

The Greater New Orleans Archivists

Newsletter

Summer

1997

Next Meeting
Wednesday, June 11
Time: 6:00 PM
New Orleans Public Library
219 Loyola Ave.

Summer Meeting

Our Summer Meeting is being hosted by the New Orleans City Archives, Louisiana Division of the New Orleans Public Library on Wednesday, June 11th at 6:00 in the evening. Parking will be available in the Library's staff parking lot (enter from Tulane Avenue on either side of the old Trailway's bus station). The back door will be open, and a security guard or staff will be there to give directions. Good food and wine will be served. This will be the first ever meeting downtown in the Archives own facilities and they hope everybody will come. A tour of The City Archives will follow after the meeting.

The agenda will include whether we should change the bylaws to include an associate category for out-of-state repositories interested in GNOA membership. The bulk of the meeting will concern our project to have former GNOA member

and treasurer Andy Simons' Guide to Jewish Holdings in New Orleans published. We are asking that each archives send a representative to the meeting with a listing of all Jewish holdings to be included in the Guide. We will have old listings of various archival holdings and they are in need of updating, correcting and adding of new acquisitions. Be prepared to spend the meeting going over these listings. We are under a deadline to have it prepared in order to solicit funding. If you are unable to attend or send a representative please contact Cathy Kahn at Touro Archives with any additional information.

The following institutions are not included in the guide: Xavier University

Archives, Dillard University-Black-Jewish Conference, Beth Israel Synagogue, Anshe Sfard, Chevra Thilim, Tik Vat Shalom, Longue Vue Gardens, New Orleans Museum of Art Archives, Tulane University-Louisiana Collection-microfilm, and Hogan Jazz Archive.

1997 Spring Meeting

Tulane University's Special Collections hosted the meeting of the GNOA on March 19. The President called the meeting to order at 6:25. She greeted everyone and thanked them for coming. Thanks was also given to Bill Meneray, Lee Miller, Rob Sherer, and others at Tulane for hosting the meeting.

The treasurer's report was given by Rob Sherer. The GNOA has \$543.64 in its account not counting 1997 dues collected before the start of the meeting. It was mentioned by the President that a formal proposal to increase dues by \$1 to \$2 might be made at the next meeting to help cover the cost of mailing the newsletter.

Old Business:

Master copies of the GNOA brochures and shares of the finished brochure were made available to those institutions which had not picked their copies up at the Winter meeting held in December.

New Business:

Announcement of the SOLINET workshop series on Managing Preservation for Diverse Collections was made and copies of a handout were placed out for those who might be interested in attending.

SAA Committee on Education and Professional Development asked the GNOA to send a representative to a forum being held in conjunction with the SAA convention in Chicago, on the SAA's guidelines for the Development of Post-

Appointment and Continuing Education and Training Programs. Carol asked those in attendance who would be going to if they would be interested in attending this forum. Bill Meneray suggested that Rob Sherer represent the GNOA as Rob has worked on committees and boards for Archival Recertification. Rob Sherer agreed to try to attend the Forum.

Call for Projects: Architectural Records Survey committee found that they would not have the time to work on this project at this time. It was suggested by the GNOA President that unless there were people present who wanted to fill in these positions we drop the architectural records survey at this time as a project. Gary Van Zante mentioned that COPAR is going to have us do a survey and Bartels noted that COPAR should work through the GNOA as most of the archival institutions in the city are represented in the GNOA membership.

Lee Miller suggested a project for the collection, publishing Andy Simons pamphlet on Jewish Collections (mentioned previously). It was suggested that instead of GNOA publishing it we should find an underwriter for its publication. Sally moved that we adopt the management and finding of a donor. The motion was seconded by Norbert Raacke. A vote was taken on the motion and it passed. It was noted that Andy's approval would be needed before any action could take place (which we now have in writing). Committee appointed to undertake this project includes Norbert Raacke, Sally Reeves, Lee Miller, and Cathy Kahn who will serve as chairperson of the committee.

Other new business: Sally and Lee agreed to report to the organization on the Society of Southwest Archivists meeting being held in Galveston, Texas at the next meeting.

Sally also reported on the workshop she attended on "Reformatting" sponsored by the Northeast Document Conservation Center. Useful for micrographics, resolution readings and density readings. The slide lectures were wonderful and sharpened her micrographic specs.

Sally announced that there will be a new archive in town, The Board of the Christian Women's Exchange voted to form an archive which will be housed at the Herman-Grima House with a satellite at Gallier House.

Bill Reeves announced he received a research grant and will be traveling in early May to Albany, Illinois, Tennessee State Archives, Philadelphia archives, and more. He would be happy to send hellos or other messages for people.

Sister Dorothy Dawes asked people for sources of information on Margaret Haughtery (sic).

Bill Meneray gave a report on the renovations to Joseph Merrick Jones Hall and the moving of Special Collections, the Latin American Studies, Jewish Studies, and Classics into the building. The building is being renovated to bring back the look of the 1940's. The meeting ended with Bill Meneray giving members a tour of the building.

News From The Archives

Amistad Research Center at Tulane University

Amistad Calendar of Events

June-August

Saturday, June 7, *Aspects of Louisiana Creole* discussion. **Tola Masadomi**, Language; **Dr. Sybil Kein**, Music; **Greg Osborne**, Genealogy 2 - 5 p.m.

Saturday, June 21, **Chicago Friends**

of Amistad Luncheon, 12 noon; Hard Times Cafe.

Thursday, June 26, *African American Storytelling* **Dr. Akua Duku Anokye** 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 28, **New Orleans Friends of Amistad Luncheon** 12 noon, Roje's Restaurant.

Tuesday, July 1, **Jacob Lawrence Exhibit Opens** *Toussaint L'Ouverture Series*.

Saturday, July 19, *African American Quilting Tradition* **Cecilia Pedescleaux** (call to enroll, limit 25) 2 - 4 p.m.

Friday, August 8 **Amistad Education and Culture Series Premiers** 6-7:30 p.m.

Friday, August 29 *Folk Art & Oral History* **Clara Foster Burnett** 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Recent Acquisitions

Runoko Rashidi: African historian. Donation consists of letters, writings, and collected publications. Of particular interest are letters from prisoners seeking help in African studies. **Margaret Rose Vendryes**: Ph.D. Candidate in art history.

Donation is a paper by Vendryes titled "Hanging on their Walls: An Art Commentary on Lynching, the Forgotten 1935 Art Exhibit." Published in *Race Consciousness: African American Studies for the New Century*. **Lloyd Davis**: Retired president of the MLK Center for Non-Violent Change.

Donation is a manuscript written by Davis titled "History of the King Center: Twenty-five Year Legacy of Accomplishment."

Ruth Morand Baham: New Orleans native and retired typist. Donation consists of newspaper clippings, magazine articles on prominent African Americans from 1940.

Calvin Ogden: Former consultant to the Mayor's Office of Policy and Planning. Donation consists of proposals, reports and financial records; **Ronnie Moore** Papers,

2 linear ft. Collection documents Moore's work as a field secretary in the South for the Congress Of Racial Equality (CORE) during the 1960's. Included are numerous photographs of CORE's efforts to get Blacks registered to vote throughout the South. Also included are news clippings and publications of Moore's work as a community development consultant to many grassroots organizations from 1965 to the present.

Historic New Orleans Collection

If you are member of GNOA and are not currently receiving the Historic New Orleans Collection quarterly and would like to do so, please send your name and mailing address to: "Mailing List," Historic New Orleans Collection, 533 Royal St., New Orleans, LA 70130.

Continuing at the William Research Center is a **Celestial Brightness: 150 Years of Evangeline**. A recent addition to the exhibition is a multimedia CD-ROM containing the text of Longfellow's poem as well as videos, music, speech, photographs, and animation which explore Cajun culture. The program includes 180 pages of text, 200 photographs, 20 video clips, over 100 audio recordings, and is bilingual (French/English). Loaned to HNOC for the exhibition by Apple Computer, the program is the result of contributions of numerous volunteers and institutions: including the Consul General of France, CODOFIL, University of Southwestern Louisiana, Vermillionville, The Times of Acadeiana, Xavier University, and Louisiana State University; In June, the original manuscript of Longfellow's *Evangeline*, on loan from Harvard University, will be added to the exhibition; **The HNOC and the Centre des Archives Diplomatiques de**

Nantes entered the final phase of the microfilming of the archives of the Consul General of France in New Orleans. When completed in 1998, the project will make available in New Orleans all 631 bundles of thematic dossiers and general correspondence of the Consul's archives (1804-1918). The project is important not only for the history of New Orleans, but contains significant documentation on the French presence in nineteenth century Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, and Texas. The mission of the Centre des Archives Diplomatiques in Nantes is to preserve and make accessible the archives returned to France from 252 embassies, consulates, and French cultural services, institutes and centers in foreign countries, as well as records of French representatives to international organization. In addition, it maintains the records of the Protectorates and the Mandates of Tunisia, Morocco, Syria and Lebanon. Louisiana material documents French immigration, refugees, the French community during the civil War, economic ties to France, French benevolent and cultural efforts in Louisiana, and the administration of the Consular office. A catalogue to the Archive of the Consul General of France in New Orleans is being prepared by Elisabeth de Grimoard-Caude.

Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve

Currently on exhibit are photographic works by **Philip Gould** in the Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center in Thibodaux. It consists of 30 framed photographs depicting scenes related to Cajun and Zydeco music. It is expected to run through July 31, 1997; The next exhibit planned will consist

of approximately 95 photographs of French castles and Louisiana plantation homes. It is titled, **Chateaux d'ile De France** (Plantation Homes of Louisiana) and will run from August 1 to November 30, 1997.

New Orleans Public Library, Louisiana Division

A new exhibit, **Crescent City Memory**, will open on June 11th in the Louisiana Division of New Orleans Public Library. Inspired by the Library of Congress' "American Memory," the exhibit will use photographs, postcards, ephemera from the Division's "Rare Vertical File," and letters and other documents from City Archives and various manuscripts collections to recall people, places, and events from New Orleans' past. The exhibit will remain on view on the third floor of the Main Library through the end of the year. An online version of the exhibit will be on view at: <http://home.gnofn.org/~nopl/exhibits/exhibits.htm>.

Collin B. Hamer, Jr. attended a SOLINET workshop on HVAC systems at LSU School of Library and Information Science on April 24; **Wayne Everard** has contributed an article on material available in the Louisiana Division for researching architectural history to be published in a forthcoming issue of *Preservation in Print*. **Irene Wainwright** has been appointed to the Academy of Certified Archivist's Outreach Committee. On May 10, she spoke about "NUTRIAS and Genealogy: NOPL's Web Site," at the second annual Spring Genealogy Seminar sponsored by the Louisiana Division and the Genealogical Research Society of New Orleans. Other speakers included Albert Robichaux, "German Emigration to America in the 18th Century," and Yvette Bohling, "Successful

Searching at NOPL." Seventy-two participants attended.

New in NUTRIAS are an inventory of the Louisiana Division manuscripts collections and an in-progress inventory of the Division's **Rare Vertical File**, (items beginning with "A" through "L" are currently online). Also new are finding aids for the **Leander H. Perez Papers** (1954-1967) and the **Joseph I. Giarusso Papers** (1976-1994). These inventories can be accessed from home.gnofn.org/~nopl/spec/speclist.htm. The exhibit is also mounted in NUTRIAS at <http://www.gnofn.org/~nopl/exhibits/nopl.htm>.

Southern University at New Orleans

Center for African and African American Studies

Recent additions: **African American Church Collection**, (continuing). Items include programs and invitations from local and out-of-town churches. Programs were generated by inaugural services, pastor's anniversaries, Men's Day observances, and special activities conducted by the churches represented. Of the twenty churches included, local ones are Beecher United Church of Christ, Bethany United Methodist, Christian Unity Baptist Church, and Watson Memorial Teaching Ministries; **Sidney Joseph Bechet**, Collection, 1997. 6 items, all pertaining to the Bechet Centennial sponsored by the University of New Orleans, including invitations, programs, and copies of various photographs of Bechet. Invitations document receptions hosted by the French consulate, La Belle Galerie, and the office of the Mayor. Programs were for the memorial mass at St. Augustine Catholic Church Catholic Church in Treme and the centenni-

al conference; **First Street United Methodist Church**, Records, 1846, 1942-88, 1 linear ft. Records include extract of minutes establishing the church and the acquisition of the property at First and Dryades where it has been located since the 19th century. Other items include correspondence, research materials, programs, minute books, financial records, and 4 volumes. Donated by Mrs. Florence Alston Hensley; **Florence Alston Hensley**, Collection, 1846, 1946-76, 11 items. Contains photo of property records for First Street Church, pamphlet, posters, photos, clippings, programs, newsletter, and African American History Calendar. One photo includes Mary McLeod Bethune being met at the airport by Rev. William T. Handy, and other members of First Street Church. The other is a photo of the First Street Choir including the family of Joseph Hensley, Sr., who was the music minister at the church and later father-in-law of the donor. Pamphlet contains brief history of Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church in Philadelphia, and there are two items pertaining to the inauguration of Dr. Samuel DuBois Cook as president of Dillard. An oversize poster issued for the Harriet Tubman thirteen cent stamp is also included. It was the first stamp in the Black Heritage series and was issued in 1978; **Pascal James Imperato**, Collection, (continuing). 7 items of African Art including masks, mud cloth items, and spears. One mask is a Bundu Society Mask collected in Sierre Leone in 1969; another is a Bambara Djoboll mask collected in the Kolokani District of Mali in 1971, and the third is a Dogon Sirige mask from the Bandiagara District of Mali, collected in 1967 by the donor.

Tulane University Manuscripts Department Latin American Library

Ruth Olivera, Curator of Manuscripts, reported the following acquisitions:

Richard E. Greenleaf transcriptions of 18th century Mexican Inquisition documents in the Archivo General de Indias, Seville, and the Archivo General de la Nacion, Mexico. These consist of 9 boxes of documents and 8 file boxes of cards. A collection of books is to follow. **Roland Ebel** collection of photocopies of U.S. State Department classified documents on Guatemala in the 1960s, used for his study of Guatemalan president Idigoras Fuentes. **Hermanos Mayo** photographs, a collection of 128 photographs from the archives of the Mexico newspaper Manana by the photojournalist team of that name. Dating from 1951-1960 they portray views of many aspects of life in Mexico, but principally the activities of Holy Week. **Album of photographs of Mexico**, c.1908. This is an oversize album with views of many regions of Mexico.

***News Notes**

Society of American Archivists Outreach Committee

(message from Irene Wainwright)

Earn credits for GNOA activities

Archivists recertifying by petition may gain substantial credit for participating in Greater New Orleans Archivists activities. Recertification by petition rewards archivists for their efforts to improve their professional knowledge. It also allows archivists to gain recognition for their contributions to the profession. It does this by granting points for archival activities. The activities must have been performed during the five years

immediately preceding the date of the petition (for this year, that would be activities performed between January 1, 1992 and December 31, 1996).

The Academy of Certified Archivists recognized early on that participation in organizations such as GNOA was an invaluable professional experience benefiting not only the archivist but the entire profession. Certification maintenance (or recertification) acknowledges the value of involvement in GNOA by devoting two of the five recertification petition sections to professional participation. For example, you may earn points for serving as a GNOA officer or participating on a GNOA committee.

While the "Professional Participation and Outreach" and "Professional Services" sections pertain specifically to professional involvement, contributing to organizations such as GNOA inform almost every section of the recertification petition. For example, you may earn five credits for contributing an article to the GNOA Newsletter and fifteen credits per year for editing this newsletter. You may also earn recertification credits for attending GNOA meetings.

The ACA mailed recertification forms to academy members in late February. You must return them by June 1, 1997. If you did not receive your recertification packet or if you have any questions about the recertification process, please contact Willow Powers, 45 Ellis Ranch Road, Santa Fe NM 87505, ph: 505-466-0560, fx: 505-827-6497, e-mail: warpowers@aol.com. You are also welcome to contact The Academy of Certified Archivists, Capitol Hill Management, 48 Howard ST, Albany NY 12207, ph: 518-463-8644, fx: 518-463-8656.

ACA names membership ombudsman

Do you have questions about your Academy of Certified Archivists member-

ship? Do you have concerns that you would like ACA officers to discuss or that you would like brought up at our annual meeting? Are you unsure whom to contact ACA regarding dues, address changes, or recertification? To help you, the Academy of Certified Archivists recently created the new position of "Membership Ombudsman." The Membership Ombudsman will serve as your first contact and referral point for any ACA membership questions. If the ombudsman cannot answer your question immediately, he will refer you to the person who can and make sure your questions are answered quickly and fully.

Because membership concerns are vital to the life of the academy, the academy has made the position of Membership Ombudsman the permanent duty of one of its highest officers, the Vice-President /President-Elect. We hope this will ensure that the ACA's incoming president will be well-versed in the membership concerns of Certified Archivists. We also hope it will guarantee that our members' concerns are central to all ACA plans, meetings, and discussions.

Our Membership Ombudsman this year is Charles Schultz, Hoadley Professor and Clements Archivist at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. He welcomes your membership questions and comments via e-mail at C-Schultz@tamu.edu or phone at 409-862-1555. He also invites you to write to him at his work address of Cushing Library, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-500, or his home address of 1200 Goode Street, College Station, TX 77840.

Of course, as always, we encourage you to contact any ACA officer, regent or committee chair with your questions, comments, and concerns. With our new Membership Ombudsman, however, we

hope to ensure that member concerns always remain central to the life of the Academy of Certified Archivists. For more information, contact the Academy of Certified Archivists, 48 Howard Street, Albany NY 12207, ph: 518-463-8644, fx: 518-463-8656.

Oral History Association

The OHA invites proposals for papers and presentations for its 1998 annual meeting, to be held October 15-18 in Buffalo, New York. The theme of the meeting is "Crossing the Boundary, Crossing the Line: Oral History on the Border." For further information or to submit proposals, contact: Debra Bernhardt, (212) 998-2640 or Cliff Kuhn, (404) 651-3255.

*We received a variety of mailings concerning workshops, seminars, and items to purchase. I will bring them all to the meeting for those interested parties.

Greater New Orleans Archivists
Newsletter
c/o Rebecca Hankins
The Amistad Research Center
Tilton Hall/Tulane University
New Orleans, LA 70118-5698

The Greater New Orleans Archivists Newsletter

Please send submissions to Rebecca Hankins care of The Amistad Research Center, Tilton Hall/Tulane University; New Orleans, Louisiana 70118-5698; Fax (504) 865-5580; e-mail: hankins@mailhost.tcs.tulane.edu

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