The SCAAzette

Volume 3, Number 1 September 2001

Newsletter of the South Carolina Archival Association

Fall Workshops Announced

Lois Zemp, Beth Bilderback, Chuck Lesser (pictured left to right) enjoyed the "liftoff" reception at the South Caroliniana Library prior to the Spring 2001 conference. See page 7 for more pictures and an article about the conference.

Records management and working with shoestring budgets are the topics for this year's SCAA 2001 Fall Workshops. The programs are scheduled for Thursday, October 11, at the South Carolina Archives and History Center in Columbia.

"Wagging the Dog"

Dennis Taylor, Kathryn Gainey, and John Mackintosh will present a workshop which will deliver practical records management tips for archivists who wear multiple hats and for other archivists who want to exercise more influence on the overall records management cycle in their organization.

"Archives on a Shoestring"

Sharon Bennett is heading up the concurrent workshop titled "Archives on a Shoestring," which will cover the do's and don't shortcuts of preservation, processing, description, reference, exhibits and overall administration. It's targeted at low-budget institutions and others going through belt-tightening.

The day's activities will also include luncheon speaker Dan Bilderback, an archeologist and historian, who will speak on the documentary research performed for the State House Renovation Project. SCAA will also hold its annual meeting for the election of officers and other business. Watch your mail for a registration form and further details.

Find out more!

Visit the SCAA website at www.state.sc.us/scdah/scaa.htm

SCLA program includes archives programs of interest

While you're in Columbia for the SCAA Fall workshop, you may want to stay an additional day for the South Carolina Library Association 2001 Mini-Conference scheduled for October 12. The keynote speaker will be prominent historian, Dr. Dan T. Carter, speaking on ***"Shared History, Separate Memories: How We Remember Our Past."*** Dr. Carter will address the changing role of librarians and archivists in a multicultural society. Other sessions will also be presented.

The conference will be held at the USC Russell House. For more information visit SCLA's website at *www.scla.org/docs/2001fallminiconferenceprogram.html* or contact Stephanie Adams, Chair of the SCLA Archives & Special Collections Roundtable, cora@clemson.edu or 864-656-7741.

Suzanne Singleton named new SCAA Secretary

The SCAA Executive Board has appointed Suzanne Singleton to fill the unexpired term of Sharmila Bhatia who resigned in May to accept a position at the National Archives.

Singleton, an assistant reference librarian and university archivist at Francis Marion University in Florence, was the unanimous choice of the Board. As Secretary of SCAA, she will record minutes of all board meetings as well as the general business meeting and distribute them. She will also work with Nancy Piester, manager of the SCAA web page , to maintain current information on the web site.

Singleton received her Master of Librarianship from the University of South Carolina. She is a member of SAA and SCLA, and has served on the board of PALMCOP. She is a past chair of the Archives and Special Collections Roundtable of SCLA and has worked with the Bibliographic Instruction Interest Group. Currently she serves as chair of the Public Services Section of SCLA.

From the President

Why belong to a regional archival association?

In August I attended the annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists in Washington, D. C. While there, I met with presidents of archival organizations in the southeast to discuss problems facing state archival associations. Our discussions resulted in some positive outcomes that I hope to share with you at the SCAA fall meeting on October 11.

One of the topics we discussed concerned archival activities in the southeastern United States and how these activities might be fostered. A strong regional organization, we agreed, could facilitate progress. Presently the Southern Archives Conference (SAC) serves as the only regional archival association for the southeast. It is an alliance of archival organizations in the states of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee. At one time Florida belonged to SAC, but it is no longer a member. Meetings are held biennially and there are no individual member dues.

After the meeting, I reflected on our discussions: Does SCAA have a role to play on the regional scene? If so, what is it? Are there benefits from being a member of a regional organization? Are there drawbacks to membership? Is there a need for a regional archival association? I haven't fully answered all of these questions, but let me offer one or two tentative answers for your consideration.

A regional association would benefit the individual member by offering continuing education opportunities, which are not possible for SCAA to offer, regularly and often. Costs for hosting annual meetings and workshops have escalated over the past several years as have members' expectations for those meetings and workshops for which they pay a substantial registration fee. There's nothing wrong with members expecting relevant and timely programs with excellent content from experts in the field. But it is a challenge to recruit these experts—meeting after meeting—merely by offering them a free lunch! And the cost of lunches! Wow! Good, catered food is a major expense. Thanks to financial aid from the State Historical Records Advisory Board, SCAA has been able to defray costs of food while keeping registration fees low. But SHRAB funding won't continue forever. So a regional archival association, such as SAC, would allow state associations to combine resources.

Of course, one "down side" to membership in a regional association would be the cost of travelling to these meetings in the member states. Still, the cost would be less than attending a national meeting on the opposite side of the country.

To answer my first question, SCAA *most definitely* has a role to play on the regional scene. Within our membership lies a vast reserve of expertise in disaster planning and preparedness, conservation, and archival administration. We have much to offer our region. And we have much to gain from others.

I'd like to leave you with this request: please think about how you as a member would be affected through SCAA's membership in a regional archival association. If you have views that you'd like to communicate to me, or to the other officers, please do. If you want to speak directly to the entire membership, this newsletter may serve as your forum. I hope to provide additional information on this subject at the fall meeting in October. Hope to see you there.

Dennis Taylor

SCAA Member News

Sharmila Bhatia, formerly a reference archivist at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, is now working at the Center for Electronic Records, National Archives and Records Administration as an archives specialist. She and husband Steve are living in College Park, Maryland.

"Currently I have been assigned as a 'team leader' to handle copying media for reference requests." -Sharmila

Membership renewals for the year 2002 will be accepted during the Fall Conference which will be held October 21, 2001.

This effort proved to very successful as well as convenient for members attending the Fall Conference last year. A special table will be set up at the Conference with Individual Membership Renewal Forms already printed. Students are also encouraged to take advantage of this time-saver. Membership dues are: Regular ($15); Student ($10); Retired ($10). There is also a membership form included in this newsletter.

(Deloris H. Goggins)

Editorial Board formed

The Board is always looking for news! Please contact any of the board members if you have information you would like us to include in *The SCAAzette.*

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***The SCAAzette* editorial board**

Back row: Stephanie Adams, Bryan McKown, Rachel Tebalt
In front: Gina Price White

Congressman James E. Clyburn Donates Papers to South Carolina State University

Sixth District Congressman James E. Clyburn donated his papers to South Carolina State University in a ceremony on May 11, 2001. It is the largest donation of private papers from any African-American elected official in the state's history. The extensive collection includes material from Clyburn's teaching career in the Charleston Public Schools, his tenure as Neighborhood Youth Corps Director, Executive Directory of the South Carolina Commission for Farm Workers, Executive Assistant to Governor John C. West and more than 17 years as State Human Affairs Commissioner. It also includes campaign paraphernalia and documents.

Charleston County Public Library

South Carolina Room

The City of Charleston Council Minutes of 1834-1837 (the only years unpublished by the newspaper) are currently in the process of being preserved. After the Charleston Orphan House was demolished, the minutes were found in a load of bricks that were being sold. Rediscovered in the City of Charleston archives, the minutes, then in a basketball-like shape, are now on loan to the Charleston County Public Library. They have been humidified, flattened, and scanned. They are now being put back together on tissue. The project is nearly half done and the staff is unsure when the minutes will be available to the public.

White Homestead - Fort Mill, SC

Summer Event report from Rock Hill and Fort Mill

Ten members and their families attended the SCAA Summer Event on June 9, 2001. The morning began at the Catawba Cultural Center on the Catawba Indian Reservation in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Members viewed the exhibits in the Cultural Center building, milled around the outside booths tasting Native American ash bread, roasted corn, pumpkin, hominy, and fruits and nuts, while the children played Native American games and made paper regalia. Some walked down the nature trail to see the Native American garden, an archaeological dig site, bark huts, and the Catawba River. Others listened to a tribal storyteller, Keith Brown, and saw Chief Gilbert Blue give a blowgun demonstration. SCAA members were also treated to an exclusive tour of the tribal archives, and the tribal government offices or Long House.

Chief Gilbert Blue, Catawba Nation

A Catawba storyteller

Billie Anne McKellar, Archivist for Catawba Cultural Preservation Project.

After a short trip to Fort Mill from the reservation, the group was treated to an afternoon tea, and a tour of the 1831 Georgian house that is the ancestral home to Colonel Elliott White Springs, industrialist, author, and World War I flying ace. The house is one of three historic-register homes owned by the Close family, grandchildren of Colonel Springs, and is maintained as a private family residence. The interior furnishings and décor exemplify the Greek Revival theme of the 1800's. Of particular interest were the WWI and Civil War memorabilia and documents, and the Rococo Revival parlor suit made by John Henry Belter.

It was great fun for everyone, and very interesting to see the working side of these collections. Profits from the event will be set aside to provide scholarships for archival students to attend a national archival conference. If you are interested in contributing to the scholarship fund, contact Beth Bilderback at the South Caroliniana Library at USC, (803) 777-5183.

Medical University of South Carolina

Waring Historical Library

The Medical University of South Carolina and the College of Charleston co-hosted the 74th annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine (AAHM) in Charleston, April 19-22, 2001. W. Curtis Worthington, M.D., Director of the Waring Historical Library, and Peter McCandless, Ph.D., professor of history at the College of Charleston, served as co-chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee (LAC). Waring Historical Library staff members, Jane Brown, Curator, Kay Carter, Associate Curator, and Rachel Tebalt, Archivist, also served on the LAC. The program consisted of 26 sessions and featured 96 speakers. The final number of registrants was 325.

The Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences met in conjunction with AAHM on April 18. The group was treated to tours of the Waring Historical Library and the Leech Museum.

SC State Historical Records Advisory Board

Summit group formed

As a follow-up to a recommendation in the SC SHRAB state plan, the Board recently formed a Summit Group of Historical Records Repositories and Organizations. The first meeting was held on June 5th. Attendees at the first meeting were: Holly Herro (PALMCOP President and Project Director of a Statewide Preservation Initiative); Michael Kohl (Head, Clemson University Special Collections); John Landrum (Deputy State Librarian); David Percy (SC Historical Society and SC SHRAB); Allen Stokes (Director, South Caroliniana Library); Rodger Stroup (Director, SC Department of Archives and History); Dennis Taylor (SC Archival Association President); Roy Tryon (State Archivist and SC SHRAB Chairman). Absent: Ray Sigmon (Confederation of Local Historical Societies President)

Discussion included the need for marketing and PR for archives, Archives Week celebration, a state archival Listserv, and expansion of membership. The meeting summary is available on the SC SHRAB webpage, *www.state.sc.us/scdah/shrab1.htm.*

Want to join SHRAB's listserv for the SC archival community?

To subscribe, send an e-mail to: *SCAC-subscribe@topica.com*

The Summit Group will meet twice per year to discuss ways to promote collaboration and cooperation among the state's historical records repositories, and advise the SC SHRAB on the implementation of the state historical records plan and development of a projected annual report on the state of South Carolina's historical records.

Preservation Training Initiative for Small Libraries and Museums in South Carolina

The University of South Carolina has been awarded a National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museums and Library Services to fund the Preservation Training Initiative for Small Libraries and Museums in South Carolina. The Initiative is a joint effort of USC's Thomas Cooper Library Preservation Services Department and McKissick Museum with the assistance of Distance Education and Instructional Support and the College of Library and Information Science. The project focuses on small local institutions that do not have regular access to professional conservators or collection care specialists.

Conservators from across South Carolina will demonstrate proper preservation and collection care techniques that can be used in institutions with small staffs and limited resources. Conservators will present information that will aid the busiest curator, archivist, or librarian in the care of their collections. They will teach participants how to identify potential preservation risk. Participants will learn how to properly store, handle, and display historically significant items and employ low cost preservation methods.

The Initiative will utilize face-to-face learning and complementary technology consisting of satellite broadcasts, streaming video, and Internet access. Through the use of this technology the Initiative will help develop a statewide digital community who will interact and aid each other in the care and maintenance of our rich historical heritage. For more information contact Holly Herro at (803) 896-0783 (hherro@sc.edu).

Checking in with the SC Department of Archives and History

Online Reference Requests Increase Dramatically

In mid-December the Archives posted forms on its website for researchers to order photocopies of documents and place limited research requests. Patrons quickly discovered these forms and used them to submit 2,158 e-mail requests for information during January through April, 2001. This represents an increase of 300% over the number of e-mails requests (726) that the Archives received during the same period in 2000.

Collecting Policy

The Archives has just adopted a formal collecting policy, a copy of which is available at www.state.sc.us/scdah/armcollectplcy.htm. Two staff task forces are now working on developing documentation and scheduling priorities in line with the collecting policy and a new appraisal process (to be developed).

Digitization Pilot Project

With the support of a grant from the SC State Library, the Archives is engaged in a pilot project to digitize selected portions from its holdings for display via its website. The records to be digitized are Confederate Pension Applications and National Register files for selected counties. For details, contact Pat Morris (803) 896-6112 or morris@scdah.state.sc.us.

Crumley Archives receives NEH Grant

The Crumley Lutheran Archives in Columbia has been awarded a $5000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for its "Southern Lutheran Photographic Heritage" project. The archives serves the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America in eight Southern states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Staff members Jeanette Bergeron and Allison Swygert credit the SCAA spring 2000 workshop on funding for teaching them about this resource. The Crumley Archives also received a $2600 grant from the Lutheran Seminary Auxiliary for shelving.

Electronic Records Awareness and Training Project

An NHPRC grant of $37,460 is providing the support for SC Department of Archive and History Electronic Records Awareness and Training Project. The Archives' website, www.state.sc.us/scdah/armertrain.htm, will contain updated information during the course of the project, including session summaries or outlines. SCAA members are encouraged to attend. For additional information, contact Bill Henry (803) 896-6137 or henry@scdah.state.sc.us. The following is the schedule and speaker assignments for the project:

Conference Presentations

SC Information Technology Directors Association September 10, 2001, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina Rick Barry, Barry Associates;

SC Public Records Association October 25, 2001, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, John Phillips, Information Technology Decisions;

SC Archival Association October, 2002, Columbia, South Carolina, Tom Ruller, New York State Education Department

Workshops

Information Technology for Archivists and Records Managers (Basic) January 2002, Columbia, SC, Charles Dollar, University of British Columbia; Information Technology for Archivists and Records Managers (Advanced) April 2002, Columbia, SC, Charles Dollar, University of British Columbia;

Managing Electronic Records (Basic) August 2002, Columbia, SC, David Stephens, Zasio Enterprises,

Managing Electronic Records (Advanced) November 2002, Columbia, SC, Rick Barry, Barry Associates;

Preserving and Providing Long-Term Access to Archival Electronic Records (Basic) April 2003, Columbia, SC, Tom Ruller, New York State Education Department;

Preserving and Providing Long-Term Access to Archival Electronic Records (Advanced) May 2003, Columbia, SC, Anne Gilliland-Swetland, University of California at Los Angeles.

Spring Meeting Highlights

2001: An Archives Odyssey Provides Attendees Glimpse into Archival Future

Conference participants enjoy the Monday evening reception.
l-r: Elizabeth West, Brian Cuthrell, Brian Fahey, and Ryan Semmes.

The SCAA spring meeting opened with a "liftoff" reception at the South Caroliniana Library on Monday evening, March 26. The reception, given to honor archivists of the future (and present), recognized students enrolled in graduate programs in the fields of history and archives at USC. Students who attended included Elizabeth West, Brian Fahey, Kelly Gilbert, Ryan Semmes, Deana Moore, and Bryan Collars. Members enjoyed food and fellowship with other SCAA members, as well as keynote speaker John Hammond Moore and several other session presenters.

Session presenters for "Cooperative Strategies for Documenting SC History in the 21st Century."
l-r: Michael Kohl, Allen Stokes, Steve Tuttle, Jeanette Bergeron

The next day, Tuesday, approximately eighty members registered for meeting sessions that ran the gamut of archival issues. The session "Filling in the written record: conducting oral histories" with Darrick Hart, Dale Rosengarten, and Elizabeth Moses garnered the most attendees. According to evaluations received, over ninety-seven percent of members reported a high level of satisfaction with the meeting overall. All evaluations and the views expressed in them will be studied and analyzed for future meetings and workshops. Respondents provided some excellent data as to future topics for sessions and workshops. Thanks to everyone who attended and took time to complete their evaluations!

Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum

A date has not been set for the reopening of the reference library. Leaks from the flight deck of the Yorktown prompted the closing of the reference library a year ago. However, the staff is still able to answer almost all questions.

College of Charleston

Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture

As of July 1, 2001, Dr. Karen Chandler has come on board as the new Director of the College of Charleston's Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture. Dr. Chandler was previously the Director of the Art Management Department at the College of Charleston.

"Confederate Currency: The Color of Money," Avery Research Center's widely acclaimed exhibit which opened February 15, 2001, will be on display through October 19, 2001. The exhibit, which features original oil paintings by Columbia, South Carolina based artist John Jones, re-creates scenes of slavery found on Confederate currency. The original currency is also on display.

Marianetta Porter's "Memory and Oblivion: Visual Interpretations of the African Slave Castles of the Coasts," opened at the Avery Research Center on May 24, 2001 and will run through September 15, 2001.

All events are free and open to the public Monday - Saturday, 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.

SCAA Membership Form

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

_____

_____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Membership Level: Regular ($15)_____ Student ($10) _____ Retired ($10) _____

Send completed form along with a check payable to SC Archival Association to:

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