

SPOTLIGHT Q&A WITH MEGAN BLAIR, HISTORIAN
AETC HISTORY OFFICE, US AIR FORCE HISTORY MUSEUMS PROGRAM



Q: What is the structure of the Air Education and Training Command (AETC) History office? Does every base have a history office?

A: The Air Education and Training Command (AETC) History Office is part of the US Air Force History and Museums Program, a program that includes the National Museum of the Air Force, the Air Force Historical Research Agency, and more than 150 field history offices scattered around the world. In AETC, for example, there is one history office at the headquarters, one at Air University, and one at every base assigned to the command. The historians at these locations are responsible for documenting and recording the major issues affecting their organization. The AETC History Office covers such topics as basic, technical, and flying training; professional military education; and recruiting. The office consists of a command historian, three historians, command curator, and most recently an archivist.



Through most of the 1930s, the Air Corps conducted all primary and basic flying training at Randolph. These Boeing PT-13 "Kaydets" lined up at Randolph Field were the principal trainers used in the primary phase.

Q: What kind of training or background does one need to work in the History Office?

A: While the majority of the people who work in the Air Force History and Museum Program have a masters or PhD., everyone has to have at least 18 hours of college level history courses.

Q: What kind of material does the Air Education and Training Command History Office collect, and how does the material come to the office?

A: The office collects material that relates to AETC or its predecessors organizations. We also collect information about the bases that are currently assigned or were once assigned to AETC or its predecessors. Generally, we receive photographs, classbooks, and other material from people who wish to donate them. The historians collect documents from various sources that are used to write the annual history and then archived in the office. In the past, most documents were in paper

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THE SOCIETY OF SOUTHWEST ARCHIVISTS

The Society of Southwest Archivists is a professional organization established to stimulate and make available research in archival administration and records management; promote sound principles and standards for preserving and administering records; foster opportunities for the education and training of archivists, records managers, and custodians of private papers; strengthen relations with others in allied disciplines; and cooperate with organizations and institutions having mutual interests in the preservation and use of our recorded knowledge.

We invite you to join or extend your membership. All memberships run January through December. A membership form is included inside the back page. The form is also available online at: <http://southwestarchivists.org/HTML/Membership.htm>.

Southwestern Archivist is the quarterly newsletter of the SSA. The editors give priority to submissions of news items about repositories in the SSA region and about the professional accomplishments of SSA members. Out-of-region submissions will be published as space is available. Short feature articles on topics and issues relating to current trends in archival enterprise are also welcome. Please query co-editor Katie Salzmänn if you have any questions about the appropriateness of a proposed article.

Submission process: Please send all final submissions to one of the state liaisons listed below. The preferred submission format is a Word or rtf document attached via email. Articles should include a title as well as the author's name and employing institution. The editors also encourage photographs or other illustrations relating to each submission. These should be sent as email attachments, with captions for each image included in the text of the e-mail or following the article.

Please note that submission may be edited to conform to style conventions and available space. Because of space limitations, the editors reserve the right to omit submissions or hold them over for a future issue.

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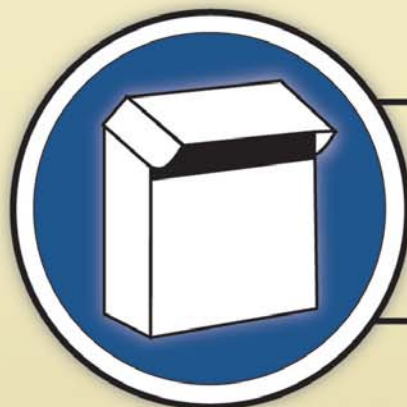
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SSA WEB SITE: <http://southwestarchivists.org>

The SSA Web page is maintained by Pati Threatt at McNeese State University. Names of the executive board members, officers, and committee chairs are available online.

SSA LEADERSHIP BLOG: <http://ssaleaders.blogspot.com/>

The SSA Leadership Blog is a source for official news from the executive board and committee members.



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The wiki is open to
SSA members and
the general public; no
permission is required
to post.

SSA news and
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Annual Meeting Sites

2008 - Houston
2009 - Shreveport
2010 - Santa Fe
2011 - Little Rock
2012 - Phoenix

FROM THE EDITORS: SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT ON SSA

The primary mission of *Southwestern Archivist* is to provide SSA board members, officers, and members a vehicle for sharing information about the Society and about individual repositories in the region. A long-standing tradition in support of this mission has been the "spotlight" cover story. Recent past issues have reflected the wide variety of archives and collections in the region: a physical culture and sports collection at UT-Austin; a premier photography collection at the University of Arizona; one of four Presidential libraries located in the SSA region; a cartoon collection in Oklahoma, and more.

The spotlight article is a chance for members to gain an in-depth look at the history, collections, and accomplishments of an individual repository. We have been delighted with the submissions in past issues, and we thank the authors for taking the time to contribute such great content. With this issue, you will notice a slight format change for the spotlight article. We have had such success with our Q & A interview articles that we decided to try that format for the spotlights.

In 2010, cover stories for *Southwestern Archivist* will alternate between a Q & A interview with a professional in a related field (February's issue featured appraiser John Payne) and a repository spotlight Q & A. This first Spotlight Q & A is with Megan Blair, Historian at the Air Education and Training Command History Office.

We hope that you will continue to enjoy these articles. If you have a recommendation of a person to interview or a repository to highlight, please contact co-editor Katie Salzmann and help *Southwestern Archivist* continue to shine a spotlight on the impressive collections and professionals in our region!

SOUTHWESTERN ARCHIVIST NEEDS YOU!

Tell your colleagues about your acquisitions, projects, exhibits, or grants — submit your repository news and leadership log information by **July 10th**. Photographs (300dpi in a native image format) are highly encouraged. Be sure to provide the caption and/or credit information that you want to accompany the image(s).

Help maintain the quality of this newsletter by submitting repository news articles with photographs.

- One column (1/2 page) = 275 words with a photograph or two
- Two columns (1 full page) = 600 words with a photograph or two

Because of space limitations, we regret that we are unable to publish articles that are significantly longer than 600 words. Authors are encouraged to read the Call for Submissions that is sent to members via e-mail about 10 days prior to the deadline. Priority will be given to articles that meet the stated guidelines, that are accompanied by photographs with captions, and are submitted by the stated deadline (see p.4 of every issue).

We are seeking brief submissions from individuals who attended the SSA Annual Meeting in Santa Fe. If you are interested in contributing a photograph, a quote, or a brief review of a session that you found particularly relevant or useful, please contact Katie Salzmann at salzmann@txstate.edu to reserve space!

MEET THE PRESIDENT

By John H. Slate, CA • SSA President 2010-2011



John H. Slate is city archivist for the City of Dallas, where he is responsible for access to and the preservation of historic city government records in the Dallas Municipal Archives. The Municipal Archives is a part of the City Secretary's Office. He is a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists and possesses a BS from the University of Texas at Austin and a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science, specializing in archival enterprise, from the same institution.

John's work in archives, libraries, and special collections began at the Center for American History at the University of Texas at Austin, where he spent thirteen years. He previously was curator/librarian at the Hertzberg Museum of the San Antonio Public Library and also held positions at the Texas African American Photography Archive in Dallas and Grand Prairie Memorial Library. He is an active member of the Society of American Archivists (past chair of the Government Archives Section and the Visual Materials Section) and the Society of Southwest Archivists. He is presently a member of the Texas State Library and Archives' Historical Records Advisory Board. John's project management on two grants devoted to the preservation of the City of Dallas' historic park plans and drawings contributed to the "Award of Excellence in Preserving History" from the Texas Historical Commission in 2005.

He has written and presented numerous papers and articles on photography and film.

Q: What drew you to the field of archives?

A: a) A visit to the University of Texas' Briscoe Center for American History (back then the Barker Texas History Center) at age 12. The archivist who greeted me, Ralph Elder, later became my boss. b) A summer clerical job at the Barker Center, fresh out of high school. By that fall I knew pretty well what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. To handle the same papers handled by the very famous and the not-so-famous is both a privilege and a thrill.

Prior to working in an archives setting, I was a janitor and a Baskin-Robbins soda jerk. Since then I've never worked in any other setting. So I'm really good for nothing else.



Q: If you hadn't become an archivist, what career path do you think you would have chosen?

A: I wanted to work either in film or television production, or write about film and television history.

Q: What do you see as the most pressing issues facing SSA?

A: a) Our fiscal responsibilities. We need to think carefully about balancing membership benefits with the costs for providing them, and to be transparent in our use of SSA's funds. Specifically, we could do a better job of fundraising. b) SSA's future health. I personally believe we should be looking to the future by setting reasonable long-term and short-term goals for making our amazing organization even stronger and more responsive to its increasingly diverse membership.

Q: Have you ever won anything in SLOTTTO? If so, do you remember what it was?

A: In all of my years in SSA, I have won a number of things, but here are the highlights: a) Glass bluebird at Fayetteville meeting (actually, I think everyone won one of those that year); b) Kitschy "maiden with ducks" statue; c) Plenty of terrific books, e.g. "A Guide to the Historical Geography of New Spain" and "The Redneck Grill Cookbook". I have never won the coveted bust of LBJ.

Q: Confess...Do you ever visit archival repositories when you are on vacation (excluding conference-related tours)?

A: Without question. Too many to list, but the best ones thus far have included: Los Alamos Historical Society Archives, the UK National Archives, Chicago Museum of Science and Industry Archives, the Seattle Municipal Archives, the collections of the National Museum of Health and Medicine (US Army Medical Museum), and Playboy Enterprises Archives. I just visited the wonderful Special Collections of the University of Nevada at Las Vegas.

Continues on next page

FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Q: Is there anything else you'd like to share with the membership?

A: SSA is not a club or a clique. There's a preponderance of Texans in it, but don't be fooled by numbers. SSA's strength is in our solidarity as a region, which includes esteemed colleagues and friends in Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana. Don't be shy about getting involved. It's a chance to make friends and valuable, sometimes lifelong, contacts. I see our organization as a common meeting ground for both professional and paraprofessional archivists to network, learn, and have fun. It's also important to remember that it is entirely fueled by unpaid volunteers. If you take a role in SSA, take it seriously, but don't let it worry you to death. If you are as passionate as I am about archives and its value in society, I hope you'll join me in this terrific organization.

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Betty Shankle
Chair, Scholarship Committee

**A. Otis Hebert, Jr. Scholarship**

Bradley J. Wiles of Louisiana State University Special Collections at Hill Memorial Library in Baton Rouge, Louisiana was awarded the A. Otis Hebert Jr. Continuing Education Scholarship to attend the 2010 Archives Leadership Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

John Michael Caldwell Student Scholarship

Awarded to **Michael Aday**, a graduate student in his final semester at UT Arlington in the history department with a concentration in archival administration. Future plans include becoming ACA certified.

Annual Meeting Scholarship

Awarded to **Michelle Bogart**, an archivist at the George Bush Library. She recently received her MSIS with an emphasis in archival enterprise from The University of Texas at Austin.

Betty Shankle
Betty.Shankle@fortworthgov.org

NEW SSA WEB SITE

Pati Threatt
Chair, Internet Committee



The Society of Southwest Archivists has created a new Web site. A special ad-hoc committee made up of **Gina Costello**, **Pati Threatt**, and **Christina Wolf** investigated SSA's Web site needs, created a membership survey, solicited proposals, and selected an outside Web designer. The Web designer, Nate Bean, completely re-worked the site, incorporating SSA's new logos and color schemes to present a cohesive, organized, and polished home page on the Web.

The entire process took more than a year to complete. Among the new features are an online membership directory, separate pages for each standing committee, and cleaner graphics that load much faster than the old Web site.

Visit www.southwestarchivists.org to see the new design.

Pati Threatt
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PDC QUARTERLY REPORT

Joel Minor
Chair, Professional Development Committee



On Tuesday, April 27, SSA set up and sponsored a Basics of Archives workshop in Santa Fe, and on Wednesday, April 28, we held three workshops at the New Mexico History Museum: Preservation of Photographic Material, Fundraising 101: Success in Starting a Fundraising Program for Your Repository, and Caring for Native American Archival Collections in a Culturally Responsive Way.

Thank you to all who helped make these workshops a success, by planning, teaching, attending, or facilitating them! Right now the PDC is looking for ideas for at least one more workshop in the region in 2010. Some recent suggestions: basics of scanning, disaster preparedness and recovery, and map identification.

If you or someone you know has any interest in teaching or hosting one of these workshops, please let me know. Other feedback and ideas are always welcome as well. Stay posted between newsletters on the SSA Leadership log (<http://ssaleaders.blogspot.com/>).

Joel Minor
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SSA Committee news is available on the Leadership Blog.

<http://ssaleaders.blogspot.com/>

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ann Massmann
Chair, Nominating Committee



SSA Members Voted Early with New Electronic Voting!

The 2010 election is completed and the results were announced at the Annual Meeting in Santa Fe. The Nominating Committee, consisting of **Ann Massmann**, **Ellen Brown**, and **Michelle Mears**, would like to thank all of the candidates who ran for office. Your SSA officers and elected committee members for 2010/2011 are:

Vice President: **Carol Bartels**

Secretary: **Christina Wolf**

Executive Board 2010-2012:

Mat Darby

Joel Minor

Diane Worrell

Nominating Committee: **Warren Stricker**

Scholarship Committee: **Trish Nugent**

This was the first year that SSA offered electronic voting, and the advantages were clear -- ease and swiftness of voting, higher participation rate, and low cost. Participation in the election was 71.6 % – up from 42.6% participation in the 2009 all-paper election. Over half of the 260 ballots tallied were cast within the first 72 hours of voting. There were 6 paper ballots submitted.

The SSA Board and Nominating Committee would like to thank UNM's Kevin Comerford, the "man behind the curtain" of this election. Kevin set up the SurveyMonkey ballot along with Ann and made all of the electronic voting possible. Thanks also to SSA members **Kathlene Ferris** and **Beth Silbergleit** of UNM who assisted in counting the paper ballots and reviewing the SurveyMonkey results. Committee members Ellen Brown and Michelle Mears helped round up the field of candidates, make contacts, and approve logistics of the new electronic voting procedures. Ellen will be in charge of next year's election as the new chair of the Nominating Committee.

Thank you again to all the candidates and congratulations to the winners!

Ann Massmann
massmann@unm.edu

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Susan Murrin Pritchett — Fort Worth TX
Mark Lambert, CA — Austin TX
Brenda S. McClurkin, CA — Weatherford, TX
Robert S. and Martha Sloan — Dallas TX

Scholarship Fund Contributions

Scholarship gifts are deposited in the Society's Endowment Trust. Interest generated by this fund supports the Sister M. Claude Lane Award, the A. Otis Hebert Jr. Continuing Education Scholarship, the John Michael Caldwell Student Scholarship, and the SSA Annual Meeting Scholarship. Donations sent with 2010 dues totaled \$1,495.00.

Richard M. Adam — Albuquerque, NM
Dreanna Belden — Denton, TX
Trevia Wooster Beverly — Houston, TX
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Patricia Worthington — El Paso, TX

SLOTTO donations also support the Scholarship Fund.
See p.6 for the list of 2010 scholarship recipients.

Sustaining Members

This year, 150 members chose to support the society by paying the \$25 annual sustaining membership dues. These contributions make possible the many valuable SSA programs and activities.

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Contact Katie Salzmann to reserve
 space in an upcoming issue of
Southwestern Archivist

salzmann@txstate.edu

OUACHITA RIVER FLOOD IMAGES NOW ONLINE

Submitted by Cyndy Robertson • University of Louisiana at Monroe Library



Ouachita River Flood, Monroe, Louisiana, along Grand Street on February 4, 1932.

A collection of images showing the Ouachita River flood between January and March of 1932 and belonging to the University of Louisiana at Monroe Library Special Collections is now available online through the Louisiana Digital Library. The 303 images, taken by J.E. Griffin, a professional photographer from Monroe, Louisiana, were scanned from negatives with some being as large as 8 x 10 inches in size. Griffin labeled the negatives with places and dates so they

show, in chronological order, the rising flood waters and the effects on homes and businesses in the Ouachita Parish area. Included in the collection are aerial images of Ouachita parish and images of houses, flooded streets, motor vehicles, trains, horse drawn wagons, Red Cross workers, men patrolling the levees and filling sandbags and workers lining up for meals and for pay at the Ouachita Parish Courthouse. This collection is part of a larger collection, The Griffin Photograph Collection, given to Special Collections in 1986 by Durwood Griffin. Durwood, also a professional photographer, was the son of J.E. Griffin.

A Louisiana Board of Regents Enhancement Grant provided funding in 2009 to purchase the equipment needed to digitize this collection and other historic collections of interest to students and patrons at ULM. The Louisiana Digital Library (LDL) is an online library of over 84,000 digital materials about Louisiana's history, people and places. Archives, museums, and libraries from across the state display their collections with help from LOUIS, The Louisiana Library Network, which hosts and supports the digital infrastructure. In addition to support for LDL, LOUIS provided CONTENTdm training for this project. The LDL is accessible to Louisiana residents, students, researchers and patrons from other states and countries. This is the first collection ULM has published in the LDL which is accessible at <http://louisianadigitallibrary.org>.

BLAIR PAPERS HIGHLIGHT PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGNS, POLITICS

Submitted by Diane Worrell • University of Arkansas



The papers of Diane D. Blair, award-winning Arkansas educator, political scientist, activist, writer, public servant, and friend of Bill and Hillary Clinton, were recently opened for research by the University of Arkansas Libraries' Special Collections Department.

The collection consists of 113.5 linear feet of biographical materials, correspondence, newspaper clippings, research materials, notes, primary and secondary source documents, manuscripts, memorabilia, photographs, VHS recorded programs, audio interviews, and electronic data and databases. The materials are organized in five series: personal and family materials, professional materials, Bill and Hillary Clinton materials, general political materials, and photographs and audio materials.

Special Collections Department Head **Tom W. Dillard** observed, "The Diane Blair papers are remarkable not only for their scale, but also for their depth. Her interests were broad, ranging from the everyday minutiae of local government to the national issues that shaped American politics, government, and history. Researchers who use Blair's papers will have an inside look at 40 years of Arkansas and American history."

Blair (1938–2000) is best known for her career teaching political science at the University of Arkansas, for her political advocacy on behalf of women's rights, and for her long friendship with Bill and Hillary Clinton. Born in Washington, D.C., Blair moved to Fayetteville in 1963 with her first husband, Arkansas Hugh Kincaid.

She described her move to Arkansas as, "here is a woman who was dragged kicking and screaming to Arkansas and found, much to her surprise, that she could not possibly have built a better life anywhere else."

Arkansas Governor Dale Bumpers appointed Blair to chair the Governor's Commission on the



Bill Clinton and Diane Blair, ca. 1981.

Governor and U.S. President in 1972 when she was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention, and Clinton worked for the George McGovern campaign. They quickly became friends and political allies.

Blair was impressed with Clinton's grasp of American politics and recalled that he talked extensively about Hillary Rodham. She asked Clinton why he didn't marry Hillary and bring her back to Arkansas, since he was obviously smitten with her. Blair said Clinton responded, "I would love to do that, but this woman is so good, she could easily have a brilliant political career of her own."

Clinton did, of course, marry Hillary Rodham and bring her to Arkansas. Blair was teaching political science at the University during the time the Clintons taught in the law school in the mid-1970s. Blair described meeting Hillary, saying, "I loved her immediately because she so definitely was not going with the flow of how most women dressed and looked then, I loved that."

For her marriage to Fayetteville attorney Jim Blair in 1979, Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton performed the ceremony. Assuming the role of historian in the 1992 Clinton presidential campaign, Blair conducted audio interviews with campaign staff members. She believed someone needed to document the campaign, because Bill Clinton had "reinvented" the way candidates run for President. Blair transcribed the interviews, analyzed the information, and wrote an introduction to the book she planned but never finished. Blair also served as senior advisor in the 1996 Clinton reelection campaign.



Diane and Jim Blair, Hillary, Bill and Chelsea Clinton, standing at a historical marker on the University of Arkansas campus. The marker commemorates the Clintons' teaching in the law school.

RESPECT DES FONDS IN ACTION: A TOUR OF THE ARCHIVES MUNICIPALES

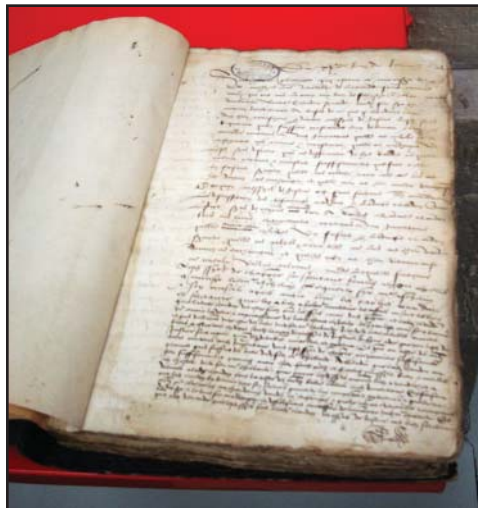
By Susan Goodman Novick, CA

Susan Novick spent the spring semester in Metz, a city of 125,000 people in northeastern France and had the opportunity to visit a number of repositories. She reports on one of her visits.



The Couvent des Récollets, which houses the Archives Municipales of Metz.

One can better understand the impact of the French Revolution and its principle of public access to the valuable records of the past by visiting an archival repository in France. While leading a tour of the Archives Municipales in Metz, France, director Thierry Déprez remarked, “All of the documents are treasures for us.” And these documents and records have been collected since 1179, when Bishop Bertram signed a charter that created Metz’s communal government and its archives. The Archives Municipales collects records of the city’s administration, ranging from medieval charters to municipal council deliberations, as well as parish registers and vital statistics.



Book of sentences rendered by the mayor from 1553 to 1561.

Since 2002, the Archives Municipales has been located in the Couvent des Récollets, a former convent complex dating from 1230. In 1863, the city of Metz built two large reservoirs in the convent garden to supply water to the city below. Little did the officials know then that these reservoirs would be renovated and provide 2,000 square meters (21,000 square feet) of document storage 150 years later! Déprez mentioned that there are currently 6 kilometers (3.7 miles) of documents stored in the tanks, with 3 kilometers (1.85 miles) of free shelf space (for 10 years worth of records).

Each municipal archive in France follows the Cadre de Classement/31 December 1926, a national classification framework begun in 1926. This system organizes records chronologically in series that relate to different activities (e.g., communal administration, finances, legal issues, religions, military affairs, communal goods). As Metz, along with other towns in the Alsace and Lorraine regions of France, was annexed twice to Germany (from 1871 to 1918 and from 1940 to 1944), its classification system is a bit more complicated:

- fonds anciens (prior to 1790): Series AA-II
- fonds modernes (1790–1939): these include le fonds Révolution (1790-1800); le fonds XIXème siècle (1801-1870); le fonds 1ère Annexion (1871-1918); le fonds Période Française (1919-1939): Series A-R
- fonds contemporains (since 1940): le fonds 2ère Annexion (1940-1944): Series Z; le fonds contemporain (since 1944): Series W



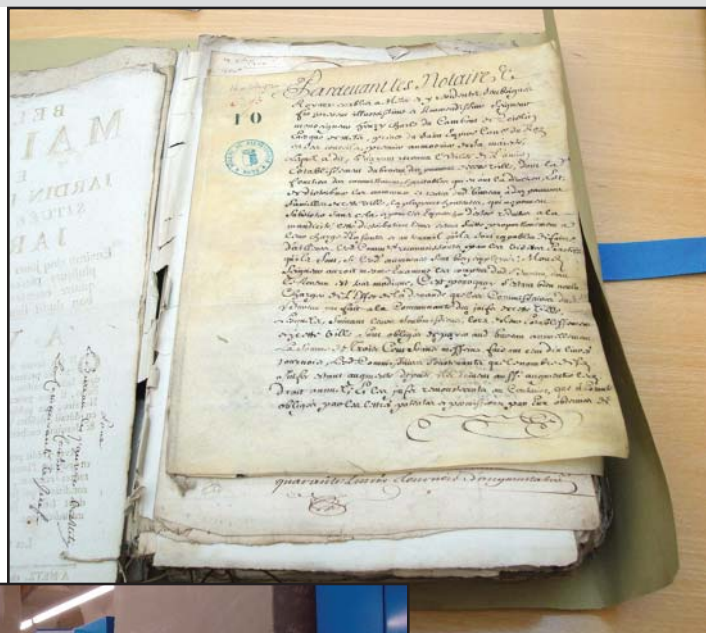
The reading room, drenched in light.

IN METZ, FRANCE

Visitors can consult inventories for the records in hard copy in the reading room and on the repository's online database, Avenio, which was developed for municipal archives in France. In the reading room, visitors can also find materials that assist researchers looking at records produced during the annexations. Most interesting is a cross-reference list of the names of streets in Metz that were changed in the Second Annexation: from Place de la Republic to Platz des Führers, from rue Verdun to Adolf Hitlerstrasse.

Genealogists are among the primary users of the Archives Municipales, and they have numerous resources, in addition to parish records, on which to draw. For instance, the Fichier Domiciliaire are housing cards that each citizen in the Alsace-Moselle region had to submit to the city each year from 1870 to 1940. These cards provide information on who lived in each house, their ages, and where they previously lived. Although the people of Metz did not enjoy submitting these cards, this vestige of German record-keeping has become a boon for genealogists.

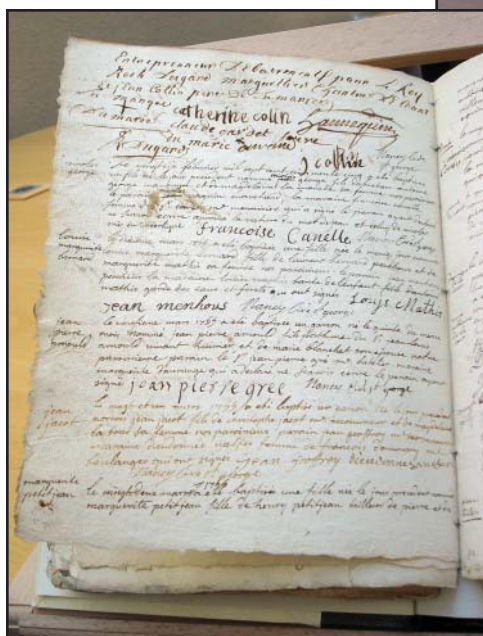
Another group of users are researchers who want to learn the history of their houses or



Above: Records of the Bureau of Bienfaisance (Charity), 1567-1818 (series GG 271); note the red string binding the documents.



Left: Compact shelving in the water reservoirs.



Baptismal records of St. George parish, 1755 (series GG 51); note the signatures of the parents and sponsors.

apartment buildings. They can view construction permit records since 1907, many of which are in German because of the construction boom in Metz in the first decades of the 20th century, when Kaiser Wilhem II created the Imperial Quarter as part of his project to redevelop Metz as a German city.

The Archives Municipales of Metz provides researchers and citizens with an abundance of records in a pleasant setting that connect them with the documentary heritage of the medieval, Renaissance, royal, revolutionary, and annexation eras. The people of Metz can, and do, respect their fonds!

Roving Reporters Needed!

Did you attend the Annual Meeting in Santa Fe? Would you like to contribute a few photographs and comments to the August issue of *Southwestern Archivist*? Contact Katie Salzman at salzman@txstate.edu.

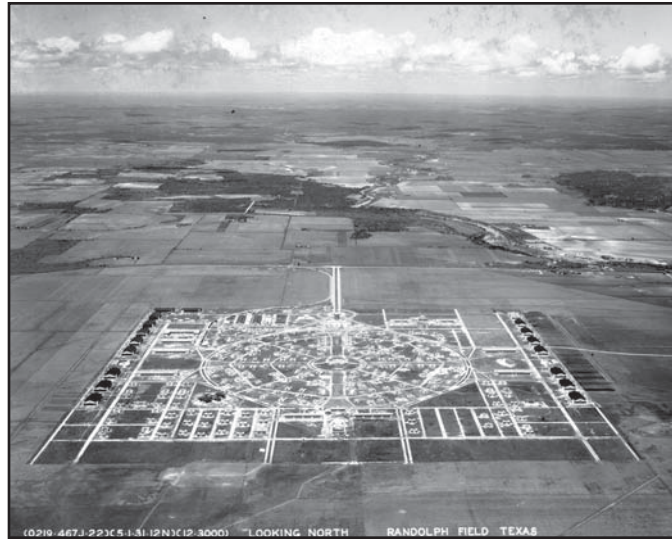
SPOTLIGHT

... continued from page 1

format. Today, we primarily research and collect digital files. The AETC History Office, like many archives, is working to find an effective system to manage a large volume of digital materials.

Q: Is there any one collection or item that is particularly notable? If so, please describe.

A: The AETC archive is mainly made up of materials relating to Air Force training. The office has a good collection of documents, photographs, and in some cases video footage on aviation cadets, women pilots in the Air Corps and Air Force, and the Tuskegee Airmen. That being said there are two collections that are particularly notable within the archives. First, the office has complete sets of the histories of Army Air Forces training written during World War II. These histories contain both narrative and photographs of this defining period in Air Force history. The other collection of interest is the information dealing with the construction of Randolph Field, which later became Randolph Air Force Base. This collection includes building blueprints, the landscape architect's papers, construction photographs, and survey information. We also have one of the largest photo collections in the Air Force History and Museum Program. It includes more than 30,000 images from WWII to the present.



Shown is an aerial view looking north of Randolph Field taken in May 1931. Randolph Field, nicknamed the "West Point of the Air," would be completed by the end of 1931.

open M-F, 7:30 am – 4:30 pm. If you are interested in conducting research please contact the office prior to your visit by calling (210) 652-6564.

Q: Where would one go to find out more information about the AETC History Office?

A: To find out more information about the office, please visit <http://www.aetc.af.mil/library/history/index.asp> or call (210) 652-6564. If you are interested in finding out more about careers with the Air Force History and Museums Program, please contact Mr. Gary Boyd, Air Force Personnel Center, by email gary.boyd@randolph.af.mil.

Q: Who uses the collection?
Is it open to the public?

A: Historians in the office use the archive most often to answer questions for members of the headquarters staff, other Air Force organizations, other services, and the general public. Members of the Air Force that are conducting research or working on degrees often use the archives as a source for historical materials. Parts of the archive are open to the public. The office is

MONROE LIBRARY AWARDED PRESERVATION GRANT

Submitted by Trish Nugent, CA • Loyola University New Orleans



The Monroe Library at Loyola University New Orleans has been awarded a 2010 American Heritage Preservation Program Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The grant will fund the purchase of environmental monitoring equipment for Special Collections and Archives storage areas. The equipment will gather data on the temperature and humidity of the collection areas 24 hours a day, data that can then be used to maintain proper storage conditions, ensuring the long term preservation of materials.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. The Institute works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the Institute, please visit: <http://www.imls.gov>.

RARE MASKS DISCOVERED IN BYWATERS SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Submitted by Sam Ratcliffe • Southern Methodist University



As with many archival collections, the Mary McCord/Edyth Renshaw Collection of Performing Arts has eccentric origins. It began as the McCord Theatre Museum in 1933 at Southern Methodist University and, while it succeeded in acquiring wonderful items, a lack of funds and adequate staffing prevented a complete inventory from ever being completed. In the fall of 2009, curatorial assistant Emily George Grubbs opened a box of unprocessed material from the McCord/ Renshaw Collection and carefully lifted out two masks. Although the masks had a handwritten label of “Mexican Devil Mask,” an intuition led Grubbs to believe that the masks were not Mexican, but something else quite different.



Above: Gigaku mask, Right: Karura gigaku mask. Photos by Emily Grubbs.



Further research located a newspaper article ascertaining that the masks were given to the McCord Museum by a Dr. Julius Y. Pokress of New York in 1940, who had identified them as late 16th century Asian masks. After consultation with several experts in the field, the masks were identified as Japanese gigaku masks, created between the 8th and 10th centuries. The masks were worn during the gigaku, a religious dance-drama performed at Buddhist temples during that era. Today, such masks—especially those in good condition—are extremely rare, making the discovery of these two previously undocumented masks at SMU even more significant (both masks are currently undergoing conservation treatment at the Dallas Museum of Art). The moral of this discovery is to exercise caution when processing un-inventoried material: you never know what could be in the next box.

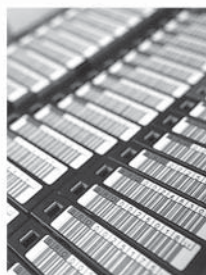
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EARLY SOUTH TEXAS SURVEYING RECORDS OPEN FOR RESEARCH

Submitted by Erin L. Nuckols • Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi



The Special Collections & Archives Department of the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Bell Library is pleased to announce the opening of the James M. Manning Papers. Consisting of 173 documents that deal with surveying in South Texas during the mid nineteenth century, the Manning Papers will be a research boon to several important audiences studying land ownership in the region.

James M. Manning (?-1872) was one of the initial surveyors in San Patricio and Nueces Counties. In 1838, he became Deputy Surveyor of San Patricio County which included much of South Texas. Manning assumed this post under the Republic of Texas. After the United States established its sovereignty over Texas, Nueces County was organized from the large portion of San Patricio that stretched from the Nueces River to the Rio Grande. James Manning became one of the first Anglo-American surveyors in that newly-formed jurisdiction. Like all surveyors of his time, he also operated as a land speculator. Manning's work influenced other early South Texas surveyors such as Felix A. Blucher (1819-1879), probably the most accomplished Texas surveyor of the 1800s.

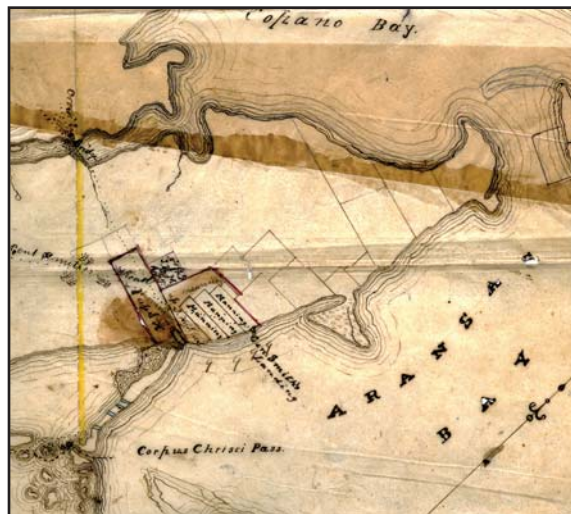
The James M. Manning Papers are organized into two sections: 1) Personal Records which include correspondence, financial documents, land transactions, his will and other matters, and 2) Surveyor Records including survey requests, land applications and certificates, deeds, contracts, surveys, maps, field notes, and other legal and surveying documents. Because they represent such early and fundamental records of the region, the Manning Papers are itemized to be of service to historians, lay people, and contemporary surveyors. According to Dr. **Thomas H. Kreneck**, Associate Director for Special Collections, the Manning Papers are a small, but seminal collection of South Texas surveying records and underpin the massive amount of surveying archives already held by the department.

The Manning Papers will also foster the work of the Conrad Blucher Institute for Surveying and Science at A&M University-Corpus Christi as well as the curriculum of the university's Geographic Information Science (GIS) Program, which trains students to be professional surveyors. Dr. Gary Jeffress, Director of the Blucher Institute and GIS Professor, notes that

the James Manning Papers, along with the university's other historic surveying records, provide essential data for both career and student surveyors who examine past records to establish where an original land survey was performed.

As just one example of their value, the Manning Papers contain information on the historic settlement of Alamo, Texas, along the Rio Grande River. James M. Manning and his partners established the town site of Alamo in Starr County in 1851. The Manning Papers include a copy of the agreement among these principals which shows the location

and layout of the town "directly in front of the mouth of a small stream of water emptying into the Rio Grande by the name of El Cantro." The Alamo site documents also include plats of the settlement. This original settlement no longer exists. The Manning Papers therefore become an important, if not the only, source on this town for archeologists and historians of the Texas-Mexican border. Other unique items in the papers include a hand-drawn map of the Texas coast which locates other almost-forgotten settlements and surveys in Spanish, reflect-



Detail from an 1868 map of land owned and surveyed by Manning in the Corpus Christi area.

ing the time when the area was under Spain and Mexico.

The Manning Papers were acquired through a cooperative effort among Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and community people, including local professional surveyors and lay historians. This accession serves as a prime example of the close relationship between a university and its various constituencies.

The cooperation to make these materials accessible extended well beyond their acquisition. The initial inventory was done by **Sharon Barnes** as part of a class with Dr. **David B. Gracy**, Governor Bill Daniel Professor in Archival Enterprise at the University of Texas at Austin. Ms. Barnes is currently Special Collections Librarian, Victoria Regional History Center of the Victoria College/University of Houston-Victoria Library. Erin completed the organization, item list, and Web site link for the collection as part of an archival class under Dr. Kreneck's supervision. Persons interested in knowing more about the Manning Papers may visit its link at <http://rattler.tamucc.edu/dept/special/manning.html>.

LOUISIANA RESEARCH COLLECTION JOINS LOUISIANA DIGITAL LIBRARY

Submitted by Eira Tansey • Tulane University



Tulane University's Louisiana Research Collection (LaRC) is pleased to announce its first digital collection available through the LOUISiana Digital Library (LDL). The LDL is an online library that contains thousands of images of documents, publications, artifacts, art and other materials from libraries, museums, and archives around Louisiana. Our first collection is the 1873 Mistick Krewe of Comus costume drawings. This parade is particularly famous in Mardi Gras history, as it was one of the first major parades steeped in political satire and ridicule. The "Missing Links" referred to the work of Charles Darwin, and the parade not only sent up the theory of evolution, but other topics of the day including Reconstruction.

Tulane's Louisiana Research Collection has a complete set of the Missing Links costume designs. This particular set of designs is part of a much larger Carnival collection. We are planning other online digital collections of Carnival material from other krewes.

To view the digital collection, visit <http://www.louisianadigitallibrary.org/cdm4/browse.php?CISOROOT=/p15140coll3>.

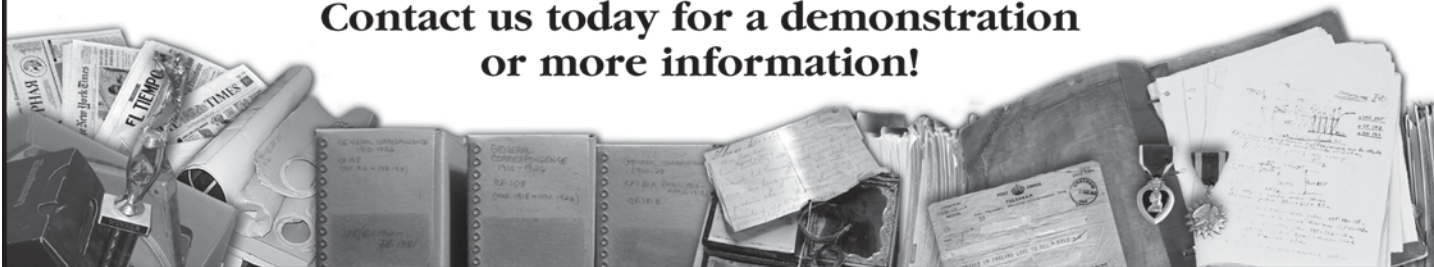
Right. Image from Mystick Krewe of Comus' 1873 Missing Links Parade Costume Designs, Collection 900, Louisiana Research Collection, Tulane University Libraries.



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ARKANSAS JEWISH HISTORY COLLECTION AVAILABLE

Submitted by Shirley Schuette and Brian Robertson • Butler Center for Arkansas Studies

A Corner of the Tapestry: A History of the Jewish Experience in Arkansas, 1820s-1990s, published in 1994, represents fifteen years of research by Carolyn Gray LeMaster. Few states have such a comprehensive history of their Jewish population. LeMaster's work grew out of a 1977 student project and built on a lifelong love of Biblical history. As a Christian, she calls her efforts a "mitzvah, a good deed," to in some small measure offset "the historically deplorable treatment of Jews by Christians-so-called." (LeMaster vii)

The earliest known Jewish resident of Arkansas, Abraham Block, settled in Washington in 1823. Unlike Block, who was a successful businessman when he came to take advantage of the flourishing Mexican trade along the Southwest Trail, later immigrants were peddlers, carrying goods from merchants to the north and east. They later established businesses, playing a critical role in Arkansas's economy. During her research, LeMaster became impressed with the involvement of Jews in the surrounding political, social and cultural life. She explored these aspects of community and state histories, from the time of Block's arrival until her book was published.

LeMaster also wrote a book about the Ottenheimer family, numerous articles about individuals, organizations and events, and chapters for several collections on Jewish history. She also gave talks, made presentations and taught classes throughout the state. The Carolyn Gray LeMaster Arkansas Jewish History Collection contains documents, photographs, correspondence and artefacts collected in the course of her projects, including material collected well past the book's publication.

In Cincinnati LeMaster worked at the American Jewish Archives, whose founder, Dr. Jacob R. Marcus, became her guide and mentor throughout the project. She also traveled across Arkansas, visiting graves of Jewish people and locations of Jewish businesses. The collections contains transcripts from approximately four hundred personal interviews.

In addition to funding from the Arkansas Endowment for the Humanities (now the Arkansas Humanities

Council), LeMaster received support from organizations and individuals for her "Jews of Arkansas" project. Members of the Jewish community provided invaluable assistance and cooperation, giving her unprecedented access to family and community records. This participation greatly enriched and



The cast of a Purim play (the story of Esther), presented by children of Congregation Agudath Achim, Little Rock, Arkansas.

deepened the story told by LeMaster and gave great breadth and depth to the resulting collection.

The collection includes copies of thousands of newspaper clippings, journal articles and book excerpts. These deal with the background history of Arkansas and the South, the history of individual towns, the lives of Jewish settlers, and their contributions to the local economy and culture. The collection also contains primary sources, both copies and original, that tell stories of people who adapted to a new land, often while maintaining their cultural identity and connections to their old homes.

The core of the collection is the family and individual stories, divided by the city and town in which the people lived. The material ranges from one or two clippings for some families to multiple boxes of folders in other cases. A few individuals whose roles were prominent include Federal Judge Jacob Trieber, the Ottenheimer family, and Rabbi Ira Sanders.

LeMaster chronicled the stories of each Jewish congregation that has existed or still exists in the state. The collection also includes in depth material about a number of

Jewish owned businesses that grew to national prominence, such as the M.M. Cohn department stores. Approximately half of the documents in the collection cover these business and organizational histories.

The collection may be accessed through the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies at the Arkansas Studies Institute, a division of the Central Arkansas Library System. For more information, contact **Brian Robertson**, Manuscripts Coordinator, at (501) 320-5723 or brianr@cals.org; or **Shirley Schuette**, archival assistant, at (501) 320-5726, or sjschuette@cals.org.

Right: The family of Esidor Tiger, an immigrant from Latvia, at their home in Luxora, Arkansas, circa 1904.



The March issue of the NHPRC News is online at <http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/newsletter/2010/march/> with articles on Hidden Collections in Los Angeles, the archives of the creator of Smokey Bear, grant deadlines and more. And don't forget to fan us on facebook at www.facebook.com/nhprc.

—Keith Donohue, NHPRC Communications Director



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TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE ANNOUNCES SYMPOSIUM

Submitted by Mark Lambert, CA • Texas General Land Office



The first ever Texas General Land Office Save Texas History Symposium will be hosted by Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson, and will be held on Saturday, November 6, 2010, at the Texas General Land Office (GLO), 1700 North Congress Avenue in Austin, Texas. The symposium is intended as an annual event, with the goal of highlighting the archival collections of the GLO and promoting their use.

Future symposium themes, drawn from the archival collections of the GLO, will include such diverse topics as the Texas Revolution; the Texas Archives War; the Early Financing and Development of Texas; the Borders of Texas; the Old GLO Building and the Early History of Austin; the History of Railroads in Texas; the History of Oil and Gas in Texas; the 1888 Capitol of Texas; the History of Public Schools in Texas; and the History of the Mapping of Texas.

The symposium title this year is Discovering Spanish and Mexican Texas. It will feature guest speakers focusing on the settlement of Texas prior to 1836. The symposium will be moderated by Galen Greaser, Spanish Translator at the GLO, and the guest speakers will include Dr. Frank de la Teja, Former State Historian, Professor and Chairman of the History Department at Texas State University–San Marcos, Texas; Dr. Light Cummins, State Historian and Guy M. Bryan Professor of American History at Austin College, Sherman, Texas; and Dr. Félix D. Almaráz, Peter T. Flawn Distinguished University Professor of Borderlands History at the University of Texas at San Antonio, Texas. The speakers will discuss the settlement of Spanish and Mexican Texas,

the Empresario System in Texas, as well as the legacy of Spanish and Mexican Texas.

Afternoon sessions will focus on the diverse work that goes on at the General Land Office, and will include guided tours of the GLO archival and map vaults. There will also be breakout sessions focusing on genealogy in Texas, with an emphasis on the many resources available at the

GLO, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission Genealogy Section, and the Catholic Archives of Texas. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn how pioneer land surveyors operated in Texas by surveying the State Capitol grounds with GLO staff using 19th century equipment. Attendees will also be able to create unique maps of Texas by first making paper by hand and then using a 19th century hand-operated iron printing press. In addition, special guided tours of the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum will be offered.

The Registration fee of \$25.00 (until October 9) includes all of the above, as well as snacks and drinks during breaks. For an additional \$7.50, a box lunch will be provided. A block of hotel rooms has been reserved at the downtown Doubletree Guest Suites hotel, at 303 W. 15th St., for out of town attendees. A list of

other hotels will be available upon request. For program and registration information, please contact James Harkins, Texas General Land Office Archives and Records, 1700 N. Congress Avenue, Room 131, Austin, Texas, 78701 or call (512) 463-35360, or via E-mail at James.Harkins@glo.state.tx.us. Please see www.savetexashistory.org for details.



"Plan of San Felipe de Austin, 1824," Registro (Austin's [Bound] Register of Land Titles), Spanish Collection, Texas General Land Office Archives, Austin.

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Disaster Planning for Electronic Records

June 22, at 1:00 pm (US CT) with William LeFevre of Wayne State University

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SUPREME COURT BOBBLEHEADS FIND A HOME AT YALE LAW LIBRARY

Submitted by Mike Widener, CA • Yale Law School



The Green Bag, “An Entertaining Journal of Law,” has selected the Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School, to be the official archive of its Supreme Court bobblehead dolls. To mark this acquisition, the Rare Book Collection mounted an exhibit of Supreme Court bobbleheads in March 2010.

The exhibit was spotlighted in the March 17, 2010 issue of the *New York Times* (“Relax, Legal Scholars: Bobbleheads Are Safe at Yale,” <<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/18/us/18bobble.html>>).

The Green Bag began issuing its Supreme Court bobbleheads in 2003 with Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist. Subsequently, the bobbleheads have come out roughly in order of seniority, with Justice David H. Souter being the most recent of the sitting Justices (issued shortly before his retirement from the Court).

The bobbleheads have a sophisticated iconography, as Ross E. Davies, editor-in-chief of *The Green Bag*, explained in the *New York Times* article: “The bobbleheads are, not to overstate it, a little bit more than toys. They’re portrayals of the work and character of these judges.” Justice John Paul Stevens, for example, holds a golf club (for his opinion in *PGA Tour v. Martin* (2001)), and stands on a BetaMax VCR (representing his opinion in *Sony v. Universal City Studios* (1984), a landmark intellectual property case).

So far, *The Green Bag* has issued bobbleheads of seven modern Justices (in order of appearance they are William H. Rehnquist, John Paul Stevens, Sandra Day O’Connor, Antonin Scalia, Anthony M. Kennedy, Harry A.

Blackmun, and David H. Souter) and two historic Justices (Louis D. Brandeis and Benjamin Curtis, author of a famous dissent to the *Dred Scott* decision). Forthcoming are small bobbleheads of the first Supreme Court Justices (John Jay, William Cushing, and John Rutledge).

The Annotated Bobblehead: Justice Louis D. Brandeis

Louis Brandeis’s place in the history books would be certain even had he never joined the Supreme Court. Consider the “Brandeis brief” in *Muller v. Oregon* and his other work as “the people’s lawyer”; his services to Zionism; his influence on the Woodrow Wilson and FDR presidential administrations; and his writings, such as *The Right to Privacy*, *The Curse of Bigness*, and, of course, his contributions to the *Green Bag*. See, e.g., *The Incorporation of Trade Unions*, 1 *Green Bag* 2d 306 (1998), and *The Harvard Law School*, at pages ___-___ in this issue. But he was a Justice too, from 1916 to 1939. A few of his more famous contributions in that capacity are symbolized below.

New State Ice v. Liebmann, 285 U.S. 262 (1932) (dissenting: “It is one of the happy incidents of the federal system that a single courageous state may ... serve as a laboratory”); *Whitney v. California*, 274 U.S. 357 (1927) (concurring: “the remedy to be applied is more speech, not enforced silence”).

Like many lawyers in bygone days, Brandeis carried his papers in a green bag. He was, to the best of our knowledge, the last Justice to do so. Merlo J. Pusey, *Charles Evans Hughes* 673 (1951).

Engine #2499 pulled the car that struck Harry Tompkins, giving Brandeis the opportunity to declare for the Court, “There is no federal general common law.” *Erie Railroad v. Tompkins*, 304 U.S. 64 (1938) (overruling *Swift v. Tyson*).

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Yale’s Supreme Court Bobblehead Collection also includes dozens of “draft” bobbleheads, reflecting earlier stages in their design.

The Green Bag bobbleheads are not the first bobbleheads in the Yale Law Library’s Rare Book Collection. That honor goes to the bobblehead of Yale law professor and Dean Emeritus Harold Hongju Koh, which was issued in 2006 as a fundraiser for the Yale Law School chapter of the American Constitution Society.

The Supreme Court Bobblehead exhibit will be on display through the summer of 2010.

Haiti’s Declaration of Independence Found in British Archives

Canadian graduate student Julia Gaffield was researching in Britain’s National Archives and stumbled upon the only known copy of Haiti’s Declaration of Independence. In 1804 former slaves proclaimed the independence of their country Saint-Domingue from France, declaring the new nation be named Haiti. Although it was known that documents declaring the country’s emancipation were printed, none had ever been found. The discovery gives a look into the only country in the Western Hemisphere in which slaves successfully revolted to gain national independence.

— From SAA’s *In the Loop*

In the Loop is an electronic newsletter distributed via e-mail bi-weekly to provide members with an update on SAA activities.

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BENSON LIBRARY LAUNCHES ONDA LATINA WEB SITE

Submitted by Kelly Kerbow Hudson • The University of Texas at Austin



UT's Benson Library, Center for Mexican American Studies, and School of Liberal Arts launch Onda Latina Web site. Over 200 Mexican American radio programs from the 1970s and 80s Longhorn Radio Network collection are now available online to the public. Because of the Onda Latina project the audio files of the "Mexican American Experience" at UT's Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection can be accessed worldwide by researchers interested in this outstanding oral history archive.

The Longhorn Radio Network produced public service programming for radio stations around the Southwest out of the KUT studios at the University of Texas at Austin. The "Mexican American Experience" ran from 1976-1982 and focused on the Mexican American community, politics, and culture. It was a series of interviews, and the content of the radio programs includes such topics as farm workers' unions, Mexican American political activities, Tejano music, and women's rights issues. Notable interviewees include writers and educators Gloria Anzaldúa and Carmen Tafolla, musicians Flaco Jiménez and Américo Paredes, and political figures Henry



Cisneros, Gonzalo Barrientos, and José Angel Gutiérrez.

The Benson acquired these analog tape reels in the early nineties, and they had been inaccessible to patrons because of their poor physical condition. An assessment of the tapes revealed that they needed to be baked in order to be played and recorded. With the help of a grant from UT's College of Liberal Arts and collaborative efforts of faculty, staff, and archivists, these unique radio programs have now been digitized, summarized, and indexed. The files are organized in a searchable database and are browsable by theme. The 200+ audio streamed programs and their summaries can be found at the Onda Latina Web site: http://www.laits.utexas.edu/onda_latina/dase/modules/ol/index.



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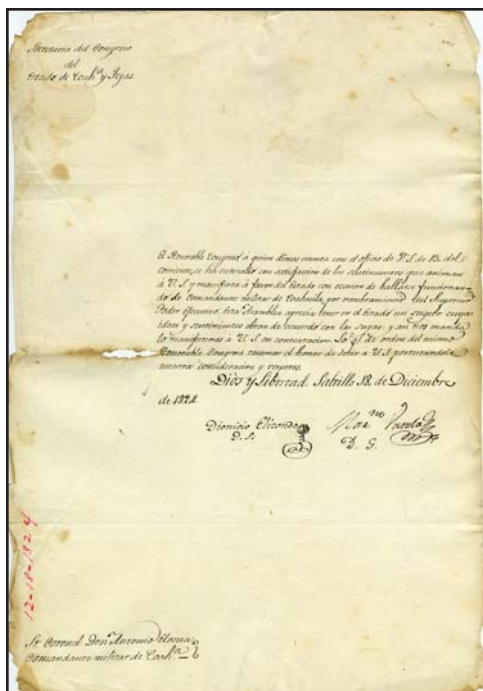
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DIGITIZATION OF BEXAR ARCHIVES BEGINS

Submitted by Zach Vowell, CA • The University of Texas at Austin



Secretaría del Congreso de Coahuila y Tejas. Dionisio Elizondo and Mariano Varela to Antonio Eloxúa, on expressions of pleasure upon Eloxúa's assumption of office as military commandant of Coahuila. December 18, 1824, Bexar Archives, Dolph Briscoe Center for American History.

Recognized as “one of the great historical treasures of the American continent” by historian Lester Gladstone Bugbee, the Bexar Archives deserves a worldwide audience. The Briscoe Center and the University of Texas have enhanced access to the Bexar Archives throughout the years, but with funding assistance from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission’s TexTreasures program, the Briscoe Center has embarked on a project which will begin to realize the exciting access possibilities that digitization provide.

Conceived as a pilot initiative, the project will digitize over 8,000 pages of original documents (via microfilm) and 125 volumes of corresponding translations, and will result in a Web-based interface called Bexar Archives Online. Bexar Archives Online will possess two distinctive features: the ability to examine in detail the original document and its translation side by side, and the ability to search the full text of the translations.

Work has already begun incorporating the Bexar Archives Calendar into the metadata that will eventually accompany the digitized manuscript pages. When finished, the project will serve as a foundation from which the Center can digitize the Archives’ 250,000 pages of manuscript material and 229 volumes of translations and eventually make the entire Archives available and searchable online.

Previous access enhancement efforts include the translation of the Archives into English, which has been an ongoing enterprise since the 1930s. Microfilming of the documents began in 1967, and the exhaustive calendar (published the same year the microfilming began) describes every document in the Archives. The Name Guide to the Bexar Archives locates the appearance of a person’s name throughout the Archives, and itself spans over 1,000 pages.

Bexar Archives Online will harness all these previous efforts and create a powerful online presence for the Bexar Archives.

SHELVING PURCHASED THROUGH PRESERVATION GRANT

Press Release • Oklahoma Christian University Archives



The Oklahoma Department of Libraries, in partnership with the Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board, today announced that the Oklahoma Christian University Archives was awarded a “Threats to Your Collection” grant of \$2,600 to purchase archival shelving. The purpose of the University Archives is to preserve the history of Oklahoma Christian University through documents, publications, and artifacts for the benefit of the institution and other researchers.

“In presenting this grant to the University Archives it is our intention to help further its commitment to providing the best possible care of the historic materials in its collections,” said Susan McVey, Director of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. “We hope that these grants will facilitate increased local support for the care of historic collections held by organizations such as the Oklahoma Christian University.”

According to McVey, the “Threats to Your Collection” grant opportunity was an outcome of a statewide survey

that assessed the condition of collections held by Oklahoma’s 800 museums and libraries. The study found that almost all organizations have lost historic materials through theft, environmental damage, and other causes. “It is our goal to stem the loss of Oklahoma’s heritage by providing funding for secure storage, environmental controls, archival storage supplies, fire detection, and other projects that address threats to collections,” McVey said.

Support for the grant program was provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the funding arm for the National Archives and Records Administration. Grants totaling \$50,000 were awarded to 27 Oklahoma institutions.

For more information about the Oklahoma Christian University Archives contact Archivist **J.J. Compton** at jj.compton@oc.edu.

LEADERSHIP LOG

Compiled by Kate Blalack



Tom W. Dillard, Head of Special Collections, University of Arkansas Libraries, authored a new book, *Statesmen, Scoundrels, and Eccentrics: A Gallery of Amazing Arkansans*, published April, 2010, by the University of Arkansas Press. The book contains a collection of 73 biographical sketches of interesting Arkansans, originating from Dillard's "Remembering Arkansas" column in the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*. Dillard's selection of "amazing" Arkansans includes colorful and eccentric characters, as well as leaders who greatly influenced Arkansas history. The profiles range from explorers, American Indians, and early settlers, to entertainers, politicians, business people, and artists. Dillard is also founding editor-in-chief of the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*. He led the effort to establish the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies in Little Rock and has spent decades advocating Arkansas Studies as an academic discipline. Active in many organizations, such as the Arkansas Historical Association, the Arkansas Museums Association, and the American Association for State and Local History, Dillard has won numerous awards for his contributions to Arkansas history.

Trish Nugent, CA, Special Collections Librarian / Archivist, Loyola University New Orleans, presented "Joseph-Aurélien Cornet, F.S.C. Collection," at the 52nd annual meeting of the African Studies Association, held in New Orleans, LA, November 2009. The presentation was part of the "Unearthing Africana Collections" session organized by the Africana Librarians Council. For more information please see: <http://www.africanstudies.org/> and <http://www.library.upenn.edu/collections/africa/ALC/>.

Timothy G. Nutt, Assistant Head, Special Collections, was promoted to assistant head of the Special Collections Department of the University of Arkansas Libraries, where he also serves as Manuscripts and Rare Books Librarian. Nutt is active in numerous county historical societies in Arkansas and serves as Vice President/President Elect for the Arkansas Historical Association. He obtained his Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of Oklahoma. Nutt worked for 12 years at the Central Arkansas Library System in Little Rock, where he served as founding managing editor and staff historian for the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture* and as deputy curator/interim curator for the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies. He won two awards as editor of the Pulaski County Historical Review for best county or local history journal from the Arkansas Historical Association.

REPORT YOUR ARCHIVAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITY

The Leadership Log is designed to keep SSA members informed about colleagues' publications, presentations, promotions, or other noteworthy activities.

Submit your news to kate.blalack@okstate.edu.

Names of SSA members appear in **bold** type.

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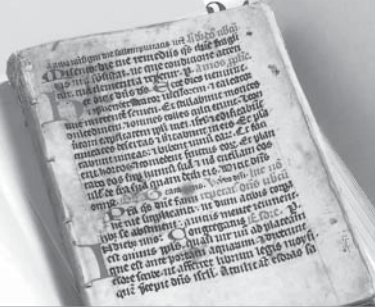
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SSA's committees offer many ways to become more involved in our society and in the life of the archival profession. Please let us know of any committees or project in which you might be interested and we will be happy to contact you with more information.

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