

LOUISIANA ARCHIVES & MANUSCRIPTS ASSOCIATION

LAMA NEWSLETTER

ARCHIVES NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

FALL 2013 / WINTER 2014

An Overview of LAMA's 2013 Annual Meeting



The 2013 annual meeting of the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association occurred in Shreveport on October 18 at Centenary College of Louisiana. Thirty-four attendees from Louisiana and east Texas gathered for a day of presentations, business discussions, and socializing. Of special note was the large number of first-time LAMA meeting attendees. This included records managers, genealogy librarians, and museum curators. The meeting included four presentations outlined below. Note: slides from the presentations appear on LAMA's website at <http://louisianaarchivists.org/meeting.html>.

Felicia and James Williamson (Sam Houston State University) led *Marketing Archon: Connecting Users to Archival Content with Social Media*. They shared preliminary results of testing eleven social media platforms to promote their institution's online finding aids.

Digitizing Institutional Publications for Online Access, examined projects undertaken by Mary Linn Wernet and Tom Whitehead (Northwestern State University of Louisiana) and Chris Brown (Centenary College of Louisiana). Each

explained the impetus for their institution's digitization projects as well as topics ranging from collaborative funding to functionality.

Yancy Mailes (Director of the History and Museums Program for Air Force Global Strike Command, Barksdale Air Force Base) led *Rambling Thoughts on Writing Deployed History*. Mailes discussed the responsibilities of air force historians and his experiences documenting air force activities in Iraq.

Special Collections Security: Theft was led by Brittany Turner (Shreve Memorial Library). Turner focused on low/no cost security solutions for libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural heritage institutions.

The annual business meeting included two new items. First came the announcement of new LAMA officers and board members (see their listing elsewhere in the newsletter). Second, members discussed the formation of an ad-hoc committee to edit the LAMA by-laws.

The meeting concluded with a tour of the Centenary Archives and Special Collections. Thanks to the presenters, planners, and attendees for making this an educational and fun event!

Chris Brown

See photos of the meeting on pages 8 and 9

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Coming Attractions: Meetings, Workshops, Seminars, Announcements

Focusing on Photographs: Identification & Preservation, Presented by the Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts

Hosted and co-sponsored by The Historic New Orleans Collection

This two-day program will focus on the fundamentals of identifying and caring for photographic collections. Through lecture and hands-on demonstrations, topics will be intertwined over the course of the program to give participants a holistic view of identifying photographic materials, housing and caring for these collections, developing appropriate handling and display procedures, and establishing safe storage environments.

Topics to be covered include photographic processes and structure, identification and care of cased photographs and 19th- and 20th-century prints, handling and labeling photographic materials, housing solutions for photographic collections, preservation considerations for photographic collections, identification of negatives, color prints, and digital prints; environmental guidelines for photographs; and cold storage for photographic collections

This program is intended for collections care staff responsible for photographic collections, such as librarians, archivists, curators, collections managers, stewards of historic house museums, and records managers.

Speakers:

Gary Albright, Paper and Photograph Conservator, Private Practice

Barbara Lemmen, Senior Photograph Conservator, CCAHA

Rachel Wetzel, Photograph Conservator, CCAHA

Dates:

Thursday, March 27th, 2014 – Friday, March 28th, 2014, 8:45 am – 4:45 pm

Location:

The Historic New Orleans Collection

533 Royal Street

New Orleans, LA 70130

More information about this program and online registration will be available soon at www.ccaha.org/education/program-calendar.

Major funding for this program was generously provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), with additional funding from The Pew Charitable Trusts and The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation.

About CCAHA

The Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts (CCAHA) is the country's largest nonprofit conservation facility serving cultural, research and educational institutions, as well as individuals and private organizations. CCAHA's mission is to provide expertise and leadership in the preservation of the world's cultural heritage. CCAHA specializes in the treatment of works of art on paper, such as drawings, prints, maps, posters, historic wallpaper, photographs, rare books, scrapbooks, and manuscripts, along with related materials like parchment and papyrus. CCAHA also offers digital imaging services, on-site consultations, educational programs, fellowships, and emergency conservation services.

For information on additional educational opportunities, visit www.ccaha.org or find us on Facebook.

Coming Attractions continued on page 3

Coming Attractions continued from page 2

Society of Southwest Archivists Offers Scholarships

Don't miss these opportunities to obtain assistance in professional development and annual meeting attendance! All scholarship applications must be postmarked by **February 21, 2014**.

Otis Hebert Jr. Continuing Education Scholarship: In honor of SSA's founding president, this scholarship is intended to further the professional training of working archivists in the Southwest.

John Michael Caldwell Scholarship: Presented annually, this scholarship enables an SSA member enrolled in a graduate archival program to attend the SSA Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting Scholarship: Presented annually, this scholarship was created to provide financial aid to an SSA member archivist with limited funding to attend the SSA Annual Meeting.

David B. Gracy, II Student Scholarship: Intended to provide book fee and tuition assistance to an SSA student member enrolled in a graduate archival education program at an institution within the SSA region.

Eligibility requirements and application guidelines can be found at:

<http://southwestarchivists.org>

For more information, contact Scholarships Committee Chair

Benna Vaughan, C.A.

Chair, SSA Scholarships Committee

The Texas Collection * Baylor University

Waco, TX 76798

254-710-6031

Benna_Vaughan@baylor.edu

Reminder: SSA's annual meeting will be in New Orleans May 28-31, 2014.



Coming Attractions continued on page 5

Coming Attractions continued from page 3

Society of American Archivists Offers Mosaic Scholarship

The application period for the Society of American Archivists' (SAA) Mosaic Scholarship is currently open, with a deadline of February 28, 2014.

The Mosaic Scholarship was established to provide financial and mentoring support to minority students pursuing graduate education in archival science, to encourage students to pursue careers in archives and to promote the diversification of the American archival profession. The award is given to applicants who demonstrate excellent potential for scholastic and personal achievement and who manifest a commitment both to the archival profession and to advancing diversity concerns within it.

Up to two scholarships of \$5,000 each will be awarded. In addition, each scholarship recipient receives a one-year complimentary membership to SAA and complimentary registration to the Society's Annual Meeting.

For more information on the scholarship, eligibility requirements and instructions on applying, please visit:

<http://www2.archivists.org/governance/handbook/section12-mosaic>

Good Luck!

Society of American Archivists Offers Phillip M. Hamer and Elizabeth Hamer Kegan Award

This award recognizes an archivist, editor, group of individuals, or institution that has increased public awareness of a specific body of documents through compilation, transcription, exhibition, or public presentation of archives or manuscript materials for educational, instructional, or other public purpose. Archives may include photographs, films, and visual archives. Publication may be in hard copy, microfilm, digital, or other circulating medium.

Recent winners include:

- 2013: Densho, The Japanese American Legacy Project
- 2012: Immigration History Research Center, University of Minnesota
- 2011: University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Libraries March On Milwaukee Civil Rights History Project Team
- 2010: The Giza Archives Project at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
- 2009: Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections of the University of Toledo's "From Institution to Independence"
- 2008: Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the CBC Digital Archives (Les Archives de Radio-Canada)

Eligibility:

Individual archivists and editors, groups of individuals, organizations.

Application Deadline:

All nominations shall be submitted to the Awards Committee by February 28th.

For more information on SAA awards and the nominations process, please go to

<http://www.archivists.org/recognition/index.asp>

Coming Attractions continued on page 5

Coming Attractions continued from page 4**2014 Western Archives Institute**

The 28th annual Western Archives Institute will be held at the University of California, Riverside from **July 6 – 18, 2014**. The Western Archives Institute is an intensive, two-week program that provides integrated instruction in basic archival practices to individuals with a variety of backgrounds, including those whose jobs require a fundamental understanding of archival skills, but who have little or no previous archives education; those who have expanding responsibility for archival materials; those who are practicing archivists but have not received formal instruction; and those who demonstrate a commitment to an archival career.

The Institute also features site visits to historical records repositories and a diverse curriculum that includes history and development of the profession, theory and terminology, records management, appraisal, arrangement, description, manuscripts acquisition, archives and the law, photographs, preservation administration, reference and access, outreach programs, and managing archival programs and institutions.

Ciaran B. Trace has graciously agreed to serve as Principal Faculty Member for the 2014 Institute. She trained and worked as an archivist in Ireland before moving to the United States in 1997 to pursue a doctoral degree in Library and Information Science at the University of California at Los Angeles. While at UCLA, she worked as the Associate Director of the Institute on Primary Resources, a program aimed at fostering the use of archival materials in the K-12 classroom. Ciaran currently works as an assistant professor at the School of Information at the University of Texas at Austin where she teaches courses on archives and records management. In her research and writing Ciaran studies the nature, meaning, and function of everyday writing, recording, and recordkeeping. Another research strand looks at how and why individuals and institutions collect material culture, the intersection of material culture and information behavior, and issues of digital materiality, including the study of the artifactual nature of computers, computer systems, and digital objects.

Tuition for the Institute is \$700 and includes a selection of archival publications. Other non-negotiable fees including program transportation, facility fees, opening dinner, and luncheon at the closing program will be available in early February. Housing and meal plans are available at additional cost.

The application deadline for the 2014 Western Archives Institute is **March 1, 2014**. For additional program information, see <http://www.calarchivists.org/WAI>, or contact:

For additional information, contact:

Administrator

Western Archives Institute

1020 O Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Telephone: (916) 653-7715

Fax: (916) 653-7134

E-mail: ArchivesWeb@sos.ca.gov

The Western Archives Institute is co-sponsored by the Society of California Archivists and the California State Archives.

The application package is available on the California State Archives web site at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/wai/>, and on the Society of California Archivists web site at <http://www.calarchivists.org/WAI>.

UL-Monroe Digitizes Mary McMurren and Conner Family Collection

*R. E. Wheelock,
T. K. Finlay,*

*Wm. Ball,
F. O. Woodman.*

Am Fashion New Orleans, La., March 20 - 1866.

M. R. E. Dwyer, Riverside Plantation.

Bought of WHEELOCK, FINLAY & CO.,
Wholesale Druggists and Importers,
 Nos. 28 and 30 MAGAZINE ST., and 85 and 87 GRAVIER ST.

#1	Box Containing		75
1 Gall	Custor Oil & Can	4 75	
1/2 "	Turpentine "	1 35	
1 #	Blue Mass	1 20	
4 #	Prunice	4 0	
2 1/2 "	Laudanum "	8 5	
1/4 #	Comp. Powder	2 5	
1/2 "	Calomel	1 20	
4 #	Blester Plaster	4 0	
1/4 #	Ipecac	1 50	
1 #	Opium Oacts	1 5	
8 #	Quinine	8 55	
1 Qt.	Grain Weights	50	
C. O. A.	Dray age	50	22 35

An itemized box of medicine for Riverside Plantation was shipped on the steamer, Fashion, in March of 1866. From the Mary McMurren and Conner Family Collection, University of Louisiana at Monroe Library Special Collections (M-81-11)

The University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) Library Special Collections is in the process of finishing the digitization of the Mary McMurren and Conner Family Collection. Over 900 items are currently in the Louisiana Digital Library collection which includes 86 postcard scenes of old Natchez, 159 photographs of Conner family members and relatives of Mrs. Mary McMurren, and many more letters, receipts, statements and records that chronicle the time just after the Civil War when Mary McMurren was managing the estate after the death of her husband, John McMurren. The Louisiana plantations of Riverside and Langside near Vidalia, Louisiana, were part of the estate and much information about the operation of them during the reconstruction era is included in the collection. There are records of accounts with freedmen, cotton being sold, and purchases made for the plantations. Also included is correspondence between Mrs. McMurren and James Carson that concerns family events and mutual friends.

The collection was found by Mrs. Myrtle Conner in the drawers of an old library table which had come to her husband, Audley Conner, by lot in a family drawing to dispose of the parents' possessions. In preparing to move from Natchez after her husband's death, Mrs. Conner called a carpenter to unlock the table in preparation for the move. It was at that time she found the letters and photographs which had remained undisturbed for years. This collection (M-81-11) was given to ULM in 1981 and is the 4th collection to be digitized with equipment made available in 2009 through a Louisiana Board of Regents Enhancement Grant.

Cyndy Robertson

National World War II Museum Launches Digital Collections Website



An American and a British soldier with two Italian boys under a Christmas tree on Christmas day 1944 near Scarperia, Italy. 25 Dec. 1944. 5/MM-44-32336. Fifth Army, Scarperia Area, Italy. Sgt. Basil Irwin, a 13th Corps signalman from Salisbury, England, and T/4 John Boyd, attached to 13th Corps Signals, from Chicago, Ill. entertain two little Italian boys at their own Christmas tree. Photo by Levine. 3131 Signal Service Co. Scarperia Area, Italy. 25 December 1944. U.S. Army Signal Corp photograph, Gift in Memory of William F. Caddell, Sr., from the collection of The National World War II Museum.

The National World War II Museum in New Orleans is pleased to announce the launch of our Digital Collections website ww2online.org. Over 5,000 photographs and 150 oral histories are now available online, with future additions planned on a continuous basis. All digitized assets are cataloged with controlled vocabulary sourced from established thesauri and/or a local scheme developed specifically for this project. Oral histories are also presented in a segmented format for ease of viewing, and all assets can be tagged by users. (For more information about the museum's local vocabulary and its development, please see the article "World War Words: The Creation of a World War II-Specific Vocabulary for the Oral History Collection at The National WWII Museum" at <http://ohr.oxfordjournals.org/content/40/1/126>.) The Digital Collections of The National WWII Museum were funded in part by a grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services, as well as donations from the Collins C. Diboll Foundation and the Ella West Freeman Foundation.

Lisa Werling



News from Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane

Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane held its Annual Meeting on Sunday, September 29th, at the Embassy Suites in Baton Rouge. Dr. R. Martin Guidry gave an excellent presentation on the Acadians in Maryland and Stella Carline Tanoos discussed the history of cattle trails in Louisiana. The group reelected officers for the 2013-14 year. They are: President Damon Veatch; First Vice President Louis Altazan; Second Vice President Karen Ortolano; Third Vice President Cherryl Forbes Montgomery; Secretary Doris Falkenheiner; and Treasurer Judy Riffel. Board Members are: Ann DeVillier Riffel; Audrey Nabors Jackson; and Stella Carline Tanoos. Judy Riffel has completed her 30th year as editor of the society's quarterly journal, *Le Raconteur*. The organization is currently holding a War of 1812 Essay Contest. Deadline for submissions is April 1, 2014. For Rules and Guidelines, see the website (<http://www.lecomite.org/announcements.html>)

Judy Riffel

Dr. R. Martin Guidry and Stella Carline Tanoos were the speakers at the Annual Meeting of Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane.



Tulane Marks Tansey's Departure



When Eira Tansey came here in 2008, I reviewed the position's responsibilities with her. I then told her that her actual job - her real job - was to use this position to gain the training, experience, and education needed to create a career, and that a career would almost certainly require eventually moving elsewhere. It is therefore with regret but great pride that I announce that Eira has accepted the position of Digital Archivist/Records Manager at the University of Cincinnati's Archives and Rare Books Library. Her last day here was November 14.

Eira's new faculty tenure-track position will help develop and implement workflows related to born-digital archives, the digitization of existing materials, and the preservation of electronic records (digital preservation is a major component of UC's

strategic plan). Eira will also manage UC's records management program.

Eira joined LaRC in July of 2008 and rose to overseeing LaRC's archival program. She has also managed several major LaRC special projects, including implementing Archon as our online database for archival inventories, liaising with outsourcers to place guides to eighty percent of our holdings online (a project that she completed two years ahead of schedule), serving as LaRC's point person for the library's ContentDM implementation, and placing online the massive Louisiana Historical Association and Carnival Collection guides.

Eira received her MLS in December 2012 and became a Certified Archivist in September 2013. She is currently pursuing her certificate as a Digital Archives Specialist. An active contributor to the archival profession, Eira has presented papers and chaired sessions at the Southern Archives Conference, Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association, and Society of American Archivists. She is a member of the SAA Communications Task Force, served on the host committee for the SAA 2013 annual meeting, was elected president of the Society of American Archivists Student Chapter at San Jose State University; and is a candidate for the Society of American Archivists nominating committee.

Please join me in thanking Eira for her significant contributions to Tulane University and in wishing her all the best as she begins this exciting new phase of her career.

Lee Miller

Scenes from the Annual Meeting



Photographs by Michelle Riggs

Elizabeth Dow Announces Retirement from LSU

Dr. Elizabeth H. Dow has announced that she will retire from her position as the head of the archives specialization in the School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) at LSU, effective August 1, 2014.

Dow arrived at SLIS for the spring semester 2001, charged with starting an archives specialization. After about 3 months she realized that she 1) didn't have enough time in her schedule to teach all the courses new archivists need, and 2) didn't know enough to provide them, even if she had time. To address that shortcoming, she got a grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to fund a collaborative among small archives education programs. Using compressed video technology, each partner in the collaborative teaches the students attending other partner schools. Now known as the Archival Education Collaborative (AEC), the collaborative has offered classes since fall, 2003. In 2012, the AEC received the Society of American Archivists' Distinguished Service Award.

In 2008, Dow received another IMLS grant to establish the Archival Training Collaborative (ATC) in the states of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. The ATC sponsors local workshops to bring professional training to the many volunteer workers in small repositories around the state. As a way to ensure its survival, the ATC now has a role in the Education Committee of each of the states' professional organizations.

By the time she retires, Dow will have published four books through Scarecrow Press: *Creating EAD Compliant Finding*

Guides on Paper (2005), *Electronic Records in the Manuscript Repository* (2009), *Archivists, Collectors, Dealers, and Replevin: Case Studies on Private Ownership of Public Documents* (2012), and, with M. Susan Barger, *History in Your Attic? Papers and Things Worth Saving* (2014).

Dow holds a BA in history from Juniata College, an MLS from the University of Oregon, an MA in history from the University of Vermont, and a PhD in Library Science from the University of Pittsburgh. She has worked as a junior high teacher, an elementary school librarian, an academic librarian, and a medical librarian. But her favorite jobs in the field were as archivist at the Sheldon Museum, in Middlebury Vermont, the Vermont State Archives, and the Special Collections Department at the University of Vermont.

Through her career at LSU, Dow advised approximately 160 students in whom she takes great pride. She has loved this career because of the joy she derived from working with her students and the comradery she felt among her LAMA colleagues. In the spring of 2014, she and her husband will move to their home in Hardwick, Vermont, where she will serve as the archivist at the local historical society and a historian for the town. She will take many wonderful memories of her time at SLIS with her, along with a few recipes. Both will bring her pleasure for the rest of her life.

Elizabeth Dow

Scenes from the Annual Meeting



Photographs by Michelle Riggs



Louisiana

Archives & Manuscripts Association

410 Chartres St.
New Orleans, LA 70130

LAMA MISSION AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association (LAMA) promotes the role of archives in the preservation of national, state, and local heritage by cooperating with Louisiana's public and private archival repositories in their work of collecting, preserving, and making accessible to the public manuscript, printed, graphic arts, and audio materials of historical significance.

Currently LAMA has 84 members: 7 organizations and 77 individual. This is down from 108 members last year. 3 organizational members are religious and 1 each is government, museum, public library, and academic. 28 members work in academic institutions; 12 in religious; 11 in historical societies; 6 in museums; 5 in government; 5 in public libraries; 3 in organizations; 1 in medical; 1 in education; 1 in consulting; and 1 is retired. 8 are students. The remaining are unknown.

Geographically 30 members are from the Greater New Orleans area; 22 from the Baton Rouge region; 12 from North Louisiana; 8 from Acadiana; 4 from Central Louisiana; 2 each from Lake Charles and the Lafourche region; one from the Florida Parishes; and 3 from out-of-state.

If you have not paid your LAMA dues for 2013, please consider doing so. Also encourage those who work with historical records to join the organization if they are not members. Membership forms are available in this newsletter and on the LAMA website.

Aimee Everett, LAMA Treasurer

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PUBLICATION INFO

Newsletter Editor

Barry Cowan
Louisiana State University
bcowan@lsu.edu

Website

Pati Threatt
McNeese State University
pthreatt@mcneese.edu

VISIT LAMA ONLINE AT

WWW.LOUISIANAARCHIVISTS.ORG



LAMA offers the following membership categories:

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| ☐ Student | \$5.00 |
| ☐ Senior Citizen | \$10.00 |
| ☐ Individual | \$15.00 |
| ☐ Family (2 people, \$5 for each additional member) | \$20.00 |
| ☐ Organization (\$10 for each additional rep) | \$30.00 |
| ☐ Sustaining | \$50.00 |
| ☐ Patron | \$100.00 |
| ☐ Life | \$1000.00 |

Subtotal: _____

Total: _____

Membership in LAMA entitles you receive the *LAMA Newsletter* and invitations to the Association's annual meetings. LAMA members also automatically become members of the Southern Archives Conference (SAC), an umbrella organization of Southeastern state archival organizations, encompassing the state organizations of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee. SAC meets every other year in one of the membership states.

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410 Chartres St.
New Orleans, LA 70130