

The Archival Spirit, January 2007 *Winter Issue*

Newsletter of the Archivists of Religious Collections Section, Society of American Archivists

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From the Chair

By Loretta Greene

In earlier columns, I have mentioned that my staff and I were deeply engaged in research and preparations for the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Sisters of Providence in the Northwest. The anniversary has now passed: on December 8, 2006, we paused to conclude our year long celebration. And what a year it was! The visible part of the anniversary focused on three public liturgies and receptions, a commemorative calendar, a historical timeline, exhibits of artifacts and photographs, and an online chronology of the sisters' journey. From the Archives point of view, the less visible but perhaps more valuable components were the historical facts that were discovered, enhanced or clarified through our research for these events. This was what the staff relished – the opportunity to dig deeper into the historical record, to discover new and clarify old facts, to gain a greater understanding of the sacrifices of the religious community, and to analyze and weave together various resources for a larger picture of the sisters' journey to the northwest and the growth of their ministries.

Early this year when I thought it was all over, we found an internet site for the 150th anniversary of the Sisters of Mercy in California whose celebration began in 2004. Then I saw articles in Catholic Health World honoring several other religious communities celebrating their 150th anniversaries. And it hit me: I realized that there are numerous religious groups and organizations that are reaching significant milestones in their history – all at the same time. We are all celebrating within years of each other and we are all reflecting on our contributions to our communities and regions and the fabric of society. At the same time, large and small public businesses and groups will also celebrate a significant anniversary and they will want to share their good news locally or nationally. Everyone is eager to tell their story, but what makes us different from the big names? With so many demands on people's time, why would they want to celebrate with us?

You only have to look at the articles in this issue of Archival Spirit to begin to see the difference. Whether your organization is independent or part of a larger entity, collaboration is key. Businesses influence society but our organizations have a marked impact on the fabric of society. Our collections preserve the evidence of this impact and allow for its future study. This issue's



Sr. Alexis Melancon, dressed in traditional habit, gives members of the public a tour of

articles show how individuals and organizations have a great effect on people, ethnic groups, and communities – locally, nationally, and internationally. Now that is something that makes us stand apart from others. Our collections allow people to dig deeper into the work of our organizations, to gain a greater understanding of the sacrifices and challenges of our members, and to see the larger picture of the impact of our weavings in society.

Providence Academy in Vancouver, Washington, at one of the Sisters of Providence sesquicentennial events in 2006. The Academy is the flagship institution for the sisters in the Northwest, founded in 1856. Events like these brought the community into direct contact with the history of the religious community and its works.

An anniversary energizes us to know more about our organization and do more with our collections. I hope this issue of Archival Spirit will be another step to energize you to recognize the difference between your organization and the next one. And then, when it comes time to plan your celebratory event - large or small - you will have ready the resources to show the public why you are different and why they should engage in a celebration with you.

Archivists of Religious Collections Section
Annual Meeting, August 4, 2006
Washington Hilton Hotel

Call to Order: ARCS chair Loretta Zwolak Greene called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and welcomed everyone, especially new members and those from the Gulf Coast region.

The chair introduced the section officers and encouraged members to become involved in the section. Special thanks were extended to Tim Meagher, Tricia Pyne, and the staff of Catholic University for hosting Wednesday's reception and providing tours of the American Catholic History Research Center and University Archives. She asked that volunteers willing to host a reception during the 2007 annual meeting in Chicago be in touch with her or another member of the steering committee.

American Archivist, Editorial Board

The Chair introduced Bill Landis from the editorial board of American Archivist. Landis mentioned that Mary Jo Pugh is the new editor for American Archivist and there is a strong interest in new authors and publishing a healthy mix of practical as well as research--based articles. If session proposals are rejected by the program committee, Landis recommended turning the proposal into an article. The editor and board are available for consultation. Landis also encouraged members to serve as reviewers for articles.

Program Committee 2007

The chair then called on Elisabeth Wittman for the SAA program committee. Wittman informed the Section that the process for selecting proposals has changed and proposals are now ranked. The committee is revising the structure of the traditional session by eliminating the chair while retaining the format of three speakers with one speaker selected to be the facilitator. The deadline to submit session proposals this year is October 9, 2006. If similar proposals are received, the committee will most likely ask that those proposals be combined and resubmitted as a single revised proposal. The committee is also suggesting that an individual only be eligible to participate in one session per conference. For information about writing a successful proposal, please refer to SAA's website. There is another form for submitting ideas for pre-conference workshops.

SAA Liaison

The chair introduced Mark Duffy to give a report on the work of the council. Duffy reported that during the last year, of 78 appointments made to various boards, committees, and task forces, only five of those appointments were religious archivists. Please volunteer to serve SAA. The chair stated that she will send out an announcement on the listserv when the call for nominations comes out.

In the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Emergency Fund funded a total of 18 grants. Due to the efforts of our Section, six of those grants were given to religious archives. There is a new SAA workshop scheduled for Chicago. This is a result of the devastating fire at Pilgrim Baptist Church. This is a direct result of having an advocate for religious archives representing the section on the SAA council.

Member Survey Form

The chair requested that all those present complete the member survey questionnaire. During last year's

section meeting, there was a request that members be able to make anonymous suggestions. To accommodate this request, a blank comment sheet has been attached to the survey form.

Nominations/Election Committee

The Chair introduced Diane Wells for the nominations/election committee. Wells informed the section that there is one position for a member-at-large and Ellen Pierce of the Maryknoll Mission Archives is the single candidate for this position. She asked Ellen to stand. Wells asked for additional nominations from the floor. Hearing none, she moved that the proposed candidate be accepted. The motion was seconded and the candidate was elected without dissent. Wells informed the section that next year there will be three positions open: secretary, member-at-large, and vice chair/chair elect. If anyone is interested in serving in these capacities, please contact Diane or indicate your interest on the member survey form.

Secretary's Report

The chair called on Lisa Jacobson for the secretary's report. Jacobson said the minutes for the 2005 ARCS section meeting were published in the Fall 2005 Archival Spirit newsletter. She asked for any corrections or changes from the floor. Hearing none, she moved that the 2005 annual meeting minutes be approved. The motion was seconded and the 2005 minutes approved without dissent.

Sister M. Claude Lane Award

The Chair then introduced Robert Johnson-Lally, Chair, Sister M. Claude Lane Award Committee. Johnson-Lally announced that no nominations for the award were received this year. He said the committee cannot make nominations, so please nominate your colleagues for this award. The award is co-sponsored by the Society of Southwest Archivists and SAA. Nomination forms and information about the award are available on the Website. The awards committee is holding office hours in the exhibit hall if anyone has questions.

Communications

Listserv Update:

The Chair introduced Dale Patterson. Patterson said it was necessary to move the home for the listserv this past year. Because of the need for a stable and consistent provider, he decided to go with Yahoo Groups. Hand-outs with instructions on how to register were distributed. So far 87 people have rejoined the list. You do not need a Yahoo account to join. Dale mentioned that the list is quiet. If section members have questions and a need to consult their colleagues, please use the list. The Chair stated that if she needs to communicate with the Section, she sends out a broadcast e-mail through SAA announcements which includes all members. She wanted to clarify that the listserv is voluntary and not all Section members are registered on the list.

Archival Spirit Newsletter

Wes Wilson delivered an update on the newsletter. Wilson said the on-line version of the newsletter is much easier to create. There have been a good variety of articles and announcements in recent issues. Wilson encouraged everyone to submit news items. Wilson said that in response to a suggestion from last year, he is considering posting news items when they are sent to him, especially when items are time-sensitive, and after a certain length of time, remove items to an archived newsletter. Questions and concerns were raised about whether or not people will go to the website to look for news items without receiving a formal newsletter via e-mail and how to maintain the properties of a formal newsletter. Wilson stated that he can post information on the website and also send it out via the listserv. He thinks it is worth trying a hybrid system. Wilson also asked members to include a caption for any photos they send.

"Virtual Tour" for the Newsletter

Lisa Jacobson reported that a new initiative for the newsletter is a "Virtual Tour." This idea was discussed at last year's steering committee meeting and the first tour appeared in the Spring 2006 issue. During the 2005 section meeting, several members mentioned that they don't know other members of the section and because we meet only once a year in large cities, the opportunity to visit or tour the facilities of fellow members is limited. A "Virtual Tour" via the newsletter is one way to learn more about one another. So far two tours have been included in the newsletter. If anyone wishes to have their Archives featured, please contact Lisa.

Website

Mark Duffy mentioned that the website continues to develop. Updated information for the on-line membership directory is almost complete. Information about the section's response to Hurricane Katrina is available on the website along with information about the reception. Duffy emphasized the site is only as good as the information he gets. If anyone has any ideas, please let Mark know. Mark reported that he is very interested in volunteers to help maintain the website. Because of council responsibilities, Mark would like to transition from the webmaster duties in one year. Mark would provide orientation and mentoring to

a new webmaster during the upcoming year. The chair encouraged a member to volunteer for this important section duty.

Models & Resources Committee

The chair reported that this committee has been inactive during the past year. The mandate has been revised. The chair asked Nancy Taylor to read the new purpose and objectives statement. Nancy read the statement and asked for comments. It was mentioned that the mandate to create session proposals and workshops has been eliminated as this is a task of the steering committee. It was suggested that at future section meetings time be set aside for members to gather in small groups to discuss ideas for session proposals. Several members did voice an interest in having the work of this committee continue. They think having information on archival resources specific to religious institutions is valuable.

Directory Update

The chair called on Liz Scott to give a report on the progress of updating the membership directory. Scott said she received 187 responses. She is in the final stage of copying new and updated information into the on-line directory. The work should be completed in another month or so.

Pilgrim Church, Chicago

The chair introduced Margery Sly to report on an upcoming workshop in Chicago. The workshop developed out of the tragic fire that devastated the historically African-American Pilgrim Church. Sly thanked Mark Duffy for his work on the council and getting this workshop on the schedule. Sly said a workshop is planned to take place at the DuSable Museum of African-American History in October to encourage African-American parishes to preserve their history. So far there has been a very positive response and Sly is in the process of compiling denominational record policies from all faith communities taking part in the workshop for participants. If the workshop in Chicago is successful, there is a possibility that it will be repeated in other communities.

Malachy McCarthy mentioned the need for this type of workshop in the Catholic Latino community. He raised the question of how do archives devise a collection strategy for underrepresented groups that have different cultural attitudes toward records.

2007 Session Ideas

Gwynedd Cannan initiated a discussion on ideas for session proposals. Cannan listed several topics including privacy issues, archives and faith formation, how to educate your institution on the importance of archives, exhibits and outreach, and alienation of records, and asked for ideas from the floor. Alan Lefever, Texas Baptist Historical Collection, suggested a session on preservation on a thread. How do you preserve materials when there is no money? Jennifer McGillan, Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest, suggested that interfaith partnerships with universities be considered. Jac Treanor, Archdiocese of Chicago, further suggested that someone from National Historic Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) be invited to discuss the grant process for a preservation session. Carol Prietto, Daughters of Charity, suggested a title, "promotion ideas on a thread." She said she used e-mail during Archives Week last year and her efforts were very well received. Because we were running out of time, Gwynedd suggested a discussion on session proposals take place on the listserv.

Program

Gwynedd Cannan introduced Lee Leumas of the Diocese of Baton Rouge. Lee gave a very important and powerful presentation on her experiences in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina assisting the Archdiocese of New Orleans in disaster recovery efforts. The title of her presentation is "Institutions Helping Institutions: Lessons from Hurricane Katrina."

Other Remarks

Jac Treanor encouraged everyone to attend the SAA Awards Ceremony as Lee Leumas was being honored with the first annual Spotlight Award.

The chair thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Lisa Jacobson, Secretary
ARCS Secretary

Center for Migration Studies:

American Committee for Italian Migration Collection Available

Mary E. Brown

Center for Migration Studies, Staten Island, NY

The Center for Migration Studies has completed processing the papers of the American Committee for Italian Migration (ACIM) through the 1990s. ACIM was founded in 1953 as a member of the National Catholic Resettlement Council. As such it was part of a coalition of religious and ethnic organizations formed to lobby for changes in U.S. immigration law. The coalition supported passage of 1965 legislation ending discriminatory quotas. ACIM continued lobbying and also expanded its work into helping Italian immigrants navigate various sorts of Italian and American legal paperwork. A network of local chapters of ACIM's Women's Division funded all of these activities by holding annual events in communities across the United States each year. Now, casework, fundraising and lobbying activities are documented in 161.5 linear feet of correspondence, case records, legislative papers, publications and photographs. The collection adds to the picture of Italian Catholicism beyond the usual focus on the first generation of immigrants' devotion to the saints. It has the potential to illuminate several other issues in postwar American Catholicism: the development of Church teaching on immigration, the assimilation of the southern and Eastern Europe migration that occurred earlier in the twentieth century, collaboration between clergy and laity, and the role of women. For questions about the collection, please contact its processor, Mary Brown, at mbrown@panix.com. For access, please contact Center for Migration Studies Library, 209 Flagg Place, Staten Island, New York 10304, (351) 718-8800 or library@cmsny.org.

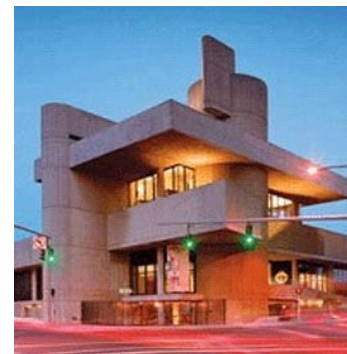
Swiss Guard Exhibit at Knights of Columbus Museum

By Susan H. Brosnan

Knights of Columbus Museum, New Haven, Conn.

The Knights of Columbus Museum is the first and exclusive U.S. venue for the colorful and historical exhibition "The Swiss Guard: Celebrating 500 Years of Papal Service." The exhibit opened on November 1, 2006 and will continue until June 2007. On March 29, 2006 the Vatican opened a special anniversary exhibition commemorating the history, traditions and role of the Swiss Guard. With Vatican approval, most of this exhibit has been brought to New Haven.

Items on display include uniformed mannequins, helmets, armor, weapons, paintings, drawings, and engravings. In addition to objects from the Vatican, artifacts are on loan from museums in Italy, Austria, Switzerland and some private collections. Please see our web site at <http://www.kofc.org/un/about/museum/index.cfm> for details.



*Knights of Columbus Museum
New Haven, Conn.*

By Robert Shuster

Billy Graham Center Archives, Wheaton, Ill.

The World Congress on Evangelism, held in West Berlin, Germany, October 25 - November 4, 1966 was an important event in the history of 20th century Christianity. At this meeting Protestant Evangelical Christians (theologians, evangelists and church leaders) from around the world met, most for the first time. They began a building of relationships and exchange of views that led to much closer cooperation and future conferences, such as the 1974 International Congress on World Evangelization (the Lausanne Congress). Although the Congress was sponsored by two American organizations - the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and Christianity Today magazine - and was planned and financial largely by Americans, the papers at the conference gave many indications of the explosive growth of the church in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the shifting center of gravity of the church from the Western to non-Western cultures.

The Billy Graham Center Archives is making available at its website dozens of audio recordings, texts of papers and photographs from the meeting.

All of these documents are available at: <http://www.wheaton.edu/bgc/archives/berlin66.htm> Please send any questions or comments about the site to: bgcarc@wheaton.edu

One interesting aspect of the Congress was the attendance of the Waorani tribesmen Yaeti Kimo and Gikita Komi of Ecuador, along with missionary Rachael Saint. The Waoranis had been involved in so-called Auca Incident ten years earlier, when five American missionaries trying to plant a church among the Waorani had been murdered. Both Kimo and Komi had become Christians since then and were at the conference to share their faith. The website includes recordings their presentation to the Congress and of their press conference.

Other speakers for whom there are recordings and/or texts at the web site include:

Ishaya S. Audu, C. E. Autrey, Nicholas B. Bhengu, Gerhard Bergmann, Bill Bright, Thomas Cosmades, A. Jack Dain, Otto Dibelius, Paul Deitenbeck, Charles Dennis, George Duncan, Timothy S. K. Dzao, V. Raymond Edman, Ted Engstrom, Eric Fife, Paul E. Finkenbinder, Billy Graham, Richard C. Halverson, Kyung Chik Han, Akbar Abdul Haqq, Akira Hatori, Carl Henry, Oswald C. J. Hoffman, A. W. Goodwin Hudson, Juan M. Isais, Festo Kivengere, Harold B. Kuhn, Walter Kunne, Reuben Lores, Victor Manogarom, Benjamin Moraes, Harold J. Ockenga, Rene Pache, William Pannell, Bob Pierce, John Poorter, Eustaquio (Nene) Ramientos, Chandu Ray, Paul S. Rees, Lorne Sanny, Francis Schaeffer, Kurt Scharf, Johannes Schneider, John Stott, Clyde W. Taylor, Corrie ten Boom, Fernando Vangioni, Pious Wakatama, I. Ben Wati, J. W. Winterhager, Thomas Zimmerman

New Collaborative Website Documents Moravian Presence in Coastal Labrador

By Amanda Jamieson

Memorial University, St. John's, Newfoundland

A new collaborative website, *The Inuit Through Moravian Eyes*, documents the history of the Moravian presence in coastal Labrador.

The website, a joint project among the Libraries of the University of Toronto, Memorial University of Newfoundland and Laval Université, was made possible in part through the Canadian Culture Online program of the Department of Canadian Heritage. The site documents the history of the Moravian missionary settlements and highlights the interaction between the congregation and the Inuit of coastal Labrador. Moravian missionaries had their origin in ancient Bohemia and Moravia in what is the present-day Czech Republic, arriving in North America early in the eighteenth century.

The website includes digital reproductions of about 6,000 pages of textual material and 1,000 photographs related to the missions in Labrador. The site also includes rare manuscript maps of northern Labrador and drawings, plans and paintings of the missionary settlements. It also provides access to approximately one hour of audio and video recordings of Moravian choral and brass band music.

The collection is accompanied by bilingual metadata which facilitates the discovery and retrieval of information. Users are able to search and browse through the digital collection. It is also full text searchable, allowing users complete access to the collection of archival and print material.

The richness of the Moravian-Inuit records lends itself to the creation of a wide variety of interactive and supplementary learning materials. The website includes materials such as essays, timelines and other ancillary materials related to life on coastal Labrador. To aid Canada's student population, learning plans and other interactive materials have been created to promote experiential learning. While the overall goal of this project is to create a freely accessible resource where all Canadians can explore their cultural heritage, the new and exciting learning opportunities that flow naturally from such a venture is an added benefit.

The Inuit Through Moravian Eyes website is available at <http://link.library.utoronto.ca/inuitmoravian/>.

Contacts:

Karen Turko, University of Toronto Libraries - (416) 978-7654; karen.turko@utoronto.ca

Bert Riggs, Memorial University - (709) 737-8303; briggs@mun.ca

Dave Anderson, Laval Université - (418) 656-2131 ext. 12225; dave.anderson@bibl.ulaval.ca

William and Anne Taylor Diaries Acquired by Taylor University

By Robert F. Lay

Taylor University (Upland, Indiana) Archives has acquired the Gold Rush-era diary of its namesake, William Taylor (1821-1902), together with a travel diary belonging to his wife, Anne Kimberlin Taylor (1825-1905). His diary chronicles five of Taylor's seven enterprising years (1849-1856) as a street-preaching evangelist in San Francisco, Sacramento, San Jose, and the surrounding area. Her travel diary for 1866-1867 chronicles the couple's travels together from South Africa to and throughout Western Europe. Both diaries offer rich, first-person accounts of contemporary events (in addition to the couple's own activities) written in a fine, narrative style. Taylor preached on every populated continent and published numerous works on missionary methods and theology. In 1884 he was appointed Missionary Bishop to Africa by the Methodist Episcopal Church which he served for over half a century until his retirement in 1900. Taylor's tendency to work outside denominational channels and his willingness to appoint indigenous leaders gained him the reputation of a maverick missionary. Anne settled with their four sons in Alameda where all are now buried. The donor of these journals, Mr. Stanley Koskinen, is the great, great grandson of William and Anne Taylor.

Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament Oral History Project and "Katharine Drexel: A Case Study in Sainly Administration"

By Stephanie Morris

Stephanie Morris, Sister Jeanette Kinlicheeny, SBS, and Mrs. Sandra M. Kemp have initiated an oral history project concerning two boarding schools for African-Americans conducted by the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament and Mrs. Louise Drexel Morrell in Powhatan, Va. Col. and Mrs. Edward Morrell purchased land on the James River in 1894 and in the following year St. Emma's Military and Industrial School opened. In 1899 Mother M. Katharine Drexel and her congregation opened St. Francis de Sales High School (for girls). Both schools closed by 1971. Two former employees of St. Emma's have already been interviewed, and the project leaders hope to continue to interview neighbors, former faculty, students and employees to document the role and

heritage of these schools for African Americans in Virginia.

Richard Fossey and Stephanie Morris presented a paper at the Texas Catholic Historical Society on March 3, 2006, "Mother Katharine Drexel: A Case Study in Saintly Administration, St. Patrick's Mission, Anadarko, OK." The manuscript has been accepted for publication.

Nominations Sought for SAA's Sr. M. Claude Lane, O.P. Memorial Award

By Robert Johnson-Lally

The Society of American Archivists encourages nominations for its Sr. M. Claude Lane, O.P., Memorial Award. Created in 1974, the award recognizes individuals who have made a significant contribution to the field of religious archives. Criteria include: involvement and work in the Archivists of Religious Collections Section of SAA; contributions to archival literature relating to religious archives; participation and leadership in religious archives organizations; and evidence of leadership in a specific religious archives. The award honors Sister M. Claude Lane and is funded by the Society of Southwest Archivists. For more information and nomination form, see: <http://www.archivists.org/recognition>. Nominations must be received by February 28, 2007.

Intermuseum Conservation Association: Seminars and Workshops Announcement

We welcome directors of institutions, curators, collections managers, preparators, registrars and people involved in the art community to attend: "Preservation of Sacred Artifacts: Care and Handling of Cultural Materials in Religious and Spiritual Institutions."

Presented by Intermuseum Conservation Association, this five-part lecture series helps individuals in religious institutions understand the basic care of cultural materials for which they are stewards. The talks will address the principles of caring for, displaying, and storing materials found in religious collections and buildings. Preventive conservation and information on practical ways to ensure the long-term stability of artifacts and documents will also be discussed.

The series is tailored for staff and volunteers responsible for collections in churches, synagogues, mosques, or other spiritual or religious centers, but is open to all interested parties. For more information or to register, contact Nicole Hayes at 216.658.8700 or nhayes@ica-artconservation.org.

Location:

Trinity Cathedral Commons
Conference Room AB
2230 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44115-2499
www.trinitycleveland.org/

Dates: Thursdays, Feb. 8th through Mar. 8th 2007, 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Cost: \$12 per lecture or \$45 for all five lectures (includes parking)
Pre-registration is preferred. See above for contact information.

Feb. 8th "Understanding Conservation: Issues of Spiritual and Sacred Artifacts"

Discussion of how conservation might impact the use of sacred artifacts and also how the dictates of religion may shape the course of conservation treatment. A general overview of basic storage and environmental issues will be given. Trinity Cathedral Tour: Docents will be available following the presentation for guided group tours of Charles Schweinfurth's historic cathedral.

Feb. 15th "Paper-Based Materials" (archives/documents, prints, photographs, parchment)

Feb. 22nd "Three-Dimensional Artifacts" (ceremonial items, architectural features, stained glass windows)

Trinity Cathedral Tour: Docents will be available following the presentation to people who could not attend the February 8th guided tour.

Mar. 1st "Painted Materials" (mural, easel paintings, polychrome sculpture)

Mar. 8th "Textiles" (wall hangings, vestments, tapestries, ceremonial fabrics, rugs, painted textiles)

Lectures will be presented by art conservators from the Intermuseum Conservation Association, a non-profit organization located in Cleveland that provides art conservation, preservation, and education services. See the ICA website for more information: www.ica-artconservation.org www.ica-artconservation.org/

Archivists of Religious Collections Section Officers

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Gwynedd Cannan, Trinity Church, New York City

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Web Coordinator: Mark J. Duffy, The Archives of the Episcopal Church USA

Editor's Notes

The Archival Spirit is published three times a year by the Archivists of Religious Collections Section of the Society of American Archivists. Feature pieces as well as announcements of acquisitions and projects are welcome. Send submissions to: Wesley W. Wilson at wwilson@depauw.edu.

For membership information, contact: Society of American Archivists, 527 S. Wells, 5th Floor, Chicago, IL 60607, 312-922-0140, fax 312-347-1452, info@archivists.org

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