



Society of Florida Archivists

## THE FLORIDA ARCHIVIST

**Connecting to Collections: Improving Collections Care Through Statewide Collaboration** (*recap of a meeting that took place at the SAA Annual Meeting, August 9, 2012*) by **Katherine Fleming**

This Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS, an independent U.S. federal agency) initiative helps to raise public awareness and endeavors to aid libraries and museums in their efforts to provide the best possible care for collections.

Laura Saegert of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission noted that their survey of Court Records revealed chaos. Preservation problems abounded and counties had neither the knowledge nor the skills to deal with them. Many records are not properly stored and resources to preserve and conserve documents are not available. The Chief of the Supreme Court has created a Task Force to examine this problem. Agreements have been made with libraries and institutions throughout the state to house these records properly. Adding additional filing fees has allowed funds for preservation. In response to the need for better training for clerks, better handling of records, and better enforcement against theft; the State is mounting preservation workshops for clerks and the officials of organizations. The State Website is posting preservation tips and conservation information on its blog twice a month.

Gregor Trinkaus-Randall of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners discussed how collaborating with multiple organizations about preservation and disaster preparedness is like herding cats. You need to set the groundwork for collaboration. This is a process that develops over time. You must include everyone—organizations, people, groups, the cultural community, emergency management, and

governmental and non-governmental organizations. Everything from arboretums to cemeteries can be included. In Massachusetts and the surrounding area they have included the Alliance for Response, COSTEP MA, C2C, IPER, COSTEP NE. This program provides an umbrella for diverse groups with similar goals and different approaches to ensure the continuity of government and other operations. It is frequently difficult to bring Emergency Management Directors into the mix, so you need to make connections before a disaster. Identify and work with them early on. You need to know that they will let you get to your collections during disasters. In emergencies when people's lives are at stake cultural resources may be forgotten. To help ensure that your institution will be given priority during a disaster, agree ahead of time to provide Internet connections, meeting rooms, and other resources.

Julie A. Page of the California Preservation Program discussed the *two-year, statewide preservation project to provide information, education, and training to California heritage institutions*. The steering committee wanted to institute a self-sustaining culture of preservation management and to marshal public and private support for their endeavor. They sought to change behavior and develop essential skills and knowledge among participants. They emphasized commitment to disaster planning and training. They required the completion of pre-workshop and session assignments including the completion of a PReP pocket response plan. Nearly 200 institutions have completed the course. Build collaborative partnerships! Walk through your building with fire and rescue people. Tell them what we can do to make their jobs easier so they can help to save and protect our collections.

The Society of Florida Archivists' Annual Meeting will be held May 7-10, 2013 at the [Hotel Duval](#) in Tallahassee. SFA 2013 seeks to highlight the power of archivists as stewards of both the future and the past and as leaders who will inspire transformation at all levels of archival practice. Submissions are particularly encouraged that are centered on the history of archives/archival institutions in Florida or that relate directly to SFA's 30th anniversary or [Viva Florida 500](#), which celebrates the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Florida's rich heritage and diverse cultural history.

## *An Invitation to Share Your Knowledge, Wisdom & Experience*

• Proposals are due Friday, February 1, 2013 •

### Call for Workshop and Session Proposals

The SFA 2013 annual meeting seeks to highlight the power of archivists as stewards of both the future and the past and as leaders who will inspire transformation at all levels of archival practice. Submissions are particularly encouraged that are centered on the history of archives/archival institutions in Florida or that relate directly to SFA's anniversary and/or Viva Florida 500, which celebrates the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Florida's rich heritage and diverse cultural history in 2013.

The following types of proposals are sought:

- Skill Building Workshops
- Discussion based sessions
- Lightning talks

Submissions must include the following:

- A title and an abstract or brief description of your proposed workshop, session, paper, or lightning talk (not to exceed 250 words);
- Your contact information.

All presenters must register for the conference.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Burt Altman by phone 50.645.7962 or email ([baltman@fsu.edu](mailto:baltman@fsu.edu)).

### Call for Poster Presentations

Poster sessions will showcase the work of current undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate students on topics in archival studies and closely related fields. Proposals that relate to the history of archives/archival institutions in Florida or that relate directly to SFA's anniversary or Viva Florida 500 will be given preference.

The following types of posters are sought that discuss or report on:

Submissions must include the following:

- A title and an abstract or brief description of your poster topic (250 words);
- A one-sentence statement affirming your commitment to attend the SFA Annual Meeting and present your poster in person if selected;
- Your contact information;
- The name and address of your college/university or archival institution OR the name of your degree program if you are a current student;
- Y/N - I am able to bring an easel to the meeting.

**Proposals are due Friday, February 1, 2013.**

Questions & submissions should be directed to **William Modrow** ([wmodrow@fsu.edu](mailto:wmodrow@fsu.edu)). Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered. Submitting presenters will be notified of the outcome of the proposal review process on or by **February 22, 2013.**

**FLORIDA INSTITUTIONS AWARDED  
NATIONAL LEADERSHIP GRANTS**

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) announced this year's National Leadership Grants recipients. Three institutions in Florida received grants totaling nearly \$800,000 in funding.

- ⇒ *The George A. Smathers Libraries* (Gainesville) will collaborate with the Florida Museum of Natural History, the Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, UF's Center for Latin American Studies and others to increase awareness of collections recently acquired after the closure of the Panama Canal Museum. The Libraries also will work towards increasing dialogue and best practices for library-museum partnerships.
- ⇒ *Orange County Library System* (Orlando) will build on a planning project previously funded by IMLS by implementing and evaluating a new, library-based community digital obituaries repository.
- ⇒ *Florida State University's* (Tallahassee) School of Library and Information Science, the American Library Association, and the Chief Officers of State Library Associations will partner to assess public library services by developing a prototype Web-based mapping system.

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The 2013 Certified Archivist examination will be held August 14 in Orlando, as well as Hartford, Indianapolis, Las Vegas, and New Orleans -- and wherever 5 or more candidates wish to take it.

The 2013 application will be available January 1 on the Academy of Certified Archivists website:  
[www.certifiedarchivists.org](http://www.certifiedarchivists.org)

For more information, contact the ACA office  
([aca@caphill.com](mailto:aca@caphill.com) or  
518-694-8471).



The application deadline is May 15.

# Communiqué

## SFA Member News

... William Modrow (Florida State University) will serve a four-year term on the State Library Council as a representative of the Society of Florida Archivists.

... Janet DeVries has accepted a position at Palm Beach State College's Harold C. Manor Library, Lake Worth Campus. Janet recently co-authored the new book *Pioneering Palm Beach: The Deweys and the South Florida Frontier*.

... Katherine Fleming (Barry University) was elected to the Steering Committee of the Society of American Archivists' Congressional Papers Roundtable.

... Dr. Joe Knetsch and Dr. Nick Wynne co-authored *Florida in the Great Depression and the New Deal*. The book, available through The History Press in late 2012-early 2013 uses a range of local historical sources, including photographs and illustrations, provided by historians and archives in Florida.

... Seth Bramson's proposal to write the history of the Flagler System Hotels has been approved. The book will be titled *Jewels in the Sunshine: The Flagler System Hotels*.

... Dottie Patterson retired from the Delray Beach Historical Society after 22 years as the Society's archivist.

## Obituary

John Maseman passed away in September. Maseman, an objects conservator known for his work with many of Florida's museums, served as member of the Florida Association of Museums' Board and the FL Connecting to Collections Steering Committee.

## Institutional News

... The University Archives and West Florida History Center at the University of West Florida recorded 1.1 million hits on its web catalog and guides in 2011-2012. Megan Warden joined the staff as the digital archivist, and Josh Broxson moved to New Mexico.

... The University of Miami Libraries received a two-year, \$260,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for support-software development that will expand functionality of the Cuban Theater Digital Archive.

## News from SAA

... Volunteer for an SAA Committee! The deadline is January 14, 2013. [Visit the SAA Call for Appointed Groups](#) to self-nominate.

... The 2013 Student Program Subcommittee is accepting proposals from current graduate students for two special sessions dedicated to student scholarship during the Joint Annual Meeting of CoSA and SAA in New Orleans, August 11-17, 2013. Work from both master's and doctoral students will be considered. Further details regarding these sessions, including the proposal form, are available at: <http://tinyurl.com/saa2013students>. Proposals are due February 1, 2013.

## Conferences, Workshops & Webinars

... [American Archives Month](#) (October 1-31)

- ... [Open Access Week](#) (October 22-28)
- ... [Society of Georgia Archivists Annual Meeting](#), St. Simon's Island, GA (November 8-9)
- ... [ALA Midwinter Meeting](#), Seattle, WA (January 25-29)
- ... [Inreach and Outreach for Digital Archives \[SAA DAS\]](#), Greensboro, NC (March 11)
- ... [Copyright Issues for Digital Archives \[SAA DAS\]](#), Greensboro, NC (March 12)
- ... [Popular Cultural Association/American Culture Association](#), Washington, D.C. (March 27-30)
- ... [Association of College and Research Libraries](#), Indianapolis, IN (April 10-13)

#### **Calls for Papers, Proposals & Applications**

- ... Nominations for the ABC-CLIO Online History Award are due December 15. More information about the award is available on the [SAA's Reference, Access, and Outreach section's blog](#).
- ... The Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) seeks applicants for postdoctoral fellowships to be awarded in 2013: [Postdoctoral Fellowship in Academic Libraries](#); [CLIR/DLF Postdoctoral Fellowships in Data Curation for the Sciences and Social Sciences](#); and CLIR/DLF Postdoctoral Fellowships in [Data Curation for Medieval Studies](#).
- ... The Society of Mississippi Archivists' seek proposals on areas of archives and archival work for its biennial conference in Cleveland, MI, April 17-19, 2013. Proposals should include a title, abstract of approximately 500 words and the name(s) of the presenter(s) with affiliation and contact information to [Jennifer Rose](#) by January 2, 2013.

- ... Applications are being accepted until January 4, 2013 for the Archives Leadership Institute. Instructions and applications for ALI 2013 are available [here](#).
- ... The [Institute of Museum and Library Services](#) (IMLS) is accepting applications for its Museums for American (MFA) and National Leadership Groups for Museums (NLG-M) programs. The deadline for applications is January 15, 2013.
- ... Poster session proposals for the American Libraries Association Annual Conference and Exhibition are due by January 18, 2013. Information about the submission process can be [found online](#).
- ... The [Organization of American Historians \(OAH\)](#) seeks singles session or paper proposals for the organization's 2014 annual meeting in Atlanta, GA, April 10-14, 2014. The deadline for proposals is February 15, 2013.
- ... The [Association for Recorded Sound Collections](#) invites proposal for the 47th annual conference, being held May 15-18, 2013 in Kansas City, MO.
- ... Proposals are sought for the 31st Annual Gulf South History and Humanities Conference, "500 Years after Ponce de Leon: The Gulf South in Change, 1513-2013." Proposals will be considered through July 1, 2013. For more information, contact [Dr. Randy Sanders](#).

#### **New Publications**

- ... *Weeki Wachee Mermaids: Thirty Years of Underwater Photography*, Lu Vickers and Bonnie Georgiadis (University Press of Florida).





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# Vote Now

Which SAA workshop should we host during our 2013 Annual Meeting?

- Copyright Issues for Digital Archives
- Basics of Managing Electronic Records
- Beginner's Guide to Metadata

Cast your vote using our LinkedIn poll: <http://tinyurl.com/apagk84>

*Society of Florida Archivists  
P. O. Box 2746  
Lakeland, FL 33806-2746*

*SFA is an organization of individuals and institutions who share a concern for the identification, preservation, and use of records of historical value. It is dedicated to the dissemination of information about such records and about sound archival methodology.*

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### **SFA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

- \$20 INDIVIDUAL
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**PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: SOCIETY OF FLORIDA ARCHIVISTS**

We invite you to join the Society of Florida Archivists. Don't miss the continuing education opportunities offered by SFA each year, information about what's happening in archives in Florida in **The Florida Archivist** and the chance to mix with other archivists at the SFA Annual Meeting.

Specific benefits of Individual Membership are:

- ◆ Reduced registration fees for all of the Society's events.
- ◆ Subscription to *The Florida Archivist*
- ◆ Full voting privileges in elections and at the annual business meeting.
- ◆ Eligibility for leadership positions in the Society.
- ◆ Discount on selected archival publications.

Membership in the **Society of Florida Archivists** helps all of us keep in touch with important archival developments and make a valuable contribution to the profession within the State. We hope you will become a part of this effort!

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