

SPOTLIGHT ON THE STOUT-FELDMAN STUDIO PHOTOGRAPHS:
SURPRISING PORTRAITS FROM AN EL PASO BUSINESS

By Claudia A. Rivers, CA • University of Texas at El Paso



Luisa Lujan in pageant costume; note damage at bottom of image. Photo Courtesy of the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections, University of Texas El Paso, Stout-Feldman Studio photographs, PH074, No. 1940.

“Fine portraits of prominent persons have been a tradition at the Stout-Feldman photographic studio for 73 years,” claimed the *El Paso Herald Post* in July 1968. Photographs from the Stout-Feldman Studio showing individuals, groups, and buildings from El Paso are featured in an exhibit at the University of Texas at El Paso Library this summer. The photograph collection is also in the process of being preserved and described as part of a grant-funded project in the library’s C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department.

Founded in 1895 by California native Fred J. Feldman, the Feldman Studio thrived in El Paso during the 1910s and 1920s. Feldman was particularly well known in El Paso for his skill in portraiture. In 1895 Feldman leased the Bushong Studio when its owner decided to leave El Paso. After buying the Bushong business out and renaming it the Feldman Studio, Feldman developed it into the

premier photographic establishment in El Paso. Feldman photographed many prominent citizens, entertainers, and community groups. In 1916 Fred Feldman was written up by a national magazine called the *Bulletin of Photography*, which described his portraits as “complete expressions of character, forceful and truthful, without any overstatement.” Feldman was also one of the official photographers of El Paso’s branch of the University of Texas, the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy (now UT El Paso) from about 1914 until he died in 1923.

In 1916 Samuel Stout came to El Paso to manage the Feldman Studio, but left after a few years to try his luck in California. After Feldman’s death, Stout returned to El Paso to take over the studio in 1924. For years, the Feldman Studio was located on San Antonio Avenue in downtown El Paso, but under Stout’s direction it moved to a specially designed Spanish-style building at



Soldier of fortune Sam Dreben during the Mexican Revolution: note damaged areas. Photo Courtesy of the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections, University of Texas El Paso, Stout-Feldman Studio photographs, PH074.

INSIDE:

PAGE 4
From the Editors

PAGE 5
From the President

PAGE 6-10
SSA Committee News

PAGE 10-19
2012 Annual Meeting Highlights

PAGE 19-29
Repository News

PAGE 30
Leadership Log

PAGE 31
Membership Form



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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 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 Lauren Goodley 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.

Arizona submissions

Joyce Martin
joyce.martin@asu.edu

Arkansas submissions

Diane Worrell
dfworrel@uark.edu

Louisiana submissions

Hans C. Rasmussen
hasmuss@lsu.edu

New Mexico submissions

Felicia Lujan
felicia.lujan@state.nm.us

Oklahoma submissions

Misty D. Smith
misty.d.smith@okstate.edu

South Texas submissions

Nikki Lynn Thomas
nikki.thomas@utsa.edu

North Texas submissions

Melissa Gonzales
mgonzales@uta.edu

Leadership Log submissions

Krishna Shenoy
krishnas@jfk.org

Out-of-region submissions

Shelly Croteau
shelly.croteau@sos.mo.gov

Editors

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Kate L. Blalack kate.blalack@okstate.edu

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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Deadlines for submissions are:

January 10th
April 10th
July 10th
October 10th

We accept advertising; contact the editors to request current rates.

Jobs may be self-posted on the Unofficial SSA wiki: <http://ssarchivists.wikispaces.com/>

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

SSA news and announcements are posted to the Leadership Blog: <http://ssaleaders.blogspot.com/>

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Southwestern Archivist is made possible partly through the support of the Alkek Library, Texas State University-San Marcos.

Annual Meeting Sites

2009 - Shreveport
2010 - Santa Fe
2011 - Little Rock
2012 - Phoenix
2013 - Austin

FROM THE EDITORS:

After five years of hard work, Katie Salzmann and Kris Toma have stepped down as newsletter editors and publications committee co-chairs. Thank you for your service, ladies, and for keeping standards set high! Lauren Goodley and Kate L. Blalack are excited to be the new editors. Lauren recently accepted an archivist position at the Southwestern Writers Collection at Texas State University, and Kate is a Visiting Assistant Professor and Special Collections Librarian at Oklahoma State University. In these pages you will find a continuation of columns that have become the standard: "In the Spotlight," SSA news, annual meeting information, and repository news. We've also added a student column that we hope you will enjoy! This is your newsletter, so keep reading and keep those submissions coming!

In addition to newsletter editorship, the publicity committee is also responsible for SSA communications with the membership. SSA now has a twitter feed (thank you Melissa Gonzales!), and we will begin tweeting and using the #SWarchivists hashtag at the SAA annual meeting in San Diego. Timely news is also posted on the SSA Facebook page. We will be formalizing the use of twitter and Facebook this year, so if you have any input or ideas please share them with us. In the meantime, enjoy the newsletter, and see you online!

FOR BREAKING SSA NEWS, CHECK THE WEB

- Check out the SSA Leadership Blog at <http://ssaleaders.blogspot.com/> for information and announcements of interest to SSA members.
- You can also become a fan of the SSA Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/southwestarchivists> and join in the conversation.
- Follow SSA on twitter : @SWarchivists

SOUTHWESTERN ARCHIVIST NEEDS YOU!

Tell your colleagues about your acquisitions, projects, exhibits, or grants — submit your repository news by **October 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 Spotlight articles that highlight repositories, individuals or collections that may be of particular interest to our members. Please contact Lauren Goodley at lgoodley@txstate.edu to reserve space!

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Amanda Focke, CA, SSA President 2012-2013



Since the mid-1990s, the SSA community has been a key part of my work life – with archives mentors, great annual meetings, professional development opportunities and connections with fellow archivists that have lasted for years. After some time as a general member, my colleagues encouraged me to become more involved by joining committees, serving as Publications chair, Local Arrangements Co-chair 2008, then for a term on the board. Being an active member of this strong community has been a pleasure. I love SSA!

A growing number of our members are participating in the national level Archives Leadership Institute, more of us are trained to offer the Basics of Archives workshop all over our region, we have reached out to collaborate with organizations such as Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, & Museums. We are becoming a stronger organization as we find new ways to accomplish our goals.

SSA's core goals are largely achieved by the year-round work of the committees. These groups build the program and hospitality for the annual meeting, plan relevant workshops, they make sure scholarships are awarded, publish the newsletter, update the website, manage membership, handle elections – and so much more. There are many ways to get involved and so many benefits to doing so.

The board and officers guide these committee activities, which make up a great experience for members.

As president this year, my overall goals for this year are to:

- make it easier for members to see the many ways they can become more involved
- build in more interaction between students and working archivists
- streamline and centralize registration for annual meetings, workshops and membership (with credit card payments as a standard choice)
- continue to focus on building our endowment to fully support scholarships

What is already happening:

- Last year, SSA President Carol Bartels worked diligently to update SSA's Policies and Procedures - the guidelines for committee members, board members and officers - making it easier for members to know what it means to participate.
- Our website now lists all participants in committees, in addition to the chairs. If you are not on a committee,

but would like to be, ask anyone on a committee what it is like and how you can help.

- We are implementing new membership software so members can manage their own profiles and pay dues online - or by check - easily.
- Annual meeting and workshop registration will also be handled online by the same software, making it easier to sign up for such events – and building a lasting tool to be used year after year by the Local Arrangements Committee and the Professional Development Committee.
- Student poster sessions have been added as a standard part of the annual meeting program
- SSA Finance Committee has been formed to guide our progress toward building our endowment, which was created to support our scholarships.



All of these tasks are exciting in that they are working for our truly special SSA community. They make the *real* work of all the committees easier to do.

Need an archives mentor? Need to know who your colleagues are in your state or region? Want to go to an annual meeting known for great programs and a friendly, inviting group of people? SSA is there for you - and is getting better all the time. You've joined – now join in!

Archivally yours,
Amanda Focke, CA
Rice University

SSA ESTABLISHES FINANCE COMMITTEE

By Mat Darby, CA, Treasurer

Since the Society's founding in 1972, our financial matters have been managed by a succession of treasurers who have maintained the Society's fiscal health. Now in our fortieth year, as our membership and assets continue to grow, the Board voted in May to approve the formation of a permanent Finance Committee. In doing so, we are following the example of other regional archival organizations that have established similar committees to advise their Boards concerning investment and financial management, budget planning, fiscal policy, and financial reporting, and to lift the burden of a single individual from guiding the financial direction of the organization.

The Finance Committee is composed of five members: the Treasurer, who serves as chair; the President; and three members appointed by the President: one member of the Executive Board and two members of the Society in good standing. The inaugural roster includes myself as chair, President **Amanda Focke**, Board member **Sarah Jackson**, and at-large members **Rich Adam** and **Tim Blevins**. [For a complete description of the duties and composition of the Finance Committee, please consult the *Committee and Procedures Manual* available on the web site.]

Some specific work that the committee will undertake includes assessing the state of the Society's investments to ensure that we grow our endowment to fully support our many scholarships. The committee will also review proposals for any unbudgeted expenses over \$500 and make recommendations to the Board.

By the time you read this, we will have already had our first meeting via conference call. We look forward to informing you of any relevant fiscal matters as we proceed and, as always, welcome any questions from the membership regarding the Society's funds.

2012 ELECTION RESULTS

By Sara Thompson, CA Chair,
2011-2012 Nominating Committee

The 2012 SSA election was conducted by electronic and paper ballot over the period March 22-April 18, 2012. We sent ballots to 386 individuals whose membership was current as of the start of the election period and 161 votes were cast in the election. The results are as follows:

Vice President/President Elect
Susan Goodman Novick, CA

Secretary
Jennifer Day, CA

Executive Board 2012-2014
Sarah Canby Jackson, CA
Claire Galloway Jenkins, CA
Bill Welge, CA

Nominating Committee
B. Lynn Whitfield, CA

Scholarship Committee
Michelle Bogart, CA

The 2011-2012 Nominating Committee thanks all candidates for participating in this election.

2011-2012 Nominating Committee:

Warren Stricker, Chair
Sara Thompson
Diana Bird

ALUMNI MIXERS AND PARTIES
AT SAA

Friday, Aug 10, 2012
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

University of Texas at Austin / UT
Roundup and the Society of Southwest
Archivists (Cobalt 504)

PDC QUARTERLY REPORT

By Leslie Meyer, Chair, Professional Development Committee

By all accounts, this year's annual meeting workshops were a success! Thank you to our instructors Howard Besser with Legal Issues of Digital Archives, Melanie Sturgeon with Basics of Archives, and Michael Frazier with Paper Preservation Issues and Conservation Techniques for your expertise and preparation of these workshops. Attendee feedback for all three workshops was very favorable and I hope we can continue this trend! Many thanks go to Linda Whitaker, Lori Sloat, and the Local Arrangements Committee for coordinating the workshop space and facilities. If you enjoyed the Legal Issues of Digital Archives workshop, presented by the Society of American Archivists, two more DAS workshops will be presented in the SSA region. Appraisal of Electronic Records will be held at Zavala State Archives & Library Building in Austin, Texas, on October 5, 2012. Digital Curation: Creating an Environment for Success will be presented at the Briscoe Center for American History also in Austin, Texas, on December 7, 2012. Check out the Continuing Education Calendar on the SAA website for more information on how to register. For upcoming workshops in the SSA region, check out the SSA website and the SSA Facebook page!

The PDC is already working on next year's workshops! Possible topics include governmental or congressional archives, tribal archives, bookbinding, and archival exhibitions. If you have an idea, suggestion, or feedback, please let us know! Or if you would like to become a member of the PDC, please contact me! The PDC is here to serve the members of the SSA; we want your input!

Leslie Meyer
The Petroleum Museum
(432) 683-4403
lmeyer@petroleummuseum.org

**WE'RE WORKING FOR
YOU!**

**SSA
BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2012**

CALL FOR DSA NOMINATIONS

By Carol Bartels, CA, Chair, 2012 DSA Committee

The SSA's Distinguished Service Award sponsored by Hollinger Metal Edge is bestowed upon a SSA member who has made significant contributions to the Society as well as the wider archival profession. Do you know someone you would like to see honored?

The recipient is selected by the Executive Board based on the recommendation of the Distinguished Service Award Committee. Committee members this year are Carol Bartels (chair), Kathlene Ferris, University of New Mexico and Ann Hodges, University of Texas at Arlington.

The committee is currently seeking nominations for the 2013 award. Nominations should be made in writing and include a brief statement of the contributions and achievements of the nominee to the Society and the profession.

Letters in support of the nomination are encouraged.

Nominations should be received by the chair no later than Friday January 11, 2013.

Nominations should be sent to:

Carol Bartels
The Historic New Orleans Collection
533 Royal Street
New Orleans, La. 70130
carol@hnoc.org

**DIGITAL ARCHIVES SPECIALIST
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CALL FOR PAPERS: 2013 ANNUAL MEETING
AUSTIN, TEXAS- MAY 22-25, 2013

Call for Session Proposals:

“Come One, Come All: Archives and the Public in the 21st Century”

Deadline for Session Proposals:
Wednesday, November 21, 2012
Early proposals are encouraged!

The 2013 Program Committee invites you to submit a proposal for an educational session to share your knowledge and experience with your colleagues. The meeting theme is broad, so we welcome session proposals that highlight archives and their important role in society today.

Examples of Topics:

- A Three-Ring Circus: Collaborative Projects with Other Institutions
- Thrill Rides: Serving the Public in the 21st Century with Social Media
- A Balancing Act: Access and Preservation
- Dog and Pony Shows: Promoting Your Collections

A session proposal form is available online at the SSA website (<http://southwestarchivists.org/annualmeeting.html>).

Formats: Although sessions are scheduled for 90 minutes and typically consist of three papers or a panel discussion, other formats are welcomed. Individual papers may be submitted with appropriate proposal information, but the Program Committee may form sessions based on individual papers submitted. Please make certain to provide audio-visual equipment needs on the session proposal form. Information on Student Poster sessions will be available on the SSA website in the coming months.

Looking for people to join you in proposing a session?

Post a message on the SSA Wiki (<http://ssarchivists.wikispaces.com/Annual+Meeting+Session+Proposals>) to reach archivists who might want to participate with you in a session.

Inquiries may be sent to:

Susan Novick, Chair, 2013 Program Committee
snovick@susannovick.com
Phone: 915-892-4302

2013 SSA SCHOLARSHIPS

Don't pass up these opportunities to obtain financial assistance for professional development and annual meeting attendance! Apply for one of these SSA Scholarships. All applications must be postmarked by February 11, 2013.

Otis Hebert Jr. Continuing Education Scholarship: In honor of SSA's founding president, this scholarship is intended to further the professional training of working archivists in the Southwest.

Annual Meeting Scholarship: Presented annually, this scholarship was created to provide financial aid to an SSA member archivist with limited funding to attend the SSA Annual Meeting.

John Michael Caldwell Scholarship: Presented annually, this scholarship enables an SSA member enrolled in a graduate archival program to attend the SSA Annual Meeting.

David B. Gracy II Student Scholarship: In honor of archival educator and SSA founding member David Gracy, this scholarship is intended to provide book and tuition expenses for an SSA student member enrolled in a graduate archival education program, including Public History, Applied History, Library Science or Information Studies, at an institution within the SSA region.

Eligibility requirements and application guidelines can be found at: <http://southwestarchivists.org>.

For more information, contact
Trish Nugent, Chair, SSA Scholarships Committee
Monroe Library, Loyola University New Orleans
Campus Box 198
6363 St. Charles Ave, New Orleans, Louisiana 70118
panugent@loyno.edu

“COME ONE, COME ALL”

By Jessica Tucker, CA, Jan Root, CA, and Lauren Goodley, CA • Co-Chairs, SSA 2013 Local Arrangements Publicity Committee



Photo Courtesy of the Austin History Center, Austin Public Library, PICA 03078

Come one, come all...to the 2013 Society of Southwest Archivists annual meeting May 22-25, 2013 in weird and wonderful Austin, Texas. Step right up and see the amazing repositories, whose staff perform daring budget-defying acts of processing, outreach, and so much more! Experience the mystery of the Congress Avenue bats! Be astounded by the constant cold of Barton Springs! Marvel at the massive “sunset red” Texas State Capitol Building! All performers of archives and information services are welcome under the Big Top.

To be close to all the action, make your reservation today at the beautiful Holiday Inn Lady Bird Lake, adjacent to the hike and bike trail and the Rainey Street historic and entertainment district.

Carnival barkers will post more info on the SSA website as it becomes available.

ATTENDING MY FIRST SSA MEETING

By Eira Tansey, Tulane University



Eira Tansey,
SSA Annual Meeting
Scholarship recipient.

I was surprised and pleased when I learned that I was awarded the Society of Southwest Archivists 2012 meeting scholarship. I have been a member of SSA since 2009, but was unable to attend previous SSA annual meetings. I decided to apply after several Greater New Orleans Archivists meetings during which SSA Scholarships Committee Chair Trish Nugent promoted the various available scholarships. Receiving this scholarship was tremendously helpful. I am a graduate student and a paraprofessional, so I have limited funding for professional events.

I arrived in Mesa before the conference in order to attend the SAA workshop “Legal Issues in Digital Archives” taught by Howard Besser (New York University). I am currently taking SAA’s Digital Archives Specialist (DAS) track of workshops, and it was very convenient to combine one of the DAS workshops with attending the conference.

I attended several sessions, and one that I found especially engaging was the session on finding aid consortiums. Speakers representing Texas Archival Resources Online, the Western Archival Network, and ArchiveGrid spoke about the role these consortiums play in making archival holdings more accessible to researchers. I found the discussion useful in

exploring the benefits brought about by such consortiums. I have overseen a major effort to transition my department’s legacy finding aids online, but unfortunately there is not a state or regional EAD consortium that serves Louisiana.

I was able to give back a small bit at my first SSA meeting by volunteering at the SLOTTO table with SSA’s past Scholarships Committee Chair Brian Collins. Volunteering was almost like a speed-networking event; I met so many archivists from the region in just half an hour! I also enjoyed attending the SNAP (SAA’s new roundtable for Students and New Archives Professionals) happy hour and the SSA reception at the Mesa Arts Center. I quickly found out that Southwestern archivists are some of the friendliest and helpful people I’ve ever met, and eagerly anticipate attending future SSA meetings.

HAPPY 40TH ANNIVERSARY, SSA!

By Kate L. Blalack, CA, Melissa Gonzalez, CA, and Gerri Schaad, CA, 40th Anniversary Committee Representatives



Photo courtesy of Katie Salzmann

This year was one for looking back into the past and bringing together documents to add to the history of the Society of Southwest Archivists as we celebrated our 40th year as a professional organization. The 40th celebration was kicked off with a lovely cake at the 2011 conference in Little Rock, Arkansas. Then committee chair, Shelly Henley Kelly, went on to lead the group of Kate Blalack, Michelle Bogart, Ellen K. Brown, Jennifer Day, Melissa Gonzales, Michelle Riggs, Gerrianna Schaad, Robert Schaad, Cindy Smolovik, Leslie Squyres, and Cristina Wolf in approving a Southwest-inspired logo designed by Kate Blalack. Once approved by the SSA Board this logo was shared in the newsletter, on-line and on our cake in Mesa, Arizona.

As good archivists we know that the history of our own organization is one that should be carefully described and kept updated as a way to educate all of our members about our past, present, and future outlooks. Two articles were published in the newsletter, and announcements sent via the newsletter and email blasts were made to encourage SSA members to submit records to the SSA archive at Baylor University, in addition to memories and photographs to the committee for inclusion in a history slide show that was the highlight of the reception. Special thanks goes out to honorary committee members, Laura Anne Heller and Karen Newby, who assisted with scanning images and party preparations.

The solicited materials have been added to the SSA archives at Baylor University in Waco, TX. Baylor staff finished the finding aid, which can be found at www.baylor.edu/lib/texas/ with a search using our name.

The finale celebration at our 2012 Annual Meeting in Mesa, Arizona could not have been more enjoyable as we chatted and dined the night away with entertainment from a jazz trio of students from the University of Arizona music department and the commemorative PowerPoint

slide show highlighting our presidents, our Distinguished Service Award recipients, and honoring our founding members. To all of you who missed it, some of the contents will be shared in the forthcoming newsletters and on the SSA web pages. Or, you can always learn more at the SSA Archives at Baylor University.

And don't forget to send SSA-related materials, particularly photographs, for inclusion in the archive. Send materials to: The Texas Collection One Bear Place #97142 Waco, Texas 76798-7142. Scanned and digital images are welcomed.



Photo courtesy of Katie Salzmann



Past presidents of SSA, photo courtesy of Katie Salzmann

GERRI SCHAAD RECEIVES 2012 SSA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

By John Slate, CA, Chair, Distinguished Service Award



During this year's Annual Meeting, the Society bestowed its highest award to **Gerrienne Schaad** for the many contributions she has made to SSA and to the archives profession. Gerri's nomination letter included the following testimony: "Ms. Schaad is worthy of the Distinguished Service Award by virtue of her years of service to the Society and to the many roles she has played in our organization. She served several terms on the executive board in 2001-2005 and as SSA treasurer from 2005-2011. Even as job opportunities moved her from the SSA region, she continued her duties as treasurer. Now that's dedication."

In her duties as Treasurer, Gerri was a driving force and support for many local arrangements committees for annual meetings, as well as serving as local arrangements chair in San Antonio in 2004. She has presented at many SSA meetings and presented at the annual SSA-sponsored session at the Texas State Historical Association in 2005 and 2008. She served on and chaired the Annual Meeting Site Selection Committee between 1998 and 2004, and was a member of the 2004 Program Committee. And even this year, Gerri coordinated the Society's 40th anniversary reception after **Shelly Henley Kelly** had to step down.

Regarding her service to the profession, Gerri has been an active member of the Society of American Archivists on many round tables and sections. As a concerned individual, she has contributed to archives-related causes such as the SSA-SAA Emergency Disaster Assistance Grant Fund. She's also served on the Texas Historical Records Advisory Board and spent many hours reviewing grant proposals to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Gerri has had a wide and varied career in archives, taking positions at the National Anthropological Archives at the Smithsonian Institution, Harvard, Rice University, the University of Texas at San Antonio, and now at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum. She believes in supporting her professional organizations and encourages others to do the same.

The Distinguished Service Award is generously funded by Hollinger-Metal Edge, Inc.



Gerri is pleased to accept the 2012 DSA Award. Photo courtesy of Michael Frazier, UNLV Special Collections.



Gerri Schaad accepts Distinguished Service Award at the SSA Annual Conference in Mesa, AZ. Photo courtesy of Katie Salzmann.

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SPOTLIGHT ON THE STOUT-FELDMAN STUDIO PHOTOGRAPHS

...continued from page 1



1330 Montana Street. During Stout's administration, the photography studio bore the name "Stout-Feldman Studio." The studio continued to take pictures for the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy yearbook well into the 1930s.

In 2008, the C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department at the University of Texas at El Paso acquired the Stout-Feldman photographs collection from Basilio Gonzalez, the owner of the Achilles Studio, a business located at the former site of the Stout-Feldman Studio. Unfortunately, the Stout-Feldman negatives were stored in wooden boxes against a stone wall of the building's basement, and some were water damaged. The environmental conditions were far from ideal, and many of the glass plate negatives were cracked, broken, or had peeling emulsion. Many of the sheet negatives were also deteriorating and brittle. It was only after realizing that the photographs needed preservation that Mr. Gonzalez agreed to sell the photographs to the UTEP Library.

With funding from the National Park Service's "Save America's Treasures" Grant Program, the UTEP Special Collections Department is preserving the collection, which includes nitrate and glass plate negatives. As archivist **Laura Hollingsed** reviewed and reboxed the collection, she found many familiar names from El Paso history among the labeled envelopes. The photos included at least three former mayors; military figures such as Gen. John J. (Black Jack) Pershing; Mexican leader and later president Francisco Madero; soldiers of fortune such as Sam Dreben and Elliot Chess; and beauty queens from fashion shows or pageants. Since many of the negatives were being scanned as part of the project, Hollingsed decided to design an exhibit for the library with historical photos from the collection. The collection covers a time span that extends into the 1960s, but the processing is not yet complete, and later photographs are not included. The exhibit, titled *The Stout-Feldman Studio Photographs, 1910-1930*, officially opened with a reception on June 15 and will remain up until the end of August 2012.

For more information about the exhibit or the collection, please contact **Claudia Rivers**, Head, Special Collections, University of Texas at El Paso Library, El Paso, TX 79968-0582, (915) 747-6725 or at crivers@utep.edu. Or, visit the blog post on this collection at <http://transformations.utep.edu/?p=1019>.



Tall man Jake Erlich, dance instructor Karma Deane, and unidentified child. Photo Courtesy of the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections, University of Texas El Paso, Stout-Feldman Studio photographs, PH074, No. 3070.



Fred J. Feldman self-portrait, 1923. Photo Courtesy of the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections, University of Texas El Paso, Stout-Feldman Studio photographs, PH074.

STUDENT POSTER SESSION WELL-ATTENDED

Submitted by Lauren Goodley, CA • Texas State University



Five archives students shared their work via professional posters at the annual meeting this year. Topics varied widely, and are described by the students in their own words below.

Bethany Anderson spoke about “Unearthing a Records Management Plan: The Records of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference.” This poster articulated the unique concerns in developing a records schedule, management plan, and processing guidelines for the Southeastern Archaeological Conference (SEAC) in order to facilitate the deposit of its records to the Smithsonian Institution’s National Anthropological Archives (NAA).

Ann Clark presented on “Building Sustainable Digital Cultural Heritage Collections: Towards Best Practices for Micro-level Digital Projects.” The poster displayed findings from a research project on factors affecting the feasibility of small-scale digitization and preservation efforts by cultural heritage institutions in Arizona. Such institutions hold a broad range of valuable materials, including documents, research data, photographs, and digital audio files.

Eleanor Dickson discussed “More than Primary Sources: The Professional Benefits of Teaching Archives

to Children.” Through a study of K-12 outreach models in the field of archaeology, which has more public recognition than archives, she suggests ways we can leverage our preexisting presence in the classroom to increase popular understanding of archives, while also enticing a more diverse population to the field.

Meg Eastwood’s poster was titled “How Does Your Herbarium Grow? The Use and Organization of Herbarium Specimens.” This two-part literature review explored not only the importance of herbarium collections but also how archivists can best organize and increase access to their herbarium specimens.

Chloe Edwards shared “‘And Teach Them To Your Children’: Creating a Community Archives at Congregation Agudas Achim.” For the past year Chloe has been acting as an archival consultant for my synagogue. It’s been an eye-opening experience for her to empower a community to work with its own records, and also a lesson in creating community buy-in for the archive program as she has watched the history committee spread awareness of the project through synagogue programming.

For more information on student posters at the

continues on next page

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STUDENT POSTER SESSION WELL-ATTENDED

...continued from page 12



SSA Annual Meeting, visit the SSA wiki at http://ssarchivists.wikispaces.com/Student_Poster_Sessions.



Archivist Patrizia Nava discusses archives with student Chloe Edwards. Photo courtesy of Katie Salzmann.


SSA TWEETS!

Thanks to Melissa Gonzales, SSA now has a twitter account! Follow us and read tweets at <https://twitter.com/SWarchivists>; and be sure to use the hash tag #SWarchivists on your own archives-related tweets!

We will start tweeting at the SAA annual meeting. Join the virtual conversation!

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“LEGAL ISSUES IN DIGITAL ARCHIVES” DAS WORKSHOP

By Donna Morales Guerra, Trinity University



I took the “Legal Issues in Digital Archives” workshop—a Tactical and Strategic Course in SAA’s Digital Archives Specialist Curriculum and Certificate Program—at SSA 2012 in Mesa, Arizona. This was the first time the workshop was offered. Howard Besser, Professor of Cinema Studies and Director of NYU’s Moving Image Archiving and Preservation Program, informed us that it was also the first time he would be teaching the workshop. Both “first-times” are notable because they had a definite effect on how the workshop played out, and the Achilles’ heel was that there was a dizzying amount of material to cover in one day. Nevertheless, the workshop was valuable and covered essential concerns for a practicing archivist in an electronic and digital material world.

Mr. Besser incorporated the workshop objectives into three parts: Part 1 – Copyright Issues, Part 2 – Coping, and Part 3 – Underlying Sensitive Issues, & Compulsory Legal Requests. Some of the salient points I took away follow.

Varieties of record formats, containers and types; the blurring of public and private records; and archaic laws necessitate copyright audits, risk assessments, and preservation data management. A bottom-line assertion is that risk is unavoidable. Mr. Besser discussed how donor agreements, legal counsel that is aware of Sections 107 and 108 (fair use and exceptions), and ingest and acceptance policies all work toward a well-intentioned practice. He also discussed the challenges instances where DRM (Digital Rights Management) restrictions and encryption—for example, in recordings, e-books, credit card billing statements, and company paystubs—meet head-on with privacy issues, decryption software and digital migration in preservation practices. Perhaps most importantly, the archivist should document the search for copyright status, which supports a legal and ethical demonstration of due diligence.

Mr. Besser also suggested that the Fair Use guidelines best serve digital access. Attempts to wrangle with the facets of copyright law are cumbersome and may not deliver an end result that serves the archival mission. He shared the flow charts on pages 14-15 in the SAA report *Orphan Works: Statement of Best Practices*, which gives a good idea of the complexity of investigating copyright status. Copyright laws are not created with archives and libraries in mind – they are created for the commercial sector. He also suggested that in our present copyright climate, it would be best to keep laws as vague as possible.

I brought questions I was hoping to get answered, and it quickly became clear that the thirty-five other attendees did,

too. Once the (valuable) questions began to appear, the balance between covering the material and responding to questions started to teeter. Mr. Besser generously accommodated our questions in the morning session, which forced the workshop into warp speed after the lunch break. It was difficult to absorb the large amount of material remaining for the afternoon in fast forward.

While I found the workshop useful, perhaps a better structure for the course would be a full day or half-day live or recorded webinar on day one, with electronic handout, combined with a live workshop on day two – in that way a similar price might be maintained. Also, as in other workshops, it would have been helpful to include some pre-workshop reading – for instance, the report that Mr. Besser made frequent reference to, Maria Pallante’s *Legal Issues in Mass Digitization: A Preliminary Analysis and Discussion Document* (Office of the Register of Copyrights, October 2011). This report would have firmly bent our minds in the right direction.

Mr. Besser’s expertise and the breadth and depth of the workshop content are too important to not share well.

To learn more about the Digital Archivist Specialist certification program please visit the Society of American Archivists website at: www.2.archivists.org/prof-education/das



Howard Besser, Legal Issues with Digital Archives (SAA DAS) pre-conference. Photo courtesy of Michael Frazier, UNLV Special Collections.

VISITING SCHOLARS PROGRAM

By Carolyn G. Hanneman, University of Oklahoma



The Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center at the University of Oklahoma seeks applicants for its Visiting Scholars Program, which provides financial assistance to researchers working at the Center's archives. Awards of \$500-\$1000 are normally granted as reimbursement for travel and lodging.

The Center's holdings include the papers of many former members of Congress, such as Robert S. Kerr, Fred Harris, and Speaker Carl Albert of Oklahoma; Helen Gahagan Douglas and Jeffery Cohelan of California; Richard K. Armev of Texas; and Neil Gallagher of New Jersey. Besides the history of Congress, congressional leadership, national and Oklahoma politics, and election campaigns, the collections also document government policy affecting agriculture, Native Americans, energy, foreign affairs, the environment, the economy, and other areas. Topics that can be studied include the Great Depression, flood control, soil conservation, and tribal affairs. At least one collection provides insight on women in American politics. Most materials date from the 1920s to the 1990s. The Center's collections are described on the World Wide Web at <http://www.ou.edu/special/albertctr/archives/> and in the publication titled *A Guide to the Carl Albert Center Congressional Archives* (Norman, Okla.: The Carl Albert Center, 1995) by Judy Day, et al., available at many U. S. academic libraries. Additional information can be obtained from the Center.

The Visiting Scholars Program is open to any applicant. Emphasis is given to those pursuing postdoctoral research in history, political science, and other fields. Graduate students involved in research for publication, thesis, or dissertation are encouraged to apply. Professional researchers and writers are also invited to apply. The Center evaluates each research proposal based upon its merits, and funding for a variety of topics is expected.

Application materials should include: (1) a description of the research proposal in fewer than 1000 words; (2) a personal vita; (3) an explanation of how the Center's resources will assist the researcher; (4) a budget proposal; and (5) a letter of reference from an established scholar in the discipline attesting to the significance of the research. Applications are accepted at any time.

For more information, please contact Archivist, Carl Albert Center, 630 Parrington Oval, Room 101, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019. Telephone: (405) 325-5835. FAX: (405) 325-6419. E-mail: channeman@ou.edu.



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REFLECTIONS ON OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY

By Paul R. Scott CA, CRM, SSA Member Since 1974



Charles Schultz in 1984, SSA president 1978-1980. Photo courtesy of Shelly Henley Kelly.

At our 40th anniversary party in Phoenix I realized that I was the Senior Geezer. Oh sure, there were a few (very few) older archivists present, but none who had attended our first Annual Conference in Baton Rouge in 1974. So I am taking to heart Gerri Schaad's call for us old timers to write down our remembrances of our beloved Society. But, instead of sending them to the SSA archives at Baylor, I am inflicting them upon the entire membership—or at least those who read the *Southwestern Archivist* from cover to cover.

How old am I? Let me give you an example. I am the only person in Phoenix who remembered Ivan Eyler, one of our founding members. I met him in 1971 when I was a student worker at the Federal Records Center in Ft. Worth and he was the old, old man in charge. From the slide show I learned that I am now five years older than he was then.

The funny thing is that I don't remember any of the sessions at Baton Rouge even though as young archivists do, I attended to learn more about the craft. And, being a somewhat naive young man, I was shocked when I overheard one older attendee say that he was skipping the sessions because the real reason to attend was to visit colleagues. Now I understand. One session I attended this year covered only things that I already knew and things that I could not understand.

What I recall best about Baton Rouge were the social gatherings with A. Otis Hebert presiding. He was the perfect host, i.e. the purveyor of knowledge, humor, and free booze. (On a closely related matter, it was here I learned never to stand between Charles Schultz and David Chapman and the

bar while telling those two that it is free.) Later Otis escorted us to Pat's Seafood Restaurant in Henderson where many of us first learned to eat crawfish. (For those who may not be familiar with Pat's, I suggest you read what William Least Heat Moon wrote about it in *Blue Highways*.)

As a historian, I am especially interested in persistence and change. Perhaps the greatest change has been in our background and training. As I recall, in our early days historians with a sprinkling of sociologists, geographers, and related disciplines predominated while librarians were few and far between. If the disciplines of public historians and information scientists had been created, I was unaware of it. At one of the sessions this year the moderator called for a show of hands and probably no more than 20% of the attendees had MA degrees in history. Clearly, the library and information scientists and the public historians are in the ascendency. Perhaps this is the sign of a mature profession, one with standardized methods. Or, perhaps, as others claim, it is the end of civilization as we know it.

Another change (I think) has been the ratio of males and females in our Society at least that attend meetings. Careful

Continues on next page

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REFLECTIONS ON OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY

...continued from page 18



historians will want to consult the records as memoirs, especially mine, are suspect, but in the old days it seems that most members were male with a healthy representation of women. Now, it seems that women are predominant but there are still plenty of males. What I do not believe has changed is that we all get along pretty darn well.

One thing that has not changed is our lack of pigmentation. We have always had a sprinkling of Hispanics but the only African American who regularly attended was Bill Joiner who came in from D.C. to be with us (and to visit with his mother), and I haven't seen him since 1997. I am puzzled as to why we do not have more people of color, as I am sure that they would be welcome.

Society as a whole has changed, perhaps more than has our organization. Demonstrating this was an incident from our meeting in El Paso in 1977. Carmela Leal was (and hopefully still is) a wonderful woman who had worked many years translating the Bexar Archives. (A result was that she had a tendency to date her checks with the wrong century.) Having been born in Monterey she was a Mexican national, but had lived in Texas so long it didn't occur to her to have her green card when she and other members walked into Juarez. Border guards stopped her as she was crossing back into the U.S. but after talking to her for a while, they concluded that her story was so implausible that it had to be true and passed her through. I would be pleasantly surprised if something like this happened today.

What very few remember is that SSA used to be rainmaking organization—literally. For several years running it rained wherever and whenever we met. It was at San Antonio in 1985 that I was temporarily the Society's hero. We had an outside reception featuring Mexican beer. When it started to rain, the hosts threw everything into boxes and rushed inside. To everyone's horror, they could not find the bottle opener. Happily my pocketknife had a bottle opener so for the rest of the evening my fellow archivists approached me respectfully, beer in hand, requesting my assistance. That, some say, has been my greatest contribution to our beloved society.

Another change has been the Southwest Archivist. Initially it was more like a letter than a publication. I do not recall it being mimeographed, but for a while it was close, being printed in an offset press in the basement of the Texas A&M Evans library. After a few years it progressed to a professionally printed affair. It retains that look, but now most of our members read it on-

line. What has not changed is that many of us look for it eagerly to see what our colleagues are accomplishing.

This is about all I have to say. I shall close by acknowledging that others are likely to recall these events differently. If so, don't tell me, write them down and have the editor publish them to correct the record.



Otis Hebert, SSA founding
:president.

Ed. Note: SSA welcomes your remembrances, corrections, and stories.

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DOCUMENTING THE BORDERLANDS: STEWARDS IN THE FIELD

By Linda Whitaker, MA, CA, Arizona Historical Society



The SSA Annual Meeting in Phoenix included a special two part session titled “Documenting the Borderlands: Stewards in the Field.” The panel sessions were intended to bring home the message that documenting history as it is being made in a volatile political environment comes with risk and controversy, both for the records creators and for the archivists or repositories that want to collect those records. As the proposer for these sessions, I wanted to reach beyond the abstract notions of collection development and documenting the under-documented. For archivists living along the border and in the hyper-inflated rhetoric of media coverage, understanding the people affected by border policies and knowing the people who officially, and unofficially, document the outcomes of those policies is critical.

The first panel set the stage. Dr. Gregory Hess, Medical Examiner for Pima County, Arizona and Kat Rodriguez, Director of Derechos Humanos in Tucson, Arizona spoke as “first responders” to border crossing victims found dead or reported missing in the Sonoran desert – the longest border and geographically one of the most remote areas between Arizona and Mexico. Theirs is an unusual and in Arizona, unprecedented collaboration that deserves wider recognition.

Dr. Hess presented facts, figures and forensic evidence found in the field. The summer months, of course, are the deadliest. There have been 1,199 migrant deaths reported since 2001, an average of 184 deaths annually. Due to decomposition and condition of skeletal remains, cause of death could not be determined in 62% of the cases. As of December last year, 692 decedents remain unidentified and are in Pima County’s “overflow” cold storage trailer. Dr. Hess is determined to name the dead, however. When he needs assistance, he turns to Kat Rodriguez.

Coalición de Derechos Humanos is a grass roots human rights organization (www.derechoshumanosaz.net). It is an advocacy group that actively lobbies for border policy changes through education and civic discourse. It also

documents migrant abuse and collects missing migrant reports. They have forged a working relationship with both the Pima County Medical Examiners Office and the Search and Rescue Unit of the U.S. Border Patrol. Derechos Humanos is part of a large network of church,

non-profit, and relief volunteer groups working along the both sides of border to decrease crossing deaths. Ms. Rodriguez’s presentation ended with a timed sequence of red dots showing where bodies were found in the desert, which merged to become a red sea south and southwest of Tucson.

The second panel represented stewards of another sort. Two of our archives colleagues, Crystal Carpenter of the University of Arizona and Charles Stanford from New Mexico State University, were joined by José Matus, a Yaqui leader dedicated to preserving his language and culture which is physically divided by the U.S.-Mexico border and the increasingly stringent border crossing policies. Ms. Carpenter outlined her department’s priorities for collecting borderland materials and showed how collection development was coordinated within the department. Mr. Stanford spoke eloquently about the frustrations of collecting borderlands materials, the creation of a Social Justice Collection and developing the administrative support to sustain that effort. Mr.

Matus then described the need of the Yaqui tribe on the U.S. side of the border to have Yaqui elders from Mexico cross to teach religious rituals, share stories, language, and artwork in order to keep the Yaqui culture alive. Few Yaquis on the Mexico side have the documentation to cross. That cultural exchange has all but ceased.

“Documenting the Borderlands: Stewards in the Field” attempted to show and share the human side of creating and collecting borderland materials—an up close and personal view of the Beyond Borders theme coming at SAA in San Diego.

For more information contact Linda Whitaker, MA, CA, Director, Library and Archives Division, Arizona Historical Society, at LWhitaker@azhs.gov.



Kat Rodriguez, Linda Whitaker, and Gregory Hess. Photo courtesy Michael Frazier, UNLV



José Matus, Charles Stanford, and Crystal Carpenter. Photo courtesy Michael Frazier, UNLV Special Collections.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS LIBRARIES ACQUIRE PAPERS OF ACCLAIMED
ACTOR, DIRECTOR, PRODUCER AND PLAYWRIGHT By Diane Worrell, University of Arkansas Libraries



The University of Arkansas Libraries special collections department recently became the repository for the papers of University alumnus Laurence Luckinbill, an award-winning film and stage actor, director, producer and playwright.

The collection consists of both personal and professional materials, including photographs, yearbooks, scripts, plays and screenplays, play bills, and drafts and clippings of articles Luckinbill submitted to the *New York Times*, *Esquire*, and other publications. Film and theater posters, audio and video recordings, plus copies of Luckinbill's film work are also contained in the collection. Some of the more unusual items in the collection are props, makeup kits, wigs, glasses, moustaches and a plastic action figure of Luckinbill in his role of Sybok, a character in the movie *Star Trek V: The Final Frontier*.

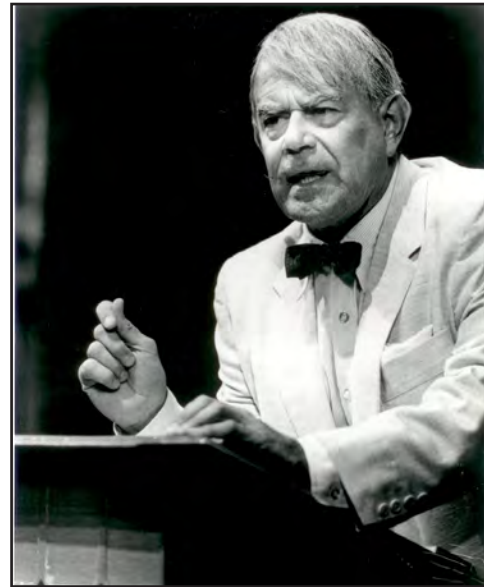
Luckinbill was born and raised in Fort Smith, Arkansas.



Laurence Luckinbill as Sybok, brother of Spock, in the movie *Star Trek V: The Final Frontier*. From the Laurence Luckinbill materials, Special Collections, University of Arkansas Libraries (unprocessed).

He discovered his passion for drama at the University of Arkansas, where he earned a drama degree in 1955. He earned a master of fine arts degree in playwriting from the Catholic University of America in 1958.

Following roles in television soap operas, such as *The*



Laurence Luckinbill as Clarence Darrow. From the Laurence Luckinbill materials, Special Collections, University of Arkansas Libraries (unprocessed).

Secret Storm, Luckinbill went on to act on Broadway in *The Boys in the Band* (1968) and *Poor Murderer* (1976). A film career followed, in which he appeared in *Such Good Friends* (1971), *The Promise* (1979) and many other films. He also appeared on numerous television shows, including *Law & Order* and *Murder, She Wrote*. He was a Tony nominee for *The Shadow Box* and a recipient of the New York Critics Circle Award for *The Memory Box*.

In addition to his acting career, Luckinbill has written and directed plays and screenplays, many of which are contained in his papers. He is well known for writing and performing critically acclaimed one-man shows portraying prestigious men of history, such as Clarence Darrow, Ernest Hemingway, Theodore Roosevelt, and Lyndon Johnson.

The announcement of Luckinbill's donation of materials to special collections was made during his June 2012 visit to the campus. The University Libraries held a reception and press conference on June 18 to celebrate his career and the acquisition of his papers. Luckinbill was also the fourth in a series of guest scholars brought to campus this year as McIlroy Family Professors in Performing and Visual Arts in the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences. During his visit, he hosted drama workshops and gave performances, including *Clarence Darrow Tonight!* and *Teddy Tonight!*

Continues on next page

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS LIBRARIES ACQUIRE PAPERS OF ACCLAIMED
ACTOR, DIRECTOR, PRODUCER AND PLAYWRIGHTcontinued from page 21



“It’s a wonderful thing to have lived a long enough life and done enough stuff that a library would be interested in having your papers,” Luckinbill commented. “And, it is a grand thing to have a knowledge place where one can contribute the small sum acquired in sixty years of plying one’s trade,” he said. “It is most comforting to know that there are such lovely people to sort it all out and make it seem actually real and not just a dream once dreamed. My first memories are of the comfort given to a seven year old in the beautiful Carnegie Library in Fort Smith seventy years ago. What a gift a library is! And now, I’ve got one of my own. Thank you from the bottom of my seventy-seven year old heart, University Libraries!”

Carolyn Henderson Allen, University Libraries dean, remarked that the Luckinbill materials “truly enrich our collection and have already got us talking about other drama professionals we might talk to about donating their papers. This may be the beginning of an Arkansas treasure trove.”

“Larry is one of those types of donors that archivists love—he saves everything,” said Tim Nutt, interim head of special collections. “In his papers researchers can learn about his Broadway performances and see photographs and scripts and other memorabilia from his roles on the myriad of television series, plays, and feature films in which he has appeared—from the soap opera *The Secret Storm* to the groundbreaking *The Boys in the Band* to *Bonanza* to *Barnaby Jones* to *Mary Tyler Moore* to *Murder, She Wrote*, to *Cocktail* and, yes, even to *Star Trek V*. Trekkie or not, who does not get a thrill when looking at an original script from a *Star Trek* movie?”

Nutt continued, “Larry is more than a fine actor. He’s also a writer, director and producer. He won an Emmy for co-producing, with his wife Lucie Arnaz, the documentary *Lucy and Desi: A Home Movie*.” “These materials are not only interesting, but they will be valuable to theatre students and faculty,” Nutt observed. “Here, in special collections at the University of Arkansas, is the Larry Luckinbill collection, and future actors can learn about the craft they love through the papers of someone who has experienced it.”

As the official repository for Laurence Luckinbill’s materials, special collections will begin processing the collection to make it available to researchers. Luckinbill plans to continue donating materials as his career evolves.



Laurence Luckinbill (right) with University Libraries Dean Carolyn Henderson Allen (center) and Tim Nutt (left), interim head of special collections, at a June 18 reception held to announce the acquisition of his papers. Photograph by Russell Cothren

DONATE TO THE SSA ARCHIVE
AT BAYLOR

Archivist Paul Fisher notes that the collection has very few photographs. If you do not want to part with your originals please send a copy via a 300 dpi scan or digital file.

The finding aid is online at <http://www.baylor.edu/lib/texas> by searching “Society of Southwest Archivists Record,” to see what they need more of.
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VETERANS OF SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA: AN ORAL HISTORY

By Neil Guilbeau, Nicholls State University



“Man your battle stations on the double! This is no drill!” This quote from Pearl Harbor survivor, James Womack, Sr., echoes a classic phrase describing the chaos as seen through the eyes of a U.S. sailor on December 7, 1941. At ninety-one years of age, Womack provides an account of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in vivid detail that recreates that Sunday morning more than seventy years ago. For those who have only read about it or watched one of Hollywood’s renditions, Womack’s story as witnessed from the deck of the *USS St. Louis* is quite striking.

In an effort to document and preserve firsthand historical accounts of the U.S. military, the Archives and Special Collections at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, Louisiana has been building an oral history collection since September 2010 entitled, “Veterans of Southeast Louisiana.” This process involves interviewing veterans who reside in the southeast region of Louisiana from St. Bernard Parish to St. Mary Parish. In addition to recording the interviews, the Archives copies and preserves photographs, telegrams, correspondence, and other documents related to their time of service. The men and women interviewed for this project have served in the various military branches from World War II to Iraq. Some served during peacetime while others survived the ordeal of combat, but all have a story to tell.

The Archives has amassed thus far over eighty-five interviews including those of thirty-five who served in WWII, nine in Korea, thirteen in Vietnam, and nine in Iraq. Interviewees include nine women: three who served in the Army Nurse Corps, one in the Women’s Army Corps, two in the U.S. Marine Corps, two in the U.S. Army, one in the U.S. Air Force, and one civilian who served as the chief clerk for the Houma draft board during WWII.

Breaking from traditional audio-only recordings for oral history projects, the Archives has taken the extra step in documenting this primary resource using digital video. Although using this technology creates additional challenges from properly staging the area for the interview to storing large, unwieldy digital files, the added dimension of video can pay big dividends. The difference between listening to Womack’s account on an audiotape versus watching him on video begins to play out in the subtlety of his body language and facial expressions as he relived those moments at Pearl Harbor. Sitting quietly without gesturing at one point, Womack began to reveal a knowing smile as he continued, “...of course, that’s what everybody thought was happening, was a drill.”

For more information about this project contact Neil

Guilbeau, Assistant Archivist, Ellender Memorial Library, Nicholls State University at neil.guilbeau@nicholls.edu.



James T. Womack, Sr., Chief Petty Officer-U.S. Navy. Photo courtesy of Archives & Special Collections, Nicholls State University.



USS St. Louis, also known as the “Lucky Lou” because it survived two close calls at Pearl Harbor. Photo courtesy of wikipedia.org.

KENNEDY COLLECTION READING ROOM LOOKS OUT ON DEALEY PLAZA

By Krishna Shenoy, Sixth Floor Museum



The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza opened its Reading Room, located on the first floor of the former Texas School Book Depository at 411 Elm Street, to the public on June 29, 2010. Overlooking Dealey Plaza, the new space offers a reflective environment providing researchers, educators and students with access to more than 5,000 books, serials, newspapers, kits and audio/visual items from the Museum's library collection, covering topics from the life and legacy of President John F. Kennedy to conspiracy theories to 1960s history and culture. Special areas of collection development include copies of books checked out by Lee Harvey Oswald, JFK-related poetry, musical scores, scripts, songs and political cartoons. The Reading Room collection does not circulate materials, since many are rare and out-of-print items. Over 20 resource guides or finding aids ranging in topics from the Assassination to Zapruder are available online on the Reading Room website to help researchers.



The facility contains three independent computer stations with touch screen and video technology. Photo courtesy of The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza.



Overlooking Dealey Plaza, the new reading room offers a reflective environment. Photo courtesy of The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza.

Available by appointment only from 9:30a.m to 4:00p.m weekdays, the Reading Room also offers a venue for further investigating the Museum's diverse and actively expanding special collections, one of the world's largest repositories of original photographs, oral histories, film and video footage, documents and artifacts related to the assassination of President Kennedy. The facility contains three independent computer stations with touch screen and video technology on which researchers can access the library catalog, JFK-related databases, websites, listen to oral histories and browse the Museum's special collections.

When The Sixth Floor Museum opened in 1989, it had already accumulated a significant collection of resources and materials related to President Kennedy, but no one outside the institution was aware of the treasure. By establishing the library and investing in a professional librarian/archivist, the Museum successfully brought the collection to the public. Now a rare item such as the script for the play "Jack Ruby: All American Boy" by John Logan or the out-of-print gem "Red Roses from Texas" by Nerin E. Gun are visible to the public. Researchers from all over the world now access previously hidden materials via the library's open-source, integrated library cataloging and public access system known as KOHA. MARC records are shared via OCLC Connexion service, however, an abundance of unique items require original cataloging records.

Since opening, the Reading Room has assisted authors, scholarly researchers, journalists, students, educators, musicians, tourists and local residents. "The Sixth Floor Museum is pleased to present this incredible resource to North Texas," says Nicola Longford, the museum's executive director. "We anticipate a large influx of research interest and requests of all types from around the world as we approach the 50th anniversary, and we encourage use by local researchers who are interested in exploring the history of Dallas and its connection to President Kennedy." In addition to the public, the library supports the research and knowledge needs of the Museum's marketing, interpretative and education staff.

As the 50th anniversary approaches, the Reading Room is developing a web-based research guide listing the Texas institutions with JFK-related holdings. The

Continues on next page

KENNEDY COLLECTION READING ROOM LOOKS OUT ON DEALEY PLAZA

...continued from page 24



Sixth Floor Museum hopes this consortium will bring together the diverse community of organizations possessing JFK- related collections and provide opportunities for collaboration. Future projects also include implementing an institutional archives management system to process and organize the internal records, documents, correspondence, exhibit and program materials accumulated over the decades by The Sixth Floor Museum.

Visit the Reading Room at <http://www.jfk.org/go/reading-room> or contact Krishna Shenoy, Librarian/Archivist at krishnas@jfk.org or 214.747.6660.



Special areas of collection development include copies of books checked out by Lee Harvey Oswald. Photo courtesy of The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza.

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E-TRANSFER PROTOCOL AT MFAH CONCLUDES NHPRC GRANT

By Lorraine A. Stuart, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston



As the Electronic Records Archive Start-Up grant funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission concludes, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH) has piloted an Electronic Transfer Protocol (ETP) consisting of a database application and procedures for its use. In addition to the ETP, grant funding allowed the museum's Archives and Information Technology departments to collaboratively select a system to establish an Electronic Records Archives (ERA) at the museum as well as broaden awareness and increase understanding of electronic records management across the institution.

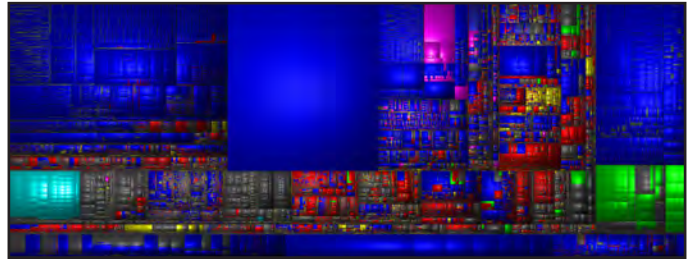
The ETP developed by the MFAH supports the transfer of institutional electronic records into archival custody with metadata intact. In its final version, the ETP will also support the transfer of e-mail in a quasi-native format. Training developed for the ETP applies the museum's existing Document Retention Policy, retention schedules, and records management procedures to the new protocol while highlighting the benefits of valid metadata creation, management and preservation.

The future course charted under the grant project will have the MFAH seeking funding for the implementation of the selected ERA system. The ERA system will provide continuous monitoring for data loss; support systematic execution of preservation plans; and maintain and export descriptive metadata into various metadata schema. An additional objective is the continued exploration of emerging data analytical tools for use in an automated-assisted appraisal process.

MFAH Archives director, Lorraine A. Stuart, will present findings of the grant project and introduce the ETP at the Society of American Archivists annual meeting in San Diego (Session 507 Strategies for Undertaking Electronic Records Management in Museums). Documentation under the grant project, which consists of a Concept of Operations, a Request for Proposals, and the ETP pilot training manual, is available to the archival community upon request.

In addition to Ms. Stuart, museum staff serving on the project team include Shemon Bar-Tal, Chief Information Officer; Jill Aremband, IT director; Dave Thompson, Database administrator and Business Intelligence manager; Joanna Hammerschmidt, Records manager; and Sarah Shipley, Digital archivist. Critical assistance has been provided by Willard Holmes, Associate director of administration; Carlotta Mackie, Policy and Compliance administrator; and Saurin Ganatra, Software developer. The MFAH is grateful to the NHPRC for its support of the ERA Start-Up project.

For more information, including copies of the Concept of Operations, RFP, and the ETP pilot training manual, please contact Lorraine A. Stuart, Archives Director, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston at (713) 353-1557 or lstuart@mfaah.org.



MFAH server data visualization, courtesy of Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

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CELEBRATING 85 YEARS OF “THE PEOPLE’S UNIVERSITY”

By Michele Reilly, University of Houston



The UH Memories Project is a collaboration between Michele Reilly, Head of Digital Services at the University of Houston Libraries and Kathleen Brosnan, Associate Director of the UH Center for Public History to produce a digital video documentary chronicling the history of the University of Houston as it approaches its 85th anniversary. We believe that it is essential to capture the university’s past as a way to explore its future. Using new media to innovatively integrate the memories of our alumni, students, faculty and staff with archival materials, we intend to tell a story of higher education in Houston that is complex, compelling and essential.

Some goals of the project are to harness the unique talents and ingenuity of the University’s students, staff, and faculty; to utilize vast campus resources; and to showcase the long tradition of campus involvement. Our plan is to make this a truly University produced product. We will reveal that the University of Houston of today combines the accomplishments of its students, alumni, faculty and staff with their hopes for the future; the contributions of each person matter.

In order to tackle such a complex and involved project we broke it up into three phases. Each phase of the project builds upon the other, providing each of us involved with an opportunity to learn, grow and adjust with each phase. This approach has been instrumental in the success of the project thus far.

The first phase of the project began through a graduate seminar in digital history that Reilly taught in the fall of 2011. Graduate students were instructed in video creation best practices, developing a theme, script writing, conducting oral and video histories and archival research techniques. Each student was required to produce a short video marrying alumni interviews with digital archival materials. These videos provided the basis for the next phase of the project and a cadre of potential research assistants for the future. The student videos can be viewed on the UH Libraries YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/user/uhlibraries>.

The second and current phase of the project is to produce a longer, more powerful mini-documentary about the University of Houston during World War II. This was a defining time for the United States, the city of Houston, and its fledgling university. This mini-documentary, due to be released in early August, tells the story of innovation, progression and patriotism at the University of Houston. Other aspects explored are the interconnectedness of the University to its host city and how it became the “People’s University”. This work is being created by a research assistant funded by the University Provost under the guidance of Reilly and Brosnan. It features voice actors

culled from the ranks of the students, staff and faculty and many images taken directly from the UH Digital Library, the University Archives, and several other sources.

Starting in the fall of 2012 will be the third and final phase of the project, researching and completing the longer, more complex, and fully integrated digital video history of



Photos courtesy of University of Houston Digital Library

the University of Houston. We envision this documentary to be subject to peer review before its official release. We believe that a meaningful digital history of the university, will reveals its academic credentials, its embrace of diversity, its preparation of students for the complex challenges of life, and its contributions to the larger Houston community.

For more information about the project or the University of Houston’s history, please contact Michelle Reilly, Head of Digital Services, 713-743-8995, or mreilly@uh.edu. Reilly will also be presenting on this project at Digital Frontiers 2012, a conference on using digital resources for research, teaching, and learning, at the University of North Texas, September 21-22.

CIVIL WAR MANUSCRIPTS DIGITIZED

By Morgan R. Davis, University of North Texas



During the Civil War, more than 70,000 Texans served in the Confederate Army and 2,000 joined the Union Army. At the University of North Texas Libraries' Archives and Rare Books Department and Digital Projects Unit, an NHPRC-supported project has been completed to help tell their story.

The Library has digitized and placed eight archival collections on the Portal to Texas History (<http://texashistory.unt.edu>), which offers more than 250,000 pages of material from archives, historical societies, small and large libraries, museums and private collections from all areas of Texas. Collections digitized include the A.C. Lenert Memorandum Book from 1862-65, a daily log of the shelling, artillery attacks and the intensity of fighting at the Battle of Vicksburg from a member of the Texas Legion.

The other collections, most with a Texas connection, include:

- The letters of a Confederate doctor who treated soldiers in Arkansas and Texas,
- A diary from a Union sympathizer who fled Texas during the war to live in Illinois,
- The military orders and diaries of a Union officer who led a company in the U.S. Colored Cavalry -- the Buffalo Soldiers -- during Reconstruction,
- Papers documenting the activities of Texas sheriff and tax collector in Montague County, which illustrate the difficulty of collecting taxes and the increase in criminal activity after the Civil War,
- Letters between a soldier serving in the Confederate Army in Galveston County and his father, and
- Ledger books from Cooke County, Texas, including criminal docket records, convict labor records and the jail register.

People with a wide range of interests in the Civil War will find something among these easily accessible materials to enrich their understanding of this seminal event in American history. For more information please contact Morgan Davis at the University of North Texas Archives and Rare Books, 940-369-8657, morgan.davis@unt.edu.



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LEADERSHIP LOG

Compiled by Krishna Shenoy, Sixth Floor Museum



Amanda Brekhus became The Sixth Floor Museum's full-time Collections Coordinator in October 2011. She is currently coordinating many aspects of the Museum's IMLS-funded two-year cataloguing project, a part of the Museums for America program.

Gerriane Schaad, with **Jennifer Day** and **J.J. Compton**, gave papers at the 2012 International Conference of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums in Tulsa, Oklahoma in June.

Holly Hasenfratz, a graduate student at Oklahoma State University, is interning at the Dickinson Research Center of the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum.

Laura Heller, of the of the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, participated in a panel discussion about "Patron access to image databases for scholarly research and media publications" at the Visual Resource Association Annual conference in Albuquerque, in April 2012.

Mark Davies is The Sixth Floor Museum's current full-time graduate intern, working on cataloguing projects, specifically those related to the Museum's collection of *Dallas Times Herald* newspaper photographs of the assassination weekend.

Robin Bischoff and **Karly Schubothe** are full-time cataloguers at The Sixth Floor Museum, working two-year terms to complete ambitious cataloguing goals for the Museums for America project. They began working on the project in November 2011.

Sarah McCumber and **Kera Newby** are working part-time at the Dickinson Research Center of the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, as processing archivists.

Victoria Elizabeth Garrett of Little Rock is serving as the Summer Intern at the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives (SARA), a branch of the Arkansas History Commission, in Washington, Arkansas, from June 5 to August 11, 2012.

Victoria is the fourth participant in the SARA Summer Internship Program to transcribe handwritten Freedmen's Bureau records on microfilm from counties in Southwest Arkansas. A May 2012 graduate of Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas, she earned a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies (Medieval Studies) and will enter the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in late August to begin a master's degree program in Public History with a view toward a career in archives or museums.

The Summer Internship Program is a joint venture of SARA Foundation, a friends support group, which provides funds for salary, and Historic Washington State

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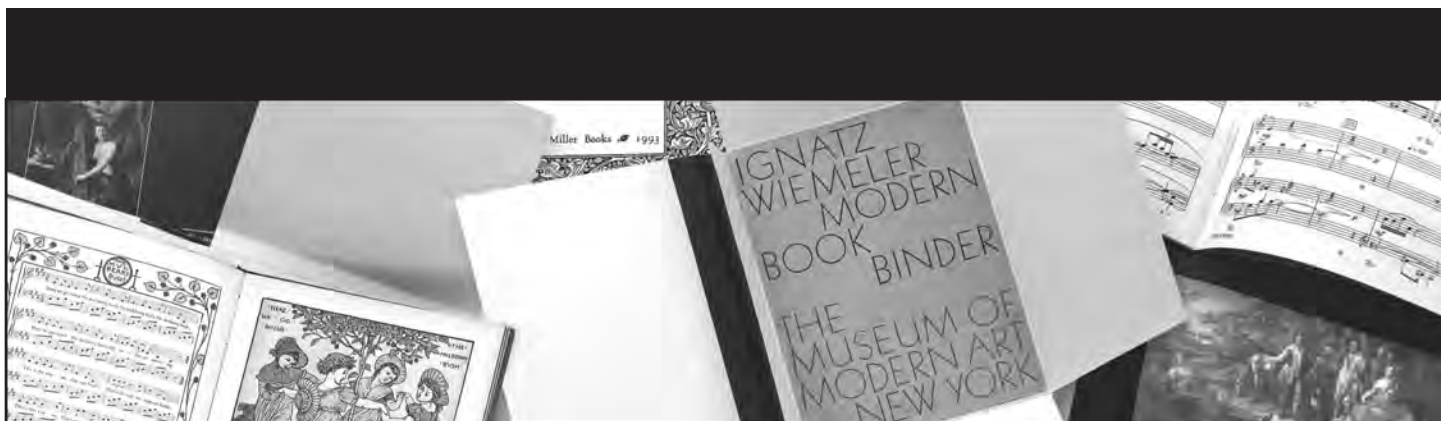
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