

# SGA Newsletter

A publication of the Society of Georgia Archivists

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## What's Prologue is Past: SGA Faces the Future at Forty

SGA's Annual Meeting in Savannah, Ga.

### President's Message

On behalf of the SGA Board, I am looking forward to welcoming you to the Annual Meeting and 40th Anniversary Celebration in Savannah this November 4-6! First Year Director Lynette Stoudt, Second Year Director Teresa Burk, 40th Anniversary Chair Susan Potts McDonald, and their committees have done a wonderful job of putting together an excellent meeting. Keynote speaker David B. Gracy II will join renowned archivists from across the state and the country, including Beth Yakel, who will speak on the subject of archival metrics, and Geof Huth, who will present on electronic records. An excellent pre-conference workshop on exhibits, given by Lynn Robertson and Lana Burgess, is also planned. To top it all off, we will celebrate our 40th Anniversary at a special reception and our traditional auction led by the inimitable Gil Head on Thursday evening, November 5th. We will honor our first group of SGA Fellows and former Presidents, enjoy good food, and hear a live band. Details on all aspects of the meeting, plus tips on enjoying the sights and sounds of historic Savannah, await you in this issue of the newsletter.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn from some of the finest archivists in the country, network with colleagues, and celebrate SGA's anniversary. We hope to bring our newest members together with many of our founding members on this great occasion. Young or old, new or long-term, be sure to act fast -- the early-bird registration deadline for SGA members is October 6. To register, go to [www.soga.org/events](http://www.soga.org/events) today!

Christine de Catanzaro



SGA President - 2009

### Pre-Conference Workshop on creating exhibits held November 4th

Are you interested in creating a professional-looking exhibit of materials in your collections, but don't have the money to hire a design consultant? Are you trying to attract new audiences to your archives? The 2009 SGA pre-conference workshop is for you!

Using hands-on exercises and case studies from museum studies programs at the University of South Carolina and Florida State University, this year's workshop will examine how to produce effective and inexpensive archival exhibitions for public audiences. Learn how to set interpretive goals, write effective texts, and design attractive displays in this day-long workshop taught by Lynn Robertson and Lana Burgess, museum educators and professionals from the University of South Carolina. Additional workshop topics include thinking about visitor needs and interests, selecting topics that are interesting to general audiences, and exploring the impact of Web 2.0 on interpretation. Bring your exhibit ideas for class discussion, and get a jump start on the exhibit planning process!

The workshop will be held in Savannah, Georgia, at the DeSoto Hilton on November 4, 2009, from 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. For more information and to register, visit the SGA education website:

[www.soga.org/education](http://www.soga.org/education). Registration fees are \$65 for members and \$80 for non-members and include a continental breakfast and all breaks. **This workshop is limited to 35 participants, so please register soon to guarantee your slot! Registration will close on October 16.** For any questions or problems registering, please contact Elizabeth Russey, SGA Education Chair, at [erussey@emory.edu](mailto:erussey@emory.edu).

### The Conference, November 5th-6th

The [program](#) for SGA's 2009 annual meeting, *What's Prologue is Past: SGA Faces the Future at Forty*, is available for download from the SGA website. Offerings range from breakout presentations about what's new in research and professional practice, such as [Elizabeth Yakel's](#) presentation on archival metrics, to a plenary session in celebration of SGA's [history](#). Peruse the offerings today and join us in Savannah on November 5th and 6th.

### Savannah

Savannah is a beautiful, fun destination





and an appropriate setting to think about history. November is an ideal time to visit. Hurricane season, and the summer's humidity, is a memory. This is a great time of year to stroll the historic district.



View from the DeSoto Hilton Hotel, Savannah Ga. by Jim Frazier, [CC](#).

To aid your exploration of Savannah's historic district, Luciana Spracher and Nora Lewis, members of the local arrangements committee (and Savannahians), plan several guides, maps, walking tours of Savannah's historic district.

Here's the first:

- [Guide to Colonial Cemetery](#).

The following, forthcoming guides will be available as pdf links from SGA's website, the Blog, and via e-mail.

- *Bull Street, A Slice of Savannah History*;
- *Cultural Destinations in Downtown Savannah: for those who can't get enough of the whole historic tourism thing*
- *Shopping, Eating, and Drinking in Downtown Savannah: a map of noteworthy Historic District establishments.*



Autumn evenings in the historic district may contribute to Savannah's reputation for ghosts. Get in the mood by checking out local author [Margaret DeBolt's](#) [Savannah Specters](#).

The [Savannah Convention and Visitor's Bureau](#) is a good first stop, online, for visitors. In addition, SGA's [Blog](#) and [Facebook](#) page will post the latest news from your local arrangements committee.

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Enjoy!

Photo of Factor's Walk by Dizzygirl & Savannah's tree lined stroll by Jyll and Tom Skinner [CC](#)

## 9th Annual Auction for SGA Scholarship Funds

Where: The Fabulous DeSoto Hilton in Historic Downtown Savannah, Georgia

When: Thursday, November 5, 2009

Time: 6:25-7:20 p.m., somewhere after/during food and drink acquisition, and somewhen before dispersal for general merriment...

*From the desk of our honorable auctioneer, the illustrious Gilbert Head...*

Once again, Ladies and Gentlemen, we near the autumn of the year, and with the falling leaves we also plan to harvest the bounty of the 9th annual auction for SGA scholarships. Yet again, I represent the Scholarship Committee for the Society of Georgia Archivists, and by virtue of this auction having originally been my idea, find myself yet again in the position of serving for spokesman for this, the eighth edition of the SGA Scholarship Auction. As in years gone by, 100% of the proceeds of this auction will go towards the myriad scholarships and awards administered by the SGA, including our more recently created SGA-sponsored workshop scholarships. These newer funding opportunities will help underwrite the workshop costs of scholarship recipients, as we continue to broaden out efforts to support continuing education in our community. As in years past, we once more submit a few examples of the sorts of treasures one might be expected to bid upon or perhaps donate in this worthy enterprise. Some of these items will look familiar, and yet others will be new, in our never-ending quest to broaden the scope of delights from the overburdened chifferobe of culture's bounty. Monkeys will be abounding, and we expect a return of the paired Disco Chalice which seem to crop up in each new offering.

It should be remembered that these sample items are intended to suggest possibilities for donation, and to whet the appetite of potential bidders but not necessarily to limit the scope of those things to be placed upon the block...

**A U.S. Silver Dollar ("Morgan" Type); 1880; Philadelphia Mint**





**A silver penny from the reign of Edward I of England (called Longshanks) 1272-1307**



**A "Widow's Mite";** Bronze Prutah, Reign of Alexander Jannaeus, 103-76 BC. This coin represents one of the probable coins referred to in the Biblical parable of the Widow's Mite (Mark 12:41-44), as it was the smallest coin in circulation in the Holy Land at the time of Christ.



**A Denarius of Severus Alexander (222-235 AD).** This silver coin was the basic unit of exchange in Imperial Rome.



***Publii Ovidii Nasonis Operum, Tomus III.*** Amsterdam, 1701, 4 3/4" x 2 1/2" Full vellum binding.



**1961 Proof Set, Philadelphia Mint.** Again, supplied in original U.S. Mint packaging.



..... and plenty more old coins.....

**"Greenhorn" , the Red-Nosed Sock Reindeer** Front and center in the "family portrait" below:



These items are not meant to define the parameters of what we will accept as an auction item, but rather to give some idea of the scope of what we hope to be offering. We will not be accepting firearms or alcoholic consumables for this auction, but will be grateful for whatever else you might wish to donate.

Items can either be brought in person to the SGA Annual Meeting in November, or sent to the following address: Gilbert Head, University Archives, Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-1641. (Questions about the auction can be addressed to the same place, or to Gilbert Head at: [eghead@uga.edu](mailto:eghead@uga.edu)) If you are bringing the item to Athens, please plan to drop it off at the auction table during registration. This table will also provide a place to make a "silent bid" for those unable or uninterested to participate in the live auction.

If you are planning to contribute something, please prepare a 3" X 5" card for each item with your name, a brief description and any details which you think might enhance sale of the item, whether you wish to target the proceeds to a specific fund (the [Carroll Hart Scholarship](#) to attend the Georgia Archives Institute; the [Larry Gulley Scholarship](#) to attend the Annual Meeting; the [Edward Weldon Scholarship](#) to attend the Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting; the [David B. Gracy II Award](#) [administered by the Editorial Board of *Provenance*] or our new Workshop Scholarships, and whether or not you wish to have an assigned minimum bid (though we ask that you limit this last request, as the object of the auction is to raise money for these various worthy funds).

And even those who do not donate can participate! Bring us your money (we'll be set up to take cash or checks, but not credit cards), and your finely honed bidding skills, and prepare to have a splendid time as we help our scholarship funds grow. Jim Dandy (*the official sock monkey of the SGA Auction*) asks you to give, and give generously; excavate your spare tremisses and merks, and come to Savannah ready to have yet another splendid time wearing down the auctioneer, and fired up to bid on treasures galore... it'll be something to tell future generations, or at the very least, we'll have a little fun, and raise a few dollars along the way. See y'all there/then.

Access a PDF [here](#)