

# The Greater New Orleans Archivists

## Newsletter

Winter

1997

Next Meeting  
Wednesday, December 10  
Time: 6:00 PM  
New Orleans Fire Department  
Museum  
1135 Washington Avenue

### Winter Meeting

Our Winter Meeting is being hosted by the New Orleans Fire Department Museum on Wednesday December 10th at 6:00 in the evening.

The agenda will include election of new officers. Nominees are: Susan Tucker, president; Rob Sherer, treasurer; and Rebecca Hankins, secretary. We will also have a report from the committee working on the publication of the Guide to Jewish Holdings in New Orleans.

### 1997 Fall Meeting

Carol thanked the Archives of the Dominican Congregation of St. Mary for hosting our meeting. She introduced and welcomed Brother Allen Drain, Sacred Hearts Provincial Archivist and Shawntell Guiding of Historic New Orleans Collection to their first meeting. The GNOA also thanks Ms. Anna Kingsfield, a volunteer at Dominican, for

providing the food for our meeting.

Treasurer's Report-Rob Sherer gave copies of our dues list. The GNOA needs to work on getting more paying members. The account balance as of Sept. 16, 1997 is \$355.05. We have 31 paid members. We may need to have fewer meetings and newsletters to lower our costs.

### Old Business

The GNOA received a \$1500 grant from the Southern Jewish Historical Society to publish the *Jewish Archival Holdings in the New Orleans Area* guide. Lester Sullivan volunteered to typeset and make the document ready for publishing. He also would like to include some line artwork from each repository to reproduce in the publication. Please contact Lester with any submissions you may want included in the guide.

### New Business

Proposed changes to the By-Laws

was discussed and will be voted on at the Winter meeting. The following recommendations were suggested:

1. *Proposal A-Article II Membership*

Current wording

Membership is open to all those in the metropolitan area of New Orleans who are working or training in archival work.

Proposed change

Membership is open to those in the metropolitan area of New Orleans who work in or are training in the archival profession and are interested in Archives in the Greater New Orleans area.

2. *Proposal B-Article II Membership*

Current wording

The organization should charge \$5.00 annual dues.

Proposed change

The organization should charge \$10.00 annual dues.

An excellent slide presentation by Mr. Mickey Lee of Munters Moisture Control Service followed the closing of the meeting.

## **News From The Archives**

### ***Amistad Research Center***

The Amistad Research Center will host a by-invitation only screening of the film *Amistad*, an epic drama directed by Steven Spielberg and produced by Debbie Allen. The film is scheduled for release on December 12, at selected theaters. This screening is in lieu of the annual patrons' party that usually precedes our Fine Arts Awards fund-raiser. The open-to-the-public dinner will be held Dec. 6 at the

Fairmont Hotel. The award recipients this year are the legendary Lionel Hampton and composer/conductor and concert pianist Moses Hogan. For tickets or further information, call 862-3228.

The Lyric Opera of Chicago will present its world premiere of *Amistad* created by composer Anthony Davis, librettist Thulani Davis, and stage director George C. Wolfe. World renowned bass Mark Doss will perform as Cinque. For further information call 312-427-4830, ext. 320.

### Archives

The papers of **Lucile Levy Hutton** have been processed by Beatrice R. Owsley and Mark Phillips and are open for research. Fourteen linear feet of materials document her career in public education, and chronicle her dedication to her church and community. Her papers are rich in materials on Straight University, Central Church, New Orleans Public Schools, and Oberlin College. The collection includes letters, photographs, news clips, and collected items.

## ***Archdiocese of New Orleans Archives***

Dr. Charles E. Nolan, CRM, CA was inducted into the ARMA International Company of Fellows at an award ceremony held during the Association's 42nd Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois. He is the 20th person to receive the Association's highest award.

Archivist for the Archdiocese of New Orleans, Dr. Nolan has established a model program for incorporating records management into the

traditional diocesan archives functions.

### ***Jean Lafitte Historical Park and Preserve***

The Historical Park and Preserve is planning two exhibits for their Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center in Thibodaux, that starts in December. Both are provided by the Louisiana State Museum. *So Much More Than Just a Map: Perspectives on Louisiana*, is a new exhibit that they have put together and it is scheduled to run from December 22 through February 2, 1998.

The park is also near completion on the inventory and cataloging of its archival collection. The temporary museum aid is now creating catalog records for the park's archival items located at Park Headquarters, Chalmette Headquarters, and the University of New Orleans, Earl K. Long library, Special Collections.

### ***New Orleans Public Library, Louisiana Division***

On September 20 Collin Hamer spoke to the West Bank Genealogical Society about recent additions to the Louisiana Division's genealogy collection and about resources available in the City Archives and Orleans Parish court records. He attended meetings of the Louisiana Advisory Council for the State Documents Depository Program on July 10 and September 12.

October 14-18 Collin attended a SOLINET workshop on "Environmental Hazards to Preservation" at The Historic New Orleans Collection. The session on October 15 was held at NOPL and included a tour of the Main Library for

the class and its instructors.

Collin, Wayne Everard and Irene Wainwright attended the Fall Meeting of the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association on November 14.

The City Archives has received five cubic feet of records from the **City Council Fiscal Office**, 1 cubic foot of records from the **Office of Public Advocacy**. A small collection of **Louisiana World Exposition** ephemera was donated by Jim Brandt via The Historic New Orleans Collection.

The Louisiana Division and the Genealogical Research Society of New Orleans sponsored Beginner Classes for genealogists on October 25 and November 15. More than 80 people attended.

### ***Notarial Archives***

The Archives has hired a new assistant, Ms. Buffie Hollis, who is originally from Kansas. Ms. Hollis has an MA in Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh and an MA in history with an emphasis in Historic preservation.

The Notarial Archives is embarking upon an ambitious new program to produce code (blipped) microfilm of books scheduled to stored off site to provide room for incoming facts. We will be providing access to the microfilm images via computer-assisted retrieval. We are considering using Fuji's M-Drive, a tower-size computer drive that digitizes microfilm and displays it directly on a PC.

## ***St. Mary's Dominican Archives***

Sr. Dorothy invites you to visit her at <http://www.op.org/stmarys/> and please join Irene Wainwright and others who have signed the guest book. A full disclosure of St. Mary's Dominican archival holdings is in the works. You will be notified.

**The Salve Regina**, a journal published monthly by students of the St. Mary's Dominican Academy, 1888-1900, has been photocopied. The originals (they have all issues but one up to 1898, and then five issues are missing from 1898-1900) have now been de-acidified and encapsulated; they will arrive from the Louisiana Bindery within the month. Four microfilms are being donated to local collections. One is at the Archdiocesan Archives and one in storage in a vault. There are interesting items, insights and material on local culture of the period, including the poet/friend Abram Ryan the education of young women by Irish nuns who were committed to excellence, the "Winter School," the education of blacks in the Catholic schools and "pen-sketches" of towns of Louisiana, Mississippi and wherever the student-writers' travels might take them.

The Archives has hopes of securing the missing issues, and has left place in the bound volumes.

## ***Center for African and African American Studies/SUNO***

Duke University has deposited copies of seventy-three interviews conducted in New Orleans as part of the **Behind the Veil** project. The

interviews documented experiences of person who lived in New Orleans during the Jim Crow era and are part of an extensive oral history project which includes eleven hundred interviews collected by teams of researchers throughout the South. Receiving wide acclaim, the project was awarded the 1996 Oral History Association's first Distinguished Oral History Project Award. The total collection has been deposited at Duke. Items in the SUNO deposit include the audiotapes, transcriptions for some of the interviews, and conditions for use as dictated by the interviewees, plus brief profiles.

Researchers in the New Orleans area included Felix L. Armfield, a Ph.D. student at Michigan State University; Catherine Ellis, a doctoral student at Columbia University; and Michele Mitchell, a Ph.D. student at Northwestern University. The late Dr. Charles A. Frye and Florence Borders coordinated the New Orleans activities, where group and individual interviews were conducted among a cross section of interviewees.

Included among those interviewed in New Orleans are the following persons: Delores Aaron, the Rev. Avery Alexander, Philomene Allen, Norman Bartholomew, Dr. Emmett Bashful, Harold Battiste, Joseph Beslin, Florence Borders, John Boucree, Louise Bouise, Eula Mae Lee Brown, Eddie Brumfield, Mary Butler, Beverly Duvernay Caitone, Herbert Cappie, Ruth Cappie, Dean Millie Charles, Emmett Cheri, Hugh Clem, Olivia Cook, Peter Dave, Jr., Brenda Davillier, Mary Davis, Harold Dejan, William Despanza, Viola Dunbar,

Pearlie Elloie, Louise Franklin, Albert Gardner, Jr., Laura Goods, Michael Gourrier, Veronica Hill, Alsee Honore, Johnny Hunter, Olga Jackson, Mary Johnson, Edward "Kidd" Jordan, Irvin Joseph, Augusta Kerry, the Rev. Jerome Ledoux, Silas Lee, Veora Lundy, Alma and Marcus Lyons, Bessie MacDonald, Olga Merrick, Hazel Moore, Francis Pajeaud, Quillie Parker, Lillian Dunn Perry, Mary Preston, Maurice Prevost, Brenda Quant, Clarita Reed, Archie Rhone, Audrey Robertson, Delores Robertson, Wilde Robinson, Evelyn Rousseve, Mildred Rousseve, Charles Smith, Germaine Smith, Helen Smith, Emanuella Spencer, Aline St. Julien, Beatrice P. Stanley, Dr. George Thomas, Jr.s and Dr. Everett Williams.

### **Touro Infirmary Archives**

Touro Infirmary dedicated a plaque containing the names of the 482 members of the "Board of Directors/Managers/Trustees" (the name changes through the years) who served from the hospital's beginnings in 1852 to the present. The Archives had the task of collecting these names from the minutes and annual reports, verifying the spellings and dates, and identifying descendants to be invited to the dedication on October 29.

Touro's archivist, Catherine Kahn spoke to a group at the Jewish Community Center in a two part series on the History of the New Orleans Jewish Community. She has also just returned from the Southern Jewish Historical Society Conference in Hot Springs, AK, where she chaired a panel of "volunteer archivists" seeking to preserve the records of their small congregations. She was also elected

President Elect of the SJHS.

## **\*News Notes**

### **Society of American Archivists**

The SAA has sent the GNOA a number of 1998 Awards Competition announcements. Copies will be available at the Winter meeting for those interested individuals.

### **Library of Congress**

George Washington's Commission as Commander of Continental Army is on display beginning November 22 in *American Treasures of the Library of Congress*.

### **Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts**

The CCAHA has received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to continue their overview survey program. The grant will also be used to continue the one-day workshops on a variety of topics including handling architectural materials, managing a mold outbreak, and recovery of water damaged paper-based materials in a disaster situation.

### **University of South Florida Library/Special Collections Dept.**

UofSF is soliciting reviewers of two Scholarly Resources publications: *Virtual Roots: A Guide to Genealogy & Local History on the WWW*. A great tour of the best 1,000 archival/repository websites from around the world. [Http://www.everton.com/oe3-17/vrad.htm](http://www.everton.com/oe3-17/vrad.htm); *Genealogy Annual: A Guide to Published Sources*. The

annual bibliography of local history & genealogical related books, dissertations, video, & media issued each year.

If you are interested in reviewing either publication information will be available at the Winter meeting or contact Thomas J. Kemp at the University of South Florida Library, Tampa, Florida. E-mail: tomkemp@lib.usf.edu

### American Institute of Physics

International catalog of sources for History of Physics and Allied Sciences in now online. You can access it at : <http://149.28.112.25/pdi/icos.htm> or from AIP's homepage at <http://www.aip.org/history/>. The ICOS includes information about primary source material-papers of scientists,

records of major institutions, oral history interviews, etc.- preserved in the Center's Niels Bohr Library.

### 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.

### The Greater New Orleans Archivists Officers

Carol O. Bartels, President  
Rebecca Hankins, Secretary  
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