

FRIENDS OF THE ARCHIVES OF LOUISIANA

NEWSLETTER - MARCH 1990

P.O. BOX 51213 • MAIN POST OFFICE • NEW ORLEANS • LOUISIANA 70151-1213

1991 ANNUAL MEETING

The 1991 annual meeting of the Friends of the Archives of Louisiana, delayed from last fall, will take place on Saturday, March 31, at the Ramada Hotel, 1480 Nicholson Dr., in Baton Rouge. Registration will begin at 8:30 and will be followed at 9:00 with a presentation by Warren Billings (UNO History Dept.) and Richard Cameron (National Historical Publications and Records Commission) on "The Role of the Commission for Genealogists and Historians."

After a coffee break the annual FAL business meeting will take place. Members will vote on several proposed changes to the organization's bylaws and will also elect officers (see separate articles for details). Lunch will be from 11:30 to 1:00.

The meeting's afternoon session will feature presentations by five archivists on "using archival collections for family research." Representatives from Northwestern State University, Nicholls State University, the New Orleans Public Library, Tulane University, and the University of Southwestern Louisiana will describe some aspect or aspects of their collections that should be of interest to genealogical researchers. The speakers will also bring examples from their collections to illustrate their usefulness for family history. These examples will be available for examination following closing remarks scheduled for 3:00.

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PROPOSED CHANGES IN FAL BYLAWS

Several important changes in the organization's bylaws will be voted on at the 1991 annual meeting. These include:

changing the name from The Friends of the Archives of Louisiana to the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association;

changing the term of office for secretary and treasurer to two years, with each officer to be elected on an alternating basis;

changing the composition of the Board of Directors to include the four officers, the immediate past president, and six directors, to be elected at large;

changing the term of office for the directors from one year to three years;

providing that the vice-president will serve as president-elect of the organization;

reducing the size of the nominating committee;

abolishing the position of executive director;

formally establishing the organization's fiscal year as December 1 through November 30.

These changes will take effect immediately if approved by vote of the membership present at the annual meeting.

ARCHIVES: THE RACE AGAINST OBLIVION

This is an abstract of an article, written by Bernard Ullman, which appeared in the French weekly magazine, l'Express, 1 September 1989, pp. 42-48. The original is in French.

France, the old nation, collapses under her archives. Not those of Dagobert, of Charlemagne, not even of Napoleon III - scarcely a tenth of the collection - but those of the land registry, the tribunals, the Clairvaux Center, which also makes them part of our patrimoine. Modern society tends to multiply the mass of documents; we are unable to accumulate them indefinitely. From now on, to be saved, it is necessary to choose what to destroy. Modern documents are fragile, and the permanent support of human thought remains to be found. What will become of the times of "forgotten memory" - an expression of Jules Supervielle? To conserve that of the 21st century is the foremost care of the Director General of the Archives of France, Jean Favier.

To be deposited in the public archives, it is necessary, by a 1979 law, that a document, whatever its form, be produced or received by a public service or organization "in the exercise of their activity." Material to be conserved comes from a variety of sources. The problem is always double: to save, certainly, but also to select which to destroy. No good archives center is without a shredding machine (for "sensitive" documents) nor without a contract to restore old paper.

On 7 messidor of the year II, 25 June 1794, during the Terror, the Convention decided to create the archives of the nation. Napoleon concentrated in a single site the tons of parchment and of paper that belonged to France and that he had appropriated by right of conquest. In 1808, he bought back from a merchant the Hotel de Rohan, which he made the national printer, and the Hotel de Soubise, which became the premier depot of the national archives.

At the beginning of this century, a reading room of 50 places was opened on the first floor of the Hotel de Soubise. This was sufficient until the end of World War II. The 8 rooms of consultation and documentation scat-

tered across the Soubise-Rohan complex complicate the life of the researchers, the archivists and the poor warehousemen. The necessity for a rational distribution appeared.

In 1988, the CARAN (Centre d'accueil et de recherche des archives nationales), an untramodern construction that does not depart from the architectural ensemble of the Marais, began operation. It welcomes some 20,000 readers each year. The electric carts circulating in the subterranean corridors connect all the rooms of the depot to CARAN. Thanks to a magnetically coded map, the computer delivers the documents, but with delays of up to two hours, which are regretted by certain habitués of the old rooms.

Wisely arranged, superbly bound, the minutes of the notaries of Paris since 1560 and the 27,000 registers of the parlement of Paris since the Revolution! Irreplaceable sources on the life, public and private, of the capital under the Ancien Regime, they are more frequently called for by the genealogists - an appreciable proportion of the clientele - and by the historians, professionals and amateurs.

In the Louis-Philippe building, one finds probably the best workshop for the restoration of paper in France. Under the direction of Gilbert Barberot, who has 22 years experience, 23 high level artisans use ancient or modern techniques to make new, to deacidify.

The older documents are freely accessible. It is not the same for those in the contemporary section, which goes from 1940-1958, notably on Vichy and its after effects. By general rule, modern documents are covered by a proscription of 100 years, and those which touch on "the security of the state or on private life, medical dossiers, personnel administration, notarial and judicial documents" are restricted. The privileges received by the consultant, under the eye of invisible cameras, obliges one to

not cite the names of persons implicated; these banal cartoons are often the dreadful Pandora's boxes.

Some papers, of certain political importance, escape still from the archives, but Chantal Bonazzi, conservatrice-en-chef of the contemporary section, has hope: one day they will come to her or to her successor. Suzanne d'Huart, director of the personal and family section of the archives, is not content to receive gifts (as opposed to those which come freely from the State). She disposes of the annual credits (about 1.7 million francs) for acquisitions. In her job for 25 years, she recalls with emotion some of the great collections received: 5,000 cartoons of the comte of Paris, the archives of Napoleon, letters of Marie Antoinette to Fersen.

The proliferation of modern archives is prodigious: 1 linear meter per employee per year in the administration of a business of the private sector. This is why, in terms of the 1979 law, the public archives have ceased to be inalienable. At the expiration of their period of current usage, a good part is simply destroyed or sold for salvage. In the same logic, the new techniques - audio-visual, computerized, microfilm - constituted one of the major themes of the International Congress of Archives, which met during the Summer of 1988 in Paris, under president Jean Favier.

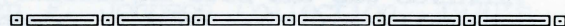
The Centre des archives d'outre-mer, in Aix-en-Provence, a new installation, doubling the capacity of the first, opened in 1987. In this place rests our colonial past [not including Canada and Louisiana]. Here are relocated the archives of the ancient ministers of the colonies, which had begun to rot in the Rue Oudinot in Paris.

"It is the memory of the world that you preserve!" proclaimed Francois Mitterand, in August 1988, before 2,000 delegates of the International Congress of Archives. Since most modern documents, written or electronic, will "self-destruct in less than 50 years," how do we send to our distant descendants these imperishable works of our present culture? The techniques are expensive, the

conservation also.

"Our major preoccupation is not the 14th, but the 21st century," says Jean Favier. "Of 80 conservators," he says, "there are not 30 whose principal activities are on the documents prior to 1940." The international consul, over which he presides, gathers the archives of countries on the road to development as well as some socialist countries and the eastern states. Can one conceive a "world doctrine" in this matter? Each nation has its traditions, its system. More, the protection of private life has not the same sense in all jurisdictions; i.e., the French have refused to communicate the dossiers of adoption.

Is the training, that certain young conservators judge a little obsolete, adapted to the new techniques of communication? A prudent response: "The young generation . . . have perfect dialogue with the computer scientists. But it is important to consider the final training. As for a reform in the study cycle . . . , it is, without doubt, the order of the day."



NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS, 1990-1991

Nominations for officers for the term beginning in April 1990 and extending to the 1991 annual meeting, to be held in Fall of 1991 are:

President - Wilbur E. Meneray
Vice-President/President Elect -

Mary Linn Bandaries

Secretary (two-year term) -

Yvette Guillot Boling

Treasurer (one-year term) -

Collin B. Hamer

Directors:

Term expiring in Fall 1991:

Michael James Foret (Thibodaux)

Robert S. Martin (Baton Rouge)

Term expiring in Fall 1992:

Dr. Robert Judice (Darrow)

Charlene Cain (Hammond)

Term expiring in Fall 1993:

Wanda B. Head (Shreveport)

Jean Schmidt (Lafayette)

THE Exchange

NEWS NOTES ABOUT THE ARCHIVAL REPOSITORIES OF LOUISIANA

LOUISIANA STATE ARCHIVES, Baton Rouge

NEW ACCESSIONS: General Claire Chennault Collection--personal papers and documents donated by the General's children; these items will be made available to the public in the near future....John Hill Collection--the private papers of the noted journalist, the bulk of which deals with the trials of former Governor Edwin W. Edwards; access to this collection is restricted.

EVENTS, EXHIBITS, ETC.: The State Archives was the site in February of several activities held to commemorate Black History Month; the observance was highlighted by a month-long exhibit entitled, "Black Americans: A Tradition of Accomplishments."; weekly lectures were also held along with a musical drama written by Dr. Valerian Smith.

Reporter: Lewis M. Morris, Jr.

LOUISIANA AND LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY COLLECTIONS, LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY, Baton Rouge

NEW ACCESSIONS: Personal letters and papers of four West Feliciana families documenting 19th century commerce and plantation operations, including the slave trade, have been acquired. The collection documents the entire West Florida area. It includes: Lewis Stirling Family Papers--relating to the Civil War career of Stirling and the life of his family during Reconstruction;

John Turnbull and John Joyce Papers--documenting the trading activities of these business partners, including accounts of individual trade with Indians and records of their estates; Lobdell Family Papers--tracing John Lobdell's arrival in Louisiana during the 1820's, his legal, political, and economic activities, and his leadership in the Masonic Lodge; and the Allain Family Papers--personal and family letters, along with the business and financial records of V.F. and Sarah Allain. Acquisition of the collection was made possible through support of the Friends of the LSU Library, members of the Stirling family, the West Feliciana Historical Society, and other anonymous donors.

STAFF NEWS: Dr. Louise Martin has assumed the position of University Archivist at LSU. She received her BA in History from Harvard, her MA in History from Columbia, and a PhD in Slavic Languages and Literature from the University of Chicago. Previously she has been an archivist at the Alaska Historical Library, the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Michigan, the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, and, most recently, at the State Archives and Historical Research Library of North Dakota (as Deputy State Archivist). Dr. Martin and her assistants will survey university records held in university departments and will conduct workshops for personnel responsible for record keeping. The University Archives staff, working in conjunction with the State Archives, will prepare records sche-

dules for university records. The University Archives is being funded by a two-year grant from the NHPRC. ...Elaine Smyth, former Head of Technical Services for the LLMVC (since October, 1988), has been appointed Head of the Rare Books Collections at LSU....Former Head of the Rare Books Collection, Kathryn Morgan, has been appointed Curator of Rare Books at the University of Virginia....M. Stone Miller, Jr., Head of Acquisitions for the LLMVC, and Faye Phillips, Head of LLMVC, have both been designated as certified archivists by the Academy of Certified Archivists.

EXHIBITS: "Louisiana Newspapers: The People's Defense" and "Louisiana Imprints and Bibliographies, 1796-1868" will continue in the Hill Memorial Library exhibit halls through April, 1990.

Reporter: Faye Phillips

SOUTHWESTERN ARCHIVES & MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTION, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHWESTERN LOUISIANA, Lafayette

EXHIBITS: "Blacks in Louisiana" and "Mary Alice Fontenot, Newspaper Journalist and Author" are mounted in the Dupre Library's Louisiana Room; they utilize materials from both the Louisiana Room and the Southwestern Archives and Manuscript Collection.

STAFF NEWS: Ann Wakefield is Project Archivist working on the Robert F. and Edwin S. Broussard Papers, September, 1989 through August, 1990.

OTHER NEWS: The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) has awarded a grant in the amount of \$34,500 to process and preserve the Broussard Papers....the Godchaux family has provided a grant to fund work on the Godchaux Family Papers/Louisiana Rice Milling Company Records.

Reporter: Bruce Turner

ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, MCNEESE STATE UNIVERSITY, Lake Charles

NEW ACCESSIONS: The Gilbert and Melba Watson Photograph Collection, 1930's-1940's--black and white photographs taken in and around the Lake Charles area.

EVENTS: Kathie Bordelon will teach a Leisure Learning class on March 13; the class will demonstrate methods for the layman to use in preserving family papers, photographs, and scrapbooks.

Reporter: Kathie Bordelon

CAMMIE G. HENRY RESEARCH CENTER, NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA, Natchitoches

NEW ACCESSIONS: Gladys Gandy Carter Collection, 1930's (1 cu. ft., addition)--pertaining to the Gandy and Carter families of Negreet, LA... Dean F. Johnson Collection, 1970's (8 cu. ft., addition)--material pertaining to the women's movement ...Mildred Hart Bailey Collection, 1940's-1989 (8 lin. ft., addition)--chronicling the life of Clementine Hunter...Ruby and Woodrow Hughes Collection, 1860's-1930's (6 lin. in.)--items relating to Louisiana, the Confederate States of America, and James Denson Sayers, American West novelist and promoter of the Esperanto language...Sarah Katherine Phares Collection, mid-1900's (4 lin. in.)--items relating to the State Normal School in Natchitoches, central Louisiana photographs, and postcards...Elton D. Aldredge Collection, 1930's (7 lin. in.)--records pertaining to the Natchitoches Parish Health Unit...World War II Women Naval Officers Collection, 1980's (4 cu. ft.)--data gathered by NSU faculty members Dr. Dean F. Johnson and Carol Wells, concerning a study of the first women midshipmen class in the U.S. Navy during the war.

STAFF NEWS: The Academy of Certified Archivists has awarded Mary Linn Bandaries the designation of Certified Archivist.

Reporter: Mary Linn Bandaries

THE HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS COLLECTION, New Orleans

NEW ACCESSIONS: New Orleans Financial Records, 1812-1865--documents produced by local printers Benjamin Levy, Emile Johns, and the Brusle Brothers; among the local banking institutions represented are the Canal and Banking Co., the Citizens' Bank of Louisiana, the Bank of Louisiana, and the Louisiana State Bank; also included are materials relating to Orleans Parish, the Third Collection District, the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana, and the New Orleans Police Department....The Southland for Town and Country, 1870--volume 1, number 1 of a weekly and monthly newspaper dedicated to agricultural, literary, and family affairs; published by Henry Leovy, publisher of the antebellum Delta, this is the only known issue of this paper to exist in a Louisiana repository; donated by Irwin Cucullu. ...Beverly Plantation Account Book, 1826-1853--an addition to THNOC's holdings relating to Natchez, Mississippi; donated by Mr. and Mrs. J. Brinson Woods....James Robb Collection, 1844, 1858 (additions)--a mortgage on the house he purchased for his mother outside Cincinnati; also a letter, dated May 11, 1858, from James Clunas, a New Orleans commission merchant, to C. Duraud of Savannah summarizing Robb's views on the economy....Jefferson and Varina Howell Davis Letters--a gift of Mrs. Elinor Bright Richardson, these items provide insight into the world of "a young lady of liberal education," Miss Susie Richardson...Mamie Cook Autograph Book, 1883--a donation of J. M. Kinabrew, Jr.

PUBLICATIONS: Land tenure records, one of the great strengths of the

manuscripts division, will be the subject of the next issue of Manuscripts Division Update....Alfred E. Lemmon contributed an article on Spanish sources for pre-1830 Natchez history to Natchez Before 1830, published by the University Press of Mississippi.

STAFF CHANGES: Catherine C. Kahn, manuscripts administrator, has retired from the Collection; Mrs. Kahn held numerous positions during her thirteen years at THNOC.

Reporter: Alfred E. Lemmon

LOUISIANA DIVISION, NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC LIBRARY, New Orleans

NEW ACCESSIONS: Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office Records, 1950-1969 (330 cu. ft.)--case files for second class and lower cases (not including murders and rapes); also included are three cu. ft. of materials relating to D.A. Jim Garrison's investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy....Mike Early Papers, 1978-1989 (21 cu. ft.)--correspondence/subject files from the office of the retiring councilman from New Orleans District C, which includes the Vieux Carre and the West Bank sections of the city....Mary Brent Whiteside Papers, (ca. 3 lin. ft.)--manuscript poems, letters, scrapbooks, and other materials from the Georgia poet....New Orleans Public Library Records, ca. 1963-1987 (13 cu. ft., addition)--administrative records, including such topics as racial desegregation of libraries and NOPL involvement in the investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy; also included are materials (videotapes, transcripts, and scripts) used by Carolyn Kolb in her production, "Balancing the Books." ...City Planning Commission Transportation Records, 1970's-1980's (1 cu. ft., addition)--relating to the design and construction of the new "Crescent City Connection" bridge over the Mississippi River.

STAFF NEWS: Wayne Everard was designated a Certified Archivist by the Academy of Certified Archivists. ...Collin Hamer is serving as a member of the staff for the Mayor's Committee of 25, which is studying the revision of the city's Home Rule Charter.

EXHIBITS: The Division developed an exhibit in honor of the late New Orleans Mayor Ernest N. Morial; the exhibit, made up of photographs and photocopies of documents in the City Archives Collection's Morial Papers, was on display in the lobby of City Hall from December 27, 1989-February 15, 1990....The annual Mardi Gras exhibit, this year featuring krewe favors and other artifacts, will be on display through mid-March.

OTHER NEWS: The first eight rolls of microfilm completed in the Division's NEH project have been received from Mid-Atlantic Preservation Service (MAPS); these rolls cover thirty-one volumes of sales records from the Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office, 1846-1863, and oaths of office of city officials, 1832-1863....Collin Hamer, Jean Jones, Wayne Everard, and Rodney Smith were among the NOPL staff members who staffed a library information service in the media workroom at the Hyatt Regency Hotel during Superbowl week.

Reporter: Wayne Everard

LOUISIANA HISTORICAL CENTER, LOUISIANA STATE MUSEUM, New Orleans

NEW ACCESSIONS: D.H. Holmes institutional archives, 1868-ca. 1989 --includes minute books, 1905-1979; stock ledgers, 1906-1914; sales records; scrapbooks; and miscellany...Neil Curran Collection, 1965-1988--manuscripts and photographs (over 300) relating to media campaigns developed by Curran, a political consultant for local candidates such as Robert Livingston,

Peggy Wilson, and John Treen...Reuter Seed Co. Collection, 1907-1976--by-laws, seed catalogs (and packets), planting guides, photographs, and artifacts; also includes material on Southern Cooperage Co., an apparent predecessor firm, and Pointe Coupee Stave & Lumber Co.

EXHIBITS: "America's Star: U.S. Marshals, 1789-1989"--this traveling Smithsonian exhibit will be at the Presbytere, April 19-May 31...Also at the Presbytere are "The Glorious Eighth: Celebrating the Battle of New Orleans, 1815-1990" and "Zachary Taylor: The Louisiana President;" both of these exhibits were organized by archivist Kathryn Page.

Reporter: Kathryn Page

WILLIAM RANSOM HOGAN JAZZ ARCHIVE, TULANE UNIVERSITY, New Orleans

NEW ACCESSIONS: Elaine Lieber Donation, 1920's--approximately one-hundred pieces of sheet music (popular dance titles....Larry Rosen (GRP Records) Donation--180 jazz compact disks by contemporary artists....Edward Wadsworth Donation--five cassettes and two video tapes of New Orleans Hot Strings, plus approximately fifty vintage 78 phonodiscs (10")....Panassie Collection (Claude Theron) Donation--three compact disks of V-Discs recorded by Panassie during World War II; gift of the Public Library of Villefranche de Rouergue (France)....Peggy Scott Laborde (WYES-TV) Donation--twelve high-speed Beta video tapes of interviews for "The Mystery of the Purple Rose," plus transcripts.

EVENTS: Panel session, "New Orleans Jazz Resources" given on January 11 for the International Association of Jazz Educators at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, with a photographic exhibit, "New Orleans Jazz Pioneers."...On display at the Archive: "District Favorites" and "Joe Mares & the Southland Legacy."

PUBLICATION: The Jazz Archivist [newsletter of the Hogan Jazz Archive] (December, 1989), includes an article by Daniel Weisman, "The Louisiana Phonograph Company."

OTHER NEWS: The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities sponsored radio series, "Louisiana Swing," was completed and the programs were broadcast during October-December, 1989 on WWNO-FM; they will probably air again beginning in April, 1990.

Reporter: Bruce Boyd Raeburn

ARCHIVES AND MANUSCRIPTS/SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT, UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS, New Orleans

NEW ACCESSIONS: Paul Veith Collection, 1891 (1938-1954) 1957 (1 lin. ft.)--business and personal correspondence, book catalogues, business and personal miscellany, newspaper clippings, historical memorabilia, photographs, and subject files of Paul Frederick Veith (1907-1954), local rare book dealer, and his widow, Mary M. Veith....New Orleans University Collection, 1877 (1891-1900) 1908--a collection of miscellany including commencement invitations, lists of rules, yearbook, student newspaper, and photographs of the black institution (founded in 1873) which merged with Straight University in 1930 to form Dillard University....Rose Israel Collection, 1915-1961 (5 v. and miscellaneous legal papers)--records of Mrs. Israel, the Estate of Mayer Israel, Sr., and Mayer Israel & Co., a major department store in the city for almost seventy years; Mrs. Israel and her husband were also prominent New Orleans philanthropists....Supreme Court of Louisiana Collection, 1860-1889 (249 lin. ft., addition)--a continuation of the earlier transfer of the Court's legal archives.

EVENTS, EXHIBITS, MEETINGS: Marie Windell presented a paper, "Antebellum Louisiana Law on Divorce," at

the Missouri Valley History Conference 1989 annual meeting; she is a member of the Society of Southwest Archivists Publications Committee; she also attended the annual conferences of the Louisiana Historical Association, the Western Society for French History, and the annual convention of the American Association of Museums....Beatrice Owsley presented papers on the local Latin American community at the annual meetings of the Oral History Association, the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and Hispanidad of New Orleans; she also attended the annual conventions of the American Association of Museums and the Association of Records Managers and Administrators....Clive Hardy mounted an exhibition of New Orleans carnival memorabilia for the First Annual UNO Mardi Gras Symposium (February 2-3, 1990); he also mounted an exhibit of civil rights memorabilia from the collection of the New Orleans Branch of the NAACP for the Afro American History Exhibit sponsored by radio station WYLD in their studio during the month of February; he also served as an advisory member of the Jefferson Parish Archives Ad Hoc Committee.

PUBLICATION: Beatrice Owsley reviewed information to be included in Archivists, one of a series of vocational booklets for high school students published in 1989 by Chronicle Guidance Publications of New York.

STAFF NEWS: The Academy of Certified Archivists has awarded the designation of Certified Archivist to Beatrice Owsley and D. Clive Hardy.

OTHER NEWS: Marie Windell wrote a proposal for an additional grant to continue to preserve on microfilm the collection of Supreme Court Legal Archives; the case files, 1813-1846, have been filmed, and she is microfilming the oversize items of that series.

Reporter: D. Clive Hardy

ARCHIVES, LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY--SHREVEPORT, Shreveport

STAFF CHANGES: Pat Meador, former archivist, is now fulltime with the Department of History and Political Science...Dr. Thomas D. Cockrell took the archivist position in August, 1989; he has a joint appointment in the History Department as an assistant professor.

EVENTS: Dr. Cockrell read a paper entitled "150 years on a Mississippi plantation: an overview," at the Mississippi Historical Society annual meeting in Jackson on February 23, 1990.

OTHER NEWS: Staff is working on a newspaper indexing project of 19th century Shreveport papers, with support from a Gannett Foundation grant.

Reporter: Thomas Cockrell

NHPRC'S FEBRUARY MEETING

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission met on February 15 and 16, 1990 and recommended a total of \$1,217,339 in grants for fourteen historical records projects along with numerous documentary editing and related projects. No Louisiana projects were among those recommended. The NHPRC recommendations were made in response to more than \$2.4 million in requests.

The Commission has recently issued updated Records Program guidelines and application forms. These must be used for proposals submitted beginning with the June 1, 1990 deadline. To receive these materials call or write:

Records Program
NHPRC-NPR
National Archives Building
Washington, D.C. 20408
(202) 523-5386

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PROFILE continued from page 11 . . .

Southwest Archivists, the Midwest Archives Conference, the Louisiana Historical Association, the American Association for State and Local History, and the Organization of American Historians, as well as the Society of American Archivists. He chaired the Acquisitions Section of the latter organization in 1987-1988 and last year co-chaired a subcommittee which carried out a survey of selected repositories to study the impact of the 1969 Tax Law on donations of self-generated papers. The subcommittee report was presented at the SAA meeting in St. Louis last year and is now being revised for future publication in the American Archivist. Dr. Turner is a member of the Friends of the Archives of Louisiana, and has served on its Board of Directors since 1988. And when he's not busy being an archivist, librarian, and historian, Dr. Turner can be found playing the cello with the Acadiana Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Turner has had an article, "Ralph Robert Shaw, Renaissance Librarian," published in Wayne A. Wiegand (ed.) Leaders in American Academic Librarianship, 1925-1975 (Pittsburgh, 1983). He has also presented papers on manuscript collecting in America (SAA, 1986), manuscript collecting in Acadiana (SSA, 1988), and Cajun culture (ALA, 1988). In 1981 he presented a workshop on starting an archives at a meeting of the Lake Ontario Archives Conference. More recently Dr. Turner developed a disaster preparedness plan for the Dupre Library--something all librarians and archivists in Louisiana should do as well.

Dr. Turner and his staff are now looking forward to a coming expansion of the Dupre Library. They hope to have better environmental controls as well as additional work space and storage capacity as a result of this expansion. It is fitting that the USL Archives and Special Collections will be gaining improved quarters that should be more in keeping with the level of professionalism that Bruce Turner and his staff have brought to the repository.

NEW NATIONAL ARCHIVES GUIDE

The Archives, A Guide to the National Archives Field Branches, by Loretto D. Szucs and Sandra H. Luebking (Salt Lake City: Ancestry Publishing, 1988) is an important effort to bring together in one source a comprehensive description of the materials available for research at the eleven regional branches of the National Archives. The authors, both professional genealogists, based their work on personal visits to all of the branches, where they worked closely with Archives staff members to compile their 340 pages of information.

The Guide is divided into three sections. The first is made up of summaries for each of the branches, giving location, hours, and brief descriptions of the holdings, including a select list of microfilms. Section II contains descriptions and lists of holdings, both textual and microfilm, that are common to all or several of the branches.

The final section, and the longest, is a record group-by-record group description of National Archives records held at the field offices. Everything from records of the Bureau of Animal Industry (RG 17) to the records of the Bureau of the Census (RG 29) is included. Some sections, such as that for the census records, are not as lengthy as one might expect, apparently because the authors did not feel a need to repeat information that is available in other sources (such as the 1982 Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives). Other sections, though, such as the one on District Courts (RG 21), include state-by-state narratives that should be extremely useful to researchers.

The Guide is an attractive publication, similar in appearance to the 1982 Guide mentioned above. It contains good reproductions of num-

erous sample documents as well as references to other printed sources describing the records under discussion. Any researcher, as well as any archivist or librarian who provides assistance to researchers, should benefit from a familiarity with this resource.

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APPM II NOW AVAILABLE

The second edition of Archives, Personal Papers and Manuscripts: A Cataloging Manual for Archival Repositories, Historical Societies, and Manuscript Libraries, compiled by Steven L. Hensen, is now available from the Society of American Archivists. It is a revision and expansion of the standard manual for archival description and cataloging that was originally published by the Library of Congress in 1983. Publication was made possible in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Cost of the 196-page, paper-bound manual is \$19 for SAA members and \$26 for nonmembers (plus shipping and handling).

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TOURO INFIRMARY ARCHIVES ESTABLISHED

Touro Infirmary, the oldest private hospital in New Orleans, is in the process of setting up its archives. A reading room, vault storage, and processing areas are being created for that purpose, and should be ready in the fall. Catherine C. Kahn, Touro's first archivist, is busy collecting, rehousing, and inventorying the ledgers, photographs, and documents that chronicle the institution's history back to its founding by the Hebrew Benevolent Association.

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MEETING continued from page 1 . . .

The registration fee for this meeting (lunch and coffee breaks are included) is \$12.00 in advance (due in by March 21) and \$15.00 at the door. Anyone interested in staying overnight in Baton Rouge should contact Bob Martin at 504-388-6551 for assistance in securing hotel reservations.

PROFILE OF AN ARCHIVIST

For the last seven years I. Bruce Turner has served as Head of Archives and Special Collections at the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette. In that position he is responsible for the Louisiana Room at the Dupre Library, for the Library's rare books, and for the Southwestern Archives and Manuscripts Collection. He also serves as an associate professor of Library Science in the University.

Bruce Turner came to Louisiana from upstate New York, where he worked for five years as Head of Special Collections at the State University of New York in Oswego. He received a B.A. degree from Otterbein College in Westerville, Ohio (1967) and a M.A. (1968) and Ph.D. (1977) from the University of Illinois. His doctoral dissertation at Urbana was titled, "Antislavery thought in the Border South, 1830-1860." Along with the Ph.D., Dr. Turner also received in 1977 a Master of Science in Library Science from the University of Kentucky. While enrolled at the latter two institutions he held positions as research assistant, first with the Illinois Historical Survey (1972-1976) and later with the King Library in Lexington (1976-1977).

These pre-Louisiana positions helped to provide Dr. Turner with the type of wide-ranging experience that he would need to administer the collections at USL, where he is responsible for acquisitions, processing, description, and reference for archives, manuscripts, and rare books, as well as for the 30,000 books, state documents, microfilms, and maps in the Louisiana Room. All of this is accomplished with a staff of two professional librarians, two paraprofessionals, and student workers.

The Southwestern Archives and Manuscripts Collection includes approximately 4,000 feet of original materials, ranging from the noncurrent records of the University to historical papers relating to the Mississippi Valley, Louisiana, and, in particular, to Acadiana. The Collection serves as the official repository for the records of the Rice Millers' Association and for the Louisiana Intracoastal Seaway Association. It also holds a number of important collections of personal papers, including the Jefferson Caffery Papers [U.S. diplomat from 1913-1955, including service in Cuba during the rise to power of Fulgencio Batista]; the David R. Williams Papers [Texas architect during the 1920's and later a New Deal administrator (National Youth Administration)]; and the Ernest J. Gaines Papers [author of such works as The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman and A Gathering of Old Men].

Dr. Turner and his staff have begun work on a new edition of the Guide to Southwestern Archives and Manuscript Collection, last revised in 1977. They also are currently involved in projects involving the processing of two major collections. The Robert F. and Edwin S. Broussard Papers include the Congressional records of two New Iberia brothers who served in the U.S. Congress from 1897-1933. Their papers will be processed and microfilmed with the assistance of a \$34,500 grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The Godchaux Family Papers/Louisiana State Rice Milling Company Records contain approximately 200 feet of materials relating to one of the leading firms in the state's rice industry since 1912 and with a prominent Abbeville family. The Godchaux family has provided funding to support conservation work on the collection as well as to hire a graduate assistant to process the material and to conduct oral history interviews with family members and employees of the Company.

In addition to his USL responsibilities Dr. Turner has been active in a number of professional organizations and activities. He is a member of the Society of

NHPRC FELLOWSHIPS IN ARCHIVAL ADMINISTRATION FOR 1991-92

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) is offering two fellowships in archival administration for the 1991-92 year. One will be at a college or university archives/special collections unit, the other at a state archives. The positions will emphasize active, hands-on experience in administration and management. Applications from prospective host institutions are now being accepted (deadline is September 1, 1990).

In its continuing effort to make the fellowship program more attractive, the Commission has raised fellows' stipends from \$28,000 to \$35,000, with a benefit payment of \$7,000. Host institutions are also given \$500 to interview applicants.

The two host institutions will be chosen by November 1, 1990, after

which date application forms for prospective fellows will be available (completed applications will be due by February 1, 1991). The two fellows will be selected by the host institutions from the pool of eligible applicants. Fellowships will begin in September, 1991.

The NHPRC strongly encourages any interested state archives, or college or university archives/special collections unit to contact the Commission to discuss their application. Guidelines and application forms are available from the NHPRC, National Archives Building, Washington, DC, 20408. For further information, contact Laurie A. Baty at (202) 523-5386. The fellowship program is jointly funded by the NHPRC and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.



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