

# LOUISIANA ARCHIVES & MANUSCRIPTS ASSOCIATION

# LAMA NEWSLETTER

ARCHIVES NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

SPRING/SUMMER 2011

## Ernest J. Gaines Center Opened at UL-Lafayette



Ernest J. Gaines and his wife, Dianne, with (starting left) Dean of Liberal Arts Dr. David Barry, UL-Lafayette President Dr. Joseph Savoie and Dean of University Libraries Dr. Charles Triche. Photo courtesy of UL-Lafayette Communications and Marketing Office.

The site of the only complete collection of Ernest Gaines scholarship in the world is now open at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette's Dupré Library. The Ernest J. Gaines Center houses the author's manuscripts, his papers and translations of his works. Gaines and his wife, Dianne, donated the collection to the university. He is Writer-in-Residence Emeritus at UL Lafayette and is best known for *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman* and *A Lesson Before Dying*.

The university has promised to maintain and preserve the collection in perpetuity, to make the collection available to scholars and to present programming about the author's work through the

center. The collection includes published and unpublished manuscripts, drafts and notes; selected personal and business correspondence; first editions of published works of the author; miscellaneous papers; awards, honors and memorabilia.

"We take great pride in housing this collection. Other universities have surely courted Ernest Gaines over the decades as his fame has grown. But he has remained steadfast in his loyalty to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette," said UL Lafayette President Joseph Savoie.

"Lafayette is not very far from where I grew up and it's nearby the places that I write about. I am honored that

they (his works) will be in my home state," said Gaines.

The Gaines Center provides a space for scholars and students to work with Gaines' papers and manuscripts. The center also anticipates the donation of extensive papers, manuscripts and tape-recorded interviews of Gaines scholars, according to Dr. Marcia Gaudet, the center's director. She is also the Dr. Doris Meriwether/BORSF Professor of English and Research Fellow of the Center for Cultural and Eco-Tourism.

"We imagine this center as a place for both national and international researchers. We also see this as a place for our students and students within the community. We want this to be a place where students can come to visit. This is the only place in the world which will have this collection," said Gaudet.

She noted that the center will coordinate other activities related to research and scholarship on the work of Gaines. The first of these activities will be an Ernest J. Gaines Scholars Conference at UL-Lafayette, bringing in major

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## LA LAMPP Connecting to Collections Grant Interim Report

Louisiana Libraries, Archives, and Museums Preservation Project (LA LAMPP) received its Connecting to Collections award on March 29, 2010, for the grant period beginning June 1, 2010, and ending May 31, 2011. Partners in the project are Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association (LAMA), Le Comité des Archives, Louisiana Association of Museums (LAM), and LYRISIS Bibliographic Services.

The Project Director, Partnership Leader, Lyrasis consultant, and nine advisory council members, representing all geographic regions of the state and all partner organizations, began work immediately upon receipt of the award notification.

The first meeting of all participants occurred on June 14, 2010, by conference call. Grant activities have proceeded according to schedule. During Phase 1, June 1 through September 1, the advisory council sent out media releases.

Outlets included the Associated Press-New Orleans, LA, *Shreveport Times*, *Coushatta Citizen*, *Coushatta*, LA, KTAL, KTBS, and KSLA news, Shreveport and Ark-La-Tex, Red River Radio-Shreveport and Alexandria, LA, Minden (LA) *Press Herald*, *Bossier Press-Tribune*, *Shreveport Sun*, *Sabine Index*, Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association (LAMA) *Newsletter*, *Southwestern Archivist*, and

*La Raconteur* (newsletter of Le Comité des Archives).

The advisory council members and Lyrasis consultant reviewed other state surveys and drafted, reviewed, and revised a preservation planning survey for Louisiana cultural heritage institutions. Much discussion centered around the need to make the survey as thorough as possible and simultaneously as unobtrusive as possible.

The Project Director, Part-



nership Leader, and Lyrasis consultant held a face-to-face meeting in mid-August to discuss feedback on the survey draft and plans for proceeding with the survey. Phase II began with a second conference call with all partners on September 10.

An alpha test of the online survey was conducted by advisory council members during the last week in September, and the survey was launched on October 4 with a submission deadline of December 15.

Advisory council members divided statewide institutions into mentoring groups, and each council member contacted institutions in his/her group to urge completion of the survey and offer assistance as needed. Articles in the

LAMA Newsletter, *Southwestern Archivist*, and Le Comité des Archives newsletter, *La Raconteur*, came out in the fall issues of those publications.

Initial response was sluggish, and council members sent reminders and, in some cases, made direct contact with survey takers. As a result, survey response rate increased in the last week of the survey period. With the uptick in response, the Pro-

(1) that statewide institutional directories need to be updated to provide accurate information, (2) that smaller institutions need help simply to complete a basic quantitative survey of their holdings and (3) that preliminary workshops on surveying-taking would facilitate the process. Frequent reminders and personal mentoring have produced improved results.

The survey-taking process has proved illuminating to several of the institutions which have completed it even though they had conducted statistical reviews of their holdings in the past. In one case, an archival institution discovered that its actual holdings had more than tripled since its last survey.

Others have reported positively the value of the exercise to them in terms of becoming better acquainted with their collections. Through mentoring, members of the advisory council have realized the necessity for stronger, more constant leadership among libraries, archives, and museums in Louisiana.

Although the advisory council and consultant found it necessary to extend the data gathering period, the overall schedule for completion of the grant remains on track. The additional information gathered will more than justify the slight internal adjustments to the schedule of completion.

-Laura McLemore

ject Director, Partnership Leader, consultant and advisory council agreed that the deadline should and could be extended until mid-January without jeopardizing the overall schedule. Three hundred fifty-nine (359) institutions were contacted.

While the advisory council members continue working with institutions on survey completion, work has begun on site selection and workshop development for the workshop series "Surveying Your Own Institution." Survey results will be analyzed beginning in late January. The workshops will be held closer to April 1 to allow for information from the web survey to be included.

The survey-taking process has underscored three points:

# ATC Reports on Participant Evaluations

The Archival Training Collaborative (ATC) has conducted dozens of workshops throughout Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi, offering instruction to several hundred trainees in archival methods and best practices. The project has been very well-received and with the ongoing support of LAMA, the successes of the past three years are expected to continue and grow.

Relying on trained trainers (those professionals who have been through Dr. Elizabeth Dow's 'Train the Trainer' program) to prepare topic-specific workshops, the ATC is able to facilitate the education and growth of the archival profession in Louisiana through ongoing professional mentoring relationships that begin at these one day workshops.

The administrative apparatus of the ATC is currently managed by Dr. Elizabeth Dow and her graduate assistant, Felicia Thomas, in concert with a nine member tri-state board. After the IMLS-funded grant phases out, the activities of the ATC will continue under the aegis of individual state committees. The LAMA-ATC committee (under the leadership of Michelle Riggs) has been instrumental in the workshops' success this year.

The ATC uses a set of uniform evaluation forms to analyze the success of each individual training program and thereafter report the results to the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS). After each training

workshop, whether the topic is digital preservation or maintaining a stable environment for physical materials, the trainer distributes evaluation forms to each attendee. These evaluations are



## Archival Training Collaborative

designed to elicit both quantitative and qualitative information that can later be analyzed. They have produced data that gives program administrators an overall impression of where the training is most successful, where it needs improvement, and how the trainees hope to implement their new training at their home repository.

The Louisiana-based ATC programs have reached trainees from parishes including Avoyelles, Beauregard, Bossier, Caddo, Calcasieu, Cameron, East Baton Rouge, LaSalle, Natchitoches, Orleans, Rapides, St. Landry, Vermilion, Vernon, and Harrison County, TX. However, it is the eventual goal of the program to provide training that is easily accessible to residents of all parishes in Louisiana.

Trainees have responded to evaluation questions with overwhelmingly positive feedback. Participants say that they enjoy the workshops, want to come back for more, and appreciate the effort the trainers and the ATC goes through to provide quality content at an inexpensive price during tough economic times. Attendees appreciate organized, thoughtful trainers who provide hands-on training exercises. Trainees also appreciate the instructor-led presentations and computer-based activities that most trainers

provide, while most do request more hands-on experiential time during the workshops — a challenge for trainers working with more esoteric topics like preservation of digital media, for example. Nevertheless, one trainee wrote that they "learned about theory and practice, and I have a good grasp of what I need to do next. Even though I had no records management experience before! Very thorough!" This sort of feedback serves not only to encourage our trainers but helps to identify future areas of emphasis.

To learn more about the Archival Training Collaborative and the LAMA-ATC committee's activities, contact Dr. Elizabeth Dow at [edow1@lsu.edu](mailto:edow1@lsu.edu) or Michelle Riggs at [mriggs@lsua.edu](mailto:mriggs@lsua.edu). For more information about upcoming workshops, please visit our website: [www.archivaltraining.org](http://www.archivaltraining.org).

-Felicia Thomas

## GAINES CENTER (Cont. from pg. 1)

scholars for presentations and inviting other scholars to do presentations and discussions in sessions, all focused on Gaines's work. The first conference is tentatively planned for Fall 2012.

Another activity of the center will be the Ernest J. Gaines Speakers and Writers Series. This series will continue to bring major scholars and writers to the university and will focus on the work of creative writers and eminent scholars. UL-Lafayette established the Ernest J. Gaines Center in

2008. Construction of the center, located on the third floor of Edith Garland Dupré Library, began in August 2009 and was completed in Fall 2010.

In addition to the university's contributions and support, activities of the center will also depend on philanthropic contributions. Fundraising initiatives are ongoing to support the activities of the center and to establish a permanent endowment.

-Bruce Turner



## New Grant Helps Amistad Preserve Its Audiovisual Holdings



The Amistad Research Center is pleased to announce that it has received funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) to identify and appraise the Center's substantial audiovisual holdings.

To aid in this goal, Amistad welcomes our newest staff member, Brenda Flora, who brings extensive knowledge and experience working with audiovisual collections at the British Universities Film and Video Council's Newsfilm Online Project and the BBC, as well as library/archival experience from Tulane University's Recover Center and the University of New Orleans. She is a member of the Association of Moving Image Archivists, the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association, and the Greater New Orleans Archivists.

Approximately one quarter of the Center's archival collections contain some form of sound and/or moving image recordings. This project will allow for unprecedented

access to these materials at Amistad, which are of increasing interest to the public, while at increasing risk due to technical obsolescence and physical deterioration as outlined in a recent publication sponsored by the Library of Congress.

The Center's audiovisual collections are of great significance regionally, nationally, and internationally. Highlights include: the Kim Lacy Rogers-Glenda Stevens Oral History Collection, which chronicles the experience of New Orleans' leaders in the Civil Rights Movement; the Tom Dent Papers, which contain hundreds of interviews with civil rights leaders in Mississippi and Louisiana, as well as the personal narratives of those most closely affiliated with the development of the twentieth century New Orleans jazz aesthetic; the American Committee on Africa Archives and the George Houser Film Collection, which chronicle African nationalist movements and the United States' relation with

Africa; the Saddest Days Oral History Collection, which represents one of the more substantive oral history collections in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Katrina; the J. Susannah Norton Papers and the Sybil Kein Papers, which document Caribbean and Creole folklore and endangered languages in North America and the Caribbean; and the Ed Pincus Film Collection, which consists of the raw film footage shot in 1960s Mississippi in the creation of two significant civil rights movement documentaries.

The Center also houses collections with substantial field recordings, performances, and interviews with some of the country's most notable musicians. These include the personal papers of the following: Harold Battiste (see insert to the right), who worked with musicians such as Sam Cooke, Sonny and Cher, and Dr. John, and founded the first African American musician-owned record company, All for One (AFO) Records; operatic singer Carol Brice; Anne Wiggins Brown, the original Bess in George Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*; William Warfield, who also gained notoriety in *Porgy and Bess*; Ellis Marsalis Jr., patriarch of America's most noted jazz family; and famed composer and arranger of American gospel and spirituals Moses Hogan.

Various collections of individual or family papers, such as the Robert and Lillie Mae

Green Papers, include amateur film footage documenting the daily lives of middle-class African American families, which provides glimpses of social and economic factors in the lives of these families.

The NHPRC grant funds phase two of a three-phase project undertaken by Amistad to document its audiovisual holdings and the implementation of a formal preservation and reformatting program at the Center. We look forward to providing updates as we continue this project and make more of our sound and moving image materials available to researchers and the public. Amistad's staff wishes to extend its appreciation to the NHPRC for this opportunity.

-Brenda Flora



This year marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of AFO Records, as well as completion of the processing of the Harold R. Battiste Papers at the Amistad Research Center. In celebration of both events, Amistad is presenting the exhibition *Harold Battiste: Keeping the Music Alive* from January 18 through March 31, 2011 in the Center's Exhibition Gallery. Highlighting Mr. Battiste's career and his many musical associations, the exhibition includes letters, photographs, musical scores, AFO business records, phonograph records, and other highlights drawn mainly from his papers. (Photos courtesy of the Amistad Research Center)

# Le Comité to Host Genealogical Seminar

Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane's African American Special Interest Group will hold a genealogical seminar on Saturday, June 25, at the Delta Sigma Theta Life Development Center at Southern University.

Reginald Washington, Archivist for the Research Support Branch, National Archives and Records Administration, and African American Genealogy Specialist, will present two lectures in the morning. His topics will be "Using Federal Records for African American Research" and "The Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen & Abandoned Lands and the Freedmen's Savings and Trust Co."

In the afternoon, Sharon Batiste Gills will give a presentation entitled "Louisiana Conveyance Records – A Rich Resource for Genealogical Research." A discussion and demonstration of some African American genealogy websites is also planned for the



Photo courtesy of Judy Riffel.

afternoon session. A discounted registration fee for members who register early will be available. For more information, contact Cherryl Forbes Mont-

gomery ([cherrylm@aol.com](mailto:cherrylm@aol.com)).

The organization is currently updating its website ([www.lecomite.org](http://www.lecomite.org)) to include a "Members Only" section. This will include out-of-print articles and publications, new research guides, archival finding aids, and other useful genealogical research materials.

Le Comité is the genealogical support group for the Louisiana State Archives. Its 2011 officers are: Damon Veach, President; Louis Altazan, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Karen Ortolano, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Cherryl Forbes Montgomery, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President; Doris Falkenhiner, Secretary; and Judy Riffel, Treasurer. Board members at large are: Ann DeVillier Riffel, Audrey Nabors Jackson, and Winston De Ville. The group has scheduled its 2011 Annual Meeting for Sunday, September 18. Details will be forthcoming.

*-Judy Riffel*

## LAMA Initiates Louisiana Gubernatorial Records Project

Under the supervision of Dr. Elizabeth Dow (LSU-SLIS) and Brad Wiles (LSU's Hill Memorial Library), four archives students at LSU's School of Library and Information Science will be compiling a register of historic archival collections from the Louisiana gubernatorial office currently available at archives repositories, research libraries, and records centers throughout the state of Louisiana. The students are Maria Reyes, James Williamson, Julie Ozenberger, and Lisa Jeungling.

The register will include bibliographic, descriptive, and custodial information for each collection for all of Louisiana's governors since statehood was granted in 1812. The criteria for inclusion on the register include collections created or compiled by a governor or their agent during or after the term of office; collections that consists of official items from a governor's term of office; and, regardless of creator or provenance, collections that significantly document a governor's term of office.

The collections will consist primarily of mixed manuscript materials including correspondence, memoranda, photographs, scrapbooks, and other paper-based items, but might

also include audio/visual materials (oral histories, VHS cassette tapes, recording discs, film stock) and digital items. Governors will be grouped by historical era (i.e. Early Statehood, Ante-bellum, Civil War, Reconstruction, etc.) and each governor will have a separate entry with biographical information and details of their term(s) of service.

The information gathered for this project will be compiled into a database that allows for reformatting and repurposing. Ultimately, it will be made available in a publicly-accessible interface yet to be determined.

The student participants are presently undertaking a multi-phased pilot project to determine a work model as the project moves forward. Since mid-February they have been looking at the available collections for the first four governors. The first phase of their compilation process involves searching OPAC's and other online catalogues of pre-identified institutions that are likely to hold gubernatorial archival collections located throughout Louisiana. The second phase involves contacting these institutions to inquire

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## New Orleans Archdiocese Sacramental Records Online

Perhaps the most important resources available to scholars are the extensive, well-maintained, and searchable archives collections. Within this collection are the sacramental registers, which record the baptisms, first communions, confirmations, marriages, and burials of individual parishioners.

Baptism, marriage, and burial registers are the focus of this project because these important moments in the Catholic faith are catalogued in the form of separate textual entries rather than simply as lists of names. More importantly, they illustrate the Catholic heritage of families that are passed from one generation to another. Each entry is usually handwritten and signed by the priest and witnesses to the event. Depending on the style and handwriting of the priest, one register (or volume) may cover ten years of local history while another 50 years.

Sacramental registers include information about families (parents, godparents, aunts, uncles, siblings, etc.), communities (witnesses at a marriage), and events. They tell a story far beyond one individual. The registers contain information about religious life (those entering the priesthood, brotherhood or sisterhood), African Americans (including slaves and free people of color), Native Americans, immigrants, yellow fever epidemics, natural disasters (hurricanes, tornadoes, and floods), mortality rates, etc. Because sacramental registers detail the life history of the local community over time, they have always been recognized by church officials as having unique value.

Although today's registers are produced in pre-printed formats which only allow priests to enter dates and personal names, register entries in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries were a reflection of the personality of the priest who made the record and annotations about diseases, wars, and fires. Despite the variability of penmanship and written formulae, the sacramental registers are the most preserved and norm-enforced routine of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. It was a routine activity which had to be performed every time a death, a birth, or a marriage of a parishioner occurred.

Currently, the Archives houses 1479 registers in a climate controlled vault. There are another 1800 registers in the 101 parish-

es of the archdiocese. Of the total registers in the vault, 92 (6%) are books that separately document the sacraments of slaves and free people of color. In 1777, the Spanish began the practice of keeping separate books. During the earlier French period (1718-1763) and prior to 1777, the registers contain entries of all people. In 1795, Bishop Luis y Peñalver decreed that books should be kept separately. These range in date from 1777 until just shortly after the Civil War.

With the fast approaching 200th anniversary of Louisiana's statehood, the archdiocese



decided to begin placing online the registers dating from 1718 to 1812. These are the records of the French and Spanish colonial period as well as the American territorial period. There are a total of 43 registers in the vault dating between 1718 and 1812. So why start with the slaves and free people of color registers?

In 1987, under the direction of Msgr. Earl Woods, chancellor and Dr. Charles E. Nolan, archivist, the archdiocese began to publish its sacramental registers. At that time, the decision was made to publish only those with surnames, due to the difficulty of indexing those without a surname. By 2004, 19 volumes containing the records from 1718 to 1831 were published.

The Archdiocese uses the monies generated from the sales of its published volumes to fund the preservation and conservation of the earlier records. Since 1954, records have been microfilmed for disaster recovery purposes. With the advances in technology,

scanned images have become more widely used as this type of media becomes more standardized in .tiff, .jpeg and .pdf formats. Through the conservation program, the registers are unbound, de-acidified, encapsulated in Mylar and rebound. Ten years ago, the archdiocese had some of its records scanned into individual .tiff images. Among these images are the registers of the slaves and free people of color from St. Louis Cathedral. These images have now been migrated to .pdf format in order to place them online for all researchers.

These documents speak for themselves with all the variations in spellings, translations of names in Spanish, French and English, lack of surnames, omissions, mistakes, etc. Over time, names change due to a variety of life changing events, such as a manumission where a former slave chooses a last name or a marriage where a woman takes the name of her husband. There are variations due to the record keeper, who often wrote the name as he heard it.

Due to changes in the governments which controlled Louisiana, names appear in French, Spanish and English. For example, the name Stephen is Etienne in French and Estevan or Esteban in Spanish; or, for example, the name James appears as Jacques in French and Santiago in Spanish. Names in church records usually contain a baptismal name of a saint which often was never used by the individual. But with prudent research and gathering other evidence from records existing in courthouses and family papers, the record can be verified. One should not confuse the differences and variations of names as a lack of consistency and conformity on the part of the recorder, but rather see it as a journey of an individual and his/her name across a lifetime.

This project is ongoing and within the next 2 years, the archdiocese plans to make available online as many of the sacramental registers pre-dating 1812 as possible, in preparation for the anniversary of statehood. This project will consist of not only the slaves and free people of color registers, but all registers from 1718 to 1812. To locate the .pdf files, go to [www.archdiocese-no.org/archives](http://www.archdiocese-no.org/archives) and choose the link, Collections.

-Lee Leumas



# LSU-Alexandria Acquires Sue L. Eakin Donation

The Central Louisiana Collections of Louisiana State University at Alexandria recently acquired the papers of former faculty member Professor Sue Lyles Eakin. Born and raised in Central Louisiana, Sue Eakin grew up with a love of history and especially the history of her home.

After raising five children, Eakin earned her doctorate in history from the University of Southwestern Louisiana, now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She worked as a professor of history at LSUA from 1965 to 1985. Following her retirement from the university, Eakin authored a column in the *Bunkie Record*, her hometown newspaper. She died at the age of ninety.

Throughout her life, Eakin researched, collected, and published on the topic of Central Louisiana history. Her interests included Solomon Northup; African-American schools, churches, and leaders; Louisiana socialists; and the painter Clementine Hunter, with whom Eakin conducted many recorded interviews.

Sue Eakin is perhaps best-known through the publication of a scholarly edition of *Twelve Years a Slave*, narrated by Solomon Northup and edited by Eakin and Dr. Joseph Logsdon. *Twelve Years a Slave* recounts Northup's ordeal of being kidnapped and sold into slavery and working the cotton fields of Rapides and Avoyelles parishes in Central Louisiana. Eakin's interest in Solomon Northup began in childhood when she first read the book, having borrowed it from the library at Oak Hall Plantation. Reading the horrors of



Photo Courtesy of The Civil War Research Engine at Dickinson College.

slavery Northup related sparked in Eakin a life-long pursuit.

Eakin was instrumental in the creation of the World Plantation Conference, a group that assembled to study how plantations and plantation societies grew and evolved. Eakin organized two World Plantation Society conferences. She published the proceedings from the first conference. The World Plantation Conference records are among the papers donated.

Eakin campaigned to reconstruct on LSUA's campus the Edwin Epps House, the farmhouse Solomon Northup described building in his memoirs. In 2000, Eakin's efforts bore fruit, and workers transported what remained of the dilapidated Epps House to its present location at

LSUA. Eakin's plans to develop the Epps House as a Center for Plantation Studies were never realized, although the house displays historical furnishings and implements.

The collection has been appraised at over 270 linear feet of papers, photographs, and maps, as well as over 1000 square feet of books. Also included are hundreds of cassettes containing interviews and oral histories. Additionally, the collection includes furniture, farming implements, mill stones, post office equipment, and an extensive collection of dolls and figurines depicting cultural representations of African Americans.

Eakin published thirteen books and countless articles. A list of her most-known works include: *Plantations through the Louisiana Heartland: Before World War II*, *Rapides Parish: An Illustrated History 1st ed.*, *Northup Trail through Central Louisiana: Beginning at Louisiana State University at Alexandria and Leading through Rapides and Avoyelles Parishes*, *The Black Struggle for Education in Louisiana, 1877-1930s*, *Twelve Years a Slave*.

The papers are not currently available for research; however, the archives does take questions and answers them as fully as possible. Please contact LSUA's University Archivist, Michelle Riggs, at [mriggs@lsua.edu](mailto:mriggs@lsua.edu) for additional information.

-Michelle Riggs

## GUBERNATORIAL (Cont. from pg. 5)

about any collections that might be unprocessed, uncatalogued, or otherwise unaccounted for online. The last phase includes a review of online inventories of smaller and more specialized organizations (local historical societies, museums, private estates, etc.) and contacting those that do not have an online presence to fill any potential gaps.

Entries will be posted online as they become available and after they have been edited. The project will move much more quickly over the summer and is set to terminate no later than December 2011. Please forward all questions and comments about the Louisiana Gubernatorial Records Project to Brad Wiles at [bwiles1@lsu.edu](mailto:bwiles1@lsu.edu).

-Brad Wiles

# Images from the 2010 Annual Meeting



The 2010 LAMA Annual Meeting drew 53 attendees from institutions across the state, including a large number of students from LSU's School of Library and Information Science. A number of ongoing LAMA projects were discussed and several members stayed on hand for a walking tour Baton Rouge's historic Spanish Town. The 2011 meeting will be held at the Historic New Orleans Collection. All photos courtesy of Neil Guilbeau.



# 2010 LAMA Annual Meeting Minutes

October 29, 2010

Hill Memorial Library, Baton Rouge, La.

I. Meeting called to order by President Michelle Riggs; Motion by Lee Leumas to approve minutes from 2009 meeting; seconded by Brad Wiles; motion carried

## II. Old Business

A. No scholarships applied for yet; Two are now available from LAMA (\$300 each)

B. Treasurer report by Bruce Turner; Motion to accept by Robert Schaadt; seconded by Laura McLemore; motion carried

C. Ad hoc committee for ATC (Archival Training Collaborative); members are Patti Threatt, Lisa Lewis, and Laura McLemore

D. Newsletter report by Brad Wiles; accepting submissions for March 2011 newsletter

## III. New Business

A. Nominations: Barry Cowen & Yvonne Loiselle for board; Howard Margot for VP; Motion to accept nominations by Laura McLemore; seconded by Robert Schaadt; motion carried

B. LA-LAMPP (Louisiana Libraries Archives and Museums Preservation Project) update: Laura McLemore wrote grant to IMLS for survey of repositories (to be completed Dec. 15, 2010); Workshops to occur in spring (February/March 2011); Lyasis to process data and give five workshops in various parts of Louisiana to teach site surveys and write preservation grants; Committee members include Bruce Turner, Judy Riffel, Michelle Riggs, Alfred Lemmon, Faye Phillips, John Sykes, Greg Lamusi, Doug Harrison, Bill Reeves, Joyce Penn (museum in Lafayette), and Nita Cole

C. Louisiana repository guide for governors' records by Tara Laver (for Elizabeth Dow); First step to survey existing records we know about; next is to find records not yet known; will eventually create online database for this index

D. Report on LAMA/LLA/ACRL-LA Joint Committee by Brad Wiles: still working out details and will prepare proposal later

E. Report on new ACA reading materials by Felicia Thomas: about 35% of required titles are lacking from existing collection at State Library (about 40-50 books); will send compiled list to Brad Wiles; still seen as valuable by participants for preparation to take ACA exam; Lee Leumas proposed to prioritize the materials before purchasing; Robert Schaadt moved for executive committee to resolve this matter; seconded by Lee Leumas; motion carried

F. LAMA sponsored events in Louisiana by Brad Wiles: suggested sponsoring RBMS (Rare Books & Manuscripts) Conference (June 21-24 in Baton Rouge); tabled for the time being; Wiles will contact Tara Laver or Elaine Smyth

## IV. Announcements

A. Announcement by Bruce Turner: City of Lafayette asked to host SSA (Society of Southwest Archivists) Conference in 2014; He will need help to plan for it if the city accepts invitation

B. Announcement by Tara Laver: Offering free materials on display at the meeting to anyone interested for their collection

C. LAMA has organized a session at LHA (Louisiana Historical Association) for past few years; can we do a LAMA session in 2012 in New Orleans?

D. Announcement by Laura McLemore: Can someone promote Louisiana archives in poster contest for SSA?

E. Announcement by Michelle Riggs: LAMA sent letter to Board of Regents in support of SLIS program at LSU, as it is slated to close because of budget cuts

## V. Meeting adjourned



# Louisiana

## Archives & Manuscripts Association

P.O. Box 40199  
Lafayette, LA 70504

### LAMA MISSION AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association (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.

LAMA membership for 2011 is above the numbers of the previous year. This year we have 59 members compared to 37 in 2010. Numbers are up in nearly every membership category: 40 individuals (23 in 2010); 6 organizational members (3); 10 students (5); 2 senior (1); and one sustaining (unchanged). The LAMA Treasury balance as of September 30, 2010 was \$6914.13. However this does not factor in costs from the annual meeting in October or other expenses since.

LAMA continues to administer the finances for both the Louisiana and Mississippi branches of the Archival Training Collaborative. As of September 30, 2010, the total balance for these was \$1497.98. Feedback on the ATC model and individual workshop has been overwhelmingly positive. The IMLS-funded ATC grant terminates July 1, 2011, however the LAMA ATC committee will help determine the future course of action beyond this date.

Email dues notices will accompany the newsletter by the end of March. If you have not paid your LAMA dues for 2011, please consider doing so. Also encourage those in your area 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.

-Brad Wiles, LAMA President

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