



The Archival Spirit, November 2010 *Fall Issue*

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

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From the Chair: *forthcoming*

By Alan Lefever

United Methodist Church Archives Announces Scholarship Award and Partnership with SAA

Press Release

The General Commission on Archives and History of The United Methodist Church, the official archival agency for the denomination based in Madison, New Jersey, is pleased to announce the creation of the Josephine Forman Scholarship Award. The Archives will be partnering with the Society of American Archivists, based in Chicago, Illinois, to administer the Scholarship selection process. The Commission will award one scholarship of \$10,000 annually to a minority student who is pursuing graduate education in archival science. "One of the long-term goals of the Commission," says the Rev. Dr. Robert Williams, General Secretary of the Commission, "has been to increase diversity within the archival profession. Ms. Forman's gracious gift has allowed us to reach this goal of providing a scholarship sooner than we had hoped." The Society of American Archivists also is committed to increasing diversity and has been involved in a variety of measures to this end within the archives community.

The scholarship is named for Josephine Forman, archivist for eighteen years of the Southwest Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church and author of *We Finish to Begin: A History of Travis Park United Methodist Church, 1846-1991*. For United Methodists a Conference is a regional body of the denomination, similar to a diocese. Records from closed churches are kept there along with administrative records for the Conference. For many years Ms. Forman was also the Church Historian at Travis Park United Methodist Church in San Antonio. In the United Methodist polity the local Church Historian is responsible to "keep the historical records up to date" and will "provide an annual report on the care of church records and historical materials" and will "provide, with the pastor . . . for the preservation of all local church records and historical materials no longer in current use." The position is a combination of historian and archivist. Ms. Forman had a vital interest in the history and records of her Conference and church. She was also committed to training and education for archivists and church historians.

Because of the gracious gift that Ms. Forman left in her will, the Commission was able to establish the Josephine Forman Scholarship. The scholarship is given to applicants who demonstrate excellent potential for scholastic and personal achievement and who manifest a commitment both to the archives profession and to advancing diversity concerns within it. The applicant must be of American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander descent. The Commission's partnership with the Society of American Archivists to form the selection committee allows a broad range of professionals to participate in the selection process. Ms. Forman's gift ensures that this scholarship will be available for at least the next twenty years. "We hope that we will be able to find a way to continue this scholarship long after the initial twenty years," says Williams.

Becoming the Diocese of Olympia, 1910-2010: Commemorating 150th Years of the Episcopal Church in Washington

By Diane Wells, Archivist and Records Manager

In 2003 the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia commemorated the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the Episcopal Church in Western Washington with a yearlong celebration. As Archivist, I coordinated the events, wrote articles, provided background material and photographs and produced a history video.

This year, 2010, the Diocese is celebrating another anniversary and I find myself in a similar role. On October 10, 1910, after 57 years of pioneer development, the Missionary District of Olympia became a diocese. And though it may sound as if we are going backward, this year's anniversary celebrates the 100th anniversary of diocesan status – and our 100th diocesan convention. If anyone wants more in the way of historical clarification, contact me, and I will be happy to provide a more in depth explanation – but for now, suffice it to say that the Archives has again been involved in producing an anniversary celebration.

Specifically, the Archives has been involved in four anniversary projects. The first of these was the production of an updated version of the church histories originally published in the book, *More Than 100 Years of Ministry: The Episcopal Church in Western Washington* which came out in 1989. The new publication, *Becoming the Diocese of Olympia: The Congregations* contains updated and revised histories of each of our 106 congregations including current photographs and is available in a CD format. Much of the new information came from archival sources. As I view this as an on-going project, the digital format will make it much easier to update in the future and to make the histories available online.

The second project was the reproduction of the original portrait of the Rt. Rev. Frederic William Keator, our fifth missionary bishop and our first bishop diocesan. The original hangs above the fireplace at Annie Wright School in Tacoma. Our reproduced portrait will join the portraits of other bishops at Diocesan House - the former Leary Mansion on Capitol Hill in Seattle. As is the case with most archivists, I wear many hats, and helping to care for the art in our possession is one of mine.

I have also just finished an Archives exhibit which will be on display at our annual diocesan convention. The display chronicles 100 years of diocesan history in photographs. All of the images in the exhibit are from the diocesan archives and highlight not only the history of the diocese but also the breadth of the Archives' photographic holdings.

The fourth and last of the Anniversary projects has been the production of a brief history video which will also be shown at our diocesan convention. Entitled, *Becoming the Diocese of Olympia, 1910-2010*, the video uses photos and videotape from the Archives as well as background images from a variety of other sources along with a voice over narration to tell the diocesan story. To keep the video within time limitations my 5000 word, 20 minute script, was edited down to 7.43 minutes! Obviously a few things were left out, but the hope was to provide an overview and to get people thinking about diocesan history and what the future might hold.

Producing a video is always (at least in my limited experience) a stressful and frustrating process. However, it is ultimately rewarding and a great way to showcase your archives!

If you are getting ready to celebrate an anniversary or if you are contemplating such a celebration, please let me know if I can be of any help. This is my second time around for such an event – and I'm happy to serve as a resource or to simply provide moral support!!

Baylor University Honors Joan Riffey Sutton and Launches Music in Missions Collection

By Kathy Hillman

On October 28, 2010, the Baylor University Libraries and the Center for Christian Music Studies launched the University's Music in Missions Collection and honored retired missionary Joan Riffey Sutton for her contributions to church music in Brazil and the gift of her papers to the University as the cornerstone of the new Collection. The dinner and program included a musical tribute using selections Mrs. Sutton composed, translated or arranged. More than 100 persons from six different states, many of whom served as music missionaries, attended the invitation-only event.

The occasion also commemorated the contributions of the Bagby family to Brazilian missions and to Baylor. William Buck Bagby, an 1875 Baylor graduate, and his wife Anne Luther Bagby opened Baptist work for the Foreign Mission Board (now International Mission Board) in Brazil and served from 1880 until their respective deaths in 1939 and 1942. Five of their children also served in missions in South America. The University's Texas Collection houses their archives. The Bagby-Hillman endowment generously provided resources to assist in processing the Sutton materials by funding a music graduate student from Brazil to organize, translate and help digitize the papers. The Bagby's granddaughter and retired Baylor professor Thelma Smith Cooper represented the family and played the piano for the event.

Sutton, a 1951 Baylor School of Music graduate, donated materials accumulated during her 34 years as a missionary in Brazil. The Sutton archives include manuscripts, drafts, publications, accompanying documentation and notes, materials from courses that Mrs. Sutton taught at the Baptist Seminary in Rio de Janeiro on translating and musical arranging, as well as hymnals, choral anthems and cantatas. A special library exhibit in the Crouch Fine Arts Library offered guests the opportunity to view her work. Members of the Southwest Area Theological Library Association also toured the display.

Having grown up as a missionary child in Brazil, Joan Riffey Sutton dedicated her life to the South American country after studying music at Baylor. Joan and her husband Boyd, who served from 1959-1993, were significant figures in Brazilian music missionary work and were instrumental in collecting and organizing Brazilian hymnody. Mrs. Sutton's translations of major choral masterpieces such as Handel's Messiah, Brahms' German Requiem, Dubois' Seven Last Words of Christ,



and Mendelssohn's Elijah, to name a few, are standards of the vernacular performance across Portuguese-speaking denominations. A recent graduate of the Baylor School of Music who is a native of Brazil said about the Suttons, "Much of my ministerial vision today was shaped after readings and performances of Mr. and Mrs. Sutton's work." During her Waco visit, Mrs. Sutton spoke to religion and music classes and participated in an oral history interview.

The University hopes Joan Riffey Sutton's gift will inspire music missionaries from Brazil and other parts of the world to donate their materials to the Baylor Libraries in order to build the Music in Missions Collection.

**Archivists of Religious Collections Section Meeting
August 12, 2010
Washington, DC**

ARCS business meeting 1:49 pm Thursday August 12

Call to Order:

Welcome from Alan Lefever

Thanks for coming to the "unreception."

New members stood and introduced themselves. There were too many new members to record their particulars.

Council Liaison

Marjory Sly noted that it was her last meeting as council liaison. Council update:

- 1 Encouraged everyone to attend membership meeting to vote on three amendments
 - o Dues increase
- 1 Discussed new values statement will be issued to membership soon
- 1 Accessibility best practices approved
 - o Working with researchers
 - o Working with archivists with disabilities
- 1 SAA finished budget year with a net loss of 17000 dollars
- 1 Looking forward to visiting 2011 as 75th anniversary
- 1 Donna McCrae next council liaison

Program Committee

- 1 Paige Smith from the program committee for 2011 discussed next years program. The theme is Archives 360 Then Now Wow.
- 1 Come up with proposals--deadline is October 1
- 1 There is a correction to the proposal requirements. The abstract should be 150 words, not 75 as shown in the program booklet.

Old business

- 1 Minutes were published in the last newsletter. There were no corrections from the floor. Minutes were approved. (Liz Scott)
- 1 Nominations committee (Gwynedd Cannan) Elections were electronic this year. Liz Scott will continue as Secretary for one more term. Jim Havron is the new Representative at Large.
- 1 ARCS Session proposal (Laura Botts) Last year's proposal didn't go anywhere, but they will be refining the program. But we have a good idea

- 1 Sister M. Claude Lane award Jane Aucoin is the recipient

Committee reports

- 1 Newsletter. (Wes Wilson) There was one issue of newsletter this year. We need people to volunteer to write for newsletter Paul Daniels will be the new newsletter editor. The Chair thanked Wes for his years of service and the Section joined in applause.
- 1 Web. (Mark Duffy) This was an unremarkable year for website. The Newsletter is up on the site. There were also some updates, especially for Models and Resources. There is also ongoing planning for completely updating the membership directory.
- 1 Listserv. L. Dale Patterson was not at the meeting, but Alan asked that we please use the listserv and make it more active.
- 1 Models and Resources. (Chris Doane) Chris has been updating and adding to the M&R. She would like it to be the most used section of the website. It is a great resource that is very specific to our collections. The Western States and Territories Preservation Assistance group is on there and it's a great resource. We are always looking to add more.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1 Announcements from members
 - o Reminder of Women in Spirit exhibit going around the country
 - o The Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill?? working with 13 communities to develop an exhibit on healthcare—Sisters and Healthcare in western PA. It will be on display in Heinz Center along with Vatican Treasures
 - o A member is working with the Library of Catholic Liturgy and Resources to get rid of duplicate publications through the listserv.
 - o The first 2 volumes of Joseph Smith letters have been published
 - o Lutheran Church Archives announced that there is a liturgy for the disposition of religious books. Wes Wilson noted that it is on his website at Depauw.
 - o Lutheran Church Archives is in the last days of creating an agreement with John??swanson to get his artwork and papers.

2011 SESSION IDEAS FOR SAA AND ARCS (Terry Reilly)

- 1 We will meet in Chicago next year. Get ideas to Terry.
- 1 General Discussion (Alan Lefever>
 - o We need to generate some ideas about what we want to be, what we are in ARCS
 - o ARCS hasn't been doing so well with proposals.
 - o We need to be engaged with SAA
 - o We need to show the Society that we are relevant and of use to our members
 - o Ideas for sessions brainstorm
 - o Different set of parameters for privacy and confidentiality in religious collections
 - o Use of archives as objects to enhance the community living and community spirituality
 - o The archives for alzheimers therapy not traditional use of archives
 - o Appraisal and documentation approaches as we support our institutions.
 - o Celebrations role of the archivist in such things.

We will try to get some of these ideas out as general topics on the listserv and then go from there.

GENERAL STATEMENT FROM ALAN

Alan acknowledged a difficult year but wants the Section to be treated equally in terms of its responsibilities. We are important. We are our institution's memory. He is thankful for ARCS to let us have commonality. We hope to become more effective. **WE NEED YOU** to do that. **WE NEED YOU** to write newsletter articles. **WE NEED YOU** to use the listserv. **WE NEED YOU** to do session proposals.

Adjournment of business meeting. 2:31 pm

PROGRAM (led by Terry Reilly)

We are in the process of revising ARCS. We are in the process of reengaging ARCS. This exercise will help us as we do that. The group divided into six groups, with each group looking at the ARCS mission and then one of the following 3 SAA strategic priorities:

1. Technology

2. Diversity

3. Public awareness and advocacy

From the Vice-Chair:
Part of Archivists of Religious Collections Annual Report

To: SAA Council
From: Terry Reilly, Vice-Chair, ARCS
Date: 4 November 2010

I was elected Vice-Chair at the annual meeting in August 2009. While the first year was relatively activity and the work of the section has gained new energy over the past few months. My major contribution was to design the program element for the 2010 meeting in Washington. We decided to conduct a focused small group discussion on a review of the ARCS Mission statement and how the Section could work to support the SAA Strategic Priorities in the areas of Technology, Diversity and Public Awareness. I prepared a preliminary analysis of the results of this session and presented it to the section leadership during our fall conference call.

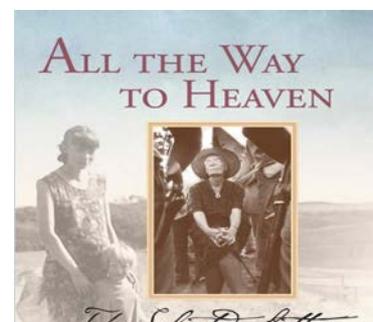
ARCS members expressed serious concern with the section's lack of success in having session proposals accepted by the annual conference program committee. They also want the section to develop a strategy for outreach to regional and local groups of religious archivists. Also, while we recognize that many archivists of religious collections are not in this situation, members want the ARCS leaders to have an intentional discussion with the Lone Arrangers Group about matters of common concern particularly regarding electronic records programs. Work on these and other matters will go forward to the new year.

I am particularly grateful to Gwynedd Cannan for helping me lean about the complexities of ARCS section life.

Marquette University Press Publishes "All the Way to Heaven: The Selected Letters of Dorothy Day"

Press Release--October 2010

"All the Way to Heaven: The Selected Letters of Dorothy Day" has just been issued by Marquette University Press. The new volume, also edited by Robert Ellsberg, follows the 2008 publication of *The Duty of Delight: The Diaries of Dorothy Day.* The volume includes family letters sealed for twenty-five years after her death and presents her letters by decade—from the earliest in 1923, to the last letter, months before her death in 1980. *All the Way to Heaven: The Selected Letters*



of Dorothy Day. It is a collaborative effort of the editor, the Marquette University Press, and Raynor Memorial Libraries, which holds many of the letters in its Dorothy Day-Catholic Worker Collection. It also draws on private collections and the holdings of more than 20 other repositories.



Upon her death, historian David J. O'Brien called Dorothy Day, co-founder of the Catholic Worker movement, "the most significant, interesting, and influential personal in the history of American Catholicism." Like her diaries, Day's letters offer a fascinating chronicle of her response to the changes in America, the church, and the world, set against the backdrop of the Depression, Cold War, Vatican II, and Vietnam. Her correspondents range from friends and family to well-known figures such as Thomas Merton, Daniel Berrigan, Cesar Chavez, Allen Ginsberg, Katherine Anne Porter, and Cardinal Spellman.

Robert Ellsberg, editor of her diaries and letters, is publisher of Orbis Books. For five years (1975-1980) he was part of the Catholic Worker community in New York City, serving as managing editor of The Catholic Worker newspaper. His own books include *All Saints: Daily Reflections on Saints, Prophets, and Witnesses for our Time*, *The Saints' Guide to Happiness*, and *Blessed Among all Women: Women Saints, Prophets, and Witnesses for our Time*.

All the Way to Heaven may be ordered from Marquette University Press's distributor, Atlas Books, via phone (800-247-6553) or online ordering; or via Amazon.com. Additional details include ISBN 978-0-87462-061-0, 480 pages, cloth with dust jacket, list price \$35.

The Marquette Libraries hold extensive archival collections in the area of Catholic social action: view the catalog description of the Dorothy Day-Catholic Worker Collection or see the online collection inventory. Further questions about this collection may be directed to archivist Phil Runkel.

Community Histories Project, Robert M. Myers Archives, Chicago Province of the Society of the Divine Word

By Marcia Stines, Archivist

October 15, 1895 a German religious brother arrived in America at Hoboken, New Jersey. Brother Wendelin came to sell German-language magazines published in Holland by the religious congregation to which he belonged, the Society of the Divine Word (SVD). The SVD established themselves in North America about twenty miles north of Chicago, Illinois at a site now called Techny. The site was the location of their first community and first province in this country. From there the Society expanded east, south, west and north establishing communities and seminaries to train missionary priests to serve God at home and abroad.

An anniversary is the typical time to celebrate an organization's history. In 2000 the Society of the Divine Word published a history for its centennial in Illinois with *In the Light of the Word* by Ernest Brandewie that told the story of the Society in North America. Over time the SVDs' provinces expanded to four and then back to three by amalgamating two of them into the Chicago Province in 1985. June 1, 2010, the Chicago Province celebrated its 25th Jubilee.

Since the community is the basic unit of a religious order it represents home base where the priests and brothers received their education and training. It is the face of the Society in the cities and towns where they are located and therefore has an important history of its own. "Is there a history of my community?" is a question asked of the archives. Sometimes the answer is yes, but often it is no. The community histories that exist were either written many years ago or are limited in scope. When the idea of writing community histories to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the province was proposed, guidelines for their content were established and the scope expanded to start at the beginning of each community as well as to include the three closed communities.

The Community History Project was born. It is under the historical guidance of the SVD Coordinator, Fr. Elmer

Nadicksbernd, SVD and the project management of the archivist, Marcia Stein. Each community will have an SVD "scribe" who will write the history based on the historical records from the archives, their communities, and the memories of their confreres. We plan to have eighteen community histories written for internal publication by the end of 2011. One is already delivered. We are off and writing!

ARCS Officers and Editor's Notes

The Archival Spirit is published online 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. Deadlines for submissions are Oct. 15, Feb. 15 and May 15. Send submissions to the Newsletter Editor, Paul Daniels at pdaniels [at] luthersem.edu. Send corrections to Mark Duffy, Web Editor, at mduffy [at] episcopalarchives.org.

Chair: Alan J. Lefever, Texas Baptist Historical Collection

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Teresa Reilly, University of Calgary

Secretary: Elizabeth B. Scott, Saint Michael's College

Past-chair/Nominating Committee: Gwynedd Cannan, Trinity Church in the City of New York

Representative-at-Large (2011): Taffey Hall, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

Representative-at-Large (2012): James Hevron, Southeastern Jurisdiction, Tennessee Conference, UMC

Newsletter Editor: Paul Daniels, Luther Seminary and ELCA Region 3

Website Editor: Mark J. Duffy, The Archives of the Episcopal Church

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