

# SCAAZETTE

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY STEVE SMITH

SPARTANBURG COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Dear SCAA members,

SCAA was founded “with the aim of being an umbrella organization for archivists, genealogists, paraprofessionals, volunteers and other persons with an interest in preserving and providing access to South Carolina's great history,” according to its very first newsletter.

I am thankful for the opportunities SCAA has provided to meet and share experiences with colleagues, and for all that SCAA has taught me personally through its activities and events. I am also mindful of the hard work of many in founding and developing our organization, as we initiate this year's overarching theme of “Building Bridges.” We hope to provide value for all of our constituencies in 2015.

Our Directors, Virginia Ellison and Ann Merryman, are planning our Spring Workshop in partnership with PALMCOP on Thursday, May 28, 2015 at Francis Marion University. This is a natural partnership for important common interests between our organizations. If you look at the current leadership of PALMCOP, you will see many familiar faces.

Ann Frellsen of Emory University will present a disaster planning, salvage and recovery workshop for cultural and heritage institutions and collections. A trained member of AIC-CERT, she has extensive experience and teaches hands-on workshops in disaster response. SCAA and PALMCOP see this workshop as an opportunity for a joint effort to build expertise within the state in this vitally important area. Space at this workshop will be limited, due to the physical requirements of the training format. (Registrations will be taken solely at SCAA's website.)

We are charting a course to include students in more SCAA activities and projects.



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## President's Corner Continued

### 2015 SCAA Officers

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College of Charleston  
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#### Membership Officer

**Renna Redd**

Clemson University

#### Webmaster

**Angela Flenner**

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Past President Mary Jo Fairchild is building an updated database of archives internship opportunities around the state. We would like to build bridges to incoming students, through on-campus visits focused on GSLIS's archival track and public history programs at USC - Columbia. Special thanks go to Brianna Hughes, our USC Student Archivist Guild liaison, who attended our January Board Retreat and has shared many ideas, insights and suggestions with us.

Vice President Andrea L'Hommedieu is arranging our summer social for SCAA members on July 17th. Mark your calendars! The day will feature an opportunity to visit the newly renovated Addlestone Library at the College of Charleston, which includes prime space for the South Carolina Historical Society's collection of rare materials. As always, this will be a good chance to see old friends and meet new ones. Virginia and Mary Jo have agreed to host.

"Building Bridges" will be our theme for Archives Month in October. We are planning a different kind of fall meeting, to be held in the central part of the state, featuring lightning round sessions, based on the Archives Month theme, highlighting innovative program partnerships between archives and other institutions around our state.

It continues to be an important responsibility of SCAA to promote greater public awareness of history within communities. To encourage this, we plan to follow through in October with Archives Month promotional activities and materials to give individual archives a voice in promoting examples of their community outreach and innovative partnerships in programs and collections. 2014 Archivist of the Year Katie Gray has consented to lead this effort again this year.

Our colleagues in the Society for North Carolina Archivists have indicated an interest in partnering with SCAA to do a joint conference together in the spring of 2016 in Charlotte, NC., and exploration for this joint event will soon be underway.

I would especially like to thank our former Board members for their years of service: Beth Bilderback, Ashley Burdett, Brent Burgin, and Elaine Robbins, thank you for your commitment of time, and all of your hard work! It is my pleasure to welcome our new Board members to the team as well: Treasurer Nathan Saunders, Director Ann Merryman, Membership Officer Renna Redd, and our new SCAAzette Editor, Marie Rose.

Best wishes to you all in this busy season, as ALCTS Preservation Week (April 26th- May 2nd), and National Preservation Month (May 2015) approach.

## SCAA's 2014 Annual Award Winners

Through its annual awards program, the South Carolina Archival Association recognizes outstanding individuals in the archival field at its annual meeting in October. SCAA's 2014 annual award winners included:

### **2014 Friend of the Archives Award:**

To **Flynn T. Harrell**, for dedicated service to the South Caroliniana Library and to South Carolina Political Collections at the University of South Carolina. as president of the University South Caroliniana Society and as a member of its Council , and in recognition of his creation of the Flynn T. Harrell Collection on the Separation of Church and State.

### **2014 Program Innovation Award:**

To **Brent Burgin**, for his vision, dedication, persistence, and resourcefulness in creating and managing the USC-Lancaster Native American Studies Archives from its inception.

### **2014 South Carolina Archivist of the Year:**

To **Katie Gray**, in recognition of her service to SCAA, most recently as chair of SCAA's Outreach and Advocacy Committee, planning and executing the successful celebration of South Carolina Archives Month, her service as President of CALM (Charleston Area Libraries and Museums Council,) as first Charleston representative on the SAA Regional Archival Associations Consortium (RAAC), and as coordinator for the SAA Archivist Certification exam in Charleston.

### **2014 President's Award:**

To **Mary Jo Fairchild**, in recognition of her leadership, positive energy, and tireless encouragement of advocacy for archives in her guidance of the South Carolina Archival Association as President.



*SCAA 2014 Award Winners: (left to right) Flynn T. Harrell, Mary Jo Fairchild, Brent Burgin, and Katie Gray.*

## PALMCOP News and Learning Opportunities

By Suzanne Singleton

The Palmetto Archives, Libraries, and Museums Council on Preservation (PALMCOP) elected a new board in February 2015, and it is now at work on revitalizing the organization. It will kick off the year's activities by co-sponsoring a disaster recovery workshop with SCAA this spring.

Begun in 1986, PALMCOP was created as a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of South Carolina's documentary heritage. Its mission is to provide its membership with assistance in conserving and preserving their collections. For over two decades, PALMCOP has provided education and training in preservation for the staff of libraries, archives, and museums in the Palmetto State— both public and private institutions. This has been conducted primarily via expert-led hands-on workshops on topics such as disaster planning and recovery, photograph preservation, book cleaning and repair, mold prevention and abatement, phase-box making, and grant funding.

Based on a 2014 survey of past members, PALMCOP has determined that the learning opportunities are very much valued. Through the survey, requests were made for continuing a number of popular workshop topics. Plans are now underway to reactivate the older workshops with new presenters. In addition, PALMCOP is exploring new topics such as, electronic records preservation and digitization, social media, and promotions. If you have ideas for preservation workshops or conference sessions, or know qualified speakers who can lead local workshops or address preservation issues, PALMCOP is accepting proposals at any time.

To receive news from PALMCOP, or make suggestions, send email to: [palmcop1.sc@gmail.com](mailto:palmcop1.sc@gmail.com) and like PALMCOP on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/palmcop](http://www.facebook.com/palmcop)! Membership in PALMCOP is available to anyone who is interested in preserving information. Most memberships are on an institutional basis, which means that once your institution joins, all its staff members are invited to attend workshops and meetings at a reduced rate. Individual memberships are also available.



*New PALMCOP board members met March 9, 2015 on the campus of Francis Marion University.*

*Back row, L to R: Meg Moughan, Brenda Burk, Suzanne Singleton, Beth Bilderback, Julia Cowart, Rebecca Freeman, Faith Keller*

*Front row, L to R: Morgan Jones-King, Morgan Montgomery, Jessica Dame, Ashley Oswald*

*Not pictured: Leona Brown, Renna Redd*

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## **PALMCOP SCAA Hands-on Disaster Recovery Workshop**

Every collection is susceptible to damage from water – whether from floods, hurricanes, burst pipes, or from structural leaks. This presentation and hands-on workshop will give participants information regarding salvage of affected collections and experience in recovery of waterlogged materials.

Experienced collections conservator, Ann Frellsen, who assisted along the Gulf Coast after Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina and is a member of the American Institute for Conservation's Collections Emergency Response Team (AIC-CERT), will lead the one-day workshop on how to recover collections after the water recedes.

Participants will gain hands-on experience in the salvage of typical library and archives materials. Participants will also learn the importance of teamwork in managing an emergency response, including safety, public relations, and the recovery of wet materials. A wrap-up session will include time for questions, especially regarding specific collections or situations.

**Date: Thursday, May 28, 2015**

**Cost: \$50 for PALMCOP/ SCAA members and \$65 non-members**

**Location: James A. Rogers Library @ Francis Marion University**

**Lunch Included**

**ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY**

**Space is limited.**

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## **Oral History Project at the Archives of Limestone College**

By Susan Moore

The Archives of Limestone College began a new initiative dubbed the Oral History Project. Susan Moore, archivist, and Nancy Rilling, archive custodian, are video recording the oral histories of Limestone alumni. Limestone College, founded in 1845 as Limestone Springs Female High School, has a rich history as a southern women's college. In an effort to preserve as much of that history as possible the archives began the oral history project in 2014. Currently the project is small in scale but has yielded several interesting interviews including the first African-American to graduate from the college, a best-selling author who escaped Apartheid South Africa with an athletic scholarship to Limestone, and a well-known historian from the low country of South Carolina. As the project grows, the archives plan to expand the project by including interviews with emeriti faculty.

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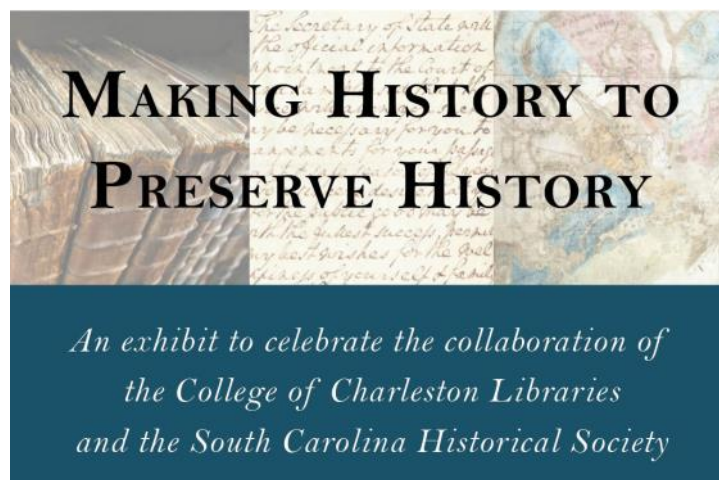
## College of Charleston Libraries Welcome the South Carolina Historical Society



2015 marks a landmark year in the history of the College of Charleston Libraries. Beginning on January 15, 2015, the South Carolina Historical Society (SCHS) archives – the largest private repository of books, letters, journals, maps, drawings, and photographs documenting the history of the state of South Carolina—have operated in a new location, the third floor of the Marlene and Nathan Addlestone Library.

The Historical Society has been housed for nearly seventy-five years at the historic Fireproof Building in downtown Charleston. In recent years it had become increasingly clear that the Society's collections were outgrowing the available space. The partnership between the South Carolina Historical Society and the College of Charleston is not without precedent. Walter Edgar, former president of SCHS's Board of Directors, notes, "When we started out in 1855, we actually had a connection with the College of Charleston. In fact, our collections survived during the Civil War because they were stored, not in our headquarters, but at the College."

Continuing this legacy of partnership, the new inter-institutional relationship maintains the independent identity of each organization while elevating Addlestone Library to a position as one of the top research centers in the nation in Southern Studies. "This collaboration makes us a premier research destination for scholars and students of the American South, the Atlantic World, and a number of other disciplines," says John W. White, dean of libraries at the College of Charleston, "We are especially pleased that these resources will strengthen undergraduate and graduate education at the College of Charleston."



The histories of the College of Charleston Libraries and the South Carolina Historical Society are intricately interwoven. This exhibit commemorates that shared past and celebrates the bright future of our ongoing partnership.

Before the first class was held, before there was even a state of South Carolina, the College of Charleston had a library. In 1771, John Mackenzie, a stout defender of free thought and American independence, bequeathed to the College of Charleston a library that held, at its core, the summation of the accepted wisdom of the ages. From his gift, the College of Charleston's library was born. In 1856, the college opened what is now known as the Towell Library – the oldest library building in Charleston. The collection has since moved twice, to the Robert Scott Small Library in 1972 and the Marlene and Nathan Addlestone Library in 2005.

The South Carolina Historical Society was founded in 1855 with a mission to “collect, preserve, and diffuse information relating to the history of the state. Among the founders of the Historical Society were James Louis Petigru and Charles Fraser – members of the College of Charleston's Board of Trustees. It was, therefore, fitting that the first public meeting of the South Carolina

Historical Society was held at the college. The society moved a number of times before finding a permanent headquarters in Robert Mills' landmark Fireproof Building in 1942.

The collections of both institutions grew through the donations of public-spirited citizens – the South Carolina Historical Society's founding gift, the papers of Henry Laurens, serving as a benchmark for the acquisition of future noteworthy collections. Over time, the society's collections have grown in size and significance. It is now the largest private manuscript archive dedicated to the history of the Palmetto State. Likewise, the College of Charleston Libraries, which prospered through the beneficence of some of the best naturalists and intellectuals of the young republic, is committed to making accessible a premier library collection to our students and community.

In 2009, the College of Charleston and the South Carolina Historical Society connected once again, this time at the intersection of technology and cultural heritage, with the founding of the Lowcountry Digital Library and our first shared electronic catalog. Much like

## Making History to Preserve History Continued

the city that surrounds us, this twenty-first century partnership is built on a strong and historically significant foundation.

It is with our shared legacy and bright future in mind that we celebrate the opening of the South Carolina Historical Society Archives at the College of Charleston with our “Making History to Preserve History” exhibit. From Greek coins to the papers of Greek revival architects, from medieval manuscripts, to prizewinning mid-twentieth century poets and playwrights, from plantation papers to planetary research, and

from the most ephemeral items to the most iconic, our collections are a testament to times past and those to come. Together we provide information resources that range from introductory to in-depth and internationally significant, and we document the history and culture of our region and cultivate creative content and scholarly inquiry by making our resources and services available to our shared community.

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## Rosenwald Schools of South Carolina

By Andrea L’Hommedieu

The Office of Oral History, South Caroliniana Library (USC), continues to build a program of access to oral history collections in an online environment. Following the [Shivar Spring Co.](#) exhibit in 2013 highlighting one interview, the [Rosenwald Schools of South Carolina](#) features an entire collection (45 interviews).

The Tom Crosby Oral History Collection, created by retired African-American Biology professor Tom Crosby, explores the physical descriptions and educational experiences of African American students in South Carolina who attended Rosenwald funded schools built between 1917-1932. Full transcripts and sound recordings are available within the exhibit to virtual visitors.

*Photo: Jean Hopkins, interviewed in 2009, attended Mill Creek A.M.E. Church and Waverly School in Columbia, South Carolina, and was one of the first African-American nurses hired at Dorn Veteran’s Hospital. Hopkins later served on the Board of Trustees, Palmetto Richland Hospital.*





## South Caroliniana Library News: The Move is Complete and the Library is Open!



*The immense portrait of South Carolina statesman and U.S. vice president, John C. Calhoun, is carefully moved in anticipation of building renovations, February 12, 2015.*

By Andrea L'Hommedieu

All collections have moved to other facilities as the library prepares for renovations. Because materials are now offsite, we do require at least 24-hour notice should anyone wish to access our holdings. Please contact the reference staff at 803-777-3132 or [sclref@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:sclref@mailbox.sc.edu) to request materials before you visit.

The Library's new operating hours are:  
Monday-Friday from 8:30-5:00.

For further information on research and renovations, see: [Caroliniana post-move FAQ](#)

## Looking to the Future of Digital Initiatives at South Carolina Political Collections

By Laura Litwer

I first became familiar with the issues surrounding the archiving of born-digital congressional records while working at the University of South Carolina's South Carolina Political Collections (SCPC) as a graduate assistant. In the almost two years between leaving SCPC and returning in April, I was fortunate enough to be able to continue learning about managing electronic congressional records and to gain experience in helping to set up an electronic records program. I'm pleased to be able to bring what I've learned back to SCPC as the new Digital Initiatives Archivist.

As congressional offices conduct an increasing amount of their business electronically, it has become correspondingly important to insure that congressional papers repositories are equipped to accession, process, store, and ultimately make available the digital records that they receive. My first major goal at SCPC is to build the framework for an electronic records program that is coherent, efficient, and in keeping with the best practices that have been developed for working with digital archival materials. Some of the steps I'll be taking to accomplish this goal include surveying SCPC's current digital holdings, developing policies and procedures to guide our work with digital materials, and setting up a dedicated electronic records workstation.

Although our initial framework will undoubtedly need to be modified over time, accomplishing this first goal will provide a solid foundation from which to pursue additional goals, such as the processing of the digital components of specific collections, the implementation of long-term storage and access solutions, and the management of information in proprietary databases. It is my hope that some of the work I will be doing at SCPC will also be beneficial to other repositories within the congressional papers community as they develop their electronic records programs.

In addition to our goals for managing born-digital materials, SCPC is also working to increase access to audiovisual information currently stored on obsolete media (e.g., Betamax tapes). To this end, I'll be working with other University Libraries staff to digitize selected audiovisual items from our holdings and make those in open collections available for use.

Developing and managing SCPC's digital initiatives promises to be an engaging and challenging undertaking, and I am thrilled to be able to participate in this exciting endeavor.

## Preservation Awareness for Children

By Jessica Dame

National Preservation Week (April 26-May 2, 2015) is a week of connecting communities to preserve personal and shared collections. Much of the preservation methods addressed center around personal collections, institutional collections, and special areas such as born-digital, textiles, scrapbooks, and art. These are all essential areas to focus on, but to succeed in creating a society that cares for its cultural heritage; it is important to start awareness in childhood. Preservation awareness for children is an important part of the library experience. With the fun of checking out stacks of books comes the responsibility of caring for your loaned materials.

This year the South Carolina State Library is sending Preservation Week packets to public library systems across the state that includes bookmarks, handouts, and articles on preservation awareness for children. The bookmarks are designed to interest K-5. The bookmarks featuring State Library lions Sol and Edgar come in an array of colors with simple preservation tips on the back. The handouts are designed for parents and further highlight the many ways children can care for their library books.

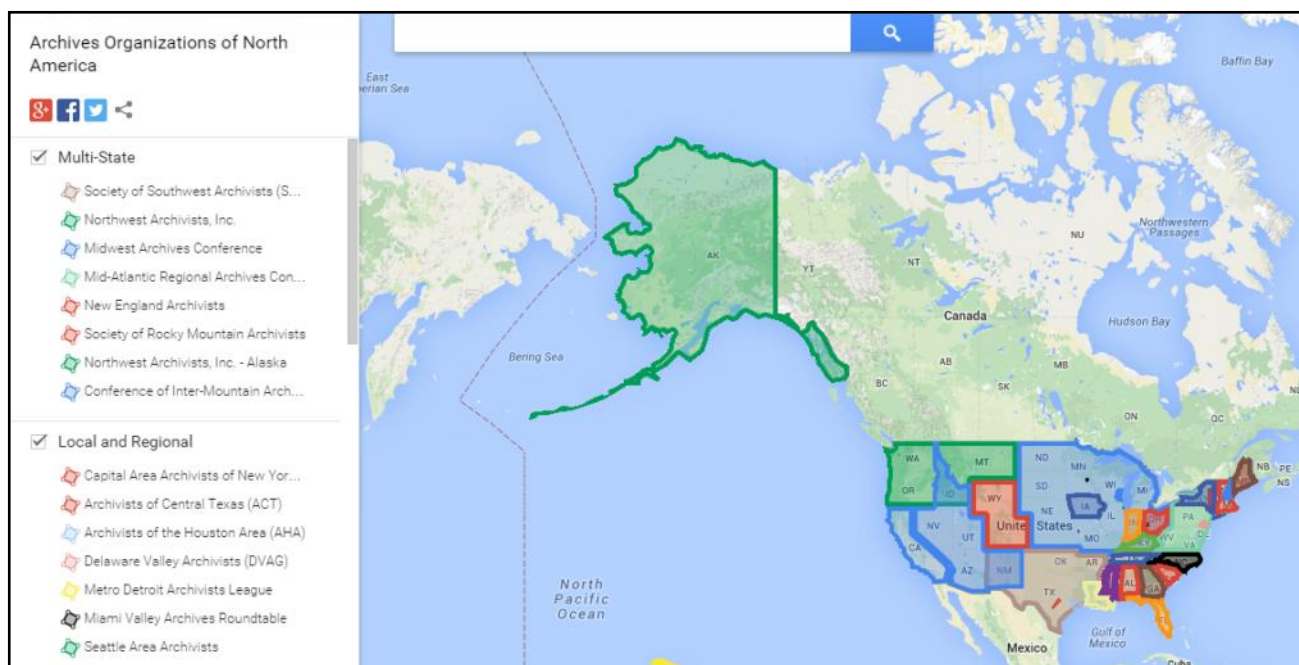
The topic was inspired by the article *Encouraging Preservation Awareness in Children* by Andrea Rolich in a 2002 issue of *Archival Products News*. Rolich's article brings awareness to the topic of teaching young

readers the practice of caring for library materials. This is something many librarians do naturally, but is not often discussed or supported. One of the points Rolich makes is that there should be bookmarks readily available to hold places in books, rather than using objects or laying a book face down (which can harm the book's spine). This led to the idea of creating bookmarks as a way to reach children.

Preservation awareness can be taught to anyone, at any time. If awareness is taught from a young age, individuals will grow up with an awareness and understanding of the importance of taking care of our collective heritage. This can lead to a better preserved past for our future.



## Regional Archival Associations Consortium



*Archives Organizations of North America*

By Daniel Alonzo

Did you know that there are over 50 regional archives groups (Regionals) in the United States? Some, such as the Society of Southwest Archivists, represent multiple states over a large geographic area, while others are more narrow in geographic scope, such as the Cleveland Archival Roundtable, which represents a single city.

Many of these Regionals overlap geographically. For example, if you work in Cleveland you could belong to up to three Regionals.

By virtue of membership overlap, there probably is coordination between groups that share a geographic area. Can the same be said for Regionals of similar size or type across the country?

The Regional Archival Associations Consortium (RAAC) fosters communication and collaboration among all Regionals. In 2013, RAAC was formed by inviting each Regional to join, with one representative per association. Representatives from each type of Regional--local, state and multi-state--serve together on one of six subcommittees and have been working together on [a few stated goals](#).

### Making Progress

The Grant Development Subcommittee has compiled grant opportunities by region for a new online resource.

The Education Subcommittee has created a [Governance Document Repository](#) compiled from the working documents of Regionals. The Repository provides examples of governing

## Regional Archival Associations Consortium Continued

documents such as mission statements, constitutions & bylaws, and guidelines for advocacy & outreach, event planning, and newsletters & journals.

The [Disaster Planning & Recovery Subcommittee](#) has created an online resource that provides information on regional, national, and international disaster planning and recovery resources.

The [Directory Subcommittee](#) created a comprehensive list of archives groups in the United States and Canada. The directory makes it easy to see the breadth and scope of the Regional community. The directory includes contact information and a brief snapshot of each Regional's activities.

The Public Awareness Subcommittee maintains a [Facebook page](#) to profile a Regional's event each month. Beyond simply promoting these events, we hope that archivists will use the page as a catalog of events and programs to borrow from. Public Awareness also facilitates information sharing among Regionals and publicizes the work of the Committee.

With the help of SAA's Issues and Advocacy Roundtable, the RAAC Advocacy Subcommittee is currently investigating how to best establish formal communication lines through which regionals can report local advocacy issues to SAA and ask for advocacy assistance.

In addition to the work of the subcommittees, co-chair Amanda Focke represents RAAC in the Coalition to Advance Learning in Archives, Libraries and Museums. RAAC joins other archival organizations such as SAA and CoSA to

represent the archival field on the Coalition, whose purpose is to work in deliberate coordination across organizational boundaries to devise and strengthen sustainable Continuing Education and Professional Development (CE/PD) programs that will transform the library, archives, and museum workforce in ways that lead to measurable impact on our nation's communities.

### Future Steps

This is my first and only career; I hope never to leave it. I come from a family of public servants. I've heard my whole life the cliché "I didn't get into this for the money." While it is laudable to have all-volunteer organizations, constant turnover in leadership can, without solid recruiting, jeopardize the vitality of a Regional.

RAAC seeks to ease the burden of new leadership by providing practical guidance. For the coming year we will focus on education, outreach, grants, disaster planning, and advocacy.

For more information or if you'd like make a suggestion please visit us at our [homepage](#).

Please consider attending our meeting at SAA on Wednesday, August 19. Time: TBD.

Daniel Alonzo represents the Archivists of Central Texas in the Regional Archival Associations Consortium and is Chair of the RAAC Public Awareness Subcommittee.



## South Carolina Archival Association

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Visit us at:

[www.scarchivists.org](http://www.scarchivists.org)



### SCAAzette Staff

#### Newsletter Editor

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We want your news!

Be sure to send  
submissions in for  
the next edition by  
August 2015!

The South Carolina Archival Association is a statewide network of individuals interested in the management of, preservation of, and access to South Carolina's historical records.

SCAA membership is diverse, and includes everyone from individuals working in colleges and universities, historical societies, museums, and churches to those in state, county, and municipal governments. Our membership is open to anyone interested in SCAA's mission.

Benefits of membership include:

- Spring/Fall Conferences and/or Workshops
- Semiannual newsletter, *SCAAzette* (electronic)
- Annual Membership Directory
- Annual Social Event
- Award Opportunities
- Professional Development Contacts & Resources
- Disaster Preparedness Contacts

To join, visit our Web site at [www.scarchivists.org](http://www.scarchivists.org)

Questions? Contact Brent Burgin, SCAA Membership Officer, at  
[membership@scarchivists.org](mailto:membership@scarchivists.org)

Be sure to "like" SCAA on Facebook to get updates on historical happenings in our region, job openings, professional development opportunities, and other information pertaining to work (and play!) in archives!

### South Carolina Archival Association

