

SGA Newsletter

A newsletter of the Society of Georgia Archivists



**The Society of
Georgia Archivists:
preserving the past
for the future.**

Restructuring Sustainable Preservation Practices

Meredith E. Torre, Editor

Recently held at the National Archives at Atlanta and hosted jointly with the Georgia Archives, *Sustainable Preservation Practices for Managing Storage Environments*, a two-year Education and Training project that began January 1, 2010, showed collections care and facilities staff in cultural institutions ways to avoid risks to collections while supporting sustainability efforts and pursuing opportunities for energy cost reduction.



Participants at the recently held IPI workshop held at the National Archives. Photograph by Christine Wiseman.

Many cultural institutions maintain tightly controlled, energy-intensive environments for their collections and exhibition spaces. For budgetary reasons and due to heightened concerns about global climate change, cultural institutions are searching for ways to achieve significant energy reductions without minimizing preservation quality of collection environments.

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Sustainable Preservation Practices... (cont. from p.1)

IPI staff presented a variety of tools and strategies being tried in the field. One strategy included taking advantage of unoccupied hours during which thermostats can be set back or energy-consuming HVAC equipment could be turned off. This was demonstrated as a viable option if guided by decisions based on current research, documentation and interpretation of reliable data, and a fact-based understanding of the relationship between environment and material decay.

“For budgetary reasons and due to heightened concerns about global climate change, cultural institutions are searching for ways to achieve significant energy reductions”.



Facilities manager, Adam Parnell leads workshop participants on a behind the scenes tour of facilities at the Georgia Archives. Photograph by Christine Wiseman.

For More Information for this Project:

A series of free on-line presentations and webinars are available through this project. Please visit www.ipisustainability.org to sign up or to learn more about the series. This series is organized and presented by the Image Permanence Institute, Rochester Institute of Technology, and funded by an Education & Training grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Girl Scouts Turn 100 in 2012!

Pamela Nye

In 1912, Juliette Gordon Low made a legendary phone call to her cousin: *"Come right over! I've got something for the girls of Savannah, and all America, and all the world, and we're going to start it tonight!"* On March 12, 1912, Juliette Low gathered 18 girls to register the first troop of American Girl Guides. Margaret "Daisy Doots" Gordon, her niece and namesake, was the first registered member. The name of the organization was changed to Girl Scouts the following year.

All over the world, Girl Scouts are busy making plans to celebrate the 100th anniversary in 2012. Part of the celebration for the Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta includes "It's Your Story...Tell it! 100 years.....100 memories." In honor of the upcoming 100th Anniversary, they want you to share your favorite Girl Scout memories. You can either complete the survey on the Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta website (<http://www.gsgatl.org/>) or by sharing on the Girl Scout Memories Project Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Girl-Scout-Memories/127546420631541>).

The Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia, based in Savannah, has a number of activities planned that will take place to celebrate the anniversary. They began the Centennial festivities by re-lighting the Eternal Flame on October 31, 2010, in the courtyard of the First Headquarters. For more information on GSHG events, visit: http://www.gshg.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=133&Itemid=363

The Girl Scouts of the USA is a member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (www.wagggg.org). For 100 years, approximately 250 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts have been changing lives and building a better world through leadership development, community action, service to others, peer education and advocacy. To honor



their history and to build for the future, the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts will celebrate the centenary of the international Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting movement over three years, from 2010 to 2012. For more information, visit <http://wagggg.org/en/about/guiding/centenary2010>.

Related Websites

Girl Scout Alumnae Association: <http://www.gsgatl.org/alumnae/default.asp>

Girl Scouts First Headquarters: http://www.gshg.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=135&Itemid=149

Girl Scout History: http://www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/history/

Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace: <http://www.juliettegordonlowbirthplace.org/>

Juliette Gordon Low Blog: <http://juliettegordonlow.blogspot.com/>

SGA News

SGA's 2011 budget was approved by the Board in February. Questions? Contact President Christine Wiseman: cwiseman@sos.ga.gov or Treasurer Sheila McAlister: mcalist@uga.edu.

Scholarships: Would you like to attend the Advocacy & Outreach Boot Camp for Archivists workshop on May 14, but need some financial support? SGA offers the Brenda S. Banks Educational Workshop Scholarship just for you.

Application deadline is Tuesday, April 14. Visit <http://www.soga.org/scholarships/banks> for more information.

Save the date! The next SGA Annual meeting, "Leveraging Technology" will be held at the Georgia Archives and NARA Southeast in Morrow, Georgia on November 3-4, 2011. This year's meeting will feature sessions focused on Web 2.0, Digital Project Management, Digital Preservation, Archivist's Toolkit/Archon, Arrangement and Description, Preservation, Reference Services and Access, and Donor Relations.



Georgia News

The Women's Collection and the Southern Labor Archives, both part of Georgia State University Library's Special Collections and Archives Department, are joining forces to celebrate women in the workplace. The event will be held from 2:00-3:30 on Sunday, April 10, 2011 at Georgia State University Library and will include a panel discussion and exhibit.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information and driving/parking directions, please see:

<http://www.library.gsu.edu/fowlkes2011/>



Georgia State Archives Budget Dramatically Cut

Joshua Kitchens, Associate Editor

“The budget for the Georgia State Archives was dramatically cut by over 300,000 dollars.

Atlanta, Ga - During the 2011 General Assembly Session, the budget for the Georgia State Archives was dramatically cut by over 300,000 dollars. This cut would force the State Archives to close to the public. Specifically, this amount includes two budgetary shortfalls. The first cut includes cuts in "personal services and ... savings from reduced hours ...". The second reduction is related to the House not funding the annual increase in rent for the State Archives.

Currently, the Georgia Senate has restored some of this funding to the State Archives. This restored funding will allow the doors to remain open at least one day a week. The revised budget still must be passed by a joint session of both chambers.

Institution of the Year

Georgia Association of Museums & Galleries Selects All New Carter Presidential Museum

Atlanta, GA. - The ALL NEW Jimmy Carter Presidential Museum has been awarded "Institution of the Year" by the Georgia Association of Museums & Galleries. In announcing its selection of the Carter Museum, the GAMG said "The nominations this year reflected the strength of museums and galleries across the state of Georgia and the high achievement of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum."

The GAMG selection is just the latest in a series of awards for the completely redesigned Carter Museum, from its new introductory biographical film, winner of a 2010 CINE Golden Eagle Award, to its exhibits "A Day in the Life of the President" and the Map Table, which won 2009 Best Museum Audio Visual Project from InfoComm International, PRO AV and ARCHITECT magazines, and its selection to Atlanta Magazine's "Best of Atlanta" Hall of Fame.

For more information, call 404-865-7100. You can keep up with the Carter Library events at www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov, on the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library page on Facebook, and follow the Carter Library on Twitter.

Institutional Profile

Rebecca Landel-Hernandez

Our feature for this issue is the historic **DeKalb History Center**, located in the old courthouse building on the square in downtown Decatur, Georgia. The Neoclassical granite structure of the old courthouse, built in 1898, is the fourth iteration of iconic architectural centerpieces at the core of the downtown area. DeKalb County's history dates to 1822, is rich in detail, and many of its' citizens and locations have played significant roles in Georgia's history. The DeKalb History Center, established in 1947, is the home of the story.



The old courthouse is open Monday through Friday 9AM – 4PM to anyone who wants to come by and see the building and exhibits. The archives are open to everyone and are located on the main floor of the old Courthouse. Research hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10AM-12PM and 1PM-4PM. Appointments are encouraged and the DHC website makes patron research and planning accessible. Current exhibitions at DHC include a small exhibit on DeKalb Dairies which includes a local icon from Mathis Dairy, Rosebud, and family attic treasures belonging to the Carr family dating from 1920. H.J Carr was the founder of a local construction firm responsible for numerous Atlanta landmarks one of which includes the Biltmore Hotel in midtown. More specific information on the two current exhibits can be found on the DHC website. There are also several historic buildings which are part of the DHC history complex including: the Swanton house; two log cabins; and the Mary Gay house.

DeKalb History Center – Front of Courthouse

At the time of writing, the archives holdings include more than 700 linear feet of processed materials plus another 100 linear feet of unprocessed materials. In addition to the archival resources, there are some 1,250 items which include collections of library books, museum artifacts, and textiles. DHC has a 600 square foot research room area with large tables convenient for patrons with laptops.



Current Dairy Exhibit

DeKalb History Center has a strong genealogy section for DeKalb County with extensive subject and photograph files. There is also a set of Atlanta Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps that are colorful with detail, as well as the Atlanta City Directories. The few hundred patrons who come in each year are primarily interested in genealogical or property research.

Institutional Profile continued

The website is well developed, very intuitive and provides access to a number of databases which include cemetery records, Superior Court records, marriage records, wills, census records, Freedman records, Confederate soldiers, militia maps and land lotteries records: <http://www.dekalbhistory.org/index.htm>. Additionally, DHC is leveraging the power of social networking by actively providing feeds to Twitter <http://twitter.com/dekalbhistory> and Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/dekalb-History-Center/144917255569664>. These tools are great for providing peeks at various photographic collections, ongoing local events and generally enrich access to DHC collections on an ongoing basis.

The archivist is Jill Sweetapple and she says she has about ten wonderful volunteers helping with a variety of projects. Including Sweetapple, the staff at DeKalb History Center consists of: Melissa Forgey, the Executive Director; Leslie Borger, Heritage Education Coordinator; and Stacey Roudebush, Administrative Assistant. For a small institution, DeKalb History Center, is packing a powerhouse of history while leveraging a variety of technologies to showcase their collections. When asked how it feels to be a “lone arranger”, Sweetapple is very satisfied with her ability to work at her own pace and let DHC’s strong preservation ethic dictate collection priorities. The combination of archival management and creativity is a win for the preservation of history of DeKalb County using technology’s tools to continually extend new avenues of access.



Archives Research Area

“DeKalb County’s history dates to 1822, is rich in detail, and many of its’ citizens and locations have played significant roles in Georgia’s history.”

DeKalb Historical Center Contact & Location information:

Jill Sweetapple, Archivist
DeKalb History Center
101 E. Court Square
Decatur, GA 30030
404-373-1088 (phone)
404-373-8287 (fax)
Website: <http://dekalbhistory.org/index.htm>

The logo for Hollinger Metal Edge Archival Storage Materials is at the top, featuring a circular icon with a book and the company name. Below the logo is a photograph of two archival storage boxes, one open and one closed, showing their internal structure. At the bottom, the text "THE QUALITY SOURCE" is written in a stylized font, followed by two phone numbers: 1-800-634-0491 and 1-800-826-2228.

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1-800-826-2228

Membership Spotlight

Mary Katherine Barnes

Brittany Parris

Name: Brittany Parris, C.A.

How long have you been an SGA Member? Since 2007

Where do you work? Jimmy Carter Presidential Library & Museum, part of the National Archives & Records Administration (NARA.) I was fortunate to be hired as part of NARA's Archivist Development Program (ADP,) which is a two-year professional development program focused on four competency areas: Organizational Awareness; Leveraging Technology; Administrative Awareness; and Leadership & Management. The program has been an excellent foundation for understanding how a large agency like NARA approaches archival activities such as reference services, processing, preservation, and the handling of both non-classified and national security classified materials, which can include Presidential Papers, donated historical materials, and federal records. Upon completion of the program at the end of this year, I will continue on in my current job role as an Archivist.



What is your job title? Archivist

How long have you been in your current position? Almost a year and a half.

What other jobs have you held in the archives profession? Prior to working at the Carter Library, I worked at the Office of Archives & Records at the Archdiocese of Atlanta as Assistant Archivist from 2008 to 2009. It was a fantastic experience and I am happy to continue to work with the archives and records management program of the Archdiocese in a different capacity as a member of their Archives Advisory Board.

Did you have an alternative career path (if so please elaborate)? Not really—I went straight from graduating from Oglethorpe University to attending the University of South Florida's MLIS program. I entered library school imagining that I'd pursue a job in academic librarianship, but internships and assistantships in archives and special collections along the way steered me to look for a career in archives.

Membership Spotlight continued

What is your favorite part of your job? It's probably clichéd to say that I enjoy organizing stuff, right? (I will accept gift certificates to The Container Store and why, yes, I do have a birthday in the spring.) Joking aside, I truly enjoy working with our many electronic search tools; for example, our researchers are able to access previously classified materials on a special system in our research room, a system made possible by a project known as RAC (Remote Archives Capture).

This project, the scanning stage of which ended before I came on board, has allowed NARA to scan classified materials at several of its Presidential Libraries. By scanning these records and sending them to the originating federal agencies for review, the process of receiving decisions on declassification has been expedited and in turn our researchers benefit from a keyword searchable tool for examining declassified information. I enjoy working with this system "behind-the-scenes" as well as helping researchers learn about using it as a tool for better access to some of our collections.

Can you tell me what the most interesting thing is that you've learned about Jimmy Carter? The one thing for me personally that shines through all of our holdings is evidence of his amazingly strong work ethic. You really do get an idea of his self-discipline and sense of personal motivation when working with these materials.

What are your hobbies or favorite past times? I enjoy hiking and nature walks. My husband and I are both self-proclaimed movie buffs. (Our movie collection is organized alphabetically, of course.) I also would have to say that I am a follower of "geek culture" and that *Star Wars* will always be my first love.

What comments do you have on the profession today? My introduction to records management at the Archdiocese really opened my eyes to the importance of the selection and appraisal of records. Archivists have to be more proactive and get involved at the creation phase of a record's lifecycle instead of merely acting as a passive recipient of it once it has ceased being "useful." If archivists are not more aggressive in the early stages of records creation, then they may find others redefining their roles (and consequently, influence) in the lifecycle of materials.

***"Archivists have to be more proactive and get involved at the creation phase of a record's lifecycle instead of merely acting as a passive recipient of it once it has ceased being 'useful.'"** —
Brittany Parris*



Preservation News

Jessica Leming

Center for Home Movies Report

A report has been issued from the Home Movie Digitization and Access Summit at the National Audio-Visual Conservation Center in Culpeper, Virginia, September, 2010. The Summit looked at the technical and legal issues involved in digitizing amateur film and video, the role of cataloging and description in providing access to it, and the impact significantly increased online access to home movies would have on home movie makers, families, researchers, documentary filmmakers, and the public. More than 40 invited participants discussed what would be needed to undertake such a mass digitization project.

The final report is available as a free PDF at: www.homemoviesummit.org/docs/Home_Movie_Summit_Final_Report.pdf

New Digital Preservation videos from Library of Congress

The Library of Congress has two new titles in its collection of digital preservation videos. Archiving Digital Audio with Peter Alyea contains advice about preserving personal audio collections. Preserving Personal Web Content with Abigail Grotke and Gina Jones offers practical tips for organizing and preserving personal Web sites, blogs, social networking information, music, etc. Both presentations were recorded May 10, 2010, during LoC's Personal Archiving Day. www.digitalpreservation.gov/videos/index.html

HERA and SHER want you to join

The Atlanta area Heritage Emergency Response Alliance welcomes all institutions and individuals to enlist for free membership. HERA now has even more ways to stay connected to the group and keep up to date on local, regional and national emergency planning and response.

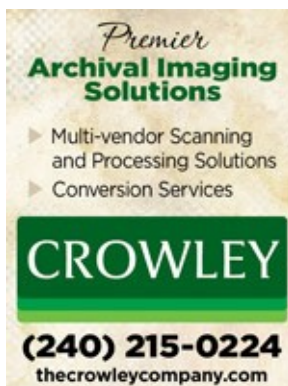
AFR page: <http://bit.ly/ATLHERA> (membership info. here)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ATLHERA>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/ATLHERA>

If you are in the Savannah area, look into SHER membership, the Savannah Heritage Emergency Response group welcomes you. Information can be found on the SHER website: <http://sheronline.info/>

Please take a moment to register and raise awareness in field of emergency planning, or to help an institution respond to an emergency- remember, it could be you someday!



Preservation News continued...

Preservation Week is April 24-30, 2011!

Preservation Week a national campaign to help raise awareness about collecting and preservation, to connect the general public to preservation information and expertise, and to emphasize the close relationships among personal, family, community, and public collections and their preservation. Please consider sponsoring an event to help raise preservation awareness at your institution. ALA-ALCTS has a toolkit for planning and promoting events, and tips for getting involved.

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alcts/confevents/preswk/index.cfm>

Preservation News is a quarterly column intended to disseminate timely and newsworthy information about preservation in libraries and archives.

Please submit your future preservation news items to Jessica Leming at 800-999-8558 x4936, or jessica.leming@lyrasis.org

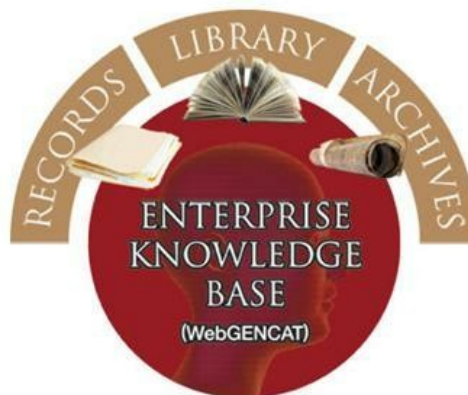


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“Social” SGA Members

Pamela Nye

Is your institution foraying out into the social media realm? Have you wandered out but don't know what to do next? Do you have thousands of followers on Twitter? Here are some of our members who have blogs, Facebook pages, and/or Twitter feeds.

RSS Feeds will be covered in a separate article, as those do not seem to be as used as the other media by our members. If I omitted your institution, then please email me at pam@phoenixrd.com, and perhaps we can start a page on the SGA website!

Here are some suggestions to enhance your institution's visibility:

Main website: Make sure to list all of the ways that your users can find you and learn what you are currently doing or processing. Put those links in a prominent place on your first page.

Blog: You don't have to write a long entry every day, but original content is more interesting to read. Be sure to include stories about your institution, especially concerning important dates in your history, as well as descriptions about new donations or discoveries.

Facebook: You can edit your page under “website” to include the address not only to your official website, but also your blog and twitter addresses. To shorten your FB website address, you can change the “username” field as well.

Twitter: You can link up the Twitter and the Facebook accounts, so that updates to Twitter automatically populate your Facebook status, including any links you might post. (Be sure to use a website address shortening service, such as bit.ly or tinyurl.com.)

Archdiocese of Atlanta Archives

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Archdiocese-of-Atlanta-Archives/148986481826472>

Armstrong Atlantic State University, Lane Library

- Blog: <http://armstronglibrary.blogspot.com/>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Lane-Library-at-Armstrong-Atlantic-State-University/50902377636>

Atlanta Fulton Public Library

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Atlanta-Fulton-Public-Library-System/91264954680>

Atlanta History Center

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/AtlantaHistoryCenter>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/ATLHistCenter>

Internet Corner continued

Auburn Avenue Research Library Archives

- Blog: <http://aarlarchives.blogspot.com/>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Auburn-Avenue-Research-Library-on-African-American-Culture-and-History/63571610298>
- Twitter: http://twitter.com/AARL_Archives

Booth Western Art Museum

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/boothmuseum>

Coca-Cola Archives

- Blog: <http://www.coca-colaconversations.com/>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CokeArchives>
- Twitter: http://twitter.com/coke_archives

Columbia Theological Seminary, John Bulow Campbell Library

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/John-Bulow-Campbell-Library-Columbia-Theological-Seminary/19810017534>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/CTSeminary>

DeKalb History Center

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/DeKalb-History-Center/144917255569664>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/DeKalbHistory>

Digital Library of Georgia

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Digital-Library-of-Georgia/108959499146418>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/DigLibGA>

Internet Corner continued

Emory University, Manuscripts, Archives, and Rare Books Library

- Blog: <http://marbl.library.emory.edu/blog>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/emorymarbl>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/EmoryLibraries>

Georgia Department of Archives and History

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/GASOSKemp>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/GASOSKemp>

Georgia Historical Society Library and Archives

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Georgia-Historical-Society-Library-and-Archives/316906493008>

Georgia Music Hall of Fame

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaMusic>
- Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/GAMusicHall>

Georgia Tech Archives:

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/gtarchives>

Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta Archives:

- Blog: <http://girlscoutsmakehistory.wordpress.com>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Girl-Scouts-Make-History/160316427315005>
- Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/GSGAtlArchives/>

Gwinnett Historical Society

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Gwinnett-Historical-Society/296384980507>

Internet Corner continued

Herndon Home

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/herndonhome>

Jimmy Carter Research Library

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CarterPresidentialLibrary>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/CarterLibrary>

Kennesaw State University Archives and Records Management

- Blog: <http://web.kennesaw.edu/archives/blog>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Kennesaw-State-University-Department-of-Archives-Records-Management/63291497743>
- Twitter: http://twitter.com/KSU_Archives

Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia

- Blog: <http://mocaga.blogspot.com/>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/MOCAGA>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/mocaga>

National Archives at Atlanta

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/nationalarchivesatlanta>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/atlantaarchives>

Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies

- Blog: <http://rbri.blogspot.com/>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Richard-B-Russell-Library-for-Political-Research-and-Studies/24131414336>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/RussellLibrary>

Internet Corner continued

Society of Georgia Archivists:

- Blog: <http://georgiaarchivists.blogspot.com><http://georgiaarchivists.blogspot.com/>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Society-of-Georgia-Archivists/34754785356>

Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History

- Blog: <http://www.southernmuseum.org/blog/>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/southernmuseum>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/southernmuseum>

Troup County Archives and Historical Society

- Blog: <http://www.trouparchives.org/index.php/blog/>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Troup-County-Archives-and-Historical-Society/168688106508939>

University of West Georgia, Ingram Library

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/IngramLibrary>

Becoming Alabama

Tim L. Pennycuff, University of Alabama at Birmingham



In October 2010 state agencies, state tourism officials, and museums and historical organizations from across Alabama announced the launch of *Becoming Alabama*, a statewide partnership for the promotion of commemorative activities observing the anniversaries of three major periods in Alabama history: the bicentennial of the Creek War and War of 1812; the sesquicentennial of the Civil War (which began with decisions made in Montgomery by the Confederate government); and the ongoing fiftieth anniversaries of major events in the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama.

Dr. Ed Bridges, director of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, noted that Alabama “is about to pass through a remarkable constellation of anniversaries that coincide over the next five years.” The project aims to, as Bridges said, “focus on three interconnected struggles that shaped who we are today.”

At the launch of the coordinated effort, 40 organizations from across the state were actively involved in the commemorative program.

Public programs associated with *Becoming Alabama* have been taking place since early 2010 and will

be held over the next five years. A *Becoming Alabama* web site is currently available offering a timeline of historical events, a central listing of events and activities throughout the state, and links to local organizations. The website may be reached at <http://www.archives.alabama.gov/BA/>.

A commissioned logo was created by designer Susan Gamble. It features a prominent historical figure from each of the three periods of Alabama history: Chief Menawa (ca. 1765-1837), a leader of the Red Stick Creeks; Joseph Wheeler (1836-1906), a Confederate general; and Rosa Parks (1913-2005), civil rights activist. The logo is contained on the *Becoming Alabama* website.

Becoming Alabama is also being featured in each issue of the *Alabama Heritage*, a quarterly magazine that “brings to life the people, places and events that helped shape the history of Alabama and the South.” The magazine has created a specific section on *Becoming Alabama* to feature articles of historic interest and listings of statewide activities to commemorate the events of 200, 150, and 50 years ago.



Jim Cross

NATIONAL ARCHIVES BUDGET: Legislation for the 2011 fiscal year's budget has not yet been passed; the National Archives' budget is currently fixed at 2010 levels by a sixth continuing budget resolution that expires on April 8, 2011. On February 14, 2011 President Obama proposed a NARA budget of \$422.5 million for FY 2012, an 8.2% decrease from his proposed FY 2011 budget. The NHPRC would face a 50% reduction from the amount proposed for the FY 2011 budget to \$5 million. Other cuts include a reduction of 7% in the combined Operating Expenses and ERA budget (Note: further development of ERA has been halted and it is moving into operations and maintenance, a savings of \$36.3 million. ERA will be an operational system in FY 2012), an 18.5% reduction for repairs and restoration budget for NARA buildings, and a 3.5% decrease in the budget for the Inspector General's office. Because of the budget environment the libraries at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. and in College Park, MD will remain open with reduced staff, but no more books will be purchased for the D.C. branch and expenditures for library resources at College Park will be greatly reduced. Seven of the nine library staff members will be reassigned, with research room personnel aiding the remaining staff to operate the libraries. In addition the Pittsfield Annex in Massachusetts, which houses NARA microfilm collections, will be closed and its staff also reassigned.

NARA HOLDINGS ONLINE: On January 13, 2011 the Kennedy Presidential Library unveiled its online archive of its holdings. The initial release includes 200,000 pages, 300 reels of audio tape including 1,245 individual recordings, 300 museum artifacts, 72 reels of film, and 1,500 photographs. Additional material will be digitized and added to the archive over time. ... NARA has collaborated for over 20 years with The Mini Page, a weekly feature, on numerous issues of interest to young readers. All of this content—from the inaugural publication in 1969 through April 2007, when Betty Debnam, the founder of The Mini Page, sold it to Universal Uclick—is now available online through the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill at www.lib.unc.edu/dc/minipage/, the Archives announced on March 10, 2011. ... The papers of Dr. John C. Cutler were made available online on March 29, 2011. Dr. Cutler, a former employee of the U.S. Public Health Service, was involved in research on Guatemalan soldiers, prisoners, and mental health patients who were exposed to the syphilis bacteria. The material relating to these experiments can be found at www.archives.gov/research/health/cdc-cutler-records.

OTHER ARCHIVES NEWS: A number of long-serving Archives staff have retired recently. Ken Thibodeau, who played a major role in developing electronic records standards and system and is considered one of the foremost experts on electronic records, retired on January 1, 2011. On March 3, 2011 Assistant Archivist for Records Services Dr. Michael Kurtz retired after 37 years of service which included being the first chair of the Nazi War Crimes Records Interagency Working Group. Finally, on April 1, 2011 Deputy Archivist Adrienne Thomas retired. Among her accomplishments was overseeing the successful design, construction, and move into Archives II in College Park, MD. ... On December 27, 2010 the Archives made its prototype Online Public Access System available to the public (www.archives.gov/research/search). It provides access to both digitized records and to information about the Archives' holdings. The Archives also produced an "Inside the Vaults" video short to introduce the new system. ... The Archives released its first mobile application on January 12, 2011. Entitled "Today's Document," it provides users with access to 365 historic documents from the NARA's holdings. NARA has also joined Foursquare, a location-based social media site. ... The National Archives opened its new Southwest Region Federal Records Center facility in Fort Worth, TX to the public on February 28, 2011. The move to the new building required the transfer of over two million historical documents.

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Archivist of the United States, David Ferriero, announced the beginning of the restructuring of NARA and made several key appointments to that end on March 1, 2011. Building upon the recommendations of the internal report *A Charter for Change: Charting the Course*, the Archivist began making appointments to a new Executive Leadership Team and a new Management Team. To the former were appointed Tom Mills, who now becomes the archives' first Chief Operating Officer; Analisa Archer, the first Human Capital Officer; Gary M. Stern, Chief Counsel; and John Hamilton, Director of Congressional Affairs. Four more positions remain to be appointed. To the latter were appointed William J. Bonsanko, the new Executive for Agency Services; Paul Wester, the first Chief Records Officer; Charles Piercy, the new Executive for Business Support Services; and Raymond Mosley, Director of the *Federal Register*. More appointments to this team will also follow. ... On March 2, 2011 NARA released its 2010 Records Management Self-Assessment Report. The report found that 238 of the 251 Federal agencies who responded to the survey were at high to moderate risk of compromising the integrity, authenticity, and reliability of their records. The report identified problems with staffing, resources devoted to records management, training, and electronic records. The report will be used as a baseline for evaluating federal government records management practices in the future. ...

In March 2011 the NHPRC announced policy changes regarding five of its grant programs. The Publishing Historical Records applicants must now describe plans for free searchable web versions of their documentary editions; in addition, the Publication Subvention and Historical Editing Fellowships have been eliminated. Basic and Detailed Processing grants will be combined into one renamed grant program. Finally, the Professional Development and Strategies and Tools grants are suspended for FY 2012 but the Archives Leadership Institute may be continued if funding is available.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NEWS: On December 28, 2010 twenty-five new films were named to the National Film Registry. They include the documentaries *The Preservation of Sign Language* (1913) and John Huston's *Let There Be Light* (1946); the films *Newark Athlete* (1891 – one of the first made in the U.S. at the Edison Laboratory), *The Front Page* (1931), *The Pink Panther* (1964), *The Exorcist* (1973), *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980), and *Malcolm X* (1992); and shorts such as George Lucas' *Electronic Labyrinth: THX 1138 4EB* and Luis Valdez's *I Am Joaquin* (1969) ... The Library acquired its largest musical gift to date – 20,000 historic master recordings from the Universal Music Group – on January 10, 2011. Many are long out-of-print or never released and include artists such as Louis Armstrong, Bing Crosby, Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Judy Garland, Guy Lombardo, and the Mills Brothers. The 5,000 linear feet date from the late 1920's to the late 1940's. ... On January 31, 2011 the Library announced that David M. Rubenstein, managing director of The Carlyle Group, had donated a rare Revolutionary War era map printed in 1784. The map by Abe Buell is the first to show the “Star and Stripes” and is the first map printed in North America. ... A new web exhibit from the Veterans History Project highlights the role of military chaplains. The exhibit, which was released on February 3, 2011, includes interviews with fifteen former military chaplains and covers the period from World War II to the present day. ... On February 8, 2011 the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC) announced the opening of the presentation “NUCMC and the Documentary Heritage of the Civil War.” This is the first part of a five year, five part program that will highlight Civil War collections. The first part focuses on the outbreak of the war and includes information on historical documents relating to the topic and links to the repositories holding the materials located across the country. ... The 2010 National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation (NDIPP) Report was issued by the Library on March 8, 2010. Its findings, which were quite extensive, can be found on the Program's website at www.digitalpreservation.gov. ... On March 9, 2011 the Library acquired a large collection of sports broadcast recordings made before 1972 from noted collector John Miley. The over 6,000 radio and television broadcasts

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span the period 1920 to 1972 and include all major sports and many of the greatest sports announcers of the 20th century.

ELECTRONIC RECORDS: On February 8, 2011 Vivek Kundra, the U.S. Chief Information Officer, released the federal cloud computing strategy which requires agencies to evaluate safe and secure cloud computing options before making new IT investments. It provides a decision framework and case studies to help agencies migrate towards cloud computing and identifies implementation resources. Shortly after the report was released National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) issued its draft guidelines on security and privacy in the “public cloud” and a draft definition of cloud computing.

DECLASSIFICATION AND FOIA: On February 7, 2011 the U.S. District Court in New York rendered a decision requiring the release of metadata upon the disclosure of electronically stored information. It found that, if requested, specific fields of federal metadata must accompany a federal FOIA request. ... The National Security Archive released its 2011 open government survey on March 14, 2011. It found that the Obama Administration is about halfway towards its 2009 promise of improving FOIA responsiveness among federal agencies, with 49 of 90 agencies having made concrete changes to their FOIA policies. The report did show a decline in the use of the exemption for pre-decisional or deliberative process information. The report also found that the most responsive agencies practiced proactive disclosure, publishing information online that previously had to be request through the FOIA process. ... On March 17, 2011 the Public Interest Declassification Board launched its transforming classification blog at <http://blogs.archives.gov/transforming> classification. Every other Wednesday for eight weeks the blog will post two to three white paper synopses describing its proposals to change the classification/declassification system. Members of the public are encouraged to respond to the white papers and to the comments of others on the blog. ... In March 2011 the Supreme Court rendered its decision in *FCC vs. AT&T* concerning personal privacy rights for corporations under FOIA. The Court found that corporations are not a “person” as defined by the Act and therefore do not have such rights.

OTHER NEWS: On February 1, 2011 the Broadcasting Board of Governor announced that an inventory of over 170,000 broadcast recordings and print materials was available in database form on request. The agency is responsible for the Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Radio Free Asia, and Radio Martin. A new release of the History of Medicine Finding Aids Consortium was announced by the National Library of Medicine on February 17, 2011. Six new content providers join the original six and the site now indexes over 1,600 finding aids.

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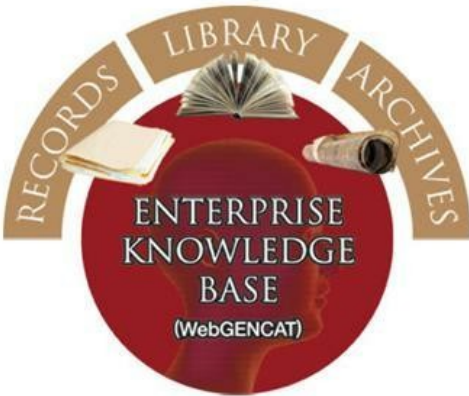
Submissions:

Deadlines for submissions for volume 43 (2011) are March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 17. Material should be submitted by email to Editor Meredith E. Torre at TorreM[at]CTSnet[dot]edu.

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The SGA Newsletter invites advertisements for archival products and services at the SGA Board and editor's discretion. Deadlines for submission are March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 17. For queries or further information, contact Material should be submitted by email to Editor Meredith E. Torre at TorreM[at]CTSnet[dot]edu.

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