



The Archival Spirit

May 2011, no. 2

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

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From the Chair: *forthcoming*

By Alan Lefever

Candidates Proposed for ARCS Officers and Steering Committee

By Gwynedd Cannan, Chair of Nominating Committee

The 2011 ARCS elections will mark the second time online balloting is used. SAA will send out ballot information and ballots in July. Online voting will be accessible for two weeks. We will keep you alerted as events occur. Don't forget to vote!

The Section has two positions open for election this year: Vice-chair/Chair elect and Representative-at-Large. The Vice-Chair provides assistance to the Chair and in 2013 will assume the Chair. The Representative-at-Large is a member of the Steering Committee who advises the Chair and may be assigned special duties by the Chair. Both offices are two year terms. Read about both candidates below.

For Co-Chair

Colleen McFarland, Archivist, Mennonite Church USA, Goshen, Indiana

Colleen McFarland is archivist at the Mennonite Church USA Archives in Goshen, Indiana. She has been active in both the Society of American Archivists and Midwest Archives Conference, serving as co-chair for the MAC 2010 Fall Symposium on user studies, a member of MAC's Nominating Committee in 2009, and a member of SAA's Lone Arrangers Round Table Steering Committee from 2008-2010. She has published several articles on the administration of small archival programs and was recently nominated to serve on the board of the Society of Indiana Archivists. This summer, Colleen looks forward to attending the Archives Leadership Institute in Madison, Wisconsin.



Although Colleen is fairly new to the Archivists of

Religious Collections Section, she is delighted to have the opportunity to serve the organization. She looks forward to working with section members to raise the profile of ARCS within SAA and to explore ways the section can better meet the needs of archivists charged with the care of records documenting spiritual life.



For Representative at Large

Anne Thomason, Assistant Archivist, Earlham College, Richmond Indiana

Anne Thomason serves as Assistant Archivist at Earlham College, a Quaker college in Indiana. Anne works closely with Quaker meetings in Indiana and the Midwest to preserve and provide access to their records. She is also active in the Midwest Archives Conference, serving on the Fall Symposium Program Committee in 2010 and the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2013 conference. Anne also serves on the Education Board of the Society of Indiana Archivists and has presented at several conferences. Anne holds a Masters Degree in Information specializing in Archives and Records Management from the University of Michigan, and also a Masters degree in History from Emory University, where she was fortunate to work at the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library.

Some of Anne's research interests include how to best serve Quakers as demographics change and the college moves away from formal ties with Quaker meetings. Anne is very enthusiastic about the Archivists of Religious Collections Section, especially about encouraging collaboration and communication among the diverse members of the section. She is also interested in learning how to bring best practices in electronic records and digital preservation to smaller institutions.

Catholic Rural Life Collections at Marquette University

Press Release -- March 2011

The Marquette University Libraries' Department of Special Collections and Archives (<http://www.marquette.edu/library/archives/index.shtml>) is pleased to announce the availability of online guides to the records of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference and the papers of Msgr. Luigi G. Ligutti. The Ligutti Papers and the NCRC Records document Catholic efforts to promote the welfare of rural people in the United States and worldwide. As pastor of a parish near Des Moines, Msgr. Ligutti initiated the first rural housing development of the New Deal. First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt visited the Granger Homesteads in 1936. Ligutti symbolized the Catholic rural life movement during his long tenure as executive director of the NCRLC (1940-1959) and representative of the Vatican to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (1949-1970). Historian David Bovée based his recent book *The Church & the Land* on extensive research in both collections. Inquiries from scholars, students, and the general public are welcome. Please contact:

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

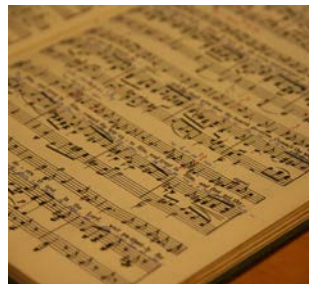
By Kathy Hillman

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.

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ARCS Officers and Editor's Notes

The Archival Spirit is published online 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

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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

[End of document. Last changed: July 11, 2011.]