

# SCAAZETTE



**Mark Your 2010 Calendar:**

- May 18: [SCAA Spring Workshop](#), Columbia, SC
- May 26: [Disaster Recovery & Response Workshop](#), Columbia, SC
- June 25: [SCAA Annual Social](#), St. Helena's Island, SC
- August 10-15: [SAA Annual Conference](#), Washington, DC
- October 20-22: [SCLA Conference](#), Myrtle Beach, SC
- October 28-29: [SCAA/SGA Joint Conference](#), Augusta, GA

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY DAWN HAMMATT, UPCOUNTRY HISTORY MUSEUM

Greetings SCAA members,

Here we are in May. Where has the time gone? Wasn't it just last week that we were together at the Fall Conference in Columbia?



So, our year has begun. The Board is very excited about all the plans that we have for the near future. Most importantly deciding what actions to take based on the information gained from the Member Survey. We need the thank Susan Hoffius for her leadership on this project as it was her brainchild from the beginning. We learned so very much.

The survey will be the topic of our upcoming Spring Conference. You, as a member, need to be involved in the decisions that will determine SCAA's path. I certainly hope that

you will be able to attend.

Also, inside this newsletter is information on the Annual Spring Social. Ashley Till has put together an exciting and innovative program for us. Please remember that the registration fees for this event fund the Hart Endowment.

I also want to thank Brent Bergin, Jennifer Neal and the committees for all the work on the Annual Meeting. We will share a meeting with SGA this year and I think it's going to be fabulous! I am looking forward to going to Augusta for this and hope that you have marked your calendars for the October event already.

Of course, I know that funding is tight. Please make sure you check the web site for details on the Hart Endowment grants. SCAA has money (albeit nominal) for scholarships to educational programming for archives professionals and students.

Warmest Regards, Dawn Hammatt

## THE RESULTS ARE IN: 2009 ARCHIVAL SURVEY

### You Spoke—We Listened!

The results of the 2009 survey of South Carolina's archival and historical community are in—and just in time for SCAA's 10th Anniversary.

**Come to the Spring Workshop to hear the results and discuss the future of SCAA**  
(and by extension the future of archival work in South Carolina).

**Date: Tuesday, May 18, 2010**

**Time: 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**Where:** South Carolina Department of Archives and History, 8301 Parklane Road, Columbia, SC

Now is the time for your detailed input. Don't miss this important opportunity to express your opinions on SCAA's next 10 years.

There's still time to register at: <http://scaa.palmettohistory.org/springinfo.html>.

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## FALL CONFERENCE

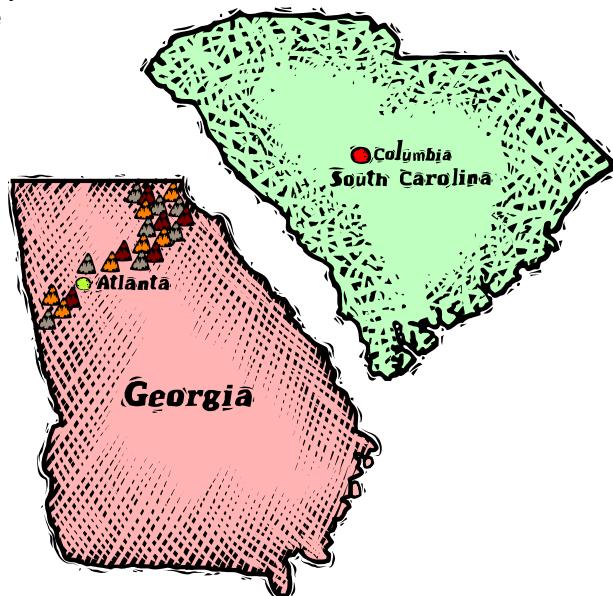
SCAA's Fall Conference will be a particularly unique opportunity. By partnering with the Society of Georgia Archivists, this year will be bigger than ever!

When: October 28-29, 2010

Where: Augusta Marriot Hotel & Suites in Augusta, GA

The event will include a pre-conference workshop, concurrent sessions, keynote speaker, joint reception and more. Mark your calendars now!

Details and registration information will be posted on both [SCAA's](#) and [SGA's](#) websites, so check back frequently.



## SCAA SOCIAL— SAVE THE DATE!

### Save the Date!

### SCAA's Annual Social: June 25, 2010

The annual SCAA Social will take place on June 25, 2010 at the [Penn Center](#) on St. Helena Island. It only costs \$15 and all proceeds benefit the Darrick Hart Endowment, SCAA's fund to support professional development.

Registration and schedule are available through [SCAA's website](#).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SCAA Blog

Keep up with the most current news—check out SCAA's new [blog](#). Be sure to post your own news as well!

### S.C. Archivists' Listserv

Or to receive the news straight to your inbox, sign up for the listserv dedicated to S.C. Archivists. Just send a blank e-mail to [SCArchivists-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:SCArchivists-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

### Dues and Registration Now Online!

SCAA has finally joined the 21st century: you can now pay your annual SCAA membership dues and conference registration fees online at the [SCAA website](#). Just visit the site and follow the links. It couldn't be easier!

## S.C. POLITICAL COLLECTIONS: A NEW HOME

BY HERB HARTSOOK & DOROTHY HAZELRIGG, SCPC

South Carolina Political Collections (SCPC) is preparing to move into its new state-of-the-art home in the Ernest F. Hollings Special Collections Library. The new library should open in June and will house USC Libraries' Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, SCPC, and Digital Collections.

The building is named in honor of former governor and U.S. Senator Ernest F. "Fritz" Hollings. The Hollings Papers are the largest collection held by SCPC and document the Senator's fifty-year career in public service.

The Hollings Library is accessed via an enclosed bridge from the Thomas Cooper Library. It was designed by the Columbia firm of Watson Tate Savory, and complements the original iconic exterior of the Cooper Library, designed by renowned architect Edward Durell Stone. The three-story building provides 53,000 square feet for users, staff, and collections. The main floor features all of the building's public spaces, including a spacious shared reading room for Rare Books and SCPC, two exhibit galleries, four seminar rooms, a mini-theater for viewing film and videos from SCPC's collections, and a large events room capable of hosting dinners or lectures for up to 164 people.



The new home of South Carolina Political Collections: The Ernest F. Hollings Special Collections Library.

Visitors will be impressed with the open design of the building, its furnishings, and particularly with the natural light that permeates the building, which is expected to receive a gold LEED certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).

The middle floor houses offices and work spaces for all three units, a vault for the rarest and most valuable of Rare Books' materials, a loading dock and receiving area, and a room with

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*"Visitors will be impressed with the open design of the building, its furnishings, and particularly the natural light."*

## WARING HISTORICAL LIBRARY RECEIVES NN/LM GRANT

SUBMITTED BY SUSAN HOFFIUS, MUSC

The Waring Historical Library recently was awarded an NN/LM Southeastern/Atlantic Region grant for \$5,000 to transcribe and digitize 132 inaugural dissertations and theses. The 1,858 inaugural medical theses in the collection of the Waring Historical Library are, in the words of eminent medical historian John Harley Warner, "one of the finest extant collections of antebellum American medical theses." In 1986, Roberta Burkett, Warren Sawyer and Curtis Worthington published A bibliography of inaugural theses of graduating students of the Medical College of the State of South

Carolina. In his forward to this volume, John Warner goes on to write that, "The collection of the Medical College of the State of South Carolina deposited at the Waring Historical Library represents a remarkably large and complete collection spanning a critical period of transition in the history of both of American medicine and of the South."

Despite the publication of the bibliography, the inaugural theses in the Waring Historical Library remain an under-utilized resource. While we receive many scholars a year who visit the library specifically to use the theses, a lack of any keyword search-

ability combined with their fair-to-poor physical condition limit their broader usability. It is hoped that by creating digital surrogates with keyword search functions this valuable resource will reach a larger audience.

Beginning on March 1st and lasting one year, this project will result in the digitization of 132 of these theses written between 1825 to 1829. Each hand-written thesis ranges from 15 to 40 pages. A total of approximately 2,400 pages of medical theses will then be loaded into the library's Digital Library, MEDICA: <http://medica.library.musc.edu/>.

### Want to Attend a Conference but Need Funds?

Need some extra funds to attend a workshop or a professional archival association meeting? Apply for SCAA's Darrick L. Hart Endowment!

The Hart endowment provides up to \$500.00 for SCAA members to go to conferences, workshops and meetings hosted by local, regional or national professional organizations. A simple two-page application is all that stands between you and potential financial assistance.

For more information and an application form, visit <http://scaa.palmettohistory.org/hartendow.html>

### **SCAA is a Bargain!**

Everyone is feeling the pinch of the economic slowdown... and that includes archivists. For the same benefits as other professional organizations, SCAA membership is a bargain:

- South Carolina Archival Association: \$15.00
- Society of Georgia Archivists: \$25.00
- Society of North Carolina Archivists: \$25.00
- Society of American Archivists: \$148.00\*

\*based on 2003 A\*Census mean income

*“The Preserving the American Historical Record Act is continuing its way through the U.S. Congress.”*

## RESOLUTIONS

### BY DEBBIE BLOOM, RCPL

The middle of the year seems to be a good time to reflect on the resolutions we promised to ourselves in January. Of course, I have many personal failures deserving of a resolution. Yet, I barely remember any of my New Year pledges. However, one resolution that I clearly remember was a promise to attend more historical events, tours, exhibits, etc. in the Midlands. My goal was to visit a new historical place once a month.

This month we tried the [Historic Columbia Foundation](#) Lantern tours. It worked out to be the perfect “I can’t be with you on Mother’s Day” event with a Tuesday evening dinner at the Hampton Vineyard followed by a Lantern Tour at the

Seibels House. The tour was led by a costumed guide who led us through the gardens and the house with historical facts and stories about Columbia and the personal history of the house.

This resolution has turned out to be a winner that I would recommend to everyone at SCAA. As professionals in the history field we are always the ones put on the spot to entertain, research and inform but once a month I get to be the observer. It is relaxing and, also, a great excuse to go to the Hampton Vineyard! The HCF offers a number of events (including, thankfully, a few that feature alcohol) which are helping me stay on the resolution

track. While their website is a great resource for finding out what is available members of the foundation receive e-mails about upcoming events.

Additional information about the tours from the [HCF website](#). Join the Historic Columbia Foundation every fourth Tuesday of the month for a lantern tour as a costumed guide provides intriguing stories about the historic Seibels House and the Robert Mills House. Tours of the Seibels House will be conducted from April - June and tours of the Robert Mills House will be conducted from July - September. Lantern Tours are scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of each month through Sept 28.

## PRESERVING THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL RECORD

### BY LAURA JOWDY, CMOHS

The Preserving the American Historical Record Act (PAHR) is continuing its way through the U.S. Congress. Support is needed now more than ever.

If passed, this legislation would provide grant-based funding for the “preservation

and dissemination of historical records.” The monies will be disbursed to all fifty states by the Archivist of the United States. If funded at the proposed level, South Carolina would receive nearly \$700,000 to help with preservation and access.

Your help is needed to pass the legislation. The [S.C. State Historical Records Advisory Board](#) and the [Society of American Archivists](#) are leading the push. Check out their websites for ways you can help.

## S.C. POLITICAL COLLECTIONS (CONT.)

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separate air handling equipment for the temporary storage of materials that may have mold or otherwise be contaminated.

The ground level contains the building’s stacks and mechanical room. The stacks feature almost 50,000 linear feet of compact shelving and provide plenty of space for future growth. Strict climate controls will provide an environment for the records that

is unsurpassed in South Carolina.

A series of opening events will be held over the summer and the public will be invited to visit the new space. For the most up-to-date information on the building and upcoming events, please visit the SCPC website, [www.sc.edu/library/scpc](http://www.sc.edu/library/scpc), or the SCPC blog, [scpoliticalcollections.blogspot.com](http://scpoliticalcollections.blogspot.com).



The reading room in the new building.

# THE NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES ARCHIVES AT USC-LANCASTER

BY BRENT BURGIN, USC-LANCASTER

Five short years ago, my entire knowledge of Native Americans in South Carolina could be summarized in one sentence: We have Indians in South Carolina? Like most South Carolinians I was incredibly uninformed about our state's Native American past. Indians were basically mythic, and I, a long time student of history! The past five years then, have been a memorable journey and my life has been forever changed.

I entered the academic world much later in life than many of my colleagues and must say I felt as if I didn't belong. They all had some passion, some important cause that was incredibly important. I was somewhat neutral, always able to see both sides of everything and not easily excited, unless I was at the olive bar and cheese section at Harris Teeter. Not a shallow person, but not easily excited by "causes" either.

This changed forever when I saw my first piece of Catawba pottery. Such artistry, such beauty and a historical provenance going back perhaps 4,000 years. Undoubtedly, the oldest arts and crafts tradition in this hemisphere and we, the keepers of such an incredible treasure, know nothing about it. The Catawba and South Carolina's other Native American groups are a direct connection to a great and dimly remembered past. In many ways they have been an invisible people, hiding out, trying to avoid the terrible scrutiny of the white man and amazingly, they have survived. It's an incredible story, an amazing historical saga and so little known.

There's no simple way to recount what I've learned in the past few years. I've met some incredible individuals and look at life and the world in a totally different fashion from five years ago. I've found an inner peace I never had before. And I simply cannot wait to get to work each day. Even a bad day is a good day.

## Collection Synopsis:

The Native American Studies Collection at USC Lancaster collects objects and archival materials which recount the history, culture, and traditions of South Carolina's Native peoples. The majority of these materials are from the Catawba Indians, South Carolina's only federally recognized tribe. It should be noted that Native American materials are rarely found in South Carolina repositories, and this new collection is by far the state's largest. The majority of this collection are Catawba Indian materials amassed by noted Catawba scholar Dr. Thomas J. Blumer over a forty year period. This is the largest existing collection of documentary materials on the Catawba tribe of SC. While the work of many different Catawba potters are extensively documented in the files, the collection is also a detailed record of the political, social, and economic life of the tribe since about 1976.

## Major series include:

- Correspondence — All two-way, Dr. Blumer made copies of all letters he sent. Personal correspondence, over 2,000 letters to noted anthropologists, archaeologists, archivists, and various Native American specialists. Catawba and Pamunkey correspondence — 2,300 letters to potters and tribal leaders, including 1100 letters written between Dr. Blumer and noted Catawba potter Georgia Harris over a 30 year span.



Preparing to leave for the 1913 Corn



- Oral Histories — 150+ hours of interviews done between 1971-2004. Extensive documentation of Catawba life and culture in the early 19th century. In many ways these recordings may be considered South Carolina's Native American equivalent of the WPA slave narratives.

- [Photographs](#) — 3000+ Scanned and digitized. Finding aid exists. Digital collection created with the assistance of the South Carolina Digital Library in 2008.

- Slides — 6000+ Finding aid in progress. Also includes extensive Mesoamerican slides.

- Legal and Administrative Materials — 150 years of Catawba legal briefs and lawsuits, including copies of all Bureau of Indian Affairs Documents. A new collection was acquired in 2009 from the former Vice-Chief of the Catawba Nation which will add greatly to this component.

- Diaries and Journals — 50 years of journals by Catawba Indian Garfield Harris are a valuable chronology of everyday life on the reservation. Includes some materials from the 1920s and 1930s.

- A-Z topical files — contain extensive documentation about the Catawba Nation and Native Americans, a still growing component of the collection as Dr. Blumer continues to donate new materials. Includes biographical files for over 200 Catawba with files for 36 other Native American tribes, along with extensive Cherokee and Pamunkey sections.



S. C. Archival Association

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We're on the Web!

<http://scaa.palmettohistory.org>



## SOUTH CAROLINA ARCHIVAL ASSOCIATION

*The South Carolina Archival Association is a statewide association 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 historical societies, museums, colleges and universities, and churches to those in state, county, and municipal governments. Our membership also ranges from volunteers to full-time professional manuscript curators and archivists. Membership is open to anyone interested in SCAA's mission.*

*Benefits of membership include:*

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

*To join, see SCAA's website: <http://scaa.palmettohistory.org>*

*Questions? Contact Kate Moore, SCAA Membership Officer, at [mooreka@gwm.sc.edu](mailto:mooreka@gwm.sc.edu)*

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## NEWS FROM THE MIDLANDS

### BY DEBBIE BLOOM, RCPL

Below is a sample of exhibits and news from Midlands area historical facilities:

*South Caroliniana Library at USC, Lumpkin Foyer Exhibits:*

- "Beautiful Places: Early Images of South Carolina State Parks," June 1 – August 21.
- "A Gospel of Health: Hilla Sheriff's Crusade Against Malnutrition in South Carolina," September 1 – December 18.

*University of South Carolina at Aiken, Aiken Archives:* Alexia Helsey is processing the papers of USCA's second chancellor, Robert Alexander.

*Richland County Public Library, Walker Local History Room:* "Township Auditorium: Columbia's meeting place since 1930." March 8- May 28. Artifacts from the time capsule recovered during the current renovations are on display.

Town Theater programs have been digitized and the first batch sent to SC Memory. These programs are part of the Lou Kaplan Theater Program Collection housed at RCPL. The digitized collection includes playbills from 1927-1983.

Debbie Bloom, RCPL Local History Manager, was awarded the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research Institute's Jean Thomason 2010 scholarship. During the week of intensive study she will take: Researching African-American Ancestors: Slave & Reconstruction Era Records.

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Laura Jowdy, C.A.

Congressional Medal of Honor  
Society

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