

The Greater New Orleans Archivists

Newsletter

Summer

1996

Next Meeting
Wednesday, June 5
Time: 6:00 PM
Notarial Archives
421 Loyola Ave.

Summer Meeting

Our Summer Meeting is being hosted by Sally Reeves and the staff of the Notarial Archives on Wednesday June 5 at 6:00 in the evening. They will serve sandwiches and hors d'oeuvres, cookies, cold drinks and wine. The meeting will begin at six. On the agenda are the GNOA brochure, a discussion on the Name Authority Project, and the written bylaws.

1996 Spring Meeting

Touro Infirmary Archives hosted the annual Spring meeting of the GNOA on March 20. Carol Bartels thanked our host and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Executive Director of the Touro Foundation, Mr. Bennett Bramson thanked everyone and spoke briefly about Touro's ongoing program of taking the archives to public schools in the New Orleans area.

Carol read the Treasurer's report sent by Rob Sherer, currently on sabbatical. The GNOA has \$547.26 in its account.

Seventeen people have recently paid dues and Carol reminded everyone who hasn't paid to do so as soon as possible.

Sally spoke about planned activities for the upcoming Southern Archivist Conference in New Orleans in April. Marie encouraged everyone to send literature to Sally or bring to the hotel. More information will be forthcoming in the Fall Newsletter about the SAC meeting.

K.G. Wilkins will assist Carol in writing the GNOA by-laws for the next meeting. We were all encouraged to check our files for the original by-laws.

The GNOA brochure is almost finished. Any additions or editing of your entry should be sent to Leon Miller or Carol. We want the brochure ready for the SAC meeting.

The Name Authority Project continues. Send additions to Wayne Everard, New Orleans Public Library. View current updates at <http://www.gnofn.org/~nopl/links/archives/gnoa.htm>.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

News From The Archives

Amistad Research Center at Tulane University

On Saturday June 1, Amistad will host a reception for its new executive director, Dr. Donald E. DeVore. An associate professor of history at LSU, DeVore's subject of specialization is African American history. Co-author of *Crescent City Schools: Public Education in New Orleans, 1841-1991* with Dr. Joseph Logsdon, DeVore's upcoming book, "Black New Orleans in the Jim Crow Era: Individual Initiative, Community Development and Black Liberation, 1896-1954" will be published by LSU Press in 1977. If you haven't received your invitation, Amistad invites all members/friends of the GNOA to this reception, 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Amistad's Museum Services has loaned New Orleans Museum of Art seven works of art (including *Funeral Procession* by Ellis Wilson, featured on the *Cosby Show*) for a one year period.

Recent Acquisitions: K. G. Wilkins, Staff Librarian, completed clipping one year's worth of Times-Picayune and placed her African Americans in the U.S. Military bibliography on the Amistad's WWW page; an addition to the papers of Dr. James Blackwell, a noted University of Massachusetts sociology professor who has also served as an expert witness and consultant on numerous higher education desegregation and funding cases including Ayers v Fordice, the Mississippi case concerning state funding of historically black colleges; Miriam Simmons Keller Papers include Photographs, clippings, and family papers beginning with the donor's father, 1893 Talladega graduate, Abraham Simmons, who became Beecher Memorial Church's second pastor. His daughters, Edna and Miriam, were leading church women.

The Dominican Sisters Archives, St. Mary

Tuesday, May 7, the archives of Dominican Sisters, Congregation of St. Mary, had a visit from Sr. M. Angela Maloney, a Dominican Sister of South Australia Dominican archives. This is the first person-to-person contact with this sister congregation founded from the same mother-congregation as St. Mary's New Orleans in 1860 and Adelaide in 1868. A shared history and close association of the earlier congregations was discovered with the promise of renewed contact and an exchanging of documentation between the two archives.

New Orleans Public Library, Louisiana Division

On May 3, Wayne Everard participated in the session "Archival Use of the World Wide Web" at the Midwest Archives Conference in Chicago. He described the origins and development of NUTRIAS, NOPL's homepage on the Web.

Wayne was also one of the speakers in a roundtable discussion on "Finding New Orleans History" at the Southern Archivists Conference in New Orleans on April 11. He described the resources available in the City Archives/Louisiana Division and the University of New Orleans Archives.

On May 15, Wayne spoke to the annual meeting of the New Orleans Association of Law Librarians about resources available at the NOPL.

On May 11, the Louisiana Division held a genealogy seminar at the Main Library which attracted over 80 participants. Speakers included P.J. Fernandez and Patricia Fenerty, who described their work in transcribing and publishing the 1880 federal census for New Orleans; Dr.

Charles Nolan, who describes the genealogical resources available at the Archdiocese of New Orleans Archives; and Irene Wainwright, who conducted an online tour of selected genealogical sources available on the Internet. Colin Hamer organized the seminar and introduced the speakers.

Exhibits: "Let the Record Speak: Celebrating 100 years of Service at New Orleans Public Library,": an exhibit honoring the Library's centennial, will continue on view on the second floor of the Main Library until August. The exhibit is also mounted in NUTRIAS at <http://www.gnofn.org/~nopl/exhibits/nopl.htm>.

New Orleans Notarial Archives

Sally Reeves gave a paper entitled "Flatboats and Steamboats, Contracts and Mishaps, A View of Mississippi River Commerce, 1780 to 1950, Gleaned from the Records of the Notarial Archives" at a symposium entitled "The Mississippi River and Her People" in Memphis March 16. The conference was sponsored by several regional offices of the National Archives and the University of Memphis. Papers of the symposium are being collected and expect to be published for publication by a university press. Sally also lectured on "A Documentary Approach to the History of Mortgages" to the training class of the Hibernia National Bank on May 18. She has just completed the first draft of an introduction to *Nouveau Jardinier de la Louisiane*, a gardening manual written by Jacques Felix Lelievre in New Orleans and published through his bookstore on Royal Street in 1838. Sally translated the work on behalf of the Southern Garden History Society last year. Tulane University's Southeast Architectural Archive owns the book, which is rare.

Sally also submitted an article on local 19th century architects-builders Francois

Correjolles and Jean Chaigneau to *Preservation in Print* this past spring. The newspaper has been publishing a series on New Orleans architects and builders over the past year.

Debra Joseph, a graduate of Newcomb College, has joined the Archives staff on a part-time basis. Debra worked in the Newcomb College Archives as a student assistant before graduation.

Southern University of New Orleans, Center for African and African American Studies

The Center has received more than 300 titles in the donation of the library of the late John Povey, a prolific writer and former editor of *African Arts/Arts d'Afrique*, as well as director of African Studies at UCLA. The items include books and serials about African art, literature, and culture. They were the gift of his widow, Gail, who also donated 39 textiles and an Epa mask from Nigeria. A special exhibit of the textiles was hung by Dr. Sara Hollis in the Fine Arts Gallery at SUNO. She is curator of the art and sponsor of a year-long lecture series which featured local, national, and international scholars.

The series was funded by LEQSF and included locals Bill Fagaly of NOMA, art historian and UNO professor Peggy McDowell, gallery owner Charles Davis, collectors Dr. William Bertrand of Tulane and Gene Willett, and Paula Allen of Amistad Research Center. Brother Joseph Cornet of Belgium; and Charles Henault of Zaire, former field collector for the Museum of Art at Kinshasa, crossed the Atlantic to participate in the series. SUNO Chancellor Dr. Robert Gex served as translator for the Cornet lecture, which has been televised.

Other lecturers were Dr. Richard Long, professor at Emory University in Atlanta and

Dr. Mikelle Omari-Obayemi, director of African Studies at the University of Arizona in Tucson. The art is under the administration of the CAAAS archivist and is now on Internet. Dr. Terrance Lewis is webmaster. (<http://www.gnofn.org/-zaire>)

An exhibit of the 1811 Slave Revolt in St. John the Baptist and St. Charles Parishes was on view in the library throughout February and included an opening reception and docent tours which were conducted by Malcolm Suber of the African American History Alliance of Louisiana.

Permanent exhibits of African Art held by CAAAS are on view in the Washington Memorial Library on the first and second floor. Items from the Bertrand, Christian, Maia, and Imperato Collections are included. Pre-Columbian art from the Kohlmeyer Collection is also on exhibit. A traveling exhibit is available to school and community groups.

Florence Borders was among six Louisiana archivists attending the recent meeting of the Society of Southwest Archivists in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Galveston, Texas and Lafayette, Louisiana will be 1997 and 1999 meeting sites, respectively. Faye Phillips, Assistant Dean of Libraries for Special Collections at LSU was elected by mail-in ballot to serve as Vice-President/President Elect of the organization. Tentative plans are being formulated for a meeting in Mexico in 2000.

Touro Infirmary Archives

Catherine C. Kahn, Archivist of Touro Infirmary, reports that on her recent trip to London, she met with Andrew Simons, formerly of Amistad Research Center, now the Jazz Curator of the National Sound Archives, British Library. During a nice lunch in Shepherd's Market, Andy told about his taping of elderly Jazz musicians, and of the upcoming move of the Sound

Archives to new digs. Andy looks well, is newly bearded, and is enjoying London (who wouldn't). Cathy also reports during her stay in Amsterdam, she visited the magnificent Portuguese Synagogue, where Judah Touro's family worshiped while in Holland, after being expelled from Spain.

Tulane University Manuscripts Department

At its annual meeting in March, the Louisiana Historical Association elected Bill Meneray its president for 1996/97. Bill is Assistant University Librarian for Special Collections at Tulane University. He has long been active in the LHA. He is a regular presenter at their annual meetings and is well-known throughout the region for promoting Louisiana history. Bill has served on many LHA committees including the Executive Committee and the Publications Committee, which he chaired in 1990/91. Perhaps his greatest contribution to the LHA has been his work for many years as chair of the Confederate Museum Committee. In that capacity, Bill has overseen the museum's greater financial stability and steadily increasing professionalism.

Leon C. Miller has been nominated Regent for Outreach of the Academy of Certified Archivists. Lee is Manuscripts Librarian at Tulane. In 1989 he participated in the first class to take the archival certification examination. He subsequently served on the academy's first membership committee, the ACA Task Force on Development and Outreach, and since 1993 has served on the ACA's Outreach Committee. Lee has also been active in outreach for the Society of American Archivists and the Society of Southwest Archivists.

"Women in World War II: Contributions of Louisiana Women to the Allied War Effort" is a small exhibit currently on display in the

Special Collections Division of Tulane University. Taken from the holdings of the Tulane Manuscripts Department, the exhibit highlights the many ways in which women in New Orleans fully participated in the Allied efforts in World War II. Documenting the achievements of women in New Orleans is a special mission of the Tulane Manuscripts Department.

Kevin Fontenot, Tulane Manuscripts Department, received Howard-Tilton Memorial Library's Outstanding Service Award April 17. Kevin received the award at the library's Staff Appreciation Day dinner held annually during National Library Week. Kevin has worked part-time in the Manuscripts Department for several years processing the Lindy Boggs papers and helping with other departmental functions. He is particularly appreciated by researchers who value his intimate knowledge of Southern History. While working in the Manuscripts Department, Kevin is pursuing a doctorate in History. His dissertation will be a biography of Louisiana Governor Jimmie Davis. Because of his expertise in American music, Kevin has been named Chair of the Board of Directors of a new music festival that will be on the campus of Louisiana College, Pineville, Louisiana. The festival will be devoted to the folk and gospel music of central Louisiana.

Robert Sherer, Tulane University Archivist, was awarded a sabbatical leave for the first six months of 1996. He is studying the feasibility of a coordinated records management and archives program for the university. He will return to duty July 1.

The World-Wide Web site of the Tulane Special Collections Division was reviewed and rated by The McKinley Group's professional editorial team and designated as a "3-Star" site. This rating is a special mark of achievement in Magellan,

McKinley's comprehensive Internet directory of nearly 2 million sites and 40,000 reviews.

The Tulane Manuscripts Department has recently opened more than two dozen collections. Among the more notable are the following: A.G.T. Moore papers, Manuscripts Collection 912, 1918-1970, 5 linear feet. Member New Orleans Board of Trade, conservationist and land use expert, active in shipping and forestry. Accretions to the records of Temple Sinai (New Orleans), Manuscripts Collection 243, 1939-1988, 10 linear feet. Accretions to the Kuntz Collection, Manuscripts Collection 600, 4 linear feet. Primarily colonial land grants, land sales, estate papers, and family papers, with some Civil War letters. Accretions to the League of Women Voters records, Manuscripts Collection 556, 4 linear feet. Accretions to the Rabbi Isaac L. Leucht papers, Manuscripts Collection 853, 1 linear foot. Reader, Congregation Gates of Mercy (New Orleans, 1868 , 1872); Reader, Temple Sinai (New Orleans, 1872 , 1879); Reader, Congregation Gates of Mercy of the Dispersed of Judah (New Orleans, 1881 , 1886) and rabbi of the same congregation (1886, 1914), later renamed Touro Synagogue. Includes after dinner speeches, explanations of Bible portions for particular weeks, the significance of various holidays, prayers and benedictions for special occasions. ADDITIONS Accretions to the records of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans, Manuscripts Collection 701, 1958-1992, ca. 30 linear feet. ADDITIONS Albert Voss Collection, Manuscripts Collection 856, 1843-1990, 10 linear feet. Programs, scrapbooks, cast lists, clippings, photographs, and correspondence pertaining to New Orleans musical and theatrical performances between 1843 and 1990. Many pertain to the French Opera House. ADDITIONS Bert Myers

photographs, Manuscripts Collection 909, 11 linear feet. Con temporary New Orleans photographer. ADDITIONS Catharine Brosman papers, Manuscripts Collection 685, 1, 1-1995, 5 linear feet. Noted New Orleans poet. ADDITIONS Cross Keys Plantation, Manuscripts Collection 918, 1819-1983, 6 linear feet. Cross Keys is notable as an important Southern plantation that was run by women during most of its existence. Also includes Civil War correspondence of Edna B. Freiberg Papers, Manuscripts Collection 892, 1966-1981, 14 linear feet. New Orleans author and historian. ADDITIONS Freemason Lodges in Louisiana, Manuscripts Collection 895, 1808-1933, 18 linear feet (ca. 175 volumes). Minutes, account books, and other records for more than two dozen Louisiana Freemason lodges. The most thorough series is for Perseverance Lodge No 4 of New Orleans, a French-speaking lodge, for which there is a virtually complete set of minutes for 1815-1930. ADDITIONS Mardi Gras letter, 1882, one item. Outstanding letter from a Northern businessman who observed Mardi Gras during a business trip to New Orleans. The letter, written to his wife, describes the 1882 Mardi Gras in detail.

Nineteen persons attended the "Cyberspace for Archivists" workshop April 9 in New Orleans. The workshop was part of the Southern Archives Conference. The workshop is a continuing education program of the Society of American Archivists. Instructors were Leon C. Miller, Tulane Manuscripts Librarian, and Peter Hirtle, National Archives, Washington. The instructors reviewed the basic Internet functions and emphasized how archivists may use them in their work. About half of the workshop was devoted to the older Internet protocols (e-mail, ftp, Telnet, and gopher) and half to the World-Wide Web, SGML, and searching techniques. Other

topics included how to create a web site, good web page design, legal and policy issues, and future trends. All participants said the workshop met or exceeded their expectations. One attendee wrote "[the] historical background of the Internet and the Web was the best explanation I've heard," while another said "both instructors were excellent." One participant simply drew four stars on the evaluation form. The workshop has proven to be one of SAA's more popular offerings. In addition to SAC attendees, many participants flew to New Orleans specifically for the workshop. These included several people from the Washington DC area, two from Alabama, and one from Illinois. Lee and Peter had previously presented it March 22 in Ogden, Utah, February 3 in Houston, Texas, and August 29, 1995, in Washington, DC. Because of the rapidly changing nature of technology, the workshop is different every time Lee and Peter present it. They will next offer it at the Society of American Archivists annual meeting, August 28, in San Diego. At the San Diego meeting, Lee and Peter plan to devote more time to SGML and legal issues. The San Diego version should also allow each participant access to a computer terminal for individual practice. Registration information for the San Diego "Cyberspace for Archivists" workshop will be in your SAA meeting packet, or contact the SAA Education Office, 600 South Federal Suite 504, Chicago IL 60605, ph: 312-922-0140 fax: 312-347-1452, tshimandle@saa.mhs.compuserv.com.

News Notes

60th Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists Aug. 25-Sept. 1, 1996 San Diego, California

Plan to attend the SAA meeting, held this year at the Sheraton Hotel & Marina in San

Diego, California.

The meeting will feature nearly 90 educational sessions, thirteen pre-conference workshops, the International Archives and Information Technology Expo, tours, an opening banquet and awards ceremony, as well as a farewell reception.

Noted anthropologist and Spelman College President Johnetta Cole will give the keynote address on diversity in the workplace in the 21st century at the opening plenary session. Special guests U. S. Archivist John Carlin and Archivist of Mexico Patricia Galeana, will share their vision for the future of their institutions.

This meeting marks the diamond jubilee anniversary of the Society of American Archivists and promises to be a "celebration of the growth and evolution of the archival profession."

For additional information contact the SAA office at (312) 922-0140 or e-mail: info@saa.mhs.compuserve.com.

Gracy Gift Supports Archival Studies at UT-Austin

The Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences (GSLIS) at the University of Texas at Austin has been named the recipient of the Alice Duggan and David Caldwell Gracy Endowed Presidential Scholarships. The award will be given to deserving students with an interest in the administration of archives and records and the preservation of access to information of enduring value. For more information contact: Carlton Schwab (512) 471-2347 or e-mail: cshwab@mail.utexas.edu.

ICMA Publication

International City/County Management Association is pleased to announce the publication of *Records Management: A Practical Guide for Cities and Counties* by

Julian L. Mims, a leader in the field of local government records management. The publication covers several aspects of records management including setting up management programs, risk management and imaging technologies. It also features a chapter on archives which emphasizes the value of local government records and discusses possibilities for finding resources for a strong archival program.

Contact Julie Butler at (202) 962-3648 for further information.

Congratulations

Mrs. Brenda Billips Square, Head of Reference Services at the Amistad Research Center recently received her Masters of Library and Information Science.

GNOA New Members

Ms. Monifah Johnson of the Greater New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation, Inc. and Sister Lillian Conahan have joined the GNOA. We welcome you to our organization.

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.

(504) 862-3229; fax: (504)865-5580;
e-mail: hankins@mailhost.tcs.tulane.edu.

The Greater New Orleans Archivists Officers

Carol O. Bartels, President
Rebecca Hankins, Secretary
Robert Sherer, Treasurer

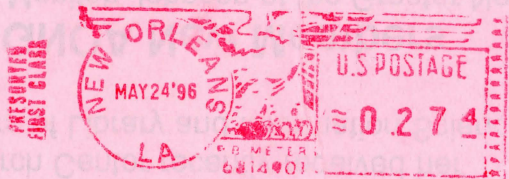
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**PLACE:
NEW ORLEANS NOTARIAL
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421 LOYOLA AVENUE**

**TIME:
6:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1996**

NEXT MEETING

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



MR RAYMOND BERTHELOT JR
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