blogs and self-created databases of these fans and collectors prove enormously helpful in locating biographical information for some lesser-known cartoonists. Several approaches are taken by institutions in working with these unique visual resources.

Cartoons and Cartoonists

In 2008, the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) at Syracuse University began a two-year NHPRC grant-funded detailed processing project, "Cartoons and Cartoonists." SCRC is home to nearly 200 collections relating to cartooning—mostly in the form of original artwork for comic strips and editorial cartoons. Although collected primarily 40 to 45 years ago, the works on paper remained hidden and underutilized until now. This project allowed for greater access to these significant collections.

Generating useful and detailed Encoded Archival Description (EAD) finding aids was a key part of the project. To effectively describe cartoons, it's paramount to understand what is important to the people interested in cartoons, and explore how to best present that information in finding aids and through EAD.

One of the most taxing parts of working with cartoons, or visual materials in general, is grappling with the process of describing these materials. A consideration was to find a balance that allowed for the successful completion of the project in the Fall of 2010, while deciding what level of description provides researchers with enhanced access to these collections.

Item-level description is not feasible because of the scope and nature of these particular collections as each typically includes hundreds to thousands of individual cartoons.

Illustrating the Topic

The struggle to effectively describe cartoons—specifically editorial cartoons—requires the consideration of two questions: 1) What is the cartoon of? and 2) What is the cartoon about?

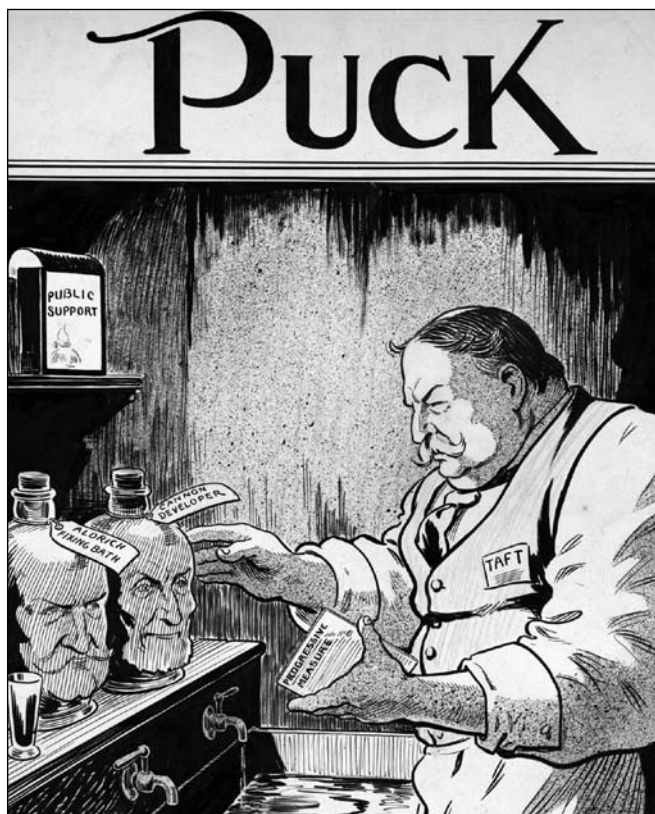
The concepts of "of" and "about" are addressed in the *Thesaurus for Graphic Materials*, with the former albeit more objective. An observer may not be able to argue whether or not an elephant is present in a cartoon. Still, what the elephant signifies is up to interpretation. Cartoonists use caricature, allegory, labeling, symbolism, captioning, and dialogue to express ideas about sometimes complex topics.

Along with figuring out what to describe, there is the issue of what terms to use to explain an image. Should an institu-

tion establish an in-house thesaurus, use the *Thesaurus for Graphic Materials*, or Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) terms? Determining which set of vocabulary to employ depends heavily on the level of detail an archivist provides and how an archivist anticipates prospective researchers will want to use the materials.



Detail of a 1916 original pen and ink cartoon drawing, "Remove this blot!" From the Carey Orr Cartoons, Special Collections Research Center, Syracuse University Library.



A cartoon used for the cover of *Puck* magazine by L.M. Glackens, titled "In the Republican Darkroom, An Amateur Photographer Who Spoils Good Plates by Using Bad Chemicals," which depicts President William Howard Taft. Pen and ink, 1910. General Cartoon Collection, Special Collections Research Center, Syracuse University Library.

In editorial cartoon collections I have processed, I used both a lengthy list of terms compiled from "indexed" cartoons at the box and folder level in EAD, as well as specific LCSH terms for MACHine Readable Cataloging (MARC) records. These can aid people looking for cartoons and caricatures of specific people or topics in the OPAC.

How can archivists meet the needs of scholars whose research takes place increasingly in digital and online spaces?

Changing Culture

While archivists work to reduce processing backlogs of cartoons and other visual materials, cartoons themselves and modes of access to them are changing. It is worth looking at what possibilities exist for digitization of these items.

A seemingly complex maze of rights holders exists for archivists to navigate including individual artists and the content-producing companies, such as newspapers and syndicates for which they worked (many of which are no longer in business). Today, the work of fewer editorial cartoonists graces our newspaper pages, and the popularity of web comics and digital techniques for creating artwork present new challenges for these historical documents. How can archivists meet the needs of scholars whose research takes place increasingly in digital and online spaces?

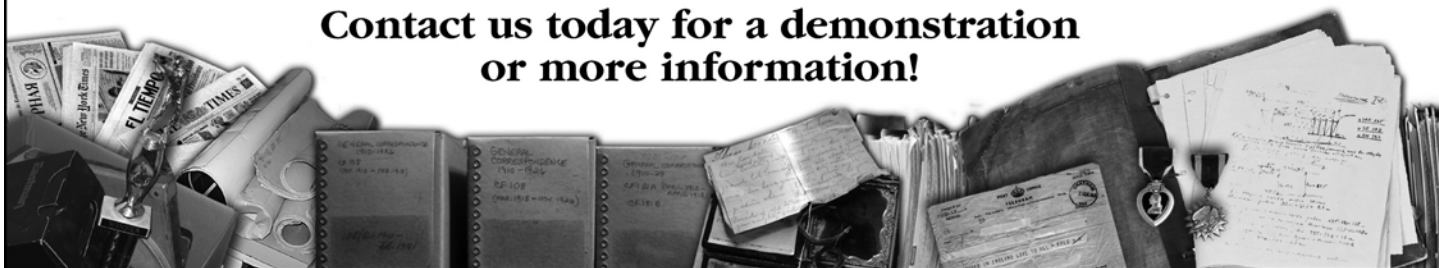
These questions and more will be addressed during Session 508: *Perspectives on Cartoons: Art, Archival Objects, and Assets* on August 14 at DC 2010. ❖



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Building Optimal Web Traffic

JEANNE KRAMER-SMYTH, "Spellbound Blog"

Even the most beautiful website is not serving its purpose if your target audience doesn't know it exists.

Think of Search Engine Optimization (SEO) as a set of techniques intended to move your web content higher on search engine results pages. When people search the Internet using tools such as Google and Bing, you want your resources to be displayed at the top of the list.

Most websites for cultural heritage institutions have done a fine job of creating homepages for their websites. Pages are returned appropriately by Google when users search for an institution by name. Areas ripe for improvement are lower-level detail pages, such as those for specific archival and manuscript collections, online exhibitions, and individual materials.

Why Worry about Optimization?

Two key ideas to understand are "organic search traffic" and the "long tail."

Organic search traffic refers to the stream of visitors sent to your website when they click on links to your pages listed on search engine results pages. This is in contrast to traffic that you pull in via advertising or those who directly visit your site by typing a URL or using a bookmark.

Think of the opportunity presented by organic traffic as you would foot traffic past the front door of your repository. Individuals may not be interested in your institution, but may be interested in a subject that your collections covers well.

Chris Anderson of *Wired Magazine* described the power of the *long tail* in a *Wired* article of the same name. He claimed that the future belongs not to the bestsellers, but rather to "the millions of niche markets at the shallow end of the bit-stream." The nature of archival collections is such that the content is likely to appeal to many individuals' very narrow and specific interests. It is unlikely that individual archival records will be popular, in the sense of a bestselling book, but the Internet gives many records the chance to be popular within one or more special interest groups scattered around the world.

For the average Internet user, the path leading to the discovery of niche content is paved with Google search boxes.

Topic and Keyword Research

One of the cornerstones of SEO is keyword research—using available tools to examine the search volume of specific keyword phrases. The wrong title for a page can mean little or no search traffic. A good example to explain this is "World War II." According to Google's free research tool, Google Insight, in the past 12 months in the United States over three times as many searches were conducted for "World War 2" than for "World War II." Doing basic checks like this when



choosing titles for major topical areas of your website can make a great difference in how many people discover your content.

Page Construction Best Practices

There are a number of best practices to follow when creating individual pages. Ease of implementing these basic rules depends on how your site was built. Here are a few examples of page construction best practices:

- Clear primary keyword target phrase for every page.
- One URL per page.
- A unique page title for every page.
- Content rich text (Google cannot read your images or watch your videos—there needs to be text).

Analytics

After publishing content online, your SEO work is not done. Analyzing the search engine keywords that drive traffic to your content is crucial to find areas for improvement. Tools like Google Analytics collect this type of information along with other useful statistics.

Even if you plan a full site redesign, analytics for your current site is a great place to start your SEO research. A few months of Google Analytics data can help identify your most popular content, your least visited content, and the content that does not match your visitors' expectations.

There is no silver bullet to SEO. It is currently estimated that more than 200 factors are fed into Google's algorithms for ranking pages. Optimization opportunities are endless. Even individual page improvements can incrementally improve your position on search engine results pages.

Join panelists Matt Herbison, Mark Matienzo, and me for Session 502: *Not on Google? It Doesn't Exist: Findability and Search Engine Optimization for Archives* on August 14 at DC 2010. ❖

Meet the "History Detectives" at DC 2010!



Tukufu Zuberi
History Detectives
Host

Come meet History Detectives host Tukufu Zuberi and colleagues who have worked with the acclaimed PBS series at our Atlas Systems booth, located right by the entrance to the Exhibit Hall, on Friday from 11:30–1:00.

Atlas is proud to be partnering with Oregon Public Broadcasting to present a panel session on public television and archival advocacy that will feature the History Detectives. It will give you a behind-the-scenes look at how the series' intriguing and entertaining episodes are produced. Session 401 will be held on Friday morning from 10:00–11:30am, just before the Exhibit Hall luncheon.



*For me, history is very important,
but it's easy to lose the meaning of history
if you ignore the ordinary individuals
who make up history and the social forces
that influence and help shape
the context of our past.*

Be sure to make a note about both of these special events on your conference calendar.


Aeon
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More and more special collections libraries and archives have been discovering how Aeon can help them increase user satisfaction and enhance staff productivity even as they adjust to tighter budgets. Isn't it time you took a closer look? Learn more at DC 2010 or sign up for an introductory web demo by visiting our website or contacting Aeon Program Director Christian Dupont at cdupont@atlas-sys.com.

**Atlas Systems is pleased to welcome
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Repository Tours and Open Houses During *DC 2010*

DC 2010 Host Committee

Washington, D.C.-area archivists are opening their doors to *DC 2010* attendees on Tuesday, August 10, and Wednesday, August 11—and have they got sights for you to see! Arrive early for the conference and take a walk in the basilica, the largest Roman Catholic Church in the United States. Stroll through the Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives collections of stereographs and lantern slides. Or tour the Library of Congress' new state-of-the-art Collections Recovery Room. Visit the SAA website for the most up-to-date listing.

Catholic University Archives Tour

The Catholic University Archives will host a tour of its reading room and closed stacks, followed by a trip to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception where a trained guide will give a tour of the basilica, the largest Roman Catholic Church in the United States.

The Crowley Company Tour

The Crowley Company invites participants to tour its service bureau and participate in an interactive floor discussion on the latest in archival preservation and digitization practices and technologies. Debate the merits of scanning in-house versus outsourcing. Projects on the floor consist of those from the LIFE Photo Archive and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Folger Shakespeare Library Tour

Stop by to view archival materials associated with the David Garrick Collection (1717-1779). Garrick was the premier tragic actor in 18th-century England and the first promoter of Shakespeare as a theatrical icon. The Folger is home to hundreds of items related to Garrick and his career, including prompt-books, letters, original scripts, porcelain figurines, and art work.

Library of Congress Tours and Open Houses

Library of Congress American Folklife Center Reading Room Tour

Folklorists and other ethnographers took advantage of each succeeding technology, from Thomas Edison's wax-cylinder recording machine, to the latest digital audio equipment in order to record the voices and music of many regional, ethnic, and cultural groups worldwide. Much of this documentation is assembled and preserved in the Archive of Folk Culture.

Library of Congress American Folklife Center Veterans History Project Open House

The nation's largest oral history project, the Veterans History Project (VHP), holds 68,000 first-hand accounts of veterans

from World War I through Iraq and Afghanistan. Created by Congress in 2000, VHP resides within the Library's American Folklife Center. See collections, meet members of the processing and acquisitions teams, and watch excerpts of oral history.

Library of Congress Asian Division Tour

With collections of more than one million volumes, the Asian Division at the Library of Congress is the largest repository of Asian vernacular language materials outside of Asia. These materials reflect a broad range of subjects and include titles from East, South, and Southeast Asia, as well as Asian American and Pacific Islander materials.

Library of Congress Manuscript Division Tour

Visit the Manuscript Division for a behind-the-scenes look at its facilities and operations. The division is home to the papers of 23 presidents, as well as the repository of



One collection of the Catholic University Archives is the Papers of Terence Vincent Powderly, head of the powerful Knights of Labor union in the late 19th century. Pictured here: Terence Vincent Powderly and Mother Jones.

personal papers and records of notable Americans and organizations from the country's founding to the present.

Library of Congress Preservation Directorate Tour

This tour provides an overview of a full range of services undertaken by the Library of Congress Preservation Directorate. Visitors will see hands-on treatments of rare collections items and view the Library's new Collections Recovery Room, used to recover items that have experienced collections emergencies such as leaks or mold.

Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Open House

See a display of visual materials (photographs, cartoons, posters, fine art prints, and architectural drawings) that represent creative solutions for both researcher access and preservation. The collections total more than 14 million items. Its scope is international, with a special emphasis on the lives, interests, and achievements of the American people.

Library of Congress Recorded Sound Section and the Performing Arts Library Tour

The Performing Arts Reading Room is the access point for the vast and diverse collections in the custody of the Music Division at the Library of Congress with approximately 20.5 million items that span more than 1,000 years of Western music history and practice.

Niels Bohr Library and Archives and the Center for the History of Physics Tour

The Library & Archives serves as an international clearing-house for information and an advocate for preserving the history of physics, astronomy, geophysics, and allied fields. In-house holdings include a collection of textbooks, monographs, biographies, and related publications, dating mostly from 1850 to 1950.

Smithsonian Institution Tours and Open Houses

Smithsonian Institution American Art Museum—Research and Scholars Center Open House

Come see selections from the museum's extensive Photograph Archives, comprising more than one-half million images documenting American art and the American art scene from Colonial to Contemporary times. The Peter A. Juley and Son Collection, the National Endowment for the Arts Visual Artists Archive, and the American Sculpture Study Collection will be on display.

Smithsonian Institution Archives of American Art Tour

Join a tour and discussion of the Archives of American Art's *Collections Online*—a web interface that provides user-friendly and contextual access to fully digitized archival collections. The Archives digitized 100 individual collections represented in more than 500 linear feet and totaling circa one million digital files as part of its Terra Foundation for American Art Digitization Program.

continued on page 34

Organizing data for eloquent presentation!



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Archivists as Storytellers

JENNY SCHOOLEY, SAA

Archivists are storytellers. Just ask Roland Baumann, Oberlin College emeritus archivist and professor of history.

Baumann's objective was to produce a non-traditional 175-year history of African American education at Oberlin College.

He began uncovering documents in the university's archives that directly differed from the college's account of its racial equality.

In 1835, Oberlin began admitting students regardless of race. Thirty first-person accounts that Baumann dug up—in the form of letters, petitions, board minutes, applications, student protest circulars, student senate minutes, letters to the editor, and memoranda, (among other documents)—paint a different picture, one that finds the implementation of its admissions policy as uneven.

He set out to tell its story.

"Archivists and curators play a role in the storytelling that should take place in all repositories," says Baumann.

In *Constructing Black Education at Oberlin College: A Documentary History*, Baumann shares a record of the educational opportunities and experience of African Americans at Oberlin. According to Baumann, it's a testament to minority history's importance today. Even more, it shows that archivists and curators are more than collectors of minority history and the communities they represent.

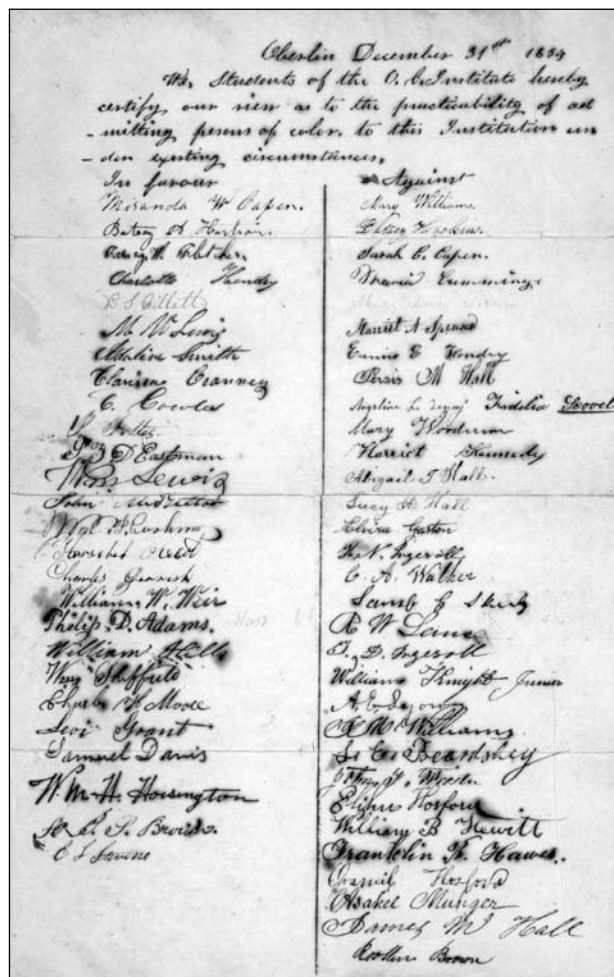
Telling the Story

Thirty-six oral history interviews in person and by telephone fill a gap in Oberlin's record and sometimes confirm it.

Oberlin's implementation of educational equality could not be followed consistently, perhaps, Baumann says, because of a convergence in ideas coming out of the American



A program for the 1846 Oberlin celebration of the First of August. Instead of celebrating the Fourth of July, black and white abolitionists and members of the wider community commemorated the anniversary of the emancipation of slaves in the British West Indies on August 1, 1834. Courtesy of Oberlin College Archives.



On the last day of December 1834, Oberlin students circulated the questionnaire, "As to the Practicability of Admitting Persons of Color." A slim majority came out in opposition to admitting black students. Courtesy of Oberlin College Archives.

Revolution and the Second Great Awakening.

"Confronting the racial history of Oberlin College through documents represented one way for me to initiate the larger academic discourse to follow," he says.

Documents describe the changes in Oberlin's cultural, religious, and academic perspectives over the years. Records document anger, fear, goodwill, and miscommunication on behalf of students, professors, and the community at large.

"Oberlin College was the pioneer in committing the institution to diversity," Baumann says. "By the turn of the 20th century, one-third of all black professionals in the United States had an Oberlin education connection."

In the Archives

A glimpse at some of the 30 documents from the college's archives helped tell how Oberlin wrestled over the meaning of race and the destiny of African Americans. The book describes in detail these documents and others:

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How Chicago Archivists Leverage Special Interests

SUSAN RISHWORTH, American College of Surgeons; **MALACHY R. MCCARTHY**, Claretian Missionaries Archives USA; **DAVID B. MALONE**, Wheaton College; and **DIANE PUGH**, American Theological Library Association

In this economy, archivists are banding together in unprecedented ways to work effectively and continue their professional development despite budget challenges. In Chicago, four local archives special interest groups (SIGs) are doing just this.

Susan Rishworth, founder of the Chicago Area Medical Archivists (CAMA), came to Chicago from D.C. in 2001 to begin work as archivist for the American College of Surgeons. She was a lone arranger armed with a couple of names of people from the Archivists and Librarians in the History of Health Sciences Group, a national association of which she is still a member. One name was the late John Zwicky, archivist for the Pediatric History Center, American Academy of Pediatrics.

After Zwicky introduced her to archivists associated with medical collections in Chicago, Rishworth made site visits to other Chicago archival repositories of medical associations, hospitals, academic medical centers, and museums. When she reported on her delight in finding colleagues who had such overlapping interests and work experiences, her manager suggested that she invite them all for a wine-and-cheese get-together at the College.

It was more of a punch-and-cookies event on one cold February 2002 Chicago afternoon when 15 attendees discovered the many similarities in their collections, researchers, and the research questions they often fielded at their repositories. They decided to meet again to discuss common challenges, but also with the idea of potential collaborative efforts. CAMA originated that day.

Joining Forces

Soon, other Chicagoland groups formed. The LIBRAS Archives Special Interest Group started in late 2007, providing

support for archivists and those with archival responsibilities within academic libraries in the private liberal-arts college consortium. In many instances, archivists within the consortium are the sole archivist at their institution, and their archival responsibilities are likely coupled with other duties, such as reference or cataloging within the general library.

Many archivists of religious collections are lone arrangers, some coming to archives work with little or no training in the profession, though often possessing a deep knowledge of their religious community's history. Realizing the need for a professional group to promote networking among these repositories, religious archivists formed a small local group after the 2007 SAA Annual Meeting in Chicago. In 2008, the Chicago Area Religious Archivists (CARA) became a reality.

Array of Advantages

The benefits of these SIGs are several. It has been said that all politics is local—similarly, one could say that all archives are local. A special interest group allows a person to focus on the local region or smaller locale; work with other area archives that may share a collective heritage geographically or ethnically; and build in-depth professional relationships.

During the year that CAMA was founded, one member with resources offered to host what became an Annual Medical History Symposium. Now in its eighth year, the event is an opportunity for Chicago-area medical archivists to display their wares while listening to speakers, including fellow archivists, physicians, and historians who have researched in the group's archives.

Cost is another draw to SIGs. Larger regional or national archival professional organizations offer enriching educational

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A glimpse of a 2009 fall Chicago Area Religious Archivists meeting during which members toured the Billy Graham Center Archives. From left to right: Nahoko Green, Chicago History Museum; David Malone, Wheaton College Archives and Special Collections; Malachy McCarthy, Claretian Missionaries Archives; Alison Eisendrath, Chicago History Museum; Karen Fulte, Bishop Fulton Sheen Spiritual Centre and Museum; Anthony Elia, JMK Library, Lutheran School of Theology; Linda Marshall, Highland Park Historical Society; Stephennne Freeman, Highland Park Historical Society; Mary Hennessey, Cenacle Sisters Archives; Merle Branner, North Shore Congregation Israel; and Dominique Trembley, Chicago History Museum.

Council Adopts Fiscal Year 2011 Budget, Votes to Propose Phased-In Dues Increase Beginning July 2011

Against a backdrop of newly refined strategic priorities, and with a mind to ongoing economic conditions, the SAA Council reviewed and adopted at its May 26–28 meeting in Chicago a Fiscal Year 2011 budget with revenues of \$2,421,521, expenses of \$2,420,943, and a projected net gain of \$578. Included in the budget work plan are a host of activities directed to moving SAA toward the desired outcomes associated with its strategic priorities (technology, diversity, and public awareness/advocacy).

Council Actions

- Adopted revised Strategic Priorities for 2010–2014, with desired outcomes, measurable activities, and activity plans. See the SAA website for the complete document.
- Discussed the Committee on Education's recommended revision of Guidelines for a Graduate Program in Archival Science (GPAS) and assigned Council members Helen Tibbo and Bruce Ambacher to review the document in more detail and suggest additional revisions. The document may be considered for an interim vote of the Council prior to its August 2010 meeting.
- Discussed drafts of an SAA "Statement on Diversity" and an SAA "Values Statement," both of which will be posted for member comment this summer.
- Approved creation of a Digital Archives Continuing Education Task Force, which will develop a workshop curriculum on the subject of digital archives per the strategic priority activity that, "SAA will provide education and training to its members to ensure that they are aware of relevant standards and adopt appropriate practices for appraising, capturing, preserving, and providing access to electronic records." The new curriculum is due in time for related activities to be included in the FY 2012 budget. A call for volunteers to serve on the task force appeared in the June 8 issue of *In the Loop*.
- Declined recommendations to 1) investigate reciprocal membership and registration programs with related professional organizations and 2) fund two scholarships to the Modern Archives Institute out of operations.
- Approved creation of a task force to develop policies for vendor participation in SAA activities. Consisting of

representatives from relevant stakeholder groups (institutions, vendors, individual members), the task force will "review existing SAA policies, research other organizations' policies, and draft a balanced policy for SAA

that would assist the SAA staff, Council members, and members to respond to the host of issues surrounding vendor participation in SAA programs, activities, groups, and listservs," with interim reports to the February and May 2011 Council meetings and a final report with recommendations to the Council in August 2011. A call for volunteers to serve on the task force was issued via *In the Loop* and the SAA home page.

- Rescinded a February 2010 motion to recommend a Constitutional amendment to grant Fellowship eligibility to "primary contacts" of institutional members, pending further research and discussion of institutional member benefits.

- Discussed Mosaic Scholarship funding options; the scheduling of committee meetings during the Annual Meeting; and the *DC 2010* Joint Annual Meeting schedule.
- Voted to bestow Council Exemplary Service Awards on three individuals for their outstanding support of SAA. The awards will be announced at the DC 2010 Awards Ceremony August 13, from 5:45 to 7 p.m.

Phased-In Dues Increase

Based on a recommendation from the Finance Committee, the Council voted to put forward to the membership at the 2010 Annual Membership Meeting a motion that, effective July 1, 2011, a graduated dues increase be phased in over a three-year period. The Council noted that implementation of a phased-in dues increase "is critical to support the ongoing financial stability of the organization, to reflect cost-of-business increases since the last dues change (in January 2008), to accommodate changes in non-dues revenue streams (including publications, workshops, and Annual Meetings), to ensure a fair distribution of the dues burden among the various categories of membership, and to bring SAA into alignment with association best practices and recommendations [regarding the ratio of dues revenue and non-dues revenue]." For more information about the proposed dues increase, see page 16. ♦

Council has taken care for the coming year to fund the priorities in SAA's strategic plan while also budgeting for continuing commitments and established programs. This required us to keep SAA's work well focused and find some savings to balance the budget.

—SAA President Peter Gottlieb

Two Constitutional Amendments to Be Considered at August 14 Membership Meeting

At its February and May 2010 meetings the Council approved two recommendations for amendments to the SAA Constitution.

Foreign Associate Members' Eligibility for Fellowship

MOTION: That the SAA Constitution be amended as follows: [underline = addition]

III. Membership

B. Fellows of the Society of American Archivists

To recognize sustained and outstanding achievements in pursuit of the goals of the profession and the work of the Society, there shall be a special class of individual dues-paying members, known as Fellows of the Society of American Archivists, which shall consist of members elected to that class by a seventy-five percent (75%) vote of the Committee on the Selection of Fellows. The number of Fellows shall be no more than five percent (5%) of the total individual membership reported at the last annual business meeting of the Society. No member of the Society shall be elected a Fellow who has not been a full member or a foreign associate member of the Society in good standing for at least seven (7) years immediately preceding election.

Support Statement: Per the recommendation of the Committee on the Selection of Fellows, this change would "enable SAA to honor foreign associate members who have made a substantial contribution to the Society or to the archives profession. Such members regularly attend SAA meetings in addition to the meetings of their own national associations." The requirement for seven years of continuous membership may be met with any combination of full membership or foreign associate membership. Domestic associate members are not eligible to be SAA Fellows.

Fiscal Impact: None.

Membership "Grace" Period

MOTION: That the SAA Constitution be amended as follows: [strikethrough = deletion, underline = addition]

IV. Dues

A member shall be enrolled upon the first payment of dues and shall receive benefits during the period for which dues have been paid. All dues shall be payable in advance. Membership in good standing shall cease when dues are ~~ninety (90)~~ twenty-eight (28) days in arrears. Changes in membership dues shall be determined by a majority vote of those members present and voting at the annual business meeting of the Society.

Support Statement: SAA conducted general elections via an online ballot for the first time in 2009. In the course of configuring the electronic voting system, staff discovered a discrepancy between a policy in SAA's Constitution and long-standing administrative practice. According to Article IV of the SAA Constitution, "Membership in good standing shall cease when dues are ninety (90) days in arrears." For at least the past 10 years, office procedure has been to cancel member status approximately one month after the dues expiration date. SAA's old association management software system (AMS) was set up according to this model no later than 1999. (No records are available at SAA Headquarters regarding procedures prior to that time.) Unaware of the discrepancy, staff configured the new AMS according to the same logic in April 2007. For the purpose of the 2009 and 2010 elections, the 90-day grace period was honored. At the Council's February 2010 meeting, staff brought this situation to the Council's attention and was directed to reconfigure the AMS to bring procedures in compliance with the Constitution. No member has contested the operational one-month grace period in the past 10 or more years. Currently members receive their first dues renewal notice via e-mail 90 days prior to their expiration date. Four additional notices are sent to members prior to cancellation, two by first-class mail and two by e-mail. In staff's professional opinion, these procedures provide necessary and adequate notice for member retention purposes. Given the speed of communication enabled by modern technology, as well as the advent of online credit card transactions, a one-month grace period—defined specifically as 28 days in order to accommodate February—constitutes good policy and good stewardship of SAA's resources.

Fiscal Impact: If approved, this amendment will save the Society approximately \$10,000 per year in direct expenses for printing and mailing of *Archival Outlook*.

These proposals will be discussed and voted on at the Annual Membership Meeting on August 14, 2010, from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m., at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel. For more information about the Annual Membership Meeting, see www.archivists.org/governance/handbook/section1.asp.

Sustaining SAA: New Dues Proposed

AIMEE M. FELKER, CRM, CA, SAA Treasurer

At its February 2010 meeting, the SAA Council charged the Finance Committee to conduct a review of dues revenue and structure. The Finance Committee—SAA Treasurer Aimee M. Felker, James Byers, Becky Haglund Tousey, Dennis Meissner, Executive Director Nancy Beaumont, and Finance Director Tom Jurczak—presented the results of the review and recommendations to the Council at its May meeting. After careful consideration and review of SAA's finances, the committee concluded that a dues increase is critical to sustain the ongoing financial stability of the Society. The Council voted to propose a dues increase effective July 1, 2011. This issue will be presented for members' discussion and vote at the Annual Business Meeting in Washington, D.C., August 14, 2010.

How Will a Dues Increase Benefit SAA Members?

The professional landscape for archivists is changing. This brings both opportunities and challenges. In our own repositories, we understand the need to persuade resource allocators about the critical value of archives, adapt to new technologies, and develop innovative solutions that will diversify our collections and our constituencies alike. More than ever, a vibrant, energized, and financially stable SAA is needed—one that will continue to advocate our issues, advance our agendas, and provide the products and services that we need to do our jobs better. Members need SAA to:

- Ensure the quality and affordability of SAA workshops, publications, and Annual Meetings.
- Research, develop, and disseminate new publications, workshops, and webinars on emerging issues at the forefront of archives theory and practice.
- Continue to enhance the editorial content and accessibility of the *American Archivist* and *Archival Outlook*.
- Provide a more interactive, easy-to-use, and information-rich website that includes enhanced support for Section and Roundtable content.
- Supply meeting space and audio-visual support for Section and Roundtable programming at the Annual Meeting.
- Support travel expenses for face-to-face meetings of appointed groups, such as the Publications Board and the Diversity, Standards, and Education Committees, to effectively facilitate their work on behalf of the Society.
- Maintain its ongoing commitment to provide services to all members, including subsidizing membership costs for student, retired, and bridge-rate members.
- Implement meaningful diversity initiatives, such as creating a more comprehensive Mosaic Scholarship Program

in order to increase the diversity of SAA and the archives profession.

- Advocate for increased funding for archives and archivists (including NHPRC funding) and for other initiatives that will make a real difference in our professional lives.
- Coordinate nationwide efforts to increase recognition of archives and archivists through such activities as American Archives Month, Congressional testimony, and op-ed pieces that are likely to influence key resource allocators.

What Impact Will a Dues Increase Have on You?

The total proposed dues increase over a **three-year period** is:

Retirees, Students, Bridge, and ID 1-4	= \$5-\$12
ID 5 and Associate Domestic	= \$23-\$24
ID 6-7 and Associate International	= \$27-\$37

Regular and Sustaining institutional membership dues would increase \$53 and \$66 over three years, respectively. These amounts, spread over the number of staff who benefit from their institutions' membership in SAA, are comparable to the individual membership increases.

Proposed Phased-In Dues by Category, FY 2012-2014

Category	Current	FY12 7/11- 6/12	FY13 7/12- 6/13	FY14 7/13- 6/14
Retirees	\$65	\$67	\$68	\$70
Bridge	\$44	\$47	\$48	\$50
Students	\$44	\$47	\$48	\$50
ID 1 (salary < \$20,000/yr)	\$77	\$80	\$80	\$80
ID 2 (salary of \$20,000 – \$29,999/yr)	\$99	\$101	\$103	\$105
ID 3 (salary of \$30,000 – \$39,999/yr)	\$121	\$124	\$127	\$130
ID 4 (salary of \$40,000 – \$49,999/yr)	\$148	\$152	\$155	\$160
ID 5 (salary of \$50,000 – \$59,999/yr)	\$176	\$180	\$190	\$200
ID 6 (salary of \$60,000 – \$74,999/yr)	\$198	\$205	\$215	\$225
ID 7 (salary > \$75,000/yr)	\$216	\$225	\$240	\$250
Regular	\$247	\$265	\$285	\$300
Sustaining	\$484	\$500	\$525	\$550
Associate Domestic	\$77	\$80	\$90	\$100
Associate International	\$88	\$95	\$110	\$125

The financial impact of the proposal on each membership category is shown in the table.

The Finance Committee understands that members are being forced to do more with less. The committee was particularly sensitive to the financial hardships that members have encountered professionally and personally. Therefore, a three-year gradual approach to increasing dues revenue is being recommended. This will minimize the financial impact on members and ensure that any increase is sensitive to the needs of students, retirees, and those with lower salaries. This strategy will enable all members to anticipate the modest dues increases while also allowing SAA to budget effectively.

The proposed dues increase will not be fully implemented until July 2013, five and one-half years after SAA implemented its last increase in January 2008. Nevertheless, this increase will enable SAA to attain an appropriate ratio of dues to non-dues revenue and ensure its financial stability.

Why Doesn't SAA Just Simply Cut Its Costs?

The short answer is "*We have!*" During the current fiscal year and throughout the budget process, the SAA staff cut expenses whenever and wherever possible, including cutting a staff position during the year. SAA's member-to-staff ratio is 506:1 (up from 347:1 in 1999 and 417:1 in 2006). Additional staff cuts would require cutting services. Face-to-face meetings of various committees and boards were eliminated in favor of virtual meetings. And all operating expenses were closely monitored to ensure coming in under budget. Further reductions in expenses would have an adverse effect on all services to members.

Membership dues are the financial backbone of any association. Regardless of the organization's size, association management best practices recommend that dues comprise 35% of total revenues. In SAA's newly approved fiscal 2011 budget, it is anticipated that dues revenues will reach 29% of total revenues. Therefore, additional dues revenues are necessary to ensure that SAA is not overly reliant on non-dues revenue for its long-term financial health.

In order to pass a balanced budget for FY11 (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011), the Council and staff cut the proposed budget another \$16,000. Some face-to-face meetings were postponed and the mid-winter Council meeting was relocated from Washington, D.C., to SAA's home city of Chicago. Although these decisions will save SAA money in FY11, they also may compromise the Council's ability to advocate to the NHPRC, IMLS, and NEH for increased funding for archives and archivists or to strategize with NARA, CoSA, and NAGARA regarding other initiatives that may make significant differences in our professional lives.

Ultimately, the Finance Committee and the Council sought the most effective way to position SAA and to ensure that the organization and profession remain vibrant. A dues increase is necessary and so is continued prudence. The SAA staff, Council, Finance Committee, and all other groups should continue to proactively monitor and manage resources, seek alternative funding to support activities, and doggedly promote services and products in order to maintain healthy income

streams. These structures, along with the modest and phased-in dues increase that is proposed, will benefit our profession collectively and each of us individually.

On a personal note, I joined SAA in 1989. My professional responsibilities have evolved from traditional archival work to records management. Although my daily work now focuses on active and beginning-of-lifecycle issues and records destruction rather than preservation, my professional identity and heart are firmly committed to SAA and the many professional colleagues whom I call friends. I hope you will join me in supporting the proposed dues increase and will continue to support SAA through your membership and active participation in roundtables, sections, committee and task force work, publishing, mentoring and membership activities, and meeting and workshop attendance. Without you, there is no Society of American Archivists. ❖

Your Opinion Matters!

If you have any questions or concerns about the proposed dues increase or SAA's finances, please contact:

- Treasurer Aimee M. Felker: afelker@finance.ucla.edu
- Finance Committee: www2.archivists.org/saagroups/committees/finance/home
- SAA Council: www2.archivists.org/saagroups/council/home
- Executive Director Nancy Beaumont: nbeaumont@archivists.org

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SAA recognizes the nearly 250 individuals who made contributions to the SAA Special Funds in Fiscal Year 2010 (July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010). These donors gave \$24,868.65 to support scholarships, programs, and awards that enrich the profession and promote public awareness, publishing excellence, and outstanding contributions to the archives field. SAA thanks the following individuals for their generosity.

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NARA Welcomes SAA to Washington with Reception, Special Programs

On behalf of all of us at the National Archives, I want to welcome the Society of American Archivists, the Council of State Archivists, and the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators to Washington for *Archives*Records/DC 2010* this August. I look forward to greeting you in person at our reception Wednesday night, August 11, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the National Archives Building in downtown Washington.

You may find that the building has changed a lot since your last visit. It still holds many pre-1900 records that are used for research, especially in genealogy. And we're the home of the Robert M. Warner Research Center, named for the Sixth Archivist of the United States, a distinguished SAA member who led the successful effort in the 1980s to give the Archives status as an independent agency.

And, of course, you can still see the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and Bill of Rights in our Rotunda, along with documents related to the nation's history. The Magna Carta is back, courtesy of David Rubenstein, after a brief absence a few years ago.

During the reception we will share some of the new initiatives underway at the Archives through a series of mini-demonstration/lectures. These include an introduction to the preservation and public-access strategies for the Electronic Records Archives, which we are creating to store and make accessible the electronic records of today and tomorrow.

Our education programs allow the Archives to reach deeper into American classrooms to encourage the use of primary documents in the teaching of history. Gain insight on the "DocsTeach" program we're rolling out this Fall to help teachers. And we'll show you the "Digital Vaults," an online experience that allows visitors to create their records collections based on the primary sources in our holdings.

You can also learn about "citizen archivists." Understand how we find suitable opportunities for public projects that will achieve important public education goals, increase public knowledge of our work, and inspire future generations of archivists. The importance and value of records, recordkeeping, and archives are stressed in our outreach programs to the public and professionals alike.

We are diligently working on several fronts to make more of our holdings accessible to the public as part of the President's Open Government Initiative, which calls for more transparency, collaboration, and participation by citizens. And as part of it, we want to work more closely with SAA and other organizations.

You probably know about our website, www.archives.gov. But now you can also connect with the Archives at a variety of addresses on the Internet, including Facebook, Flickr, YouTube, and Twitter, as well as blogs, including my own blog at <http://blogs.archives.gov/aotus>.

In the past decade, the Archives became more of a museum destination. During the reception, visit our public exhibit spaces in the company of fellow archivists. In addition to our permanent exhibits, the Charters of Freedom and the Public Vaults, we opened Part 1 of "Discovering the Civil War," the new traveling exhibit to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the war.

The exhibit is designed around hundreds of selections from our vast holdings of Civil War records and accents the unfamiliar stories of unlikely people over the course of the conflict. The petition of arsenal seamstresses for a living wage finds its place alongside a diplomatic note to China to request the closing of its ports to the Confederacy. The appeal of African American marksmen to form a regiment is seen with the resignation letters of Southern cadets from West Point.

It's a great example of the way we give millions of visitors from across the nation a better sense of the resources we preserve. If you miss the reception Wednesday night and don't have a chance to come back during the conference, visit "Discovering the Civil War" when it begins a nationwide tour in June 2011.

Your organizations are important to the National Archives, and we want to continue to work with them and with individual members as partners in moving archives into the 21st century, as well as meeting the challenges of a digital world.

The National Archives Building is between 7th and 9th Streets and Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues. If you take Metro, we're at the Archives/Navy Memorial stop. Again, welcome to Washington, and I hope to see you at the National Archives on August 11. ❖



NHPRC Reauthorization Bill Moves Forward in the House

On July 1, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee's Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census and the National Archives marked up legislation (H.R. 5616) to reauthorize the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) at a \$20 million level from fiscal year (FY) 2011 to FY 2015. The vote was 6-1 in favor of passage.

The full Oversight Committee is expected to take up the bill before the August congressional recess. The Senate NHPRC bill (S. 2872) is awaiting floor consideration. Unfortunately, the Senate bill only authorizes the NHPRC at \$10 million per year for FYs 2011-2015. The NHPRC's authorization level has been set at \$10 million since FY 1991.

On June 7, the House Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census and the National Archives held a hearing to consider ways to strengthen the NHPRC. Before witnesses testified, Republicans on the subcommittee chose to take a hard line against any increase in the authorization level and argued that NARA needed the money going to the NHPRC to deal with federal records.

Throughout the hearing acting Republican ranking member Jason Chaffetz attempted to discredit the witnesses and the importance of the grants program. He claimed that doubling the NHPRC authorization by \$10 million would exacerbate the federal deficit and duplicate existing programs at the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Representative John Larson (D-CT), Speaker of the House's representative on the NHPRC, noted that he co-sponsored H.R. 1556 and that "if the Commission had funded every eligible and qualified project in 2009, over \$22 million would have been awarded." Larson went on to note 90% of the NHPRC's funding creates or saves jobs.

All of the witnesses on the final two panels expressed their strong support for the NHPRC and for increasing the annual authorization to \$20 million. Peter Gottlieb, Ms. Teague, and Ms. Minchew supported the creation of a new program for pass-through grants to states to assist in meeting their record keeping responsibilities. The program would also be authorized at the \$20 million level. Legislation to create a "Partnership for the American Historical Record" (PAHR) program was introduced in the House (H.R. 2256) and Senate (S. 3227). The PAHR legislation would establish a new federal program of formula grants to the states and territories to support archives and the preservation of historical records at the state and local level.

House Panel Holds Hearing on Federal Records Management

On June 17, the Information Policy, Census and National Archives Subcommittee of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee reviewed the status of the management of electronic records at federal agencies, and

explored ways to improve the scheduling and preservation of electronic records.

NARA transmitted to Congress a report, "Records Management Self-Assessment 2009: An Assessment of Records Management Programs in the Federal Government." In September 2009, NARA issued a mandatory records management self-assessment to 245 federal cabinet-level agencies, their components, and independent agencies. The goal was to determine how effective federal agencies are in meeting the statutory and regulatory requirements for records management.

Ninety-one percent of agencies responded to the self-assessment; 21 agencies did not. The responses indicate that 21% of federal records management programs are at low risk of improper disposition of records. However, NARA found that 79% of agencies are at either a high (36%) or moderate (43%) risk of improper destruction of records. The findings indicate that federal agencies are falling short in carrying out their records management responsibilities, particularly regarding the exponential use and growth of electronic records.

The main theme of the hearing was whether NARA has the legal authority necessary to regulate federal agencies records management, and if it does, whether the agency has been properly and aggressively exercising that authority.

Representative Judy Chu (D-CA) asked the representatives of NARA if they felt they had sufficient legal authority to carry out their statutory and legal responsibilities with regard to records management, or if they felt legislation was needed to enhance their oversight capabilities. Mr. Wester responded that NARA was conducting an analysis of its authorities and policies to see what limitations exist. He felt NARA could better utilize policies and guidance to make agencies more aware of their legal responsibilities, saying NARA needed to take stock of what it had before seeking a legislative remedy.

Wester stated that NARA did have the authority to conduct investigations and report their findings to the Office of Management and Budget, senior officials at the non-complying agencies, and the relevant authorizing and appropriating committees in Congress.

When asked what she thought about NARA's records management enforcement, Ms. Melvin stated that in the past NARA had authority but was reticent to exercise it. Until the most recent agency self-assessment, NARA did not conduct any agency inspections since 2000. She stated NARA was good at putting plans in place, but that its oversight was lacking.

Of the private sector witnesses, Ms. Weismann said that until quite recently NARA interpreted its statutory responsibilities under the Federal Records Act (FRA) very narrowly. She urged Congress to amend the FRA to give the Archivist explicit and expanded oversight and enforcement responsibilities to compel agency cooperation. ♦



Photographic Advertising Exhibit Debuts

The Baker Library Historical Collections, Harvard Business School, opened "The High Art of Photographic Advertising: The 1934 National Alliance of Art and Industry Exhibition," which explores the synergy between photography and corporate culture, and the evolving perceptions about photography's artistic, commercial, and cultural significance. The exhibit will run through October 9, 2010. Visit www.library.hbs.edu/hc/naai.



An advertisement for Lord & Taylor, ca. 1934. 1934 Art and Industry Exhibition Photograph Collection, Baker Library Historical Collections.

Clinton Library Releases Kagan Records

The William Clinton Presidential Library opened records relating to U.S. Supreme Court nominee Elena Kagan's tenure at the White House Domestic Policy Council and the White House Counsel's Office. The release of papers from the approximately 160,000 pages of material is posted on the Clinton Library website (www.clintonlibrary.gov) in batches as soon as the records are processed.

PATCO Records Available for Research

The historic records of the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO) are available for research at Georgia State University Library's Southern Labor Archives. President Ronald Reagan's confrontation with PATCO in 1981 marked a turning point in U.S. labor relations. The records provide insight into one of the most tumultuous and significant events in recent labor-management history.

NY State's Showcase on Naturalization and Citizenship

The New York State Archives' Document Showcase highlights naturalization and citizenship, with records that include the method of becoming a U.S. citizen throughout the years and the responsibilities of the citizens. Examples are alien deposition of Patrick Hyland from 1825, and naturalization papers of German immigrant Alexander Rudolph from 1840. Visit www.archives.nysed.gov.



Immigrants on the deck of a steamer awaiting debarkation at Ellis Island, ca. 1925.

MIT Museum Receives 70 Years of Polaroid

PLR IP Holdings LLC, the owner of the Polaroid brand, donated a collection of Polaroid products and prototype designs from its 73-year archive to the MIT Museum. Among the donations are rare Polarized glasses dating from the 1939 World's Fair, original newsprint sketches by Polaroid founder Edwin H. Land, and a historic bellows camera.

1881 Gunfight at OK Corral Papers Surface

Clerks at the Cochise County courthouse located handwritten documents from the coroner's inquiry into the shootout at the OK Corral in Arizona. Inside were 36 pages of first-hand accounts of the legendary shootout on October 26, 1881, between the Earp brothers and a band of cattle rustlers. The original court transcripts will be handed over to the Arizona State Archives.

WGBH Launches Online Vietnam Library

WGBH Boston launched the Vietnam Collection, an online video library drawn exclusively from WGBH's 1983 landmark series, "Vietnam: A Television History." The Vietnam Collection contains hours of rare archival footage and interviews with key decision makers and veterans on both sides of the Vietnam conflict. Visit <http://openvault.wgbh.org>.



Trung Sisters Temple, 1981, from "Vietnam: A Television History," WGBH Media Library & Archives.

Peabody Museum Awarded \$215,000 Grant

Thanks to a \$215,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology will make public online hundreds of ethnographic and archaeological photos. The grant funds the scanning of the more than 25,000 remaining core negatives. Visit www.peabody.harvard.edu/node/37.

LOC Owns Tweets

The Library of Congress (LOC) acquired the rights to the entire archive of Twitter and all tweets. Every tweet made since 2006 is being archived by the LOC. Plans are to use the tweets for scholarly and research implications.

Yale Arts Library Receives Bookbinding Collection

Yale University's Robert B. Haas Family Arts Library received bookbindings from Sarah Valentine Nerber, daughter of bookbinder Mary Ellet Kendall Valentine and James A. Valentine. The collection includes 23 full-leather bindings with gold-stamped decorations and patterns influenced by art deco and other modern influences. ❖



Archivists Uncover World Cup Stamp

Just days before the 2010 World Cup kicked off, unused postage stamp designs from the 1970 World Cup were uncovered by archivists at the British Postal Museum & Archive (BPMA). The designs by David Gentleman were commissioned in the event that England should have a successive World Cup victory following its win in 1966.

Archives New Zealand Expands Digitally

The New Zealand Government allocated \$12.6 million to the Archives New Zealand and the National Library over the next four years to develop and implement a full-scale industrial-strength digital archive.

BFI in Search of Lost Footage

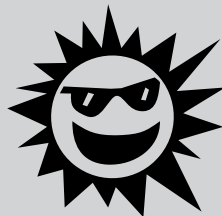
To mark its 75th Anniversary, the British Film Institute's National Archive is launching a campaign to track down 75 lost British films. At the top of the list is "The Mountain Eagle," Alfred Hitchcock's second feature, a melodrama shot in 1926 and set in Kentucky. A previous campaign in 1992 turned up 16 movies. Archivists believe that between 75 and 80% of work from the silent era no longer exists. The archive now displays its wares online, and recently posted a 1903 short of "Alice in Wonderland" on YouTube.

Iraq Seeks Return of Jewish Archive

The United States agreed to return millions of documents to Iraq, including Baghdad's Jewish archives that were seized by the U.S. military after a 2003 invasion. The documents, which fill 48,000 containers, were held by the U.S. State Department, the National Archives, and the Hoover Institute. Some 60% of the archives, amounting to tens of millions of documents, were missing or had been damaged or destroyed as a result of water leaks and a fire at a storage center.

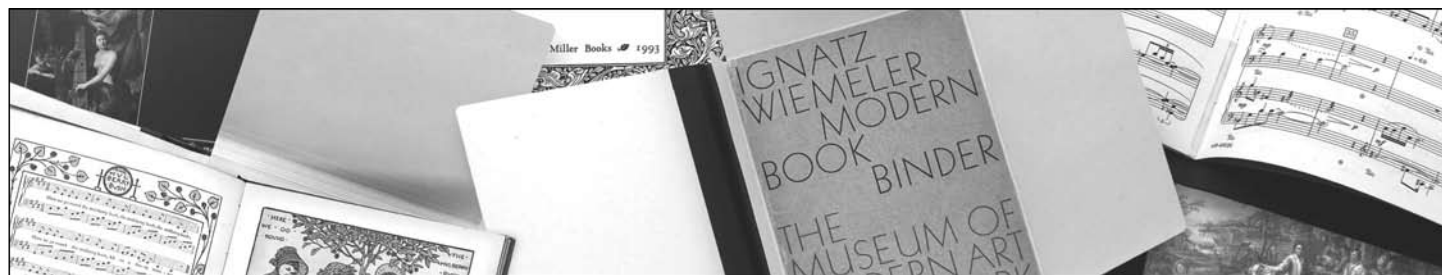
Archivists Unearth Original Shot of Phone

Film footage uncovered by British Pathé archivists shows a black-and-white newsreel of the world's first mobile phone being used in 1922. Two women in a U.S. street attach a wire to a fire hydrant and put up an umbrella into which the aerial is incorporated and speak to the operator. ❖



We are looking for stories and ideas for our next issue of *Archival Outlook*!

Send ideas to Jenny Schooley,
jschooley@archivists.org.



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The Survey Says . . .

Responses to the *American Archivist* Readers Survey

MARY JO PUGH, *American Archivist* Editor

The *American Archivist* Editorial Board asked 6,000 SAA members and subscribers to share their opinions about the journal and their reading habits in a web-based survey that was available from April to May 2010. The 541 people who responded to the call represent approximately 10% of the population surveyed. The demographics of the survey responders suggest a younger group that is more likely to work in academic institutions than the group of A*CENSUS respondents (a nationwide survey of archivists taken in 2004).

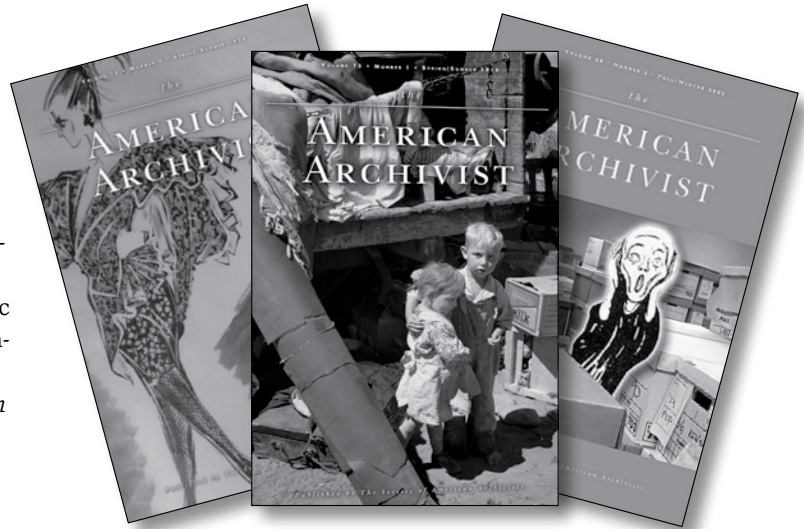
Respondents express overall satisfaction with the *American Archivist*. The mean satisfaction score is 2.19 (n=538) on a scale of 1 (very satisfied) to 5 (very dissatisfied). Three hundred (55.8%) are satisfied and 77 (14.3%) are very satisfied; 142 (26.4%) are neutral and 19 (3.5%) are dissatisfied. No one is very dissatisfied. In their ratings of the individual sections of the journal, 59% declare research articles to be very valuable, (n=532), followed closely by case studies, which 52.4% find very valuable. Eighty-four commented directly on the question of value, providing a wide range of insight, which will assist the board in reviewing the scope of the journal content especially given the ready access that most members and subscribers have to online content through the SAA website.

Reading the *American Archivist* is like a breath of fresh air. It is quite important to see how other archivists and librarians have solved problems, created collections, and improved conditions and access to their collections.

When asked why they read the journal, 82.5% (n=525) of respondents read it for knowledge of trends and developments in the profession; 71.3% as part of their professional development as a practicing archivist; and 51.1% for practical assistance as a practicing archivist. Other reasons include 40.7% for research and 40.1% who use footnotes for additional resources or information. Respondents could choose more than one reason.

Print vs. Online

Print remains the publishing vehicle of choice, for now. When asked which version of *American Archivist* has been consulted most frequently in the past year, 65.2% of the respondents (n=528) report favoring the print edition, while 15.2% claim to consult the new online edition more frequently. Those who say they consult both editions with equal frequency constitute 15.5% of the respondent group; 22 respondents (4.2%) report not having read the *American Archivist* in the past year.



When asked whether SAA should continue to publish *American Archivist* in a paper format, 68.4% (n=526) say yes; only 38 respondents (7.2%) are ready to see the journal move to an online-only publication. Nearly one-quarter of respondents (24.3%) have not made up their minds about the print versus online issue. The clearly stated advantage of the online edition is ease of searching back issues for research or reference.

Reading the *American Archivist* varies in priority to SAA members and subscribers. To the question, "When do you read the *American Archivist*?" 43.2% (n=523) of respondents indicate, "I read either the print or online edition when I get to it;" while 38.8% report, "I read the print edition as soon as I receive it in my mailbox." A large majority (62.4%) prefer to receive an e-mail blast from SAA when a new issue is published.

Content Possibilities

Survey participants favor reviews of new types of content. For example, 81.9% (n=492) express interest in reviews or review essays about archival tools, such as OAIster or Archivist's Toolkit; 58.7% are interested in evaluations of online reports of organizations such as OCLC or the National Archives; 53.5% want to learn about special issues of related periodicals that feature archival topics; and 52.8% want to see reviews of archives-oriented websites. The board is considering mechanisms for hosting such content in the *American Archivist* and through the SAA website.

To those who completed the survey, thank you for your generous and helpful comments. When we asked, "What would increase your satisfaction with *American Archivist*?" 247 members and journal subscribers took time to comment. More than 360 respondents note at least three topics or archival activities that seem appropriate for treatment in *American Archivist*. The board will codify and analyze these comments and report more fully on the survey at *Archives*Records/DC 2010* this August, as well as prepare the survey responses for posting on the SAA website. ❖



Milestone Marker: SAA@75

Then *The Society of American Archivists was chartered in December 1936 with 124 individual and 4 institutional members.*

Now *More than 5,600 individual and institutional members enjoy the many benefits of belonging to SAA.*

WOW! *Join in the celebratory activities planned for 2011!*

"Theme It!" Contest Winner

More than 50 themes for commemorating SAA's 75th Anniversary were submitted by members to the "Theme It!" contest sponsored by the 75th Anniversary Task Force. Rick Blondo's celebratory and succinct entry—SAA@75: Then, Now . . . Wow!—was ultimately selected by the task force in June to brand the year-long celebration. Congratulations to Mr. Blondo, a management and program analyst at the National Archives and Records Administration, who not only can revel in the satisfaction of having his entry chosen, but will also receive a complimentary "anniversary membership" in 2011—the year SAA turns 75.



Rick Blondo of the National Archives snagged a complimentary one-year membership in SAA for his winning anniversary theme, SAA@75: Then, Now . . . WOW!

Anniversary Activities

The theme was added to a specially designed anniversary logo (above) that will be used throughout 2011 to mark a variety of initiatives and events being planned by the 75th Anniversary Task Force. Be prepared to participate as activities are rolled out, including:

- A special issue of *American Archivist* (vol. 74, no. 2) to be published in Fall/Winter 2011.
- Oral histories (and video interviews) of SAA leaders and members to be posted to the SAA website.
- A competition this fall for entries to be used on trading cards highlighting the 75 most influential people, places, things, and ideas in SAA's history.
- An online timeline.
- An Annual Meeting Program Track and Special Reception at Archives 360° (Chicago 2011).
- And more.

Stay tuned for details and celebrate with SAA in 2011!

Flashback: 1936 . . .

As several dozen archivists gathered for SAA's first Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., in 1936, many other firsts also were taking place that year. Here's a glimpse:

- The Summer Olympics in Berlin, Germany, marks the first live television coverage of a sports event in world history. The world watches as American track-and-field star Jesse Owens wins four gold medals.
- Franklin D. Roosevelt is re-elected to a second term as U.S. president in a landslide victory over Alf Landon.
- The San Francisco—Oakland Bay Bridge opens to traffic.
- The first edition of *Life Magazine* is published.
- *The Green Hornet* radio show debuts.
- Construction of the Hoover Dam is completed.
- The first production model PCC trolley car, built by the St. Louis Car Company, is placed in service by Pittsburgh Railways.
- Margaret Mitchell's novel *Gone with the Wind* is first published.
- The YMCA Youth and Government program is founded in Albany, New York.
- Stress is first recognized as a medical condition. ❖

Standards Committee: A New Look

POLLY REYNOLDS, SAA Standards Committee

The SAA Standards Committee completed a two-year process to review and revise its mission and procedures. A growing number of standards-related initiatives brought to the committee raised questions about its role in the standards-development process. To address the concerns, the committee solicited a questionnaire to SAA leadership and members to gather feedback. Research was also conducted on other standards committees and bodies within related organizations.

Data identified several issues. After a year of study in 2009, updates were made to the current mission and procedures. Highlights of major changes are below.

Increased Size and Responsibility

The Standards Committee's new mission and duties focus on four major areas of standards work: development, review, education, and collaboration. It will continue to assist groups in developing standards, but will also be able to identify standards' needs and assign groups of experts to research, prepare, monitor, and review such areas. An aim is to go beyond descriptive standards and explore development of standards in preservation, appraisal, and electronic records. The committee seeks to work with groups within and outside of SAA to develop standards of mutual concern and interest.

To provide better guidance on the use of all standards, the committee will regularly monitor, review, and endorse not just SAA standards, but other national and international standards and best practices. To accommodate this expanded role and additional duties, the committee's size will increase from six members to nine.

Review Process

Procedures for the review and approval of SAA-developed standards were revised. Old procedures never specified a review cycle timeline, instead suggesting a typical range of five to seven years. As a result, it became difficult to keep track of review dates and many SAA standards fell behind on their review schedule. Like ARMA and AIIM, the Standards Committee requires that the review process for all SAA-approved standards be completed every five years with a formal review commencing three years after adoption or reaffirmation. All SAA-approved standards will be listed on the SAA website along with information on where comments on the standard can be submitted.

New Areas of Coverage

In the past two years alone, six different standards-related initiatives came to the committee's attention. While some of these projects fit the traditional standards model, others were more complex. For example, the Standards Committee

It is our hope that these updates will help guide the usage of SAA and non-SAA standards and encourage more collaboration both within and beyond the profession.

struggled with where the Intellectual Property Working Group's "Orphan Works: Statement of Best Practices" might fit. It did not make sense as a standard because legal entities involved in the process of searching out orphan works make it difficult for anyone to mandate following these practices. While the committee agreed that "Orphan Works" was not a standard, it felt that it was an important and useful tool that should be made available. (It was eventually approved by Council as a best practice in 2009.)

To allow projects beyond standards to be more visible to the archival community, the committee added "best practices" to its purview, which is defined in *A Glossary of Archival and Records Terminology*. In contrast to standards, best practices are generally developed in emerging areas, but may eventually become formal standards if they are widely accepted and used.

What's Next?

SAA will convene an official task force to create an online resource for archival standards, best practices, and other projects in the next year. While still early in development, a collaborative component to the portal was proposed.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) and Encoded Archival Description (EAD) are ready for review and revision. The charge of the DACS Technical Subcommittee was extended to examine how Resource Description and Access (RDA) might affect DACS.

Two new groups responsible for EAD were created. The Technical Subcommittee for Encoded Archival Description (TS-EAD) succeeds the EAD Working Group and is responsible for the maintenance and development of EAD. TS-EAD will work in tandem with the EAC Working Group. The Schema Development Team (SDT) is a new group of professionals with schema-writing expertise responsible for editing and maintenance of all XML schemas maintained by SAA. TS-EAD will undertake a revision of EAD 2002, to be completed in no more than five years.

Several new best practices and guidelines are in development. The committee welcomes any and all projects. All updated procedures, forms, and descriptions are now available on the SAA website. ❖

Thank You! The Standards Committee would like to thank Margery Sly and Michael Rush for their invaluable assistance in updating the mission and procedures. Nancy Kunde, past chair of the Standards Committee, had the initial idea to review and revise the committee's mission. Her extraordinary vision allowed us to easily move forward and finish what she began.

SUMMER SENSATIONS

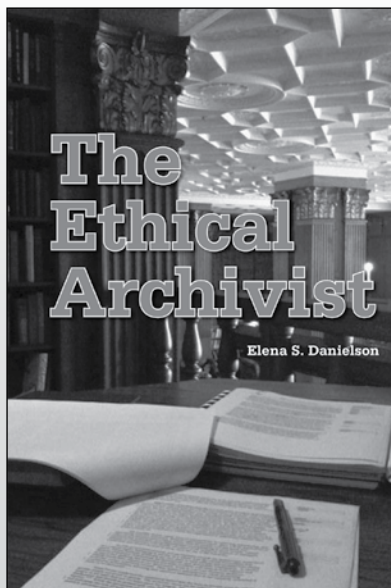
Forthcoming August 2010

The Ethical Archivist

Elena S. Danielson

Illustrates how daily decisions made by archivists connect to larger issues of social responsibility and the need to construct a balanced and accurate historic record.

Society of American Archivists (2010)
440 pp., Soft cover / Product Code: **BOOKSAA-0570**
List \$49 / **SAA member price \$35**

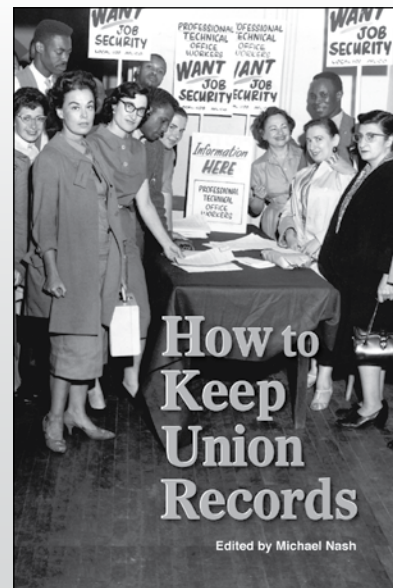


How to Keep Union Records

Edited by Michael Nash

Addresses building relationships with the unions, developing collecting policies that support current labor history scholarship, adapting appraisal theory to the unique challenges of labor union archives, and arranging and describing collections.

Society of American Archivists (2010)
236 pp., Soft cover / Product Code: **BOOKSAA-0571**
List \$49 / **SAA member price \$35**



To order: www.archivists.org/catalog



John Blythe was appointed special projects and outreach coordinator for the University of North Carolina Library Collection, where he will develop and expand North Caroliniana reference resources, prepare and edit publications, and contribute to digital projects involving materials from the collection.



The Texas State Library and Archives Commission appointed **JELAIN CHUBB** as director of the Archives and Information Services Division and Texas state archivist. Previously, Chubb was state archivist of Ohio and director of the Ohio Historical Society.



JULIE DANIELS, coordinator of educational programs at the New York State Archives, received the Paul A. Gagnon Award at the National Council for History Education's Annual Conference. She was recognized for her work in increasing the role of historical records in the classroom.



MAGGIE DICKSON was selected as digital projects librarian for the University of North Carolina Library Digital Heritage Center, where she will manage operations and publications for the center.

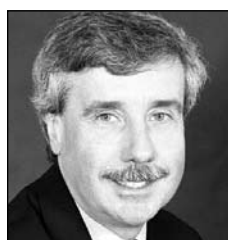


MICHAEL FOX, deputy director of the Minnesota Historical Society, recently announced his retirement following 24 years of service. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin School of Library and Information Studies, he previously worked for 14 years at the Wisconsin Historical Society as a library cataloger, map curator, local records archivist, and chief of the Public Records Section.

WAVERLY LOWELL, curator of the Environmental Design Archives at the University of California, Berkeley, co-edited with Betsy Frederick-Rothwell *Design on the Edge: A Century of Teaching Architecture, 1903–2003*, a book chronicling the history of the university's Department of Architecture.



JOAN M. SCHWARTZ, associate professor in the Department of Art (x Geography) at Queen's University, was honored with the CAG Award for Geography in the Service of Government or Business, which recognizes a distinctive contribution to the profession of geography.



PETER WOSH, director of the Archives/Public History Program for New York University, received the Outstanding Faculty Award at the Graduate School of Arts and Science (GSAS) Convocation, which recognizes one faculty member in GSAS for scholarship, mentoring, and teaching.

in memoriam

PATRICIA MORRIS, associate professor and faculty director of preservation for the University Libraries, University of Colorado at Boulder, passed away May 7, 2010. She had a long history in collections preservation. Prior to her position at UC Boulder, Morris worked at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History for 11 years as the director of collections management. From 1993 to 2001 she was adjunct faculty at the University of South Carolina in the College of Library and Information Science teaching preservation administration. She served on the South Carolina State Historical Records Advisory Board as deputy coordinator for most of the 1990s.

DANIEL T. WILLIAMS JR., archivist at Tuskegee University, passed away June 24, 2010, in Hollywood, Fla. Williams was a graduate of West Virginia State College, received his master's degree in Library Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and his doctorate in Education from Auburn University. In 1999, he retired from Tuskegee after 42 years of service. During his tenure at Tuskegee he held the positions of serials librarian, director of professional libraries, university archivist, assistant professor, and curator of the General Daniel "Chappie" James Memorial Hall. Williams was also very active in many archives and history organizations.



Someone You Should Know: Mario H. Ramírez

Putting a name to a face is often helpful, and now SAA members can do just that. "Someone You Should Know" spotlights one member in each issue of Archival Outlook to help SAA members get to know each other.

Mario H. Ramírez says serendipity played a hand in him becoming an archivist. While on leave from a doctoral program and reassessing his professional direction, a friend urged him to volunteer at the Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños. I guess you can say he found more than what he planned. Over a decade later, Ramírez is still at the Centro.

Volunteering piqued his curiosity. He started doing research on the archives profession, consulted with staff members about the makeup of their daily work, and asked why they chose to go into the field themselves.

"What appealed to me most about the archives profession, then and now, was the fact that it had both practical applications and a greater history and theoretical dimension," Ramírez says.

Read on to learn more about Ramírez, a project archivist at the Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños at Hunter College, CUNY.

SAA: Are you witnessing any trends in the profession that are affecting you?

MR: The pressure to digitize our collections, both from users and our administration, has increased concertedly in the past few years. Although having collaborated on a number of digital projects with the New York State Archives (namely the Electronic School House/Escuela Electrónica and Ventana al Pasado), we are facing greater demands from our current administration to increase the presence and dissemination of our holdings online, and to make them available to researchers offsite. This has translated into additional training for the staff and the purchasing of new scanners and other digitization equipment in order to approach the issue in-house.

SAA: Describe an interesting project you have worked on.

MR: Several years ago I was thrilled to be the lead archivist on the processing of the Pedro Pietri Papers. A rather infamous and irreverent poet, playwright, and visual artist, Pietri was one of the founders of the Nuyorican Poet's Café on Manhattan's Lower East Side and an originator of what is now called Slam Poetry. The collection contained original manuscripts, artwork, unpublished poetry, chapbooks, posters,



Photo courtesy of Amanda Bermudez.

artifacts, and audio and video tape recordings, which not only documented Pietri's life and the activities of the Puerto Rican literary and artistic avant-garde, but also that of the music and poetry scenes in downtown Manhattan. Processing the collection was an adventure, for Pietri was not one of the most organized individuals, and he had a penchant for writing on almost any surface he could get his hands on, including bottle caps, paper plates, shower rod packaging, and other random scrapes of paper. This and his preference for making artwork with black electrical tape and other inexpensive materials made the collection a challenge to preserve and re-house.

Being an SAA member gave me a sense of belonging in my early years as an incipient archivist when I was still trying to make a transition into the profession.

SAA: How has SAA helped you personally?

MR: Since joining in 2001, SAA has proved invaluable to me not only for its networking potential and the numerous resources it offers, but particularly for its continuing education opportunities. Given my ongoing interest in academics, the articles in the *American Archivist* help me find a middle ground between my philosophical musings about archives, history, and memory, and needed insight into more practical matters that I face on a daily basis.

SAA: What do you think is the major issue that the archives profession faces, and how do you think it will play out in the future?

MR: I think diversity continues to be a challenge for the profession. Although I applaud the efforts of the Diversity Committee of SAA and the creation of the Mosaic and Harold T. Pinkett Scholarships, I worry that with high school and college graduation rates among people of color continuing to be dismal, the number of these individuals able to enter and train for the profession will also suffer. Like many, ours is a specialized profession that necessitates a certain level of education, training, and mentoring that is currently unavailable to a vast number of individuals. What is to be done is certainly not the sole responsibility of SAA or our profession alone, but pondering the structural mechanisms that serve to undermine our efforts to create a better, more multifaceted profession is necessary if only to inform the strategies and policies we devise to curtail them. ❖

CALL FOR PROGRAM PROPOSALS

2011 SAA ANNUAL MEETING *AUGUST 22-27* CHICAGO

The 2011 SAA Annual Meeting convenes August 22-27 in SAA's hometown of Chicago—the perfect place to commemorate the Society's 75th Anniversary. The 2011 Program Committee invites session proposals that will be of interest to the profession or volunteer to share your expertise as a presenter.

Program Theme: The 75th Anniversary offers an opportunity for celebration and to take a good look around—at SAA and its role as a professional organization, at the archives profession and its intersections with other professions and domains, and at ourselves as professionals in an evolving global information environment. With that in mind, the theme for the 2011 Annual Meeting is “Archives 360°.”

Organizations of all kinds have used a 360° feedback process since the 1950s to acknowledge milestones, assess progress, identify ongoing challenges and opportunities, and formulate strategic directions. It is appropriate at this moment in our history to adapt a long-standing and proven process to:

- Consider SAA's role, contributions, and challenges past, present, and future. What should/could SAA look like at its 100th anniversary?
- Discuss SAA's opportunities and concerns in relation to the professional societies of other domains (e.g., records management, libraries, museums), both national and international.
- Assess the development and promulgation of our existing and desired capacities and competencies for all or portions of the archival life cycle. What does/should good archival practice look like?

The theme extends to sessions that are introspective, retrospective, or just about any perspective that allows us to reflect and move toward future anniversaries with renewed confidence, determination, and enthusiasm. One track of the 2011 program is devoted to the 75th Anniversary.

Proposal Evaluation: Session proposals are welcome on any aspect of archives practice—local, national, and international—and its intersection with other professions and domains. 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 the inclusion of the meeting's theme. Session proposals that incorporate one or more of the following will be given special consideration:

- A strong connection to the program's theme (Archives 360°).
- A contribution to the celebration and commemoration of SAA's 75th Anniversary.
- An intention to address the impact of the given topic for SAA and/or the archives profession.
- Inclusion of international perspectives and initiatives.
- Relevance for the broad range of SAA members and other interested attendees.

- Endorsements by SAA Sections and Roundtables. (Sections and Roundtables are invited to endorse up to two session proposals.)

Session Formats: The Program Committee encourages submission 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 sessions of more than three presenters. Paper titles are required. A chair is not required for this format; chair duties may be performed by one of the speakers.
- **Work in Progress.** Open session of 90 minutes, consisting of two presentations of 15 minutes each, describing ongoing research topics and including at least 60 minutes for feedback and discussion. Paper titles are required.
- **Panel Discussion.** Open session 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 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 poster board. Presenters will be assigned a specific time at which they must be with their poster to discuss it with attendees.

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.

**Proposals for the 2011 meeting are due on
October 1, 2010.**

To prepare and submit a proposal, please see details at
www.archivists.org/conference/chicago2011.

For more information, contact the 2011 Program Committee
co-chairs at conference@archivists.org.

CALL FOR SAA WORKSHOP PROPOSALS

The Committee on Education 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 pre-conference workshops at the SAA Annual Meeting. 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.

Workshop and Seminar proposals submitted by October 1, 2010, will be reviewed specifically for the pre-conference programs that will be held in Chicago, August 21–27, 2011

Proposals should be in response to the Committee on Education's current Request for Proposals at www.archivists.org/conference/chicago2011 or build on SAA's current continuing education curriculum at 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 give 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; fax at 312-606-0728; or e-mail to sdesutter@archivists.org.

The Proposal Form is found at www.archivists.org/conference/chicago2011.

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Archivists as Storytellers

continued from page 12

- An 1834 questionnaire circulated by Oberlin student leaders to measure student opinion on the "practicability of admitting persons of color," where a slim majority came out in opposition to admitting African American students.
- Composed by Theodore D. Weld and probably inscribed by his wife Angela Grimke Weld—both influential spokespersons for the American Anti-Slavery Society—is an 1839 appeal for funds for the Oberlin Institute that was directed toward British abolitionists. "The petition is significant for documenting Oberlin's pivotal place within the abolitionist movement in the United States."
- An 1882 letter from Julia Wilson to President James H. Fairchild about the state of racism on the campus. Under Fairchild's presidency there was a drop of 7% or 8% in African American students. "This letter strikingly documents the anxiety and concern experienced by those who spoke for the race, paid the college expenses of black students, and counted on Oberlin to be there for young people seeking a Christian education."
- Mary Church Terrell's 1913 letter to the dean of college women, Florence M. Fitch, "documents the deterioration in the quality of life and social opportunity for black students at the college. It also underscores complaints about developing Jim Crowism in dining halls and a growing number of rooming houses only for blacks on campus."

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Black and white Oberlin rescuers who rushed to Wellington, Ohio, to free runaway slave John Pierce. The rescue is called upon in advancing Oberlin's support of social integration. Courtesy of Oberlin College Archives.

- Students struggle with societal view of race: President Azariah S. Root's 1910 "statement of facts about colored students," which was distributed to the board of trustees, represented his "answers to newspaper accounts alleging discrimination against colored students." It details Oberlin's handling of racial discrimination and shows that he thinks the problem was more fictitious and not serious.
- In a 1920 memorandum to President H. C. King, Frances J. Hosford reports on prevailing attitudes regarding segregated dormitories. "She expresses disapproval of bathroom sharing and male-female relationships...But was really at issue was the erosion of Oberlin's once-proud commitment to racial equality."
- A theology professor, Walter M. Horton, preaches against segregation at a barbershop, as witnessed in a sermon in 1944, which captures Oberlin's historic ideals.
- A Student Senate interracial committee report in 1946 shows it took the lead in restoring interracial relations on campus. "This student-prepared document, revised several times before circulation, is a summary of the state of affairs in Oberlin and the efforts of a small number of students, faculty, and townspeople to reduce racial tensions and to call attention to discriminatory practices in the filling of teaching positions."

Accounting for the Past

Documents like these account for the past. As Baumann notes, archivists hold a significant role in sharing history. "I created my storyline off of the record because it held the evidence that advanced the truth on the nature of the black education legacy at Oberlin College," he says. "It is important to let the evidence take you where you need to go." ❖

How Chicago Archivists Leverage Special Interests

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and networking opportunities, but such programs can be daunting for a lone arranger or too expensive to attend. CARA, for example, only charges between \$0 and \$12 per person for its events (tours and workshops). Members pay \$5 per year plus a requirement that they also pay the Chicago Area Archivists a \$10 annual fee to be members of that umbrella organization.

Education and Tours

Education and venturing into community repositories are top of mind for CARA. One of the initial CARA meetings was the group's participation in an SAA webinar, "Archival Content Management Systems," by Lisa Spiro in 2009. The Society of the Divine Word set up a room for the webinar, allowing members to attend at a minimal fee. From this gathering, a subsection of members expressed interest in adopting a content-management system. The 2009 Fall CARA Meeting at Wheaton College touched on this goal as David Malone, Wheaton's archivist, provided an overview of Archon. CARA hopes to form a user group among members who opt to use a content-management system.

CARA holds tours of local religious archives repositories to learn about collections and how materials are handled. At the 2008 Fall CARA Meeting, archivists journeyed to three repositories in Arlington Heights, Ill.—the Viatorian Community Archives, Alexian Brothers Archives, and Sisters of the Living Word Archives. Similar programs have followed this lead.

Collaboration and Interdependencies

Sharing a common heritage creates overlap within organizations that can extend to collaborative projects, such as digitization or a trans-repository exhibit. Interdependencies can take the strengths of one member who may have knowledge in digitization or preservation skills and distribute those skills to others—in some sense, creating cross-training opportunities at the macro organizational level.

At its 2009 Spring Meeting, CARA members were not only treated to the NCSI tour, but also given a presentation on a digital library project using CONTENTdm Digital Collection Management software. On display was a digital collection of the NSCI confirmation class photographs and available programs from 1931–1947, as well as a collection development web tool for internal administrative use. Opportunities like this show attendees what might be possible at their own repositories, even with limited budgets.

Perhaps the crowning collaborative achievement for CARA is its Historical Figures Project. Started as a paper list of potential digital projects, subjects, and biographies since 2004, the project is located on a site, accessible on the CARA link of the Chicago Area Archivists' website. CARA members send the administrator their brief records of individuals or institutions for which they have collections. Other repositories then add their holdings, either in the form of finding aids or brief descriptions. Both CARA and CARA became subgroups

of the Chicago Area Archivists, which allows them to take advantage of free space on CAA's website.

Enhancing Professional Experience

As the recession continues, SIGs continue to provide a valuable service to the local archival community. Their work can be improved by querying members about their educational needs, developing local directories of resource sharing, and lobbying regional and national archival associations to sponsor programs and workshops that meet the needs of local archivists. ♦

Looking for SAA members who share your interests?

Check out the SAA Sections and Roundtables below. To learn more, visit www.archivists.org.

Acquisitions & Appraisal Section
Archivists of Religious Collections Section
Business Archives Section
College & University Archives Section
Description Section
Electronic Records Section
Government Records Section
Manuscript Repositories Section
Museum Archives Section
Oral History Section
Preservation Section
Reference, Access and Outreach Section
Visual Materials Section

Architectural Records Roundtable
Archival Educators Roundtable
Archival History Roundtable
Archives Management Roundtable
Archivists & Archives of Color Roundtable
Archivists' Toolkit Roundtable
Congressional Papers Roundtable
Encoded Archival Description (EAD) Roundtable
Human Rights Archives Roundtable
International Archival Affairs Roundtable
Issues & Advocacy Roundtable
Labor Archives Roundtable
Latin American and Caribbean Cultural Heritage Archives Roundtable
Lesbian & Gay Archives Roundtable (LAGAR)
Local Government Records Roundtable
Lone Arrangers Roundtable
Metadata and Digital Object Roundtable
Native American Archives Roundtable
Performing Arts Roundtable
Privacy & Confidentiality Roundtable
Public Library Archives/Special Collections Roundtable
Recorded Sound Roundtable
Records Management Roundtable
RLG Roundtable
Science, Technology & Healthcare Roundtable
Security Roundtable

Repository Tours

continued from page 11

Smithsonian Institution Archives Tour

See highlights from the SIA collections, including James Smithson's will, architectural drawings, images, correspondence, and others that document Smithsonian's history. Attendees will tour SIA's state-of-the-art collections storage facility and its preservation and conservation labs.

Smithsonian Institution Arthur M. Sackler Gallery and Freer Gallery of Art Archives Tour

The tour offers an in-depth look at the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery Archives, the Smithsonian's museums of Asian art. Highlights include projects that have conservation and 3D digital components. View collections of archaeologists, collectors, and scholars of Asian art.

Smithsonian Institution Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives, National Museum of African Art Tour

The Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives, National Museum of African Art, is a research and reference center devoted to the collection, preservation, and dissemination of visual materials that support the study of the arts, cultures, and history of Africa. The archives collections contain approximately 300,000 items, including rare collections of glass plate negatives, lantern slides, postcards, and engravings.

Institution National Portrait Gallery, Center for Electronic Research and Outreach Services Open House

The Center for Electronic Research and Outreach Services



A reclining woman is captured from a hand-colored print's glass-plate negative, ca. 1940. From the Chief Solomon Osagie Alonge Collection, the Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives, National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution.

(CEROS) comprises reference and online programs for the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery (NPG). Services available for the public include the NPG Collections Information System, the Catalog of American Portraits (CAP), an archives documenting nearly 200,000 portraits in the United States and abroad, and the NPG website collection search program for NPG/CAP collections. ❖

For details on date, location, registration, and more, visit www2.archivists.org/conference/2010/Washington.

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SAA EDUCATION CALENDAR

ARCHIVES*RECORDS/DC 2010

The following workshops will take place at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, D.C.

Managing Architectural, Design, and Construction Records

August 8-9

Planning New and Remodeled Archival Facilities

August 8-9

Understanding Archives: Intro to Principles and Practices

August 8-9

Introduction to Basic Imaging: How to do a Small Digitization Project!

August 9

A Guide to Balancing Legal Issues in Photo Collections

August 9

Copyright: The Archivists and the Law

August 9-10

Emergency Management for Archives

August 9-10

Managing Electronic Records in Archives & Special Collections

August 9-10

Producing It Online: Planning & Expanding Your Exhibitions

August 10

Advocating for Archives

August 10

When It's All About the Money: Leveraging Your Economic Impact

August 10

Other Workshops

Copyright: The Archivist and the Law

September 2-3 • Mount Carroll, IL

Real World Reference: Moving Beyond Theory

September 24 • Chicago, IL

Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS)

September 30 • Portland, OR

Implementing "More Product, Less Process"

October 1 • Gainesville, FL

Archives Overview

October 8 • Springfield, IL

Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS)

October 22 • Dallas, TX

Understanding Photos: Intro to Principles and Practices

October 25-26 • College Station, TX

Arrangement and Description of Manuscript Collections

November 4-5 • Princeton, NJ

Understanding Archives: Intro to Principles and Practices

November 12-13 • Minneapolis, MN

For more information, visit www.archivists.org and click on Education & Events. Questions? Contact us at education@archivists.org or (toll free) 800-722-7858.

CALENDAR

August 30-31

Archives without Borders, The Hague, the Netherlands. For information, www.archiveswithoutborders.org.

September 5-8

InForum, Broadbeach, Queensland, Australia. For more information, www.inforum.net.au.

September 9-10

Mapping Personal, Family and Company Archives Summer Course, University of Navarra, Pamplona, Spain. For more information, www.unav.es/servicio/archivo/cursoarchivospersonales.

September 22-25

American Association for State and Local History Annual Meeting, Oklahoma City, OK. For more information, www.aaslh.org/anmeeting.htm.

September 29-October 3

Archival Traditions and Practice: Are Archivists Historians? (ICA SUV Conference), Prague, Czech Republic. For more information, www.dundee.ac.uk/archives/suv2010/cfp.htm.

November 3-5

New England Museum Association Annual Conference, Springfield, MA. For more information, www.nemanet.org/conf10/index.htm.

November 5-6

New England Archivists Fall Meeting, Keene, NH. For more information, www.newenglandarchivists.org.

November 7-10

ARMA International 55th Annual Conference & Expo, San Francisco, CA. For more information, www.arma.org/conference.

* * *

AIP Grants to Archives

The American Institute of Physics, Center for History of Physics, announced its 2011 Grants to Archives, which are intended to make records, papers, and other primary sources that document the history of modern physics and allied fields (such as astronomy, geophysics, and optics) accessible. Grants may be up to \$10,000 each. The deadline for applications is **August 15**. For more information, visit www.aip.org/history/grntann.htm.

* * *

Upcoming Fellowships Available at NYPL

The New York Public Library, in partnership with the libraries at Yale, Rutgers, and the University of Connecticut at Storrs, is implementing a preservation administration fellowship program through 2012. Eight fellows will spend nine-month residencies rotating through various preservation units such as collections care, conservation treatment, and audio and moving image preservation. More information, visit www.nypl.org/collections/preservation-division/imls.

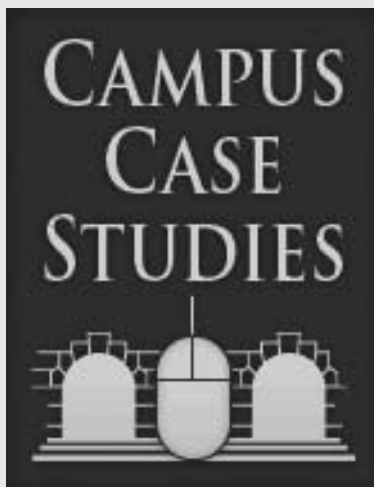


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Making the Case...



Podcasts in the Archives: Archiving Podcasting Content at the University of Michigan

Alexis A. Antracoli tackles several preservation challenges such as: 1) establishing standards of practice for ingest, storage, and access, especially the generation and storage of appropriate descriptive, technical, and preservation metadata, and 2) developing the necessary technological infrastructure to support an Open Archives Information System (OAIS)-compliant system.

Campus Case Studies are reports by university archivists on working solutions for born-digital records. Take a look at a few of the report topics such as "Public Affairs Records in the Digital Age," "Preserving the H-Net Academic Electronic Mail Lists," "UIC Medical Center Policies Using DSpace," and many more!

Read this free Case Study and other ePublications at www.archivists.org/publications/epubs.