

LOUISIANA ARCHIVES AND MANUSCRIPTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

• Spring 1993 •

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

Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association Officers 1992-1993

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ASSOCIATION NEWS

Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association Spring Meeting

April 2, 1993

Hill Memorial Library
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge

Program

8:30-9:00 am Registration and coffee

9:00-11:15 am LSU Libraries Electronic Imaging Laboratory

A discussion of the development of the Electronic Imaging Lab and its purposes by Principal Investigator, Faye Phillips, and Co-principal Investigator, Dr. Richard Condrey. A question and answer and demonstration period will follow the discussion.

11:30-1:00 pm Lunch at the Faculty Club

1:15-2:30 pm The Future Role of Archives and Manuscript Repositories

A panel discussion of the evolving role of archives and manuscript repositories, archivists and manuscript curators into the next century. Issues to be addressed include

future trends in access and collection development policies. Panelists to be announced.

2:30-3:00 pm Break

3:00-3:45 pm Disaster Preparedness

A discussion of disaster planning and preparation of disaster planning manuals and resource guides. Speakers to be announced.

3:45-4:15 pm Tour of Hill Memorial Library.

Registration fees will include lunch and will be announced in forthcoming registration forms. For information on programming for the meeting, contact LAMA President, Faye Phillips at:

Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803
 ☎(504) 388-6569; email notvfp@LSUVM

Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association Board Meeting

The LAMA Board met on Thursday, February 18, at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux. The following association activities were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Update of Directory of Louisiana Archives

In 1986 the Friends of the Archives of Louisiana (LAMA's predecessor) issued a *Directory of Louisiana Archives*. The LAMA Board has approved a project to update and republish the directory. A committee has been formed to direct this project. Jean S. Keisel will chair the

committee and Carol Mathias and Yvette G. Boling will serve as members. Board members will contact individual repositories to update information for the directory. The new directory will include repositories which were overlooked by the 1986 directory and will add those which have been established since that date. Please send any information you would like included to Yvette G. Boling, 4724 Ashbury Drive, Jefferson, LA 70121, ☎(504) 733-8073.

All LAMA members will receive a copy of the new directory free of charge. Copies will be available to others at a cost of \$2.00 each. We would appreciate any assistance in covering the cost of the printing of the directory from members willing to donate \$2.00 for the project. Also, we are seeking advertisers for the directory.

All suggestions are welcomed and should be directed to Jean Keisel, University of Southwestern Louisiana, Dupre Library, P.O. Box 40199, Lafayette, LA 70504. Any donations may be sent to Colin B. Hamer, Jr., LAMA Treasurer, 3608 Cleary Ave., Metairie, LA 70002.

(Association news cont. on p. 4)

The LAMA Newsletter is published twice yearly in Spring and Fall. Please contact Sally Proshek, editor, to submit material ☎(504) 388-6554. The Newsletter is sent to all LAMA members. If you would like to join the Association and receive the LAMA Newsletter, please complete the enrolment form on the back page of the Newsletter and send to:

LOUISIANA ARCHIVES AND
 MANUSCRIPTS ASSOCIATION
 P. O. Box 51213
 New Orleans, LA 70151-1213

LOUISIANA STATE ARCHIVES LOCAL HISTORY PROJECT

By David Richards

Over eighteen months ago, the Louisiana State Archives received a grant from the NHPRC to conduct a statewide WPA-style survey of Louisiana Clerk of Court records. The record inventories were to be used to establish retention schedules, locate and rescue records in immediate danger, design and publish an archives and records management manual for the clerks of court, and establish a permanent local government records program to deal with other local officials (sheriffs, coroners, police juries, etc.) in the future.

The activities of the project staff for the past year have centered around surveying the records held by the Clerks of Court. As of this date, project personnel have made 20 on-site visits to parish courthouses. With on-site visits and mail-in responses combined, a total of 40 parishes (over 60%) have responded to the survey. This total does not include the parish of Orleans, which has been only partially surveyed by the staff.

The staff members who were in the field included the two project archivists, Melanie

Counce and David Richards, as well as project supervisor, Doug Harrison. Mr. Harrison, as the State Archives' conservator, advised and assisted clerks with their immediate concerns regarding records preservation. The project archivists, at the same time, provided on-site information and opinions regarding records management solutions for the clerks.

All of the courthouses surveyed needed some sort of assistance. Northern parishes need advice and assistance regarding microfilming and transfer of records to the archives building. Some parishes had a microfilming program, but were unaware of the legal acceptance of microfilm and thus

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...another parish, its courthouse bursting at the seams with records, had begun to store its records off-site in the parish morgue.

kept the originals in addition to their microfilm copies. Parishes with plenty of storage space and microfilming programs were concerned about the long term preservation of their older records (some dating

back to the late 18th century), while larger parishes needed assistance in microfilming, additional storage, preservation, and the latest information regarding imaging and optical disk technology.

Although final statistics and a detailed analysis of the survey and questionnaires will be forthcoming in a final report, it is evident that the clerks are crying out for assistance. Nearly all of the parishes have deteriorating records and most parishes have squirreled away their older records into attics, basements, and warehouses which lack air-conditioning, humidity and pest controls, and fire and safety equipment.

Such poor storage conditions are aggravated by the state's climate which provides a virtual heaven for mold and insects. Indeed, the project archivists found one warehouse where all of the records (some dating back to the Civil War) were covered in a spongy coating of sticky white mold. Yet another parish, its courthouse bursting at the seams with records, had begun to store its records off-site in the parish morgue.

Examples are numerous, and, again, every parish had some problem dealing with their records. This is not surprising since the clerks of court and the state have never specifically attempted to deal with the problem since the WPA surveys of the 1940s.

The project, in cooperation with the Clerks of Court Association's Committee on Historic Records and the Louisiana Supreme Court Records Management Committee, is now entering its final stage. In the coming months, regional workshops will be conducted around the state. Retention schedules are to be published and distributed to the clerks and a records management manual is scheduled for release in June. Project archivists Melanie Counce and David Richards invite any questions or comments regarding the project or the state of local government records in Louisiana. Melanie and David may be contacted at (504) 922-1220. ■

(Association news cont. from p. 2)

Scholarships for the SAA MARC-AMC Workshop

Mary Linn Wernet Bandaries and Mark A. Cave were the recipients of two scholarships awarded by LAMA for attendance of the Society of American Archivists MARC-AMC Workshop which was held February 11-12 in New Orleans. Alfred Lemmon coordinated the scholarship effort. Congratulations to Mary Linn and Mark.

Sally K. Reeves has agreed to chair the Scholarship Committee and will be writing guidelines for future scholarship awards. If you would like to serve on the committee or have suggestions please contact Sally, 5801 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70115 ☎(504) 568-8577.

LAMA Membership Drive

While we have a very representative sample of members from all types of Louisiana institutions, there are archives and manuscript staff who do not belong to LAMA. We want to encourage all to join. We are very pleased to have members who are researchers in archives and manuscripts repositories. Carol Mathias will chair the LAMA Membership Committee. She is seeking volunteers for the Membership Committee who will help her target new groups. Please contact Carol at Archives and Special Collections, Ellender Memorial Library, Nicholls State University, P. O. Box 2028, Thibodaux, LA 70310 ☎(504) 448-4621. ■

NEWS FROM LOUISIANA ARCHIVAL REPOSITORIES

NSU designated National Center for Historic Preservation Technology

Legislation designating Northwestern State University as the location of a National Center for Historic Preservation Technology has been signed into law, according to U. S. Senator J. Bennett Johnston, sponsor of the measure. The new center will be established under the U. S. Department of Interior and will be responsible for developing technologies for identifying, evaluating, and preserving historic sites and structures throughout the country including homes, businesses, and bridges.

“Northwestern is nationally recognized as a leader in this field,” Johnston said. “With NSU’s outstanding resources and personnel, combined with the rich diversity of historic sites and structures throughout the area, Northwestern and the city of Natchitoches are well positioned to lead this national research effort.”

Johnston’s amendment grew from discussions between NSU President Dr. Robert A. Alost and Mrs. Mary Johnston, the Senator’s wife and a Natchitoches native who has long been active in historic preservation. Alost said the new center “will put Northwestern and Natchitoches at the forefront of historic preservation efforts in America by making this the nation’s primary training site for the various sophisticated technologies that are involved in recognizing and preserving historically important areas and structures.”

The measure does not include any direct funding for the center. Once established, the center could draw experts from the National Park Service.

Southern University-Shreveport Library Establishes Black Ethnic Archive

The Southern University Library has established a University Black Ethnic Archive. This Archive has been funded by a grant from the Louisiana Education Quality Support Fund Enhancement Program. The Archive’s extensive run of *The Shreveport Sun* newspaper, dating from 1927 to 1969, is a significant research source documenting the Black experience in the local area. Another important research collection at the Archives is the Adrena and T. J. Hawkins Family Papers, a collection consisting of about five linear feet of materials dating back to the early 1920s.

The mission of the Black Ethnic Archive is to collect, preserve, and make available to faculty and other researchers the non-current materials that document African American history in the local area. The Archive is actively seeking donations of papers, photographs, pamphlets, and archival records of families, businesses, and organizations that will document the events, economic conditions, community life, and activities of African Americans in the local area.

The Black Ethnic Archive is open during regular library hours and is located in the Library of Southern University-Shreveport, 3050 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr., Shreveport, LA 71107.

Hurricane Andrew Special Report

Munters Moisture Control Services has published a special issue of *Moisture Control Services NEWS* devoted to the Hurricane Andrew Disaster. The issue details Munters' efforts to provide disaster relief to victims, restore damaged property, and bring businesses and libraries back into operation quickly.

The special issue featured articles describing Munters' efforts in Louisiana. With electricity out for a radius of sixty miles, Munters had to provide its own communications, generate its own electricity, and provide much of the gasoline to run its equipment. Trucks carrying generators and huge industrial dehumidifiers came from as far away as Chicago and Los Angeles. Munters' staff came from each of Munters' sixteen district offices in the United State and Canada. Munters eventually salvaged over three hundred thousand books. For a free copy of the newsletter special issue, call 1-800-I-CAN-DRY.

Hussman Wins \$3,000 Preservation Award for LSU-Shreveport

For the second year in a row, Information Conservation, Inc. has sponsored a competition to award \$3,000 in preservation services to the library who best represented the needs of the collection and the rationale for choosing the materials to be treated.

The winner of the 1993 Competition is Louisiana State University-Shreveport. The proposal was prepared and submitted by Steven Hussman, Director of the

Department of Archives and Special Collections. The proposal calls for deacidification and rebinding of plantation ledgers of the W. J. Hutchinson Family of Northwestern Louisiana. The Hutchinsons arrived in Louisiana in the 1840s and established Caspiana Plantation. Ledgers will be sent in small lots to Information Conservation, Inc. for treatment.

Response to the invitation to apply for this award was excellent, and proposals were received from almost every state and from every size and type of library, university, museum, historical society, and special collection department. The presentations were of an extremely high level and the task of the three judges was very difficult. This year's competition was judged by Sharlane Grant, Preservation Officer of Arizona State University Library at Tempe, Eleanor Stewart, Conservation Officer for Stanford University, and Don Etherington, President of Information Conservation, Inc., Brown Summit, North Carolina.

Factors considered in the award were:

a. Treatment that could not be carried out by in-house preservation staff and required professional skills and facilities.

b. Method of treatment necessary would be appropriate for the materials and their future use.

c. The rationale for choosing the materials for treatment was consistent with the goals of the preservation endeavor.

d. Use of the materials after treatment and availability for future use without damage to the items.

e. An ongoing commitment to the preservation endeavors within the institution that this award would enhance.

Mr. Etherington, President of the Conservation Division, expressed his appreciation to all those who submitted a proposal, "We wish we could make this award to every proposal, and we continue to be impressed with the dedication and concern about proper preservation treatment for the library collections that submitted entries."

The Caddo Parish Archives and Records Management Center has completed its move from the temporary facility to the new Records Management Center. The facility is now open and in full operation. The Archives' new address is:

1839 Spring Street
Shreveport, LA 71101
☐(318)226-6861; Fax (318)226-6862

Oral History at UNO

The Foreign Languages Department of the University of New Orleans has assigned a student majoring in Spanish as an intern in the Archives Department of Earl K. Long Library. Her assignment will be to transcribe audiotaped oral history interviews conducted by department personnel with members of the local Hispanic community.

GNOA's Mardi Gras Documentation Project

The Greater New Orleans Area Archivists has launched a Mardi Gras Documentation project. It is a collaborative effort of GNOA members to analyze New Orleans-area holdings on Carnival. The project's goals are to analyze holdings and develop a cooperative and informed method of

acquisitions between repositories. The project will produce a brochure. Generous funding from the Friends of the Cabildo and the Historic New Orleans Collection will enable the printing of the brochure with a four-color cover. The brochure will be distributed to the SAA membership during the Annual Meeting in New Orleans. ■

EVENTS, EXHIBITS, MEETINGS

Historic New Orleans Collection Hosts Jefferson Lectures

The Historic New Orleans Collection is one of the regional hosts for a national lecture series cosponsored by the Library of Congress and the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation (Monticello) during 1993, the 250th anniversary of Thomas Jefferson's birth. Barton & Guestier, a California vintner, has provided additional funds as a cosponsor to ensure that federal matching funds will be available for the project. All lectures are open to the public.

The national lecture tour will discuss, at six sites across the United States, the relevance of Jefferson's legacy for today's world. At the core of the series, distinguished speakers will discuss what Jefferson considered his own legacy which he directed be engraved on his tombstone: the Declaration of Independence, the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom and the founding of the University of Virginia.

One of the speakers will be Jon Kukla who will speak March 11 on *Recipes and Rights: Jefferson's Manuscript Collecting and the*

Origins of American Independence. Other speakers will include Historian Merrill Peterson, who will discuss the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, the cornerstone of this country's doctrine of separation of church and state. Lucia Stanton will discuss Jefferson, slavery, and plantation life; William Kelso will make a presentation on Jefferson and archeology; Dell Upton on Jefferson and architecture; and Clay Jenkinson will conclude the series by recreating an evening with Jefferson.

HNOG has also installed an exhibition titled "The Long Weekend: the Arts and the Vieux Carre Between the World War, 1918-1941." The exhibit is in two parts; the first part covers the 1920s and will be replaced in May by the second segment which is devoted to the later inter-war years.

The staff of **LSU-Shreveport** presented a "Local History Research Seminar" on February 11, 18, and 25. The program was held in the Noel Memorial Library's Department of Archives and Special Collections and was sponsored by the LSU-Shreveport Department of Continuing Education.

Northwestern State University of Louisiana is hosting the **Kate Chopin Conference**, April 1-3, 1993. The Cammie Henry Research Center will display a Kate Chopin Exhibit during the conference. NSU is also hosting the Louisiana History Association's meeting March 25-27. Mary Linn Wernet Bandaries will be conducting a session on "The Use of Documents in the Classroom." NSU librarians Amanda Young and Linda N. Cox will present "Using Media in the Classroom" on Saturday morning, March 27.

The Louisiana Division of NOPL is displaying its annual carnival exhibit on the third floor of the Central Library through the month of March, 1993. The Louisiana Division's archives staff will mount an exhibit on the 150th anniversary of New Orleans Public Library in time for the American Library Association's annual convention in New Orleans in July, 1993. The exhibit will remain on display into September, when New Orleans hosts the Society of American Archivists annual convention. Also at the Central Library, the Louisiana Division hosted "Tracing your Roots: African American Genealogy Day" on January 23, 1993. The seminar included lectures by Ulysses Ricard of Amistad Research Center and orientation and assistance to patrons by the Louisiana Division reference staff.

The Baton Rouge Room of the East Baton Rouge Parish Library, Centroplex Branch, installed an exhibit of photographs and drawings of old homes in the Spanish Town and Beauregard Town districts of Baton Rouge. Images were drawn from the Baton Rouge Room's picture file collection.

On February 11, 1992, the Centroplex Branch Library hosted a lecture by **Faye Phillips** entitled "Special Collections in Your Library." Ms. Phillips is Head of the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.

The Grant Parish Library hosts meetings of the Grant Genealogical Society on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. The library is located at 300 Main St., Colfax, LA 71417. ■

PUBLICATION NEWS

An updated edition of the guide to the holdings of **Prescott Memorial Library's** department of Special Collections, Manuscripts and Archives and the American Foreign Policy Center is available. For information, contact Special Collections, Manuscripts and Archives, Prescott Memorial Library, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA 71272.

Also from Louisiana Tech, Bobs Tusa's article "Miss Bethea and the Sculptor: The Creation of Louisiana Tech's Sculptural Fountain, 'the Lady of the Mist'," was published in the Winter 1992 issue (Vol. XXIV, No. 1) of *North Louisiana Historical Association Journal* (pp. 33-39). The article is the first in Tusa's "Centennial Watch Series" of articles using materials found in the Prescott Memorial Library's Department of Special Collections, Manuscripts and Archives. The series will focus on events and individuals significant to the history of Louisiana Tech University, which will celebrate its centennial in 1994. The purpose of the series is to alert the Tech community to the approach of the centennial, stimulate their interest in the history of Tech, and encourage them to visit and possibly donate materials to the University Archives. Tusa's next article will be devoted to the burning of Old Main building at Tech in 1936, which resulted in major campus construction and renovation.

LSU-Shreveport's Guide to Manuscripts

In February at LSU-Shreveport the Noel

Memorial Library's Department of Archives and Special Collections published a *Guide to Manuscripts*. For a copy of the guide, please call or write the Noel Memorial Library at LSU Shreveport, One University Place, Shreveport, LA 71115.

Fred Stielow, Executive Director of the **Amistad Research Center** in New Orleans, has published an article in the Spring 1992 *American Archivist* on "Archival Theory and Preservation of Electronic Materials." Other forthcoming articles by Fred are on "The Impact of Information Technology on Archival Theory" for *The Journal of Education for Library Information Science* and on "New Archival and Preservation Scholarship" for *Library Quarterly*. This summer, his book with John Sutter entitled *Folklore Archives and the Documentary Heritage of New York State* will be published by the New York Folklore Society in Ithaca.

Lester Sullivan, Archivist of **Xavier University** in New Orleans, had his book *Chester Himes: An Annotated Primary and Secondary Bibliography* (which he wrote with Bob Skinner and Michel Fabre) published by Greenwood Press in October. Lester also designed the book, and he just completed the design for *Above Ground: Stories About Life and Death by New Southern Writers*. He and Skinner contributed to the recently-published book from Visible Ink entitled *Epic Lives: One Hundred Black Women Who Made a Difference*, edited by Jessie Carney Smith of Fisk University.

In the Fall of 1992, the **T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History** at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, celebrated its second year by issuing an annual report and inaugurating a new publication, *Oral History in Louisiana*, a newsletter for the center. The newsletter features articles on the opening of the center, biographical sketches of center staff, and news of oral history projects throughout Louisiana. For more information, contact Pamela Dean, T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History, Hill Memorial Library, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3300.

LSU University Records Manual

As part of an NHPRC-funded project to organize the records of Louisiana State University and create an ongoing university archival program, the LSU Libraries have published *University Records Manual* (Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge: LSU Libraries, 1992). For more information, contact Dr. Robert Martin, Assistant Dean of Libraries for Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803 ☎(504) 388-6511.

Religious collections brochure

The Historic New Orleans Collection has recently published Vol. 11 (1992) of its annual *Manuscripts Division UPDATE*. This issue is devoted to papers relating to religion at the HNOC. The pamphlet describes over ninety collections, including microforms, pertaining to the religion of the area preserved by HNOC's Manuscripts Division. To receive a copy, contact the

HNOC, 533 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70130, ☎(504) 523-4662.

Priscilla Lawrence of the **Historic New Orleans Collection** has published her book *Before Disaster Strikes: Prevention, Planning and Recovery* (ISBN 0-917869-32-2).

Clive Hardy, Archivist at UNO, has published a commissioned article entitled, "Carnival and the Confederacy" in *Arthur Hardy's Mardi Gras Guide, 1992*. He was also commissioned to write three chapters on the history of New Orleans for *Insight Guide to New Orleans* (APA Publications, 1992).

Jean Kiesel of the **University of Southeastern Louisiana** has edited the *Bayou State Periodical Index, 1991*. The index was published in February, 1993.

Mrs. Marie Windell, supervisor of the Louisiana Supreme Court legal archives microfilming project at UNO, has published her article, "A Double Standard of Justice: Is Adultery by a Wife Worse Than Murder by Her Husband?" The article appears in *Historic U.S. Court Cases, 1690-1990: An Encyclopedia* (Garland Publishing, 1992).

The **Grant Genealogical Society** announces its quarterly publication, *Grant Diggins*. For more information about the publication, contact Helen Sorrell, Grant Parish Library, 300 Main St., Colfax, LA 71417. ■

THE BUDGET CRISIS: MEMBERS RESPOND

By Kristina Dawson Zack

In this year of deepening cuts into the budgets of public libraries and institutions of learning, we asked member archives to respond to a special "Budget Supplement," in addition to sharing other (and we hope happier) news. Some lucky people were able to reply "not applicable" "no" or "not us!" to our questions regarding their role in the budget-slashing process. Some of those places are not affected by the vicissitudes of state governmental funding, and some were still crossing their fingers they wouldn't be cut this year, still smarting from cuts in the past. Those of us in institutions effected by the cuts, are, of course, jealous, but congratulate those folks just the same on their good fortune. Certainly, these lucky individuals appreciate their situation as much as the rest of us envy it.

Some of the questions in our survey were asked with a sort of wry jocularly, and many responded in the same vein. There is a certain amount of bitter humor that arises when one has to answer such questions as the six we asked, ones which some would say have been asked all too frequently in the last several years. But despite the tone of the individual responses, the answers were earnest and very similar from institution to institution.

We asked first of all for a general

description of how the State Legislature's budget cutbacks have affected individual institutions. On the whole, we found there to be a good deal of tension, as well as outright fright for the future of institutions and their employees. Some stable individuals bucked up their courage and said that they were getting along O.K., considering

Hiring in most places effected has been frozen, with no thaw in sight. And while some places still have limited travel and continuing-education funds available, most have none left, and the special funds which were traditionally saved for such "frills" (in the words of our legislators) have been diverted into materials and acquisitions budgets.

As far as acquisitions go, most institutions have recorded a drop or complete halt in book acquisitions, and some noted declines in serials acquisitions as well. Many respondents noted that, while they could not purchase manuscript collections, they were still accepting donations -- though with materials budgets also low, many cannot afford to pay for staff time and the supplies necessary to process such collections.

Supplies and materials in this budget crisis are, of course, also very dear. Photocopying at some institutions has been curtailed by staff, and the price for patron use of photocopiers has been increased. Some cite shortages in archival folders, paper clips, and photographic housing materials, making some housing and processing work impossible. Everyone surveyed seems to be taking this in stride, also.

Despite shortages in staff and supplies, most

places report minimal cutbacks in service hours. Those that did cutback generally were reacting to staff shortages. One university reported a two-week closure at Christmas because of budgetary constraints.

In reading our final question, "What is the MOST OUTRAGEOUS RUMOR you've heard about remaining budget cuts?," many seemed so horrified by the thought that anything more outrageous than had already happened could be thought of, that they abstained. Indeed, one person just said, "I'd rather not think about it," which seems to have pretty much answered it for some folks. But those that did answer mentioned rumors of 40-50% cuts in budgets and/or faculty and staff along with four-day work weeks for the summer months. Several people heard the rumor that some institutions, even whole campuses (specifically LSU-Eunice and LSU-Alexandria), would have to close altogether, and, as one person put it, leave "everyone unemployed." When the drastic cuts were announced last September, LSU Chancellor Bud Davis protested that even the complete closures of LSU-E and LSU-A wouldn't make up for the shortfall.

A few cheery souls are hopeful that their institutions will not come out of the current budget crisis severely damaged. This reporter, whether it is wise or not, would like to agree with those people and add a final rumor for mastication -- that this whole thing is really just a joke, and those of us affected will actually all get the raises for which some have been waiting a long time. I hope this particular rumor is true, but I would still have something to say to state legislators: Not funny, guys. Not funny at all. ■

ACQUISITIONS

Waggoner Papers at Special Collections, Louisiana Tech University

The processing and preparation of the finding aid for the papers of U. S. Representative Joe D. Waggoner, Jr. have been completed. There are 67 linear feet of political files, voting records, materials concerning the House Judiciary Committee's deliberations on the impeachment of President Nixon, speeches, appointment books, scrapbooks, miscellaneous items, and memorabilia covering the period 1957-1988.

Waggoner, from Plain Dealing, Louisiana, served in the U. S. House of Representatives from 1961 until his retirement in 1979, for much of that time as the leader of conservative forces and confidante of President Nixon. Waggoner was a key member for eight years of the Ways and Means Committee and was the principal founder of the conservative House Democratic Research Organization.

In 1976, Waggoner was named "Mr. Shreveport" by the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce, and he was a charter recipient in 1977 of Louisiana Tech University's Tower Medallion for distinguished Tech alumni.

The Noel Memorial Library Department of Archives and Special Collections of LSU-Shreveport has received the William Hanna Mayoral Scrapbooks, 1978-1982.

William Hanna was the first mayor under a new form of city government which replaced the commission form of government that had been in place for 68 years.

The Historic New Orleans Collection has acquired a volume of Surveys by Barthelemy Lafon (1769-1820) containing surveys of the French Quarter, Bayou St. John, German Coast, Barataria, and St. Charles Parish. The acquisition supplements the other volume already owned by HNOC. Other Lafon materials at the HNOC include his contract book and correspondence. HNOC has also received a collection of 67 letters from Civil War Captain R. R. R. Dumar of New York written to his wife from Port Hudson, Louisiana. The extensive collection totals nearly 600 pages.

The Southwestern Archives and Manuscripts Collection at the University of Southeastern Louisiana has received 4 linear feet of Bayou Vermilion District Records (1988-1992), measured drawings of four industrial complexes in Acadiana and Central Louisiana, and about 175 photographs of the Lake Peigneur disaster of 1980. USL Archives has also received additions to its university records including Student Council records and USL Theater Department records from the 1960s to the present.

The Archives and Manuscripts division of Special Collections at the **Earl K. Long Library** of the University of New Orleans has acquired over 15 linear feet of unlocated case files which date from the 1830s to the 1870s. These files were found by the staff of the Supreme Court of Louisiana during the preparation for its projected move to the Wildlife and Fisheries Building in New

Orleans. The extant files now total about 97% of the original collection, 1813-1889. During the 19th century, the newly located files were moved around the city and the state -- some even traveled to Washington, D.C. and back.

UNO has acquired the New Orleans Athletic Club Collection. The collection documents the club's activities for over a century from 1881-1987 and consists of 24 linear feet of records including minutes, correspondence, brochures, periodicals, directories, auditor's reports, dues, ledgers, photographs, stock certificates, and other related materials.

Other acquisitions at UNO include the Charles Ebert Collection (1837, 1872-1982), correspondence and related papers of Ebert family members in Alsace, Germany, to Charles Ebert, an Alsatian who immigrated to New Orleans in 1873; the New Orleans Views Collection (1890), 23 photographic prints of prominent city landmarks; and the New Orleans College of Pharmacy Collection (1908-1910), a volume of minutes of the class of 1910.

The Baton Rouge Room of the East Baton Rouge Parish Library's Centroplex Branch has added to its local history holdings by initiating a drive to collect yearbooks from Baton Rouge area schools. In November, a letter was mailed to area schools asking for donations of yearbooks. The mailing received a strong response and donations are expected to continue through the rest of the year. Among other recent acquisitions of the Baton Rouge Room is a photograph by Andrew D. Lytle (c. 1880?) which depicts a group of veterans by a monument where the Centroplex Library and Galvez Plaza would later stand.

Friends of the Cabildo Oral History Collection

The Louisiana Division, New Orleans Public Library, has received copies of 567 oral history tapes created over a twenty year period by interviewers from the Friends of the Cabildo. Original tapes remain at the Historical Center of the Louisiana State Museum. The tapes cover a wide range of material illustrating daily life and significant events in 20th century New Orleans. A card file contains abstracts of the tapes and provides name and subject access to the collection. The Louisiana Division has also received an accretion of five boxes to the Civil Service Commission Records. The new materials date from the 1980s.

The Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections at Hill Memorial Library, LSU, Baton Rouge, recently received a collection of personal papers of James Monroe Smith (1888-1949), former LSU President. Smith was President of LSU from 1930-1939. In 1940, he was convicted on charges of mail fraud and tax evasion. He served ten months in federal prison before his parole in February of 1945. The papers contain photographs of Smith, his wife, Marjorie Lee Smith, and other family members and associates. Among the papers are an account of Smith's family history and recollections of his activities at LSU. In his recollections, Smith recounts meetings he had with Governor Huey Long concerning the planning and funding of projects at LSU. ■

PORTRAIT OF AN ARCHIVIST

Bobs M. Tusa

In the fall of 1992, Bobs M. Tusa became Head of Special Collections, Manuscripts and Archives at the Prescott Memorial Library of Louisiana Tech University at Ruston. She brings to this position a rich background of research library experience.

As head of the Prescott's Special Collections, Manuscripts, and Archives, Bobs wears many hats. In addition to her central administrative responsibilities, she is the University Archivist and Director of the American Foreign Policy Center. She is responsible for administration, collection development, reference services, and the preservation and technical processing of collections at the Prescott.

Bobs came to Ruston from Alabama where she received her M.L.S. degree at the University of Alabama. After earning her library degree, she held a temporary position as Associate Curator of the Elizabeth Chellis/Lucille Beeson Collection at the Birmingham Museum of Art. There she accessioned, conserved, arranged, and cataloged a collection of eighteenth-century rare books and manuscripts.

Many in Louisiana know Bobs from her long association with Tulane and Loyola Universities in New Orleans. After working for a year as a Spanish instructor at the Isidore Newman School in New Orleans, Bobs began working full-time on her

research in Latin-American literature and culture. She received a Masters degree in Spanish from Tulane University, spent a year in postgraduate study in linguistics at the University of Texas, and returned to Tulane to complete a Ph.D in Spanish with a minor in Romance philology.

At Loyola, Bobs developed and used her talents in languages, historical research, administration, and computer science as she served the University in different capacities for over fifteen years. As head of Loyola's microform room from 1974-1975, she was responsible for administration, organization, cataloging, reference, and publicity for the collection's 34,000 microform titles.

Bobs then became Assistant Director of the Spanish Documents Project at Loyola. From 1974-1982 she assisted in the administration of the NEH grant project for microfilming Spanish colonial Louisiana documents in the Archivo General de Indias. She assisted researchers, handled correspondence and publicity, promoted the collection's catalog, and acted as liaison with other University offices. While in this position, Bobs founded the Media Center at Loyola. She designed, implemented, and directed the University's first instructional resource center.

Bobs served as Assistant Registrar and then Registrar of Loyola University from 1980-1991. In this position, she managed the University's academic records, participated in the creation of academic policies and curricula, and planned and managed enrollment. She designed and implemented a program which reformatted admissions records from 1911 to 1978 to microfilm.

Her professional associations include membership in the Society of American Archivists, the Society of Southwest Archivists, the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association, The American Library Association, and the Louisiana Library Association.

Bobs has published widely in the field of Latin American literature. She has recently launched a "Centennial Watch" series of articles which will publicize the approach of Louisiana Tech's centennial celebration in 1994. The series will highlight materials from Special Collections at the Prescott. The first of the series, "Miss Bethea and the Sculptor: The Creation of Louisiana Tech's Sculptural Fountain, 'the Lady of the Mist,'" was published in the Winter 1992 issue of *North Louisiana Historical Association Journal*.

Bobs is currently interested in first-hand accounts. Together with Nancy Pope, systems officer at the LSU Libraries, she is investigating the idea of creating a new listserv called MEMOIRS. ■

LOUISIANA PEOPLE

Mary Linn Wernet Bandaries has been appointed to the Louisiana Records Advisory Commission. On February 1, 1993, she presented a program on "Preserving Memories" to the Lesche Club of Natchitoches.

Mark T. Carleton, Associate Professor of History, and **Robert S. Martin**, Assistant Dean of Libraries for Special Collections, both at Louisiana State University, Baton

Rouge, are leading the University Commission on the History of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College. Carleton is serving as president and Martin as Secretary.

The commission was established in September 1989 to help preserve the history of the university. One of its stated goals is "to assist LSU Libraries in identifying, collecting, organizing, and providing access to materials which document the history of LSU."

Since its inception the commission has undertaken several tasks. A crucial project has been the commission's sponsorship and support of the T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History. The commission is also sponsoring a pictorial history of the university.

The commission was also involved in an advisory capacity throughout the duration of the grant-funded University Records Survey Project. The commission supported the establishment of a

permanent University Archives Program as an essential part of its effort to preserve LSU's history.

Stephen Castellanos, photographer, and **Patricia Waters**, administrative assistant, have joined the staff of the Archives and Manuscripts division of Special Collections at the Earl K. Long Library of the University of New Orleans. Stephen and Patricia will work on the continuing NEH funded microfilm preservation project for the legal archives of the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Wayne Everard, archivist at the Louisiana Division of New Orleans Public Library addressed the Genealogical Research Society of New Orleans on November 19, 1992.

Colin B. Hamer, Jr., Head of the Louisiana Division of New Orleans Public Library, spoke to the St. Tammany Parish Genealogy Society in Covington on November 10, 1992. He also

addressed the West Bank Genealogy Society in Harvey, Louisiana, on November 21.

Stephen Hussman of LSU Shreveport has been appointed member of the Professional Affairs Committee of the Society of Southwestern Archivists. The Committee monitors local and regional legislation and budgeting for archival education programs within academic institutions. Hussman also prepared and submitted the winning proposal for the \$3,000 preservation services award granted by Information Conservation, Inc. in its nation-wide competition.

Alfred Lemmon, Manuscripts Curator, Historic New Orleans Collection, is serving as one of the regional coordinators of *El Diccionario de la Música Española e Hispanoamericana*. Devoted to the history of Spanish and Latin American music, it will be one of the first encyclopedias published on CD-ROM. Alfred

recently lectured in Caracas, Venezuela, at the invitation of the Fundación Vicente Emilio Sojo on archival sources for the study of Spanish American music. He was also recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Landmarks Society.

Susan Massey, manuscripts cataloger at the Historic New Orleans Collection, has accepted a position at the University of Alabama.

Charles Nolan, Archivist and Records Manager for the Archdiocese of New Orleans, conducted a seminar on "Disaster Planning and Recovery" at a meeting of the Delaware Archivists and Records Managers in Wilmington on October 26. He also spoke before the New Orleans Civil War Roundtable about "The Livaudais Diary," written by a veteran of Shiloh, which the Archdiocese owns and has published. On December 20, he spoke on "The Religious Consequences of the Louisiana Purchase" as part of the Louisiana Purchase Celebration of the

Louisiana Historical Society.

Beatrice Rodriguez Owsley, Associate Archivist at the Earl K. Long Library, attended the annual meeting of the Latin American Studies Association in Los Angeles, September 24-29, 1992. There she presented a paper on "The Influence of Latin American Rhythms in New Orleans."

A leader in the New Orleans Hispanic community, Beatrice is serving as Treasurer and Secretary of the UNO Hispanic Caucus. Last Spring, she was elected to the Multicultural Committee of the Oral History Association. Her study of the city's Latin American business community was published in hard and soft cover editions entitled *The Hispanic American Entrepreneur: An Oral History of the American Dream* (Twayne, an imprint of the Macmillan Co., 1992). The book has been nominated for the prestigious Elliott Rudwick Prize. Beatrice has received a grant from the Louisiana Endowment

for the Arts to produce a broadcast on Public Radio Station WWNO concerning Carnival Latino, a yearly festival held in new Orleans celebrating the city's Hispanic heritage. Beatrice is also a member of the Host Committee for the 1993 SAA convention in New Orleans.

Bruce Boyd Raeburn, Curator of the Hogan Jazz Archives at Tulane University, New Orleans, gave a paper on December 4 at Brown University entitled "The Boyd Raeburn Big Band." Boyd Raeburn, Bruce's father, was a pioneering modernist among band leaders. On October 12, Bruce spoke before the annual conference of the American College of Surgeons on "Aspects of New Orleans Jazz History." He also participated in a lecture-concert on "New Orleans Jazz Guitar Traditions" as part of a recent guitar symposium in New Orleans.

Ulysses Ricard, Amistad Research Center, Tulane University, New Orleans, gave the second lecture in a series on local Black

history at Southern University in New Orleans. Titled "Blacks in Spanish Colonial New Orleans," the paper was based on some of Ulysses's research with Louisiana colonial history specialist Gwendolyn Midlo Hall and drew on data from criminal cases in old Spanish records.

Susan Rosenfeld (formerly Susan Rosenfeld Falb), resigned as the official historian at the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D.C., to move to New Orleans, Louisiana, where she is consulting, lecturing, editing, and writing a book.

Andy Simons, who had been acting Reference Archivist at the Amistad Center on the campus of Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana, has been formally designated as such. ■

LOOKING AHEAD

SAA in New Orleans

Society of American Archivists Meeting
August 31-September 5,
1993, New Orleans

The Society of American Archivists will be holding its 56th annual meeting in New Orleans this Fall. SAA Meeting Planner Debra Mills conducted a site visit during the second week in December to monitor preparations for the meeting. The special rate for the annual meeting is only \$78 for a single room and \$88 for a double room. All annual meeting attendees are encouraged to stay at the Sheraton so that they can take advantage of these excellent rates, as well as have immediate access to the many sessions, workshops, special events, and other activities occurring throughout the conference.

Tours of area repositories, according to Mills, are also being proposed by the 1993 Host Committee, which

consists of SAA members who live in and around New Orleans. In addition, the work of the Committee includes recruiting local vendors to install exhibits and contribute information about the city for inclusion in the annual meeting program.

Many of those serving on the Host Committee are actively involved with the Greater New Orleans Area Archivists. Mill attended the group's holiday meeting December 9 and spoke about SAA's forthcoming conference as well as membership in the Society. "It was a wonderful opportunity to learn about their activities and to hear their concerns as SAA members," stated Mills.

LAMA members are encouraged to volunteer to assist at the registration area. A volunteer work schedule is not yet available, but if you are interested please contact Faye Phillips, (504) 388-6569. For more information on the 1993 SAA annual meeting, contact Debra Mills, (312) 922-0140, or Host

Committee co-chairs Alfred Lemmon, (504) 523-4662, and Bill Meneray, (504) 865-5685.

RBMS meeting in New Orleans

The Rare Books & Manuscripts Section of the American Library Association will have its Preconference meeting in June 22-25 at the Omni Royal Orleans Hotel in New Orleans. Pat Bozeman, University of Houston, is chair of this year's RBMS Preconference.

The preconference theme is "Mainstream or Margin? How Others View Special Collections." Speakers will include: John T. Casteen III, President of the University of Virginia, and Stanley Chocorow, Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Planning at the University of California-San Diego. Also on the program will be independent scholar and author Steven Watson (*Strange Bedfellows: The First American Avant Garde*) and Vassar College anthropologist Judith Goldstein.

Opportunities for continuing education and professional development will include a variety of seminars for preconference participants. Topics will include: graduate/undergraduate use of special collections; relations with special interest groups; downsizing, e.g., transferring, deaccessioning, off-site storage and formatting; private foundation funding; collecting book arts; cataloging Latin works; rare books in electronic format; administering Friends groups; and a demonstration of BookQuest, a database for lost or stolen books.

For further details of the meeting contact Bill Meneray of Tulane University, New Orleans, Chair of Local Arrangements for the gathering, or Faye Phillips at LSU-Baton Rouge.

Next certification exam to be held in New Orleans

The next certification examination will be held

the week of August 30, 1993, in conjunction with the 1993 Society of American Archivists meeting in New Orleans. Additional exam sites will be Boston, San Francisco, and Chicago. The 1993 ACA Candidate Handbook and application form are available from the ACA Secretariat.

Eligibility requirements are a B.A. degree with three years qualifying professional experience; M.A. degree with two years experience; or M.A. degree with nine semester hours in archival administration and one year experience.

To register for the 1993 examination, submit a completed application with supporting materials and the \$50 application fee (which is applied toward the \$275 certification fee) to the Academy of Certified Archivists Secretariat, Society of American Archivists, 600 S. Federal, Suite 504, Chicago IL 60605. Applications and fees must be postmarked no later than midnight, June 11, 1993. ■



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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.

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