South Carolina Archival Association newsletter South Carolina Archival Association newsletter Association newsletter

Winter 2004

Volume 6, Number 2

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SCAA, PALMCOP hold successful joint meeting

By DOROTHY HAZELRIGG

ORE THAN 75 archivists gathered at the South Carolina Archives and History Center on November 10, as the South Carolina Archivel Association and the Palmetto Archivel, Libraries, and Museums Council on Preservation (PALMCOP) held their first-ever joint conference. The featured speaker was conservator Hilary Kaplan of the National Archives and Records Administration, who conducted two general sessions on archival supplies and mold mitigation.

Kaplan's first session, "Attention Archives Shoppers: Being an Educated Consumer," focused on the meaning of such "feel-good terms" as "acid-free," "museum quality," and "archival" in reference to supplies such as folders. Kaplan noted that the definitions of these words are imprecise at best. She showed examples from archival catalogs, demonstrating that their descriptions of such products tend to be lacking more concrete and important information, such as the actual pH of the supplies. A handout detailed broad guidelines for selecting supplies. In Kaplan's second session, "Don't Blow This Off: Mold Mitigation Minus Malaise," she discussed the preferred equipment and methods for containing mold and for archivists to protect themselves and their collections while working with moldy materials.

In addition, two concurrent sessions were held. Tommy Betenbaugh of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History led a discussion



Outgoing SCAA President Sharon Bennett, left, and PALM-COP Chair Harlan Greene open the first joint meeting, at the S.C. Archives and History Center. [Photo by Brian Fahey]

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Scrapbooks," while Beth Bilderback, Aimee Berry James, and Roy Tryon gave presentations on "Acquiring Collections Through eBay." Betenbaugh displayed examples

on "Preserving

of deteriorating scrapbooks and talked about some possible means of preservation, including deacidification, dismantling the books and placing the pages into folders, and reformatting via scanning, microfilming, or photocopying. The panelists in "Acquiring Collections Through eBay" addressed navigating the website, their experiences purchasing items from the site, and pitfalls to avoid when looking for papers and artifacts online – specifically, the possibility that sellers may willfully or accidentally misrepresent what they are offering. Roy Tryon discussed the problem of public records being offered for sale and the difficulty

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President's Letter

With past successes, future bright

▼ EASON'S GREETINGS! As members of the SC Archival Association, we have many causes for thanks - a profession we love, interesting people to work with, and a great association. On my list in particular are Sharon Bennett and the outgoing and incoming board members. This has been a fine year with great programs, timely speakers, and a well-written newsletter. In addition, Sharon has been unfailing in her willingness to assist new officers and unstinting in her commitment to this association. I look forward to working with her and you during this coming year.

For the new year, I would like to see enhanced collaborative ventures and additional training opportunities. Share your ideas! My e-mail address is alexiahelsley@yahoo.com. Let's make 2005 a banner year for the archival association.

Wishing you the blessings of the season,

Alexia







From left, Beth Bilderback was named Archivist of the Year; Jane Brown won the Career Achievement award; and Joan Davis took the Friends of the Archives award.

[Photos by Brian Fahey]

MEETING

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of reclaiming them for the state.

Between speakers, attendees enjoyed poster sessions presented by The History Press, PASCAL (Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Libraries), PALMCOP, and Don Chalfant of SCDAH. Both SCAA and PALMCOP also held their annual business meetings at the conference. Outgoing President Sharon Bennett passed her gavel to Alexia Helsley and introduced SCAA's new officers for the upcoming calendar year, Vice President Suzanne Singleton and Treasurer Jim Cross. In

addition, SCAA presented three awards. Alexia Helsley presented the Friend of the Archives Award to Joan Davis, director of the Archives and History Foundation. Helsley cited Davis's work in instituting several new programs designed to promote the Archives, including monthly lectures and classes relating to genealogical research. Next Helslev recognized Jane Brown's lifelong contribution to the archival profession and her recent retirement as, director of MUSC's Waring Historical Library with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Last, Helsley announced Beth Bilderback as the 2004 Archivist of the Year for her "outstanding service to SCAA and to patrons of the South Caroliniana Library."

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MEMBER INSTITUTION HIGHLIGHTS

Hartsville Genealogical Research Library

By DORIS BATEMAN

Hartsville Genealogical Research Library

The Old Darlington District Chapter of the South Carolina Genealogical Society invites you to visit our research library located at 114 South Fourth Street, Hartsville, SC (Old Train Depot). Our mission is to collect, preserve, and make available the genealogical and historical heritage of the Old Darlington District of South Carolina. We have published over 38 books and publications.

Hartsville Genealogical Research Library has a large genealogical collection of books, newsletters, and maps from all across the United States. We have materials from a majority of the fifty states with concentrations in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia. We have many published Colonial, State and County records, cemetery surveys from various SC counties, published collections of primary records, etc.

Chesterfield County, SC is a "burned county" therefore research in this county is very difficult. We have two

More information

■ Hours: Monday, 1 p.m.-5 p.m.; Friday, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Appointments:

- Doris M. Bateman 843-332-2588 DEDBateman@aol.com
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 PO Box 175
 Hartsville, SC 29551-0175

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■ Telephone: 843-857-0300

■ Website: http://www. geocities.com/Heartland/ Estates/7212

Shirley Burford -Various States with a concentration of S.C. & N.C. Materials; Mary Ellis Webster - Ellis and Allied Families; Carrie Kalber -Erwin. Lawton, and Allied Families; Edwin Lavin Large, Jr. -Large, Hendrix, Reynolds and Allied Families; Jill Lyles - Welsh Neck Baptist Association. 1730's - 1990's:

tions are available:

Daniel Moses – African American Photograph Collection; John Carroll Skinner – All areas of South Carolina; Carson Steen – Hartsville Oral History; Alden/Meares Collection; and Capt. E.W. Cannon's personal papers dated from 1790 - 1902.

Other resources are: Published Family Genealogies; Family Surname

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very important genealogical collections: the Doris Gandy Chesterfield Surname Collection and the Marie Wiggins Chesterfield Genealogical Collection. Both collections are the result of decades of research into hundreds of Chesterfield County families by these two talented researchers. Copies of numerous Chesterfield County Equity cases are also available.

The following genealogical collec-

Catawba Cultural Preservation Project

By BILLIE ANNE MCKELLAR

Catawba Cultural Preservation Project The Catawba Nation is located on a 720-acre reservation in Rock Hill, South Carolina, with an enrollment of 2,200 tribal members. The Tribe reorganized in 1973 when a new chief and executive committee was elected. Under the leadership of new Chief Gilbert Blue, the issue of lost lands was being discussed. The Catawba Tribe's Land of 144,000 acres was lost to leasing due to the Treaty of 1840, which was never ratified. After extensive research, the thought of a lawsuit against the state of South Carolina to recover lost land soon was put into motion. A group of lawyers from the Native American Rights Funds (NARF) located in Boulder, Colorado was contacted about the lawsuit. NARF was



The Old Catawba Indian School.

willing to help Catawba reclaim their land and after twenty years of litigation, a settlement was reached and Catawba became the first Native American Tribe to be federally recognized in the state of South Carolina.

The Catawba Cultural Preservation Project (CCPP) was formed in 1987 and as early as 1989, before a building was even thought of, tribal members were already collecting and storing records in their homes. At this time, Dr. Wenonah Haire, who was serving as chairman of the originating task force and later became the director of

the Catawba Cultural Preservation Project, learned that the Old Catawba Indian School was going to be destroyed. She immediately took action and contacted the owners of the building, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The church donated the school to the CCPP and was able to help with some of the moving cost. The building had to be moved in two halves from its location. It was strange to see this 42-year-old building on wheels moving down the highway. We were all relieved when the old school was finally placed at its new location on Tom Steven Road. Renovation took more than two years with most of the work done by volunteers from the tribe and school groups.

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PASCAL hosts four Speaker's Forums

By KATE BOYD

USC University Libraries

This past summer on July 27, 30 and August 10 and 13, PASCAL (Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Libraries) hosted a Speaker's Forum at the University of South Carolina's Thomas Cooper Library and Russell House. Funding for the forum came through an LSTA grant from the South Carolina State Library. Focusing on state-wide digital libraries and entitled "Releasing South Carolina's Cultural Heritage: The Collaborative Imperative," the forum involved eight experts in the field of digital libraries. These experts spoke to participants in the morning and shared their ideas with PASCAL's Digital Collections Committee in round-table discussions in the afternoon. A strong attendance at each of the presentations of approximately thirty to forty people from diverse types of libraries and archives, such as public, academic, small college libraries and archives, demonstrated the interest across the state on this subject.

The speakers were from four different state consortiums: the Digital Library of Georgia, Florida's PALMM project, North Carolina's NC Echo, and the Colorado Digitization Project. This gave people a chance to see the many different ways to create a state digital library. Everything from successful collaboration to the pros and cons of centralized or decentralized facilities and the nuts and bolts of software and hardware needed for a digital library was discussed. Rick Moul, Executive Director of PASCAL, states "We had hoped that the digital library forum would accomplish two things -- helping our planning committee develop a better understanding of the scope and variety of statewide digital initiatives, and to spark interest in our initiative amongst South Carolina librarians, archivists and curators. Given the depth and quality of the presenters, and the range of attendees, I think we were tremendously successful."

The presentations began on July 27th with Toby Graham and Sheila McAlister from our neighboring state consortium, the Digital Library of Georgia, both speaking. Mr. Graham, the new director to the DLG, discussed the broad issues of consortia work for digital libraries, such as collaboration, training, outreach, the pros and cons of centralization versus decentralization, open source, and OAI. He gave examples of different types of statewide consortia, and stressed the importance of a government structure or oversight committee. Ms. McAlister, Project Manager and Digital Metadata Coordinator, spoke about managing specific projects and what to consider when planning. She suggested thinking about the perspectives of different possible audiences, including the student, casual user, business person, and hobbyist what may appeal to them.

On Friday the 29th, we heard from two very different state consortia digital libraries, Florida and North Carolina. From Florida's PALMM (Publication of Archival, Library, and Museum Materials) project we heard from Chuck Thomas of Florida State University and Priscilla Caplan of Florida Center for Library Automation. Priscilla Caplan gave us the background and history of the PALMM project and the Florida Electronic Library (FEL). PALMM was created in 2000 as an academic consortium with decentralized scanning and centralized metadata. FEL was implemented in 2002 and has centralized metadata as well. Chuck Thomas shared his digital library experience from three different universities, Louisiana, Minnesota, and Florida. He discussed barriers to collaborative digital projects such as the high costs, changing standards, skills needed, and sustainability.

The North Carolina project, NCEcho (North Carolina Explores Cultural Heritage Online), which was the second state-wide consortia created in the country, is a much different project from the others. Kevin Cherry, who was involved from the beginning, explained its background and goals. Primarily, through a detailed survey of every state cultural heritage institution NCEcho's web site is linking to most of the cultural heritage institu-

tions of North Carolina, giving these, sometimes very small institutions, a presence on the web. However this web presence usually only allows for browsing of institutions, not viewing of the actual collection items. Kathy Wisser, the metadata librarian for the project, and one of the three full time employees, discussed the many workshops and training sessions on scanning and metadata creation that NCEcho also offers as outreach to their constituents.

The next two days in August were presentations by Liz Bishoff, Vice President of Digital Collections and Metadata Services at OCLC, who was previously executive director of the Colorado Digitization Program, and Martin Halbert, Director for Library Systems at Emory University. Bishoff spoke about the creation of the Colorado Digitization Program (CDP), the first state consortium in the country. The CDP is decentralized with a small central staff and scanning units around the state. She shared a lot of good advice about what works and what doesn't concerning collaboration. For instance, a good understanding of the state's culture is necessary to create a viable infrastructure for the organization. Therefore, South Carolina cannot simply copy any particular model. Issues that will arise with collaboration are competition for funds, the spotlight, and employees who are spread too thin already.

Our last speaker, Martin Halbert, from Emory University, discussed his work with the Open Archive Initiative (OAI) and the MetaScholar Initiative, which encompasses MetaArchive, AmericanSouth, MetaCombine, and Music for Social Change. He spoke briefly about OAKHAM (Open Community Knowledge Hypermedia Administration and Metadata), and LOCKSS (Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe), and showed us a new, not yet released, site "Southern Spaces" which is a refereed electronic journal that attempts to use the web to its fullest capacity. However, his main focus was on the interoperability of digital libraries,

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News from the S.C. Department of Archives and History

SC Archives Among the Best

AMILY TREE Magazine's 2004 list of the 101 Best Web Sites for Tracing Your Roots (http://www.familytreemaga_ine.com/101sites/2004/regional.html) includes the Archives, citing our Online Records Index (ORI) to our oldest records: South Carolina Department of Archives and History (www.state.sc.us/scdah).

This site's online index to more than 295,000 documents from 1675 to 1868 lets you search Confederate pension applications, will transcriptions, criminal journals, plats for state land grants and legislative papers. The powerful search engine enables you to pick your database or search across all documents using a combination of terms.

As noted in the last issue of

SCAAzette, the Archives is scanning

selected series of records for direct patron access via the ORI. This scanning has been supported by Institute of Museum and Library Services grant funds administered by the SC State Library. Nearly 14,000 documents representing over 30,000 pages have been added, with more to come. This fiscal year, a major series of land records will be scanned, Colonial Plats Books (copy series), 1731-1775 (http://www.archives index.sc.gov/search/Authority Terms/s descriptions/s213184.asp), and added to the ORI. Researchers have been excited about the ORI and the addition of actual documents to the online index. There is a long way to go however, before we reach a critical mass of records online. The amount of records now available represents less than 5% of the records indexed via the ORI and less than .06% of the Archives total holdings.

Archives Seeks Civil War Era Governors Records

A S YOU are already aware through news accounts (see August 7 articles in The State and the Charleston Post and Courier), the

Archives has been dealing with the possible sale at auction of South Carolina gubernatorial records from the administrations of Francis W. Pickens and Milledge L. Bonham, 1860-1864. The records most likely left state custody during the confusion prior to the burning of Columbia on February 17, 1865, during occupation of the city by Union troops under General William Tecumseh Sherman. Archives staff members determined that the records are state government records that belong in the State Archives with the records of other South Carolina Governors. They noted especially the similarities in docketing information, subject matter, and letterhead to other records of the Pickens-Bonham administrations already held by the Archives.

Archives Director Dr. Rodger Stroup sought the assistance of Attorney General Henry McMaster to halt the scheduled August 7 sale. Attorney General McMaster determined that "Common Law says documents generated by the government or to the government are official state documents" and that "...these documents belong to the people of South Carolina." He requested a temporary restraining order to stop the sale pending a court hearing and decision on the merits of the State's case. The Charleston Circuit Court issued the restraining order on August 6. Since then, the matter has been moved to federal bankruptcy court. We are waiting on the court decision on ownership of the records.

1789 Presidential Election Return

SIGNED AND sealed original copy of South Carolina's vote for George Washington in the first presidential election of 1789 has been given to the South Carolina Department of Archives and History. The evocative and beautiful manuscript ended up in Lake Placid, Florida, and was returned to South Carolina through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. John Fletcher Hays, Jr., of Lake Placid. According to Accessions Archivist Chuck Lesser, members of the General Assembly chose a pantheon of the state's Revolutionary generation as their seven presidential electors: Christopher Gadsden, Henry Laurens, Arthur Simkins, Edward Rutledge,

Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, John Faucheraud Grimke, and Thomas Heyward, Jr. Two of the men had signed the Declaration of Independence and one the U. S. Constitution.

The document was discovered in an abandoned house that Mr. and Mrs. Hays bought "as is" with all its contents. The constitution requires that presidential electors' returns be submitted to the President of the U.S. Senate, so the department's staff very reluctantly initially referred the owners to the National Archives. It turns out that a virtually identical return is where it should be in the records of the U. S. Senate. Archivists at the National Archives and at the department believe that this copy was created either for the General Assembly or for Governor Thomas Pinckney.

NHPRC-Funded Electronic Records Program Development Project

HE SCDAH project team has completed the information-gathering phase of the project at the Department of Social Services (DSS) and, with the exception of a test of the Trustworthy Information Systems Handbook (TIS, http://www.state.sc. us/scdah/erg/tis.htm), has completed all the fieldwork in that agency. Recently, SCDAH staff members met with a DSS information technology staff to obtain information on systems operations and to discuss the agency's enterprise digital imaging system that is presently under development. We will test the TIS criteria at DSS with this imaging system in December. DSS staff are also interested in applying retention rules to the documents in the imaging system.

Currently, a major push is underway to complete the Electronic Records Management Guidelines, which is one of the major deliverables of the project. The team is meeting weekly to review and revise the draft. We hope to complete the final product and have it web-accessible by the end of 2004.

Other work in progress includes development of a DSS record retention schedule database. This database will include retention schedules covering the agency's archival records as deter-

News from the S.C. State Historical Records Advisory Board

Regrant Project Draws Proposals

HE BOARD received 19 proposals requesting a total of more than \$94,000 in the first of a projected two application cycles under an NHPRC-supported \$100,000 regrant project for local governments and non-government historical records repositories. The SC SHRAB will meet in December to decide on funding for the first cycle project proposals. For project details, see the Board Website: http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/shrab/regrantmain0406.htm.

Article on the SC SHRAB, NHPRC

HE SOUTH Carolina SHRAB
was featured recently along with
three other states (Missouri,
Nevada, and New Mexico) in the NHPRC's quarterly newsletter, Annotation
(http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/shrab/index.htm) celebrating the thirtieth
anniversary of the NHPRC's records
program.

SCDAH

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mined by the functional appraisal process that we are testing, as well as schedules for non-permanent records. When completed, the retention schedules will be accessible via the SCDAH web site. We are also currently developing a new streamlined process that DSS staff can use in the future to establish new or revise existing retention schedules for non-permanent records.

The final product of the DSS phase of the project will be the development of a report and recommendations to help the agency manage its electronic records.

Even though the first phase of the project is not yet completed, planning for phase two is already underway. This next phase will involve taking the lessons learned at DSS and applying them to selected electronic records/systems in two additional agencies. Work at the South Carolina Judicial Department is scheduled to begin in late 2004 and extend into mid-2005.

HARTSVILLE

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Newsletters; Photographs; Darlington District Cemetery Surveys; Chesterfield District Cemetery Surveys; South Carolina Genealogical Society Archives; Columbia Chapter's Book Collection; Microfilm, Microfiche and CD Rom Collections.

The Library has available for sale one of the widest selection of genealogical books pertaining to Darlington and Chesterfield Counties. All books are reasonably priced and many are by local authors. The Library currently has ca. 175 publications for sale.

We are a nonprofit organization and staffed by volunteers. We would appreciate you sharing with us any old records you may have pertaining to your family that would help our patrons in their research. We appreciate any help that you can give us, either by donating or let us copy them for our files. All monetary donations are used to expand the holdings at our Research Library.

CATAWBA

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CCPP currently functions through eight departments, including Archaeology, Archives, Language/Public Relations, Programs, Exhibits, Maintenance and Administration. Through many of these departments, on- and off-site classes are available to school groups and tour services to educate the public

on the correct history of the Catawba Nation. In 1994 the Executive Committee of the Tribal government designated the CCPP to act as the repository for the preservation and promotion of the tribal history and culture. The Archives houses over 100 cubic feet of historical records. The manuscript collection consists of letters, journals, oral histories, land leases, photographs, and genealogical information. The artifact collection consists of pottery, projectile points, gorgets and

beadwork.

Every November, on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, the Catawba's celebrate with their annual Yap Ye ISWA Festival. Drummers, dancers, and crafts people are out sharing and showcasing their talents. The River People (Catawba) invite all their friends, families and neighbors to join them and learn of the rich heritage and culture of the Catawba people.

PASCAL

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making them cross-searchable and giving more access points to the items in the collections. OAI was one of the first protocols to focus on this issue. The MetaScholar initiative and

OAKHAM continue this work through specific projects. Mr. Halbert suggests the term "Meta-Gardening" over "Harvesting," because he has learned that following the OAI protocol is more than putting the systems in place to harvest the data. The data must be planted and cultivated well, too, so that it is consistent. In other words, he stressed the reality of "garbage-in,"

garbage-out."

The lessons learned from these presentations are still being assessed and PASCAL will continue to benefit from these experts' ideas in the field of digital librarianship. To learn more about PASCAL's digital library and to see a report and analysis on this Speakers Forum visit - http://pascal.tcl.sc.edu/digilibsc/forum.htm.