

Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association Newsletter

★ Spring 1995 ★

P.O. Box 51213 • Main Post Office • New Orleans • Louisiana • 70151

ISSN 1073-1008

Association News

An Executive Board meeting of LAMA was held on February 10 at Hill Memorial Library, LSU-Baton Rouge. At the meeting, members and officers agreed that LAMA should forward its concerns over the appointment of Archivist of the United States to President Clinton. LAMA President, Bruce Turner, addressed these concerns eloquently in his letter to President Clinton. His letter enunciates the shared concern of archivists nationwide that national leadership for our field could be threatened by political appointment. In the context of funding cutbacks and the elimination of programs, our need for effective leadership and advocacy is greater than ever.

EDITH GARLAND DUPRE LIBRARY

University of Southwestern Louisiana

302 East Saint Mary Boulevard Lafayette, Louisiana 70503-2438

14 February 1995

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 70500

Dear President Clinton:

It has been reported that you are actively considering the appointment of someone to the position of Archivist of the United States. As representatives of archivists, manuscript curators, special collections librarians, and others in Louisiana concerned about preservation of and accessibility to the historical record, we urge you to appoint a person knowledgeable about and experienced in archival methodologies and practices.

The National Archives and Records Administration is a complex organization facing difficult issues involving the changing nature of documentation caused by computers and electronic transmission of information. NARA has started to expand into a new facility which presents tremendous opportunities for the new Archivist of the United States to chart innovative courses in meeting the daunting challenges facing these involved in preserving records for administrative, legal, and historical purposes. Finally the new administrator must deal with complex legal issues including the separation of public from private papers of governmental officials, copyright concerns, and classification and declassification.

The members of the Louisiana Archives and Manuscript Association urge you to appoint a professionally qualified person to the position of Archivist of the United States. Law directs you to do so. To interject political considerations into this appointment decision is to consign the National Archives to inferiority when it has been one of the leading institutions of its kind in the world.

Sincerely,

I. Bruce Turner
President, Louisiana Archives
and Manuscript Association

LAMA members are beginning to plan for the **Southern Archives Conference** which will be held in New Orleans on April 10-11, 1996. Meeting rooms have been reserved at the Hotel St. Marie on Toulouse Street in the French Quarter, and a memo about the plans for the '96 meeting has gone out to other SAC member institutions. All LAMA members are also members of SAC, and are encouraged to attend SAC programs and to participate in their planning. Please contact Bruce Turner, LAMA President, or other LAMA officers for more information.

Jo Jackson, as chair of the Membership committee, initiated a **membership drive** in the Fall which increased our number by over thirty new members. **Many old members have not paid dues for fy 1995. Check the mailing label on this newsletter. If your name is highlighted in yellow, you have NOT paid your dues.** Please send in your renewal payment in with the membership form on the last page of the newsletter.

In a continuing effort to promote our Association and to attract new members, Jo Jackson and Sally Power have produced a **LAMA brochure** which will be circulated at our meetings and meetings of related organizations such as LHA and LLA.

LAMA is still planning to produce an updated **Directory of Archives in Louisiana**. The directory will cull relevant information from existing publications (copyright allowing) and from notes which have already been compiled. LAMA will be soliciting updated information about archival institutions throughout the state.

Another item on the Board meeting agenda was the **LAMA Scholarship Fund**. Brady Banta and Jo Jackson will be drafting guidelines for the allocation of funds and the selection of award recipients.

Finally, **Irene Wainwright** has agreed to be the next editor of the LAMA Newsletter. She succeeds Sally Power who has edited the Newsletter since Fall of 1992. Thank you, Irene! ■

Jetson Introduces Legislation on Archives

Louisiana State Representative Jetson of New Orleans has introduced a Bill before the Louisiana House which calls for the transfer of "court records from the colonial period to the state archivist."

Text of the Bill reads as follows: An act to amend and reenact R.S. 44:406, relative to the state archives; to require the transfer of all colonial court records to the state archives; to provide for copies of records to be prepared for the prior custodial agency; and to provide for related matters. Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: Section 1. R.S. 44:406 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: §406. Collection of records A. The state archivist shall collect court records, official documents, reports, newspapers, church records, private papers, and other historical materials and data pertaining to the colonial, territorial, and statehood periods from the earliest times to the present, to have said documents, records, and material properly repaired, filed, indexed, and preserved, whether physically or by micrographic or other appropriate process or both, and, when deemed desirable, edited and published to encourage historical investigation and research in the history of the state. When original documents or records are to be maintained in the possession of a custodial agency, the division may provide for the making of a microphotographic security copy or other appropriate facsimile for deposit with the state archives.

B. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any state agency having possession of court records pertaining to colonial or territorial periods, including but not limited to the records of the French Superior Court dating from 1679 to 1803 and the records of the Spanish Judicial Court dating from 1769 to 1804, shall transfer such records to the state archivist to have such records properly repaired, filed, indexed, and preserved, both physically and by micrographic or other appropriate process, or both. The division shall provide for the making of a microphotographic copy or other appropriate facsimile of any such transferred records for retention by the state agency that transfers

the records. (Words underscored are proposed additions to existing law.)

Remarks from the editor:

The following comments are only my own. They do not reflect the opinions of LAMA, my employers, or any other person or entity.

Researchers and staff whom I have informally polled at my institution have registered some feelings of disquiet and unease with the proposed legislation. Perhaps this state of professional dyspepsia reflects the suspicion of some that the Louisiana State Legislature has not always behaved in a chivalrous manner towards cultural agencies and institutions of higher learning, particularly in the humanities. Does the legislature which has continually slashed our funding now seek to dictate on matters of collection development, appraisal, processing, conservation, access, and even scholarship? We might suspect "fools rush in...." Scholars might rightly tremble at the thought that if manuscript sources that they have used in their research throughout the state of Louisiana are moved, their citations to these sources will be lost, and their ability to retrace the sources that they and other scholars have used will be seriously threatened. One might wonder why the legislature wishes to present as its own the concept that historical investigation and research should be conducted "when deemed desirable." I think Herodotus beat the Louisiana State Legislature to the punch on this one. Implicit in section B of the bill is the suggestion that appropriate physical and intellectual processing of historical records has not been effected by the state agencies which have custody of them. Perhaps, in the context of continued budget cuts by the State Legislature, we have not done as much as we would like to process and conserve the records in our care--but we have done a lot. Every archivist I have met in Louisiana has been highly trained and highly motivated to work with materials in his/her care. I would suggest that if the State Legislature wishes to support archives, it will leave them alone.

--Sally Power

Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane Donates Genealogical Sources to the State Archives

Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane recently presented the Louisiana State Archives with a new microfilm cabinet, 220 reels of microfilm containing the New Orleans ship passenger list indexes, and two reels of muster rolls of Louisiana soldiers who served in the Mexican War. The ship passenger list indexes are contained on two separate series of microfilm. The first indexes the pre-1850 records not only for New Orleans but for all East and Gulf Coast ports except New York. The second treats only the New Orleans port arrivals for the years 1850-1900. The Archives already had 93 reels of New Orleans ship passenger lists, 1820-1904, but lacked the indexes. The passenger lists themselves were microfilmed in chronological order and unless researchers knew the arrival date within a very narrow range, finding an ancestor could be very time consuming. Researchers in Baton Rouge were further hampered by the fact that no research facility in Baton Rouge had the first index set. Now, researchers will have all the 19th century New Orleans passenger lists and available indexes in one place. Volunteers at the Archives are also working on indexing the two unindexed years, 1951-1852, which will be available to researchers on computer in the near future. The indexes are very easy to use. Each name is indexed on a separate card and the cards are arranged alphabetically on each set of microfilm. An individual's card provides the name of the vessel and date of arrival which are needed to retrieve the passenger list itself. The passenger list will then provide the names of all persons on the vessel, age, gender, occupation, and country of origin. Deaths and births on the vessel may also be noted.

Obtaining the two reels of microfilm of Mexican War Muster Rolls was another major accomplishment for Le Comité. Last year, the society commissioned the National Archives to microfilm all its records pertaining to Louisiana soldiers who served in the Mexican War, which the United States fought between 1846 and 1848. These records are not available in any research facility outside the National Archives. Le Comité also purchased a new 12-drawer microfilm cabinet and placed it in the Research Room near the microfilm readers.

Photographic Collections in Louisiana Archival Repositories

Virtually every manuscript and archival repository in Louisiana holds some photographic collections--from rare 19th century images to modern documentary photographs. Much has been written about the administration and preservation of photographic materials. John H. Lawrence's essay, "An Approach to Preserving Photographs in Libraries and Special Collections," in *LLA Bulletin* (Winter 1993) offers many good suggestions. This essay surveys what repositories have in their collections, and what they are doing to preserve them.

Those repositories which reported having specific collection development policies for photographic materials stated that they collect images which illustrate their local culture and history. McNeese has historical photographs which depict scenes in and around Lake

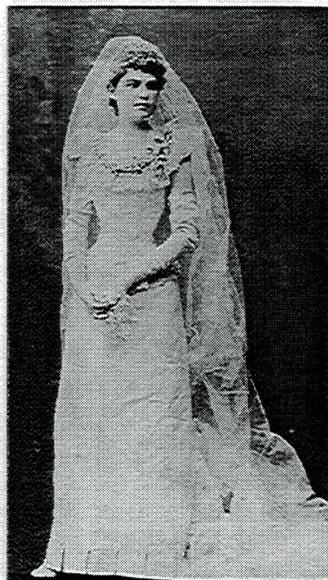
Charles beginning in the early 20th century. The holdings of Archives and Manuscripts/Special Collections at UNO's Earl K. Long Library mainly reflect metropolitan New Orleans. Included are photographs from the Chamber of Commerce, the Supreme Court Legal Archives, the NAACP New Orleans Branch, and the Charity Hospital school paper. The output of many large studio photographers exist in some repositories. At USL, photographs from the Barnett studio of Crowley, La., and photos from the *Lafayette Daily Advertiser* (1975-) are important sources. They also have images by amateur



photographers including David R. Williams, Louis Hanneman, Billy Grant, and others. The Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections at LSU has the studio work of Elmore Morgan, David Gleason, and others. Photographs at Touro mostly document the history of the institution. Included are publicity photos and images from the school of nursing. The Louisiana Section of the State Library has over 4,000 photographs, including a Huey P. Long collection and documentary images of the Old State Capital restoration project. The Louisiana Division of New Orleans Public Library holds about 39,000 photographs from ca. 1860 to the present including about 40

stereographs. Its Municipal Government Collection includes photos taken by or for city agencies, notably the Office of the Mayor, Dept. of Streets, New Orleans Recreation Dept., the Police Dept. (Bertillon cards, glass plate negatives and prints of mug shots are present), and the Municipal Auditorium Commission.

Two sets of aerial photographs (1946, 1960) show Orleans and parts of Jefferson and St. Bernard Parishes. Other important collections depicting New Orleans at the Louisiana Division are the George Francois Mugnier Collection (approx. 200 prints, 1890-1920), the Alexander Allison Collection (350 prints and over 3,000 negatives, 1920-1951), the David Barrow Fischer Steamboat Collection (500 prints, 1870-1920), and the WPA Collection (about 1,500 prints). NOPL does not actively solicit photos from private photographers and collectors, but concentrates on accessioning and arranging photos received from city agencies.



Most university archives have photographs which illustrate their institutional histories. USL, LSU, Xavier, UNO, and other institutions with university archives report that they have photographs from various departments, and in several instances, photos generated by public relations departments, school newspapers, and other publications.

In some cases, the products of notable photographers who worked for universities are present in university archives. USL has photos taken by Edwin L. Stephens (1923-1937); LSU has many images by Fonville Winans who spent decades taking freelance photographs at LSU.

Repositories with specific topical missions have more focused collection development policies. The Amistad Research Center, for example, has significant holdings of photographs documenting the African-American experience. Included are photos (1922-1934) taken for *American Missionary* by Frank L. Moore, Laura Kinslow, and W. Knighton Bloom, Marion Palfi, Warren Marr III, and others--images documenting African-American education and social action throughout the South; photographs by Giles A. Hubert, an amateur photographer; photographs from the *Louisiana Weekly*, the longest running Black newspaper in the Deep South; and shots by Warren Marr II, a New York photographer and editor of *Crisis*. Amistad has photographs which were collected by individuals including Marguerite D. Cartwright (1826 to date), United Nations correspondent, lecturer, and actress, Countee Cullen, a lecturer and poet of the Harlem Renaissance, George Longe, New Orleans educator and civic leader, Jimmy Daniels, New York City vocalist of the 1940s and 1950s, and Edward Parmalee Smith, collector of 19th century photographs

including tintypes and cyanotypes. Xavier focuses on collecting photos related to African American, Caribbean Basin, Catholic, and Gulf South history and life. Important images at Xavier include the photographs of Arthur P. Bedou, a Black photographer who worked in New Orleans in the early 20th century.

Most repositories retain photographs in the individual collections in which they were received, but are placed in separate series and housed in appropriate preservation containers. Several institutions have large, catch-all collections of single photographs which are not associated with larger collections. NOPL's Louisiana Division keeps a "General Interest" collection which is arranged by subject. Lone images in the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections are filed alphabetically by their cataloged title ("main entry") within a "Picture collection." Special Collections at UNO treats individual photographs which are not part of a larger collection as discreet items. Most institutions see to the preservation and rehousing of photographic materials before they are cataloged. Some report that they are better equipped to process photographic prints than they are negatives. Several respondents pointed out the need for off-site or cold storage for nitrate negatives which pose a fire hazard. Many institutions have disposed of their nitrate negatives. Only one institution (LSU's Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections) reported that it has its own darkroom and processes prints, negatives, and microfilm in house. A part time photographer on staff routinely produces preservation copy negatives and inter-positives which will be more permanent than the fugitive originals. Two institutions have copy stands in house, and the others send original prints and negatives to known, reputable, local studios to be reproduced for patrons. Most require that patrons must pay for copy negatives which are kept by the repository.

Staff and funding shortages account for processing backlogs for photograph collections at most institutions. "In the past, the Louisiana Division always had one staff member whose primary duty (beyond reference and other routine tasks) was to care for the photograph collection," reports Irene Wainwright. "Staff cutbacks, however, have eliminated this 'luxury,' and care of the photograph collection is now one of the

multiple duties that fall to our two-person archives staff. Lack of time, preservation materials, expertise, proper storage facilities, and space are major concerns. At the moment, we are able to do little more than maintain the status quo--the majority of the photos are stored upright in acid-free folders in metal file cabinets; negatives are stored in acid-free negative envelopes. However, a fairly substantial portion of the collection (especially the Municipal Government Collection) has not been refoldered or arranged, beyond a rough categorization by agency/subject. A major project to photocopy the collections and to create binders containing a master subject file and individual shelf-lists for each collection was interrupted about half-way through by staff shortages and the departure of volunteers assisting with the project. Currently, Wayne Everard is compiling a basic index to the several hundred oversize prints."

In spite of general resource shortages, repositories are coming up with a wide range of solutions to the preservation problems which photographic materials present. Photograph curators are principally concerned with providing proper temperature and humidity controls, protection from ultraviolet light damage, and proper preservation housings. Most repositories rehouse prints and negatives into acid-free, unbuffered paper or mylar sleeves, folders, and boxes. NSU is pushing for funding to purchase more mylar sleeves. Southwestern Archives at USL and the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections at LSU report that have conducted projects to clean glass plate negatives. All repositories report that they have strict use policies which patrons must follow. These policies require patrons to fill out registration forms and to wear white cotton gloves while handling photographs. A few make photocopies of prints which are used as reference images so patrons handle and view only those original images which they are specifically interested in. A pilot project at the LSU Libraries' Electronic Imaging Lab will scan photographs by Andrew Lytle. The resulting database will be used for reference, and will be accessible to remote users through the Internet.

From simple solutions to cutting edge technology, Louisiana archivists are rising to the challenge of

preserving photographic materials while they are increasing their accessibility to researchers.

Images: boy with goat, Seynour Weiss Papers, Bride, Andrew Lytle photograph, both at the *Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections*.

Acquisitions

McNeese State University Archives and Special Collections Department has received the *Bea North/Maplewood, Louisiana Collection* of scrapbooks compiled by Bea North. They concern Maplewood, the *Maplewood Star*, Cities Service Refinery, and include articles (bulk, 1940s) by and about Mrs. North. Also new at McNeese is the *Dr. Donald J. Millet Collection* which contains essays on historical subjects, photographs from the Lake Charles vicinity, material related to the Knapp memorial on the McNeese campus, correspondence, and biographical materials on area citizens; and the *Conway LeBleu Collection*, scrapbooks containing clippings, photographs, and correspondence (1964-1988) chronicling LeBleu's 24 years as a Louisiana House Representative from the 36th District.

At the **New Orleans Public Library, the Louisiana Division's City Archives** accessioned records from a number of city agencies, including the Department of Utilities, Council Fiscal Office, French Market Corporation, Mayor's Office of Special Projects, Mayor's Office of International Relations, and the City Planning Commission. It also received several hundred sets of blueprints from the Department of Safety and Permits, 40 boxes of city and state documents from the Bureau of Governmental Research, and 2 boxes of records from the 1988 Republican National Convention Host Committee.

The Newcomb Archives, New Orleans, has recently received the papers of Arthémise Goertz, a travel writer and romance novelist and alumna of Newcomb College. The papers consist of 40 cubic feet of letters, photographs, letters, and other manuscript materials which document Goertz's work on four novels, a nonfiction work on Mexico, and articles which she wrote on subjects including travel and religion. The

collection will be processed during the next year. Also new to the Newcomb Archives are the papers of Karlene Tierney, an attorney who was active in the Louisiana movement for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. Tierney is now a resident of Connecticut. Her papers include pamphlets, articles, books, and other reference materials which were sources of information used in speeches and for dissemination to individuals and groups.

The Amistad Research Center has received the records of Harold Battiste and All for One Records (1956-1994). The papers consist of three cubic feet of materials documenting the career of record producer, musician, and co-founder of All for One Records. Other collections new to the Center are an addition to the American Committee on Africa (1970-1994, 74 cubic feet), and the C. C. DeJoie, Jr. Papers, records of the publisher of the *Louisiana Weekly*, including copies and microfilm of the publication from the 1920s to the 1990s.

Archives and Manuscripts/Special Collections at Earl K. Long Library, University of New Orleans, has received several new collections. The Eads Poitevent Collection consists of 20 linear feet of family papers and business records relating to lumbering and land holdings in Mississippi and Louisiana, 1849-1984. An accretion to the Audubon Park Commission Collection adds 16 linear feet of records to document the commission's activities, 1960, 1973-1988. The Fannie Taylor Baumgartner Collection (1 linear foot, 1923-1956) reflects the life of this New Orleans social activist and includes materials on the Community Chest, Council of Social Agencies, General Federation of Women's Clubs, Orleans Parish School Board, Women's Auxiliary to Seamen's Bethel, and the George Washington Bicentennial. The Zoe Shallcross Mysing Collection contains two scrapbooks illustrating her activities as a student at Henry W. Allen Elementary School, Sophie B. Wright High School, and Newcomb College, ca. 1924-1934, 1948-1984. The Anna O'Donnell Simoneaux Collection (ca. 1/2 linear ft., 1898, 1983-1988, 1992) is a body of records compiled by Simoneaux while working to control development of New Basin Canal land, the Pontchartrain Beach levee, and the location of Benjamin Franklin High School.

Special Collections, Manuscripts and Archives at Prescott Memorial Library, Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, has received the William King Stubbs Architectural Archive. The formal opening took place on Dec. 5, 1994 as part of the celebration of the Tech Centennial. The ceremony included talks by Tech President Dr. Daniel D. Reneau and John H. Stubbs, King's son, and a reception. William King Stubbs's career as an architect in North Louisiana spanned from 1932-1986. He was born in 1910 in Monroe where he attended school until he entered the School of Architecture of Tulane University in 1932. He began his architectural career as an apprentice with J.W. Smith and Associates in Monroe. He and his partners designed about 600 projects in Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi which included residential, educational, commercial, and industrial buildings and facilities. After Stubbs' death his family donated the graphic works to the Prescott Memorial Library. The William King Stubbs Architectural Archive was established as a part of the Library's Department of Special Collections, Manuscripts and Archives to serve as a permanent repository--not only for the works of the Stubbs firm but also for other architectural practitioners who wish to donate their works upon the closing of their offices. The Stubbs Archive contains about 1,000 sets of architectural drawings and specifications from 36 architectural firms in Louisiana and Mississippi. Researchers are invited to use the materials on the fourth floor on the Prescott Memorial Library. Access to manuscripts and archival materials is provided by the department's card catalog, printed guides, and finding aids. Finding aids are accessible online on the Internet via gopher at <vm.cc.latech.edu

The Historic New Orleans Collection has received a donation from Mrs. Malcolm G. Maginnis consisting primarily of correspondence which documents the close relationship between Mrs. Harris E. Kirk and the Woodrow Wilson family. Mrs. Kirk and her husband, a minister, lived in Baltimore during the Wilson administration (1913-1921). The Kirk's daughter spent months at a time in New Orleans and their granddaughter, Mrs. Maginnis, settled in New Orleans. The correspondence includes letters from Ellen Wilson (Wilson's first wife), Edith Bolling Galt, (his second wife), Eleanor Wilson McAdoo, Margaret Wilson, President Wilson, and others. Also included are

various invitations, news clippings, and a photograph of Ellen Wilson with her name written by the president. THNOC received the James E. Steiner Collection (1770-1862), donated by Karen McGoey, Inez Greishaber, Mary Lou Hardy, and Joan Perrin. The collection relates primarily to the Spanish colonial and territorial periods. Steiner, a local attorney, collected the assorted documents which include account statements, affidavits, bills, correspondence, licenses, *mandats de payement*, copies of minutes and ordinances, postcards, receipts, and ships' papers relating to New Orleans history. THNOC has also acquired microfilm from the French Foreign Office archives in Paris. Six volumes relate to colonial Louisiana and the Louisiana Purchase (1712-1835). The film contains a wealth of previously untapped information concerning the colonization of Louisiana and the Floridas, cession to Spain, retrocession of Louisiana by Spain, and also the Louisiana Purchase and subsequent negotiations.

At **Xavier University Library's University Archives and Special Collections Division**, most of the recent growth in manuscript holdings has come in the form of additions to the University records, which include 36 linear feet from the Office of Academic Affairs, 8 linear feet from the Education Department, and 6 linear feet from the Business and Economics Department. Non-University accessions consist of the Charles Roussève Library and the Sybil Kein papers. Roussève, a graduate of Xavier, served as a New Orleans public school principal and was the author of *The Negro in Louisiana*. Sybil Kein, another Xavier alumna, is an English professor at the University of Michigan and the author of *Gombo People*, the first book of poetry in Louisiana Creole.

The Southwestern Archives and Manuscripts Collection of the University of Southwestern Louisiana has received additions to the Ira S. Nelson papers (1929-1972, 10 linear feet). The material is related to horticulture and includes correspondence, nursery catalogs, records, and printed items of the Society for the Louisiana Iris and the South Louisiana Camellia Society.

The Touro Infirmary Archives has received 12 linear feet of records (1978-1992) of its Marketing Department. The department serves as the advertising, community relations, and public relations agency of the hospital. The records are a tremendous research resource as they touch on every activity in every department of Touro. ■

Access

NUTRIAS (New Orleans Public Library's User-Friendly Technologically-Correct Research & Information Access System) is currently in the planning and development stage. NUTRIAS (the South Louisiana version of "gopher") will be NOPL's Home Page on the Greater New Orleans Freenet, also currently under construction, and will make available finding aids and inventories from the City Archives and special collections in the Louisiana Divisions as well as other information on NOPL. Watch for NUTRIAS and the Greater New Orleans Freenet to appear sometime in the coming months.

At the **Cammie Research Center, Watson Memorial Library, Northwestern State University of Louisiana**, the John Holmes Overton Collection is processed and the unpublished inventory is available upon request. U.S. Senator John Holmes Overton's political activities spanned from 1912-1948. His political reputation is most widely known through his close ties with Governor Huey P. Long and sponsorship of flood control legislation on and along the Mississippi River during the 1930s and 1940s. 42 cubic feet of records reflect the career of this important Louisiana politician. Also new at the Cammie Research Center are the Miller Store Records, four cubic feet of records documenting a retail store near Touro, Louisiana, Sabine Parish (1900-1950s); and the Ebarb Community Collection, one cubic foot of transcriptions of interviews, photographs, and audio cassettes of members of the Ebarb Community in Sabine Parish (1982-1984).

NSU is now part of the LOUIS network. NSU's catalog, named GENIE, came online in October of 1994.

African-American Business History Sources Project

The Historical Collections Dept. of the Baker Library, and the African-American Student Union of the Harvard Business School have undertaken a survey of archival and manuscripts sources on African Americans in business in the United States. The survey will identify family papers, organizational records, and business archives which document African-American commercial and management activities. If your collections hold such materials, please contact survey archivists Beth Sandager, email sandager@husc.harvard.edu and Philip Alexander ☎(617) 253-4045, email palex@mit.edu or project director Florence Lathrop, Baker Library, Harvard Business School, Boston MA 02163 ☎(717) 495-6360 ■

Events, Exhibits, Meetings

At the **Newcomb Archives** at 4:00 on March 16, Ethelyn Orso and David Estes will describe the history and significance of the St. Joseph altar tradition as it is practiced among both Italian Americans and members of African American Spiritual churches in Louisiana. Dr. Orso teaches anthropology at the University of New Orleans. David Estes teaches English and folklore at Loyola and studies the tradition of female leadership in New Orleans' African American Spiritual churches. On February 12, the Center for Research on Women at Newcomb College hosted its 4th annual culinary history symposium, "Making Groceries: A History of Markets and Gardens." A videotape of the conference is available. Contact Susan Tucker for more information ☎ (504) 865-5238, susannah@mailhost.tcs.tulane.edu

At the **Amistad Research Center**, "The Effects of the Haitian Revolution on Louisiana History," a visual narrative of the Haitian Revolution, was prepared by Jacob Lawrence and will be on exhibit from Feb. 3-April 29, 1995. Other upcoming exhibits at the Amistad Center include "Reasoned Expression: the Works of William H. Johnson," showing May 3-Aug. 3, 1995, and "Selections from the Edward M. Bannister Collection," Aug. 3-Dec. 1, 1995.

At **New Orleans Public Library**, "Tracing Your Roots," the Louisiana Division's annual seminar on

African-American genealogy, was held on Feb. 4th, in connection with the Library's Black History Month activities. This year's program featured Atlanta genealogy specialist Del Eagan Jupiter, who conducted two sessions, one for beginners and another for advanced researchers.

Exhibits associated with Black History Month included "A New Day is Breaking Upon Us: the Drive for Civil Rights in New Orleans," an exhibit featuring about 200 photographs, documents, and other items from the New Orleans City Archives and the Louisiana Division's collections. The exhibit examined the course of the civil rights movement in New Orleans from the 1920s through the 1978 election of Ernest N. Morial, the city's first African-American Mayor. It highlighted activities of individuals and organizations responsible for bringing down the wall of segregation erected by the *Plessy vs. Ferguson* decision of 1896 and focused on the roles, both positive and negative, that the New Orleans city government played throughout the drive for civil rights. The exhibit, "African-Americans in New Orleans, 1769-1900: An Introduction," will remain on view on the third floor of the Main Library through May. This exhibit offers a sampling of original documents from the City Archives and photographs from the Louisiana Division Photograph Collection. The images reflect the range of materials available on the history of African-American New Orleanians. Included among the items displayed are original documents in the *State of Louisiana vs. Homer Plessy*, the lower court hearing of the case that became *Plessy vs. Ferguson*; court records of proceedings against slaves who participated in the 1811 slave revolt in St. Charles Parish; a volume listing names of free people of color required to register in the mayor's office; passes issued by the mayor's office to free people of color and slaves allowing them to move about the city--and much more. Both exhibits (and other Black History Month activities at NOPL) were funded by a grant from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.

Also at the Louisiana Division, NOPL, an exhibit, "A Glimpse of the Past: The Photographs of George Francois Mugnier," was on display from mid-November through mid-January on the third floor of the Main Library. Mugnier was a commercial

photographer who captured hundreds of images of Louisiana people and places, both rural and urban, during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The exhibit drew from more than 200 prints from the Mugnier Collection.

Special Collections department at UNO's Earl K. Long Library secured a speaker and provided an exhibit for an informal meeting concerned with the Marcus Christian Collection which is housed at UNO. The event was held in conjunction with the first Marcus Christian Award which was presented in January at the university's memorial celebration for Martin Luther King, Jr. Special Collections at UNO also provided photographs of Camp Leroy Johnson to the U.S. Army for inclusion in an exhibit which was installed in New Orleans in February.

"From Concept to Consumer: Selling New Orleans for 85 Years" will be on view at the **Historic New Orleans Collection** from April 22 through September 2, 1995. From Super-Suds to J&B's "ingle ells," advertising has played an important role in our product choices. As early as 1910, New Orleans advertising individuals banded together to form the Ad Club of New Orleans. This exhibit commemorates the Club's 85th anniversary. The Ad Club of New Orleans is the second oldest of its type in the country. It has aimed to uphold high standards in advertising and to promote New Orleans as a desirable place to live and do business. In 1927, the Women's Advertising Club merged with the Men's Club in a mock wedding ceremony between "Miss Truth" and "Mr. Good Business." Through the ensuing years, the Ad Club not only represented the profession but also helped establish the New Orleans Tourist Commission, the Better Business Bureau, and the Community Chest. Printed ads, film clips, photographs, and drawings will illustrate the development of New Orleans advertising in print, radio, and television. Midday gallery talks given by members of the Ad Club are also planned. The exhibit is free and is open to the public, Tues.-Sat., 10:00-4:45pm at the Historic New Orleans Collection, 533 Royal St.

The 4th International **Kate Chopin Conference at Northwestern State University** will take place on April 6-8. An exhibit on Kate Chopin will be featured during the Conference.

At the **State Library's Louisiana Section**, a joint exhibit between the State Library and the Louisiana State Museum is entitled "Literary Louisiana." It will be displayed during the Inaugural of the opening of the Louisiana Center for the Book, March 17 and 18, and will later travel around the state.

At the **State Museum's Presbytere**, Jackson Square, "Home for the Heart: The Story of Irish Immigration" will be on display, April 7-May 14. Created by the Irish American Heritage Museum of Albany, New York, this traveling exhibit chronicles the struggles and successes of Irish immigrants to America from the 17th century to the present. Within the exhibit, "Irish Roots" explains who came to America and why; "Irish American Heritage" covers the impact of the arrival of the Irish and their participation in American society and culture. The exhibit includes visual and audio materials. At the **State Museum's Arsenal, Cabildo Complex**, Jackson Square, the exhibit, "Sankofa: African-American Traditions in Decorative Arts," features nearly 100 pieces from the collection of Derrick Joshua Beard--an extraordinary collection of African-American decorative arts. Among the items are furniture, paintings, lithographs, photographs, pottery, baskets, carvings, and ironwork. Some noteworthy pieces are a church altar, a slave-made chest, a 19th century gourd fiddle, and a rare carving crafted by a slave of Africans playing drums. Taking its name from an Akan proverb, *Sankofa* means 'to retrieve the past.' Some items in the exhibit were loaned by **Xavier University Archives and Special Collections**.

At the **State Museum's Cabildo**, Jackson Square, upcoming gallery talks include: "Louisiana Artists," Sun., Apr. 2, 1:00 and 3:00 pm; "Louisiana's African-American Heritage," Sat., Apr. 8, 10:30 am and 1:30 pm; "Architectural Tour of the Cabildo," Sat., Apr. 15, 11:00 am and 1:30 pm; "A Portrait of Louisiana," Sat., Apr. 22, 11:00 am and 1:00 pm; and "A Demonstration

of Leather Manufacture in 19th Century New Orleans," Sat., Apr. 29, 1:00-4:00 pm.

Two new exhibits at the **Xavier University Archives** feature Charles Rousseve and African Americans in World War II.

The **Southern University Jazz Institute** will offer a jazz lecture and performance, Sun. April 23, at 2:00 pm, at the State Museum's Old U.S. Mint. The event will highlight the 25-year history of the Jazz Institute at Southern, and its founder and director, clarinetist Alvin Batiste, will perform with musicians from the Institute.

At the **Southwestern Archives and Manuscripts Collection, USL**, an exhibit on Southwestern Louisiana Institute and Louisiana during World War II will be on display at the Jefferson Caffery Reading Room through March, 1995. It was installed in conjunction with a lecture by Mathew Schott of the USL history department entitled, "World War II: Reflections Personal and Professional," for the Friends of Edith Garland Library.

The Spring meeting of the **North Central Louisiana Historical Consortium** will be held at the Herbert S. Ford Memorial Museum in Homer at a date to be determined. The speaker will be the Ford Museum's new curator, Ms. Shanna Faulk. The Consortium, an organization of the officers of historical societies and museums, historical associations, and North Louisiana parish libraries, has just welcomed its 20th member organization, the Monroe Historical Society. As one of the services provided to the members by the Department of Special Collections Manuscripts and Archives at Tech, the Peach Festival documents and photographs from the collections of the Lincoln Parish Historical Society and Museum in Ruston are currently being arranged, placed in archival folders and boxes purchased by the Museum, and microfilmed by Department staff.

Special Collections, Manuscripts and Archives at Prescott Memorial Library, Louisiana Tech University, will co-host the seminar, "Camp Ruston Symposium: World War II and the POW Experience in Louisiana" on April 7 in Wylly Tower Auditorium at the Tech campus. Featured lecturers will include Dr.

Arnold Krammer, professor of history at Texas A&M University, author of *Nazi Prisoners of War in America*, and Dr. Matthew J. Schott, professor of history at the University of Southwestern Louisiana, whose book, *Good War Provinces: The Bayou Stalags of World War II*, is forthcoming. Other activities will include a panel discussion, slide presentation on archaeological excavations at Camp Ruston, and an exhibit of related documents, photographs, and artifacts. For more information, contact Dr. Stephen Webre, History Department, Louisiana Tech University, (318) 257-2872. Tech's Special Collections also sponsored the Fall meeting of the North Central Louisiana Historical Consortium on October 27. The event was hosted by the Lincoln Parish Museum and Historical Society in Ruston. The program featured a slide presentation by Vince Spione, President of the Camp Ruston Foundation, about this World War II prisoner of war camp. On November 2, the department hosted the Fall meeting of the North Louisiana Archives Roundtable.

A World War II exhibit is also planned for August and September of 1995 at the **McNeese State University Archives and Special Collections Department**. In May, McNeese will host a workshop for Libraries Southwest on the care and handling of books. ■

Grants/Awards

A scholarship to the **National Archives' Modern Archives Institute**, June 5-6, 1995, is available from the Society of American Archivists. The award, funded by the **Colonial Dames of America**, Chapter III, covers up to \$1,200 of the total tuition, travel, and housing expenses at the Institute (Tuition is \$475). To be eligible, an applicant must be an employee of an archival institution or agency with a fair percentage of its holdings in a period predating 1825, have been employed less than two years as an archivist or archives trainee, and actually be working with archives or manuscripts regardless of title. Resumés accompanied by two letters of recommendation from persons having definite knowledge of the applicant's qualifications should be submitted in triplicate (original and two photocopies) to Carol A. Rudisell, Reference Dept., University of Delaware Library, Newark, DE 19717-5267, by April 1, 1995.

The **Midwest Archives Conference** is soliciting applications for its **Scholarship for Minority Students in Archival Administration**. This scholarship is designed to provide financial assistance to minority students pursuing graduate education in archival administration and to encourage greater ethnic diversification of both MAC membership and the archival profession as a whole. Applicants must be students of African, Asian, Hispanic, Native American, or Pacific Islander descent and enrolled in a graduate, multi-course program in archival administration listed in the SAA Directory of Archival Education, or accepted into one of these programs for the next academic year. The applicant must have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) in their most recent academic program. Applications are due April 1, 1995, and can be obtained from Eric Pumroy, Head, Special Collections and Archives, IUPUI University Libraries, 755 W. Michigan St., Indianapolis, IN 46202 ☎ (317) 274-0464

The **Center for Preservation Technology and Training** secured a grant to assess the conservation needs of the Research Center. The granting agency is the National Institute of Conservation of Cultural Property. The grant involved a lengthy survey and intensive site visit which was conducted by Georgia State Conservation Archivist, Hilary Kaplan, in January of 1995.

The **McNeese State University Archives** has received a grant from the Alumni Association to microfilm the school newspaper from 1939 to the present. ■

Publications

Suzanne Hildenbrand has published "**Electronic Graffiti or Scholar's Tool? A Critical Evaluation of Selected Women's Lists on Internet.**" The article appears in *Archival and Bibliographic Series*, V, 1994, Newcomb College Center for Research on Women.

The first complete study of any state's slave law and its courts throughout the antebellum period has been published by LSU Press. *Slavery, the Civil Law, and the Supreme Court of Louisiana*, by Dr. Judith K.

Schafer of Tulane Law School presents a study drawn from case files of the Supreme Court Legal Archives.

The Hispanic Entrepreneur: An Oral History of the American Dream, by Beatrice Rodriguez Owsley was favorably reviewed recently by the *Journal of American History*.

The Louisiana Section of the State Library of Louisiana released its publication, *Searching for Your Louisiana Ancestors... and All That Jazz*, in Dec., 1994.

Mary Linn Wernet published "Researching Indians of Louisiana," in the Summer issue of *Louisiana History*.

Simply Stated, the newsletter of the Friends of the McNeese Library is issued and edited by the Archives staff. ■

People

Kathie Bordelon of Archives and Special Collections at McNeese State University has been assigned to the planning committee for Libraries Southwest All-Staff Day, May, 1995. She is a member of the Imperial Calcasieu Museum Historical Photograph Committee, she chairs the Serials Librarian Search Committee at McNeese, she is on the Board of Directors of LAMA, and she edits the SACS Administrative Processes Section of the University's self-study. In 1994, she attended the SAC in Natchez in April and the SSA meeting in El Paso in May.

Susan Cook has joined the Manuscripts Processing Unit at the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections. She has years of experience as a Senior Library Assistant at Queen's College, Cambridge, and is currently writing up her dissertation on derivative texts of John Bunyan's *Pilgrims Progress*. She is processing the records of the St. James Freemasons Lodge no. 47.

Louisiana people (cont. on p. 15)

Profile of an Archivist--Mark Cave

Mark Cave has been Reference Archivist at the Historic New Orleans Collection since 1993. His archival experience dates back to his undergraduate days, and since that time he has participated in a broad range of endeavors in the field. Mark hails from Ohio. His educational background includes a B.A. in history from Ohio University in Athens and an MLS with archival specialization from the University of Kentucky at Lexington. An early interest in history was encouraged by his father, a former history teacher; he remembers especially a trip with his father to Ireland, where they traced ancestral records and visited their forbears' hometown.

His archival education began in undergraduate school when, as a student assistant in Ohio University Library's Department of Archives and Special Collections, he began to process manuscript collections and gained early experience in preservation by deacidifying and encapsulating documents. At the University of Kentucky, Mark's MLS course work included a class in conservation with the late George Cunha and independent studies in which he prepared a catalog of Civil War era photographs, helped to establish an institutional archives, and gathered data for a grant proposal to initiate an oral history program. While pursuing his library degree, he worked as Night Supervisor of the Periodicals/Newspaper/Microtext Department at the University of Kentucky Library. In this position, he provided reference service, supervised a large staff of student workers, maintained an international student reading collection and a media collection consisting of audio and video cassettes. He also served on the Library's Disaster Control Task Force and, following a flood in the library, assisted in salvage operations.

Mark's professional archival positions have taken this transplanted Mid-Westerner deep into two of Louisiana's richest and most distinct cultural milieus--

the Cajun country of Bayou Lafourche and the French Quarter of New Orleans. After completing his library degree, he joined the staff of the Ellender Memorial Library at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux. As Assistant Archivist at Nicholls, Mark's professional activities continued to expand. Working with Archivist (and past LAMA president) Carol Mathias, Mark provided reference service, cataloged and processed manuscript collections (and also wrote an instruction manual for processing collections), assumed collection development responsibilities for the earth sciences, wrote a conservation/security report for the library's rare map collection, and created an index to the library's vertical file holdings. He also involved himself in the life of the Thibodaux community and in the unique heritage of the Bayou Lafourche area, donating much of his free time to the Jean Lafitte National Park Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center and the Laurel Valley Historic Village.

"Working in an archive gives one a sense of how temporary values and institutions are"

In 1993, Mark moved to New Orleans to accept the Reference Archivist position at The Historic New Orleans Collection. At THNOC, Mark's primary duty is to assist researchers working with the Collection's varied resources, but his work extends well beyond the area of reference.

He speaks to groups about the Collection's holdings and exhibits, processes manuscript collections, and assists in preservation and records management microfilming and other conservation efforts such as constructing storage boxes for rare books. Mark says, "working in an archive gives one a sense of how temporary values and institutions are." Mark also writes articles for *The Historic New Orleans Quarterly*, contributes collection descriptions to THNOC's Manuscripts Division Update, edits material for the Publications Department, and has assisted in indexing publications. Several of his book reviews have appeared in *National Librarian*. Mark has also helped to establish an oral history program at the Collection.

Mark's professional affiliations include the Society of American Archivists, the Society of Southwest

Archivists, the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association, and the Greater New Orleans Archivists. He is also a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists. Outside work, Mark likes to watch old movies and Monday Night Football and enjoys a "ritual" of after work tea and conversation with friends in a Vieux Carré coffee shop. He likes to meet new and unusual people, which, he notes, isn't hard to do in the French Quarter, where he makes his home. Mark Cave is a welcome addition to the Louisiana archival community. ■

Louisiana people (cont. from p. 12)

Collin Hamer, Head of the Louisiana Division, was one of a four-member panel at the Friends of the Cabildo's first annual genealogy seminar, held at the Old Mint on Jan. 14. He addressed the Leonidas Polk Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy on Feb. 17. On October 17, he also spoke about recent acquisitions in the Louisiana Division's genealogy collection to the Genealogical Research Society of New Orleans.

Luana Henderson, Library Associate, has begun working in Manuscripts Processing at the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections. She formerly worked in circulations at LSU-BR's Middleton Library and as a preliminary cataloger of printed materials at LLMVC.

Catherine C. Kahn, archivist at the Touro Infirmary Archives, was chair of the host committee for the Southern Jewish Historical Society Meeting in New Orleans last October. She has also been elected to SJHS's Board and serves on its archives committee.

Jean Schmidt Keisel of USL had a baby, Sara Nicolle, on Jan. 2, 1995.

On February 16th, **Karen Leathem** presented a lecture and slide program on women's roles in the New Orleans Carnival during its formative years from 1870-1941. Dr. Leathem is the author of an upcoming book, *A Carnival According to Their Own Desires: Gender and Mardi Gras in New Orleans, 1870-1941*.

Sister Hermenia Muldrey, RSM, archivist of the Sisters of Mercy in New Orleans, spoke in Detroit at the 1994 American Conference for Irish Studies Midwest Meeting at the University of Detroit Mercy. Sister described some of the more unusual works of the Sisters of Mercy in the 19th-century Irish Channel of New Orleans. Sister also gave a paper at Carlow College in Pittsburgh during the June Meeting of Sisters of Mercy who had gathered to celebrate the sesquicentennial of Mercy service in the United States. She presented data on the black schools which were established by the New Orleans Mercies in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana during Reconstruction.

Beatrice Rodriguez Owsley has been appointed to the Board and is a member of the Publications Department of the Oral History Association. She is also a member of the following UNO committees: Diversity Committee, the Student Retention Committee, and the committee for Reconfiguration of the Collection of Earl K. Long Library.

Emily Robison, lately of the Rare Book Collections, Special Collections, LSU Libraries, will fill the position of Library Assistant for Political Manuscripts succeeding Merna Ford who retired in December of 1994 after over 20 years of service at LSU. Emily is currently pursuing an MLIS degree at LSU.

An essay co-authored by **Yvonne Saloom** and **Bruce Turner** entitled, "Roots of the Cedar: The Lebanese in Louisiana," appeared in the Summer 1994 issue (v. 57, #1) of *LLA Bulletin*.

Reference Librarian **Judy Smith** has been serving as vice chair/chair elect of the Louisiana Library Association's New Members Roundtable. She is also on the editorial board for the *LLA Bulletin*.

Sister Roberta Smith, S.B.S., has retired from her position as Research Archivist at Xavier University Library's University Archives and Special Collections Division. Replacing her is Phyllis Magee-Lindsey who holds a masters degree in history from Jackson State, and a masters in archives from Duquesne.

Virginia Smith, Head Librarian, Louisiana State Library, Louisiana Section, is chair of the Louisiana Library Association Literary Awards Committee.

Two new staff members at the Amistad Research Center are **Brenda Square**, Head of Reference Services, and **Paula Allen**, Curator of Art.

Bobs Tusa of Special Collections, Manuscripts and Archives, Louisiana Tech University, has been named reviewer by the National Endowment for the Humanities and is the treasurer of the North Louisiana Historical Association. She has had two articles published: one is a review of the SOLINET workshop on Integrated Pest Management in *The Southwestern Archivist* and the other is on Archives on the Internet in the Fall 1994 issue of the *Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association Newsletter*. Bobs will participate in a two-day planning meeting of SESCA, the Southeastern Special Collections Access project, to be held at the end of February in Atlanta. SESCA is a joint project of SOLINET (Southeastern Library Network) and SURA (Southeastern University Research Library Association) and a part of the Monticello Electronic Library. The meeting will focus on means of providing electronic access to materials housed in repositories of colleges, universities, private research centers, and state and local government archives in the Southeast, bringing this region into the infrastructure of the "information superhighway."

On Dec. 2, **Irene Wainwright** and **Wayne Everard** attended an "Introduction to Records Management," a seminar held at the University of Texas at Austin. They also toured the impressive facilities of the Austin History Center, a local history/city archives collection attached to the Austin Public Library--the Louisiana Division's "equivalent" in Austin.

Mary Linn Wernet of the Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Watson Memorial Library, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, was awarded tenure in the Fall of 1994.

Marie Windell presented a paper, "Oral History Under Oath: Testimony in Supreme Court of Louisiana Coll. of Legal Archives," for the Friends of the Cabildo, Louisiana State Museum on January 14.

If you have not done so, it is **TIME TO PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES**. If you did not renew your membership during the recent membership drive, please submit the membership form that is printed on the verso of this page. As a LAMA member, you will receive the *LAMA Newsletter* and you will be invited to attend our annual meetings. As if that wasn't enough for your \$10 membership fee, by joining LAMA, you will also become a member of the Southern Archives Conference--*for free!*

LAMA promotes the role of archives in the preservation of our national, state, and local heritage by cooperating with Louisiana's public and private archival repositories in their work of collecting, conserving, and making accessible to the public manuscript, printed, graphic arts, and audio materials of historical significance. The Association publishes the *LAMA Newsletter* twice yearly in Spring and Fall. The *Newsletter* is also available at gopher <unix1.sncc.lsu.edu path \LSU-BR Campus\LAMA. News and announcements are posted here. Please contact *Newsletter* editor, Irene Wainwright, or gopher administrator, Sally Power, to submit items to the *Newsletter* or to post them electronically.

Irene Wainwright, LAMA editor
Louisiana Division/City Archives
New Orleans Public Library
219 Loyola Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70140
l_archives@solinet.net

Sally Power, notscp@lsuvm.sncc.lsu.edu

To become a member and receive the *Newsletter*, please fill out and submit the registration form on the last page on this newsletter.

**The Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts
Association**
P.O. Box 51213
New Orleans, LA 70151-1213



**BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
New Orleans, LA
Permit No. 1446**

Lester Sullivan
Xavier University Library
7325 Palmetto St.
New Orleans, LA 70125

LOUISIANA ARCHIVES AND MANUSCRIPTS ASSOCIATION
formerly Friends of the Archives of Louisiana
P. O. Box 51213
New Orleans, LA 70151-1213

The Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association (LAMA) promotes the role of archives in the preservation of our national, state, and local history by cooperating with Louisiana's public and private archival repositories in their work of collecting, conserving, and making accessible to the public manuscript, printed, graphic, and audio materials of historical significance. LAMA members receive the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association Newsletter twice yearly in Spring and Fall.

Please enroll me in the following membership category:

- Student/Senior Citizen \$5.00
- Individual \$10.00
- Family \$15.00
- Organization \$25.00
- Staff member of _____ Member organization \$5.00
- Sustaining \$50.00
- Patron \$100.00
- Life \$1,000.00

Please don't send me the newsletter,
I will find it on Gopher _____

Initial membership _____ Renewal _____

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ E-Mail _____

City, State, Zip _____ Date _____

Please mail check or money order, payable to:
Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association
P. O. Box 51213
New Orleans, La 70151-1213