

# Society of Georgia Archivists Magazine

Vol. 1, Winter 2019

[www.soga.org](http://www.soga.org)

DLG Subgrant Program News

CDC Archivists travel to  
Cameroon



Georgia Public Broadcasting  
hosts WGBH Digital  
Preservation Fellow

Welcome the SGA 2019 Board!

Reflections from Presidents past  
and present

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# Reflections from the Presidents: The Year in Review and the Year Ahead

## **A Look Back at 2018**

*By Sarah Tanner*

*Past President (Ex-Officio)/ 2019 Nominating Committee Chair*

As we move into the new year, we would like to take a minute to reflect on the changes, accomplishments, and growth of SGA in 2018. Not only did we make progress on the Strategic Timetable, but the 2018 SGA Board worked to ensure that the future of the organization continues and thrives through new leadership, broad educational initiatives, and updated communication strategies. I would like to thank the 2018 SGA Board for their leadership, time, and dedication to this ever-evolving and ever-changing organization. I'm grateful for all the hard work and commitment that is poured into SGA. It is the members' volunteer time, attendance at meetings, participation in the board and committees, and belief in our goals that makes SGA the thriving organization that it is. I'm happy and excited to see where SGA goes under the leadership of Shanee' and the 2019 Board.

## **Looking Ahead: SGA at 50**

*By Shanee' Yvette Murrain*

*2019 President*

Happy New Year SGA! The hope of a new year prompts considerable reflection. Introspection often begins in December and fuses January with our resolve for change. A change many of us anticipate each year around this time is the announcement of The Pantone Color. For twenty years, Pantone's Color of the Year has influenced product development and purchasing decisions in multiple industries. This year's selection and the rationale behind it is particularly encouraging as we learn from SGA's 2018 accomplishments and plot our course forward.

Leatrice Eiseman, Executive Director of The Pantone Color Institute, says of the 2019 Color of the Year, "Color is an equalizing lens through which we experience our natural and digital realities and this is particularly true for Living Coral. With consumers craving human interaction and social connection, the humanizing and heartening qualities displayed by the convivial PANTONE Living Coral hit a responsive chord."

Spot-on, right? SGA has been Living Coral for a while now! Our 2018 conference theme, Practical Pathways: Applied Tools and Creative Approaches invited attendees to share inclusive and diverse approaches (continued on next page)

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(cont. from page 1) for transforming the profession's practice, theory, and attitude that reflect a human-centered approach to archival work. A variety of sessions explored how outreach connects us to users and accessibility enable us to create the digital experiences they crave. Our keynote speaker Dr. Ricky Punzalan led us to think deeply about the social justice impact of archives and how records change both individual and communities' relationships to the world. The Nominating Committee, in partnership with the Mentoring Program Coordinator, organized a diverse panel of six SGA Fellows to close the meeting, emphasizing the impact of their leadership experiences on home institutions, SGA, and the profession. In more ways than one, SGA has demonstrated a commitment to ensuring archivists have the skills and knowledge needed to "hit a responsive chord" in cultural heritage organizations now and in the future.

For fifty years, Georgia archivists have combined a craving for human interaction and social connection with our social responsibility to preserve the past and the present for the future. In 2019, the Board will evaluate our progress on the 2016-2018 strategic plan. Many of these are imperatives still in progress and reflect three goals that direct so much of our efforts to promote the vital role and value of archives and archivists:

- 1) Promoting the preservation and use of the manuscript and archival resources held in repositories in the state through partnerships
- 2) Recruiting and mentoring new members
- 3) Gathering potential contacts for future leadership opportunities within the organization to ensure a diverse and demographically representative board

The continued cooperation and leadership of our Board and committee members are inspiring and evidence of a thriving organization. I look forward to working with you all as we explore innovative ways of providing wider audiences access to Georgia's resources by utilizing existing relationships with partners across the state and engaging new ones.

It is my honor to serve as SGA's president for 2019. My hope is that this 50th year of the Society of Georgia Archivists will be equally fulfilling, rewarding and inspiring for all SGA members as those that came before.

## Larry Gulley Scholarship awarded for 2018 SGA Annual Meeting

By Louanne Heintz

As the recipient of the Larry Gulley Scholarship, I would like to thank the scholarship committee and the SGA board for all of the benefits that came along with this award, such as the sweet suite with the Ms. Pacman arcade game. On a more practical note, I found the SGA meeting to be a welcoming event, with the presentations providing a wealth of knowledge to someone like me who is new to the archival profession as well as a great opportunity to meet some amazing colleagues.



When deciding between the different session options that were being offered, I purposely wanted to find a balance between the analog and digital records presentations. This strategy provided me with a broader spectrum of topics that ranged from managing manuscript collections to the availability of practical tools for preservation and accessibility. I was also pleasantly surprised to find that many were based on the concept of collaboration between various institutions. Many parts of this event stand out in my mind, but I especially enjoyed the Lightning Talks and the Fellows' discussion on leadership. These were both great ways to have multiple speakers get a chance to participate and share their accomplishments and expertise.

My curiosity about Larry Gulley himself inspired me to do some research. I found it fitting that a large part of his career was spent at the University of Georgia Libraries--the annual meeting not only happened to be held in Athens, but the Digital Library of Georgia also hosted a wonderful tour of their facility located on the UGA campus. This connection to the area definitely made my first SGA meeting a memorable experience.

# CDC Archivists Present at International Council on Archives Conference in Cameroon

By Laura Frizzell

Since July 2017, I have been the Museum Archivist at the David J. Sencer CDC Museum, working specifically for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) History Project. The overarching objective of this project is to document the efforts of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, a partnership that comprises the World Health Organization (WHO), Rotary International, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and that seeks to eradicate polio worldwide.

As the Archivist for the project, I liaise with staff from the GPEI partner archives and supplement gaps in the partnership's archival record by collecting and preserving additional GPEI artifacts and records. As the Oral Historian, my colleague Hana Crawford conducts oral history interviews targeting subjective, first-person accounts of polio eradication and the global partnership. As the project progresses, Hana and I look for opportunities to collaborate. By melding our individual parts of the project, we hope to produce a narrative around polio eradication that can be as robust as possible.

In November 2018, Hana and I had the incredible honor of traveling to Yaoundé, the capital of Cameroon, to deliver our first conference presentation at the International Council on Archives annual conference. We were humbled to present in a panel alongside Therese Marcelle Akamba (Associate Professor, École Supérieure des Sciences et Techniques de l'Information et de la Communication, Yaoundé), and Basma Makhoulf Shabou (University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland) kindly served as our session chair. Our presentation examined the objectives, approaches, and challenges associated with our project while incorporating the themes of the conference: governance, memory, and heritage. Because we were in Cameroon, I highlighted some of the artifacts I've been able to collect that represent eradication efforts in Africa, including pieces from the Kick Polio Out of Africa immunization campaign launched by Nelson Mandela in 1996. While our audience was largely French-speaking, we received some great questions and encouraging feedback.

All in all, attending the conference was undoubtedly a professional milestone, but it also felt uplifting personally. Meeting archivists from around the world and students currently pursuing degrees in Information Sciences locally in Yaoundé was invigorating and gave me a broader perspective that I needed, both as an archivist and a person. I was amazed by involvement of people outside of the archives profession, including Cameroonian officials (such as the Arts and Culture Minister, Narcisse Mouelle Kombi) giving addresses about the importance of archives and records management and locals who simply came to learn more. I'm always proud to be an archivist, but never more than I was that very special week during the conference.



From left to right: Co-panelist Therese Marcelle Akamba, Hana Crawford, session chair Basma Makhoulf Shabou, Laura Frizzell



Kick Polio Out of Africa artifacts that highlight eradication efforts in Benin, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Ghana, Liberia, and Uganda. Photo by Lauren Bishop, CDC Studio.

# Georgia Archivist Awarded WGBH Public Broadcasting Digital Preservation Fellowship

By Virginia Angles

I recently completed the first WGBH Public Broadcasting Digital Preservation Fellowship. This program is a partnership between The Library of Congress and WGBH (Boston's National Public Radio affiliate), which stewards the American Archives of Public Broadcasting (AAPB). They reached out to universities with library and archival programs across the country that were located near public broadcasting stations not yet represented in the AAPB. In Georgia, Clayton State University and Georgia Public Broadcasting were the participating institutions. Fellows were chosen from each university to work alongside mentors in their area to digitize at-risk collections at their public broadcasting stations. Fellows digitized their collections, created workflows, metadata and video and paper walk-throughs of the process, wrote blog posts and special collection descriptions, and uploaded the collections into the AAPB and The Library of Congress. The program allowed the Fellows to attend workshops, webinars, and conferences. This was an amazing program because it allowed new professionals in the field to gain hands-on training in every step of a digitization project without requiring prior knowledge.



I spoke about this project at the DLF Conference in Las Vegas this past October. The panel was titled "Evolving an A/V Education Infrastructure: The Public Broadcasting Preservation Fellowship." Four fellows, including myself, each chose a particular aspect of the fellowship to speak on. For my part, I opened the panel discussion with the importance of documentation in a digitization project of any scale. While almost everything I encountered during this fellowship was new to me, I found that the importance of documentation to be very eye-opening. I began the project with no idea what to do because there was no documentation to start from. I had to create it. As I sifted through my collection of DAT Tapes from GPB I had many questions. Many tapes had confusing titles and I was unsure how the different program titles connected. Was each title a separate show? Was each show a spin-off of the other? As I found people who knew how to answer my questions, I wrote everything down, even the extra information I didn't need right then. I knew later on someone might need to know these things. Without documentation, archival collections have no context, people ask the same questions, and they waste time, money, and energy trying to solve the same puzzles.

While documentation may not always be something we think about, it can help us in so many ways. Documentation can create continuity through staff changes, during long projects, and can give you one more deliverable at the end of a project to show how much really went into a project. Having recently started a position in a corporate setting I have taken what I learned from this program and applied it to my new workplace and have been advocating to my coworkers.

**"Without documentation, archival collections have no context, people ask the same questions, and they waste time, money, and energy trying to solve the same puzzles."**



# Member Spotlight

## Bridget Jeffs



*Bridget has a BA in English from Elon University in North Carolina as well as an MS in LIS with a concentration in Archives from Simmons University in Boston. Currently she works at ICP, a digital asset management and marketing technology agency in Atlanta.*

### Q & A

#### ***What attracted you to the archives profession?***

I have always had a passion for research and solving puzzles. When I was looking for a career that would combine those interests with my academic background in history and literature, a friend suggested archives and it seemed like a great fit! I love that I can be a part of the research process without being an academic.

#### ***What's your favorite part about your job?***

In my current position, I love that I can see the immediate impact of the work that I am doing and how beneficial it is to the company. In general, my favorite part of being an archivist is when I can put my "detective" hat on and solve a difficult reference request or find an elusive item.

#### ***What's the most interesting piece that you've come across?***

In my first internship during graduate school, I was working on the papers of the first president of Boston University. During the mid-19th century he had been a minister in Germany. In his collection was his passport from this time which looked on the outside like a modern passport but included a newspaper-size fold out that included his physical description and a sketch of his face.

#### ***What are your hobbies?***

I love comedy, from watching it on TV to going to comedy shows and even sometimes performing improv.

#### ***What's your advice for new members entering the profession?***

My biggest piece of advice for new archivists is to take advantage of experiences in all areas of the library, archives, and museums fields. Our professions are a lot more alike than they are different and we can learn so much from each other.

# WASHINGTON

James Edward Cross

# BEAT

**NATIONAL ARCHIVES BUDGET:** On March 23, 2018 the FY2018 budget was passed with the National Archives receiving \$384.9 million, a \$4.3 million increase over FY2017 and a \$20.6 million increase over President Trump's proposed \$364.3 million. NHPRC received level funding of \$6 million; the President had proposed eliminating the agency. **The budget for FY2019** has not been passed and NARA and the NHPRC were funded at FY2018 levels by continuing resolutions passed on September 28 and December 7, 2018. This funding ended on December 21, 2018 and the Archives has suspended operations during the federal government shutdown.

**LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NEWS:** The Library made a number of its collections available online to make progress on fulfilling a goal in its new strategic plan to expand access to its collections. The collections released in 2018 were the papers of President James Buchanan and his niece Harriet Lane Johnston, who served as official "Hostess"/First Lady (February 21st, 1,600 items); over 225 years of Supreme Court decisions in more than 35,000 cases from United State Reports as page images in a searchable format (March 13th); the papers of suffragists Susan B. Anthony (500 items) and Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1,000 items) that document their collaboration (March 27th); the Japanese Censorship Collection of more than 1,000 marked-up copies of publications from the 1920's and 1930's documenting the censorship processes of the Home Ministry (April 16th); the papers of Benjamin Franklin (8,000 items, April 17th); the papers of Joseph Holt (20,000 items) who presided over the trial of the Lincoln assassination conspirators (April 25th); the papers of President Woodrow Wilson (620,000 images, May 15th); the writings and personal records of landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted (24,000 items, July 26th); and the papers of President Theodore Roosevelt (461,000 images, October 17th). **The Veterans History Project** released a number of website features during 2018 which documented the Battle of Guadalcanal (February 5th); the desegregation of the armed forces in 1948 (May 10th); the service of veterans in non-combatant roles during the Cold War (September 13th); and amateur photography during the Vietnam War (November 13th). The Veterans History Project updated its collection policy on May 8, 2018 to expand its scope to include Gold Star Family members, who would be allowed to contribute their own audio- or video-recorded interviews to enrich their veteran's story. **On March 21, 2018** the National Recording Registry reached 500 titles as it added 25 recordings including "(We're Gonna) Rock Around the Clock" by Bill Haley and His Comets (1954), "The Sound of Music" soundtrack (1965), "The Gambler" by Kenny Rogers (1978), Run DMC's album "Raising Hell" (1986), and the album "Yo-Yo Ma Premieres: Concertos for Violoncello and Orchestra" (1996). **On October 24, 2018** the Library of Congress launched [crowd.loc.gov](https://crowd.loc.gov), a crowdsourcing program that connects the Library with virtual volunteers to transcribe text in digitized images from the Library's historic collections. **The Library announced** on November 29, 2018 that it had acquired original manuscripts documenting the work of composer, arranger and pianist Billy Strayhorn, including 3,000 music manuscripts in Strayhorn's own handwriting. Strayhorn was the source of much of the sound of the Duke Ellington Orchestra and wrote its signature tune, "Take the 'A' Train." **The National Film Registry** celebrated its 30th anniversary on December 12, 2018 with the selection of 25 films including Alfred Hitchcock's "Rebecca" (1940); the animated classic "Cinderella" (1950); "My Fair Lady" (1964); "Hearts and Minds" (1974); Broadcast News (1987); "Jurassic Park" (1993); and "Brokeback Mountain" (2005).

**COPYRIGHT:** On October 19, 2018 the Copyright Office expanded the circumvention exemptions to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act thus making it easier from archives, libraries, and museum to preserve video games. These exemptions can be found at <https://s3.amazonaws.com/public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2018-23241.pdf>.

**DECLASSIFICATION AND FOIA:** On March 8, 2018 the Department of Justice launched a new FOIA portal that allows users to submit FOIA requests to any of the 116 agencies covered by the law on a single, cloud-based site. The portal can be found at <https://www.foia.gov/>. **The 2016-2018 iteration** of the Freedom of Information Act Advisory Committee made a series of recommendations to the Archivist of the United States to improve the administration of FOIA on April 30, 2018. These recommendations included improving proactive disclosure, balancing such disclosure with accessibility obligations, improving FOIA searches, and making more efficient use of agency resources in the areas of staffing, career incentives, workflow, accountability, and technology. The full report can be found at <https://causeofaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/2018-FOIA-Advisory-Committee-Report.pdf>. **On July 12, 2018** the Information Security Oversight Office released its (*continued on next page*)

(cont. from page 6) FY2017 annual report. It calls for fuller implementation of the Controlled Unclassified Information program and provides recommendations to aid in modernizing the security classification system by adopting strategies that increase the precision and decrease the permissiveness of security classification decisions, improving the efficiency and effectiveness of declassification programs, and the use of modern technology in security classification programs across the Government. The full report can be found at <https://www.archives.gov/files/isoo/reports/2017-annual-report.pdf>.

**LEGISLATION: The Electronic Message Preservation Act** passed the U.S. House of Representatives on July 17, 2018. It would empower the Archivist of the United States to issue rules requiring federal agencies to capture and preserve digitally created records and require those records to be "readily accessible" via electronic searches. Agencies would also be required to submit timelines to the National Archives to ensure the rules' timely implementation. The bill is currently in the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

**OTHER NEWS: On July 24, 2018** NASA announced that, in collaboration with the University of Texas at Dallas (UT-Dallas), it had digitized 19,000 hours of tape data representing audio communications between the Apollo 11 astronauts, mission control and backroom support staff and was making it available on the Internet Archive (<https://go.nasa.gov/2yFz8zN>). Excerpts can also be found at the Explore Apollo site (<https://app.exploreapollo.org/>) created by UT-Dallas. Audio communications for Gemini 8, Apollo 1, and most of Apollo 13 have also been digitized and are waiting to be cleared for release. **The Smithsonian Museum** announced on October 25, 2018 that the personal papers of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student who was murdered in October 1998, had been donated to the National Museum of American History by his parents, Judy and Dennis Shepard. The material includes papers, notebooks, photographs, and objects relating to Shepard's life from elementary school to college and condolence cards and correspondence received by his parents after his death.



## Join the SGA Mentoring Program!

Happy New Year, SGA members! Did you know that January is National Mentoring Month? Start your year off right by participating in the SGA Mentoring Program as a mentor or a mentee. The SGA Mentoring Program is designed to contribute to the success of SGA members by encouraging individual growth, creating a sense of community within the profession, promoting thoughtful and meaningful engagement with issues, and helping participants develop competencies that strengthen the position of individuals, organizations, and programs.

Our program facilitates twelve-month long mentor/mentee relationships that are selected to fit your needs. All mentor and mentee requests are selected on a rolling basis. If you are interested, please contact JoyEllen Williams, SGA Mentoring Program Coordinator, and Dr. Tamara Livingston, SGA Assistant Mentoring Program Coordinator, at [sgamentoring@soga.org](mailto:sgamentoring@soga.org) or [jfree110@kennesaw.edu](mailto:jfree110@kennesaw.edu) for more information.



# Digital Library of Georgia News

Check out the latest newsletter from the DLG: <https://goo.gl/FsQWRn>

The Digital Library of Georgia (DLG) has developed a service subgranting program to support historic digitization projects from non-profit Georgia cultural heritage institutions. Now in its third year, the subgranting program has awarded sixteen institutions service subgrants of up to \$7500 for collection imaging and description. The program was presented the 2018 Award for Excellence in Archival Program Development by a State Institution by the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council (GHRAC).

Applications for this year will be accepted until April 12, 2019. Applicant organizations must be open to the public, and their collections must be available for public research either by appointment or through regular hours. Project metadata will be included in the DLG portal and the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). Projects may include the reformatting of textual materials (not including newspapers), graphic materials, or audio-visual materials. Applicants should have materials prepared for a project start date of July 1, 2019. More information including forms and important dates can be found at <http://bit.ly/2HjtGHs>.

The ten institutions awarded subgrants in 2018 were:

**Athens-Clarke County Library Heritage Room (Athens, Ga.):** [Digitization of 8 bound ledgers](#) dating from 1902 to 1907, the earliest section of their City of Athens Police/Mayor's Court Records, which reflect the cultural, political, social, geographic, and economic diversity of the Athens community and interaction with law enforcement and justice system.

**Augusta-Richmond County Public Library System (Augusta, Ga.):** [Digitization of oral history interviews](#) gathered in 2011 and 2012 by members of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of Augusta (CCBA), consisting of stories and personal family histories of members of Augusta's Chinese-American community.

**Bartow History Center (Cartersville, Ga.):** Digitization of a portion of a collection of county documents that include topics such as: guardianship (1850-1929), indentures (1860-1929), lunacy (1866-1929), pauperism (1866-1879), land grants/deeds (1866-1929), and other records. The records were created by court officials to document legal proceedings and transactions.

**Booker T. Washington High School (Atlanta, Ga.):** Digitization of Booker T. Washington High School annuals dating from 1931 to 1968 that document the evolution of African American secondary education, and feature the attendees of the first public high school for African Americans in the state of Georgia. Some notable alumni from the school include Martin Luther King, Jr., Lena Horne, Nipsey Russell, and Louis Wade Sullivan.

**Coastal Heritage Society (Savannah, Ga.):** [Digitization and delivery of a Civil War period ledger](#) spanning the years 1860 to 1864 that documents work conducted at the Carpentry Shop, within the Savannah Shops complex of the Central Rail Road and Banking Company of Georgia. Sections of the ledger record the tasks of specific workers, including employees, laborers, and African American workers. The Carpentry Shop ledger is a snapshot in time at one of the busiest industrial railroad complexes in the South just prior to and during the American Civil War.

**Fulton County Schools Archives (Hapeville, Ga.):** Digitization of Superintendent's Annual Reports dating from 1929 to 1977, which contain demographic information pertaining to the growth of the school system located in and around Atlanta. The oldest portion of this collection provides evidence of a largely rural and segregated district during the Great Depression, while the latter portion is a culmination of the movement to integrate the schools after the Brown v. Board of Education decision of 1954, a process that lasted seventeen years.

**Georgia State University (Atlanta, Ga.):** Digitization of tapes belonging to the LGBT Institute's Mike Maloney Collection of Out TV Atlanta Video Recordings including raw footage created in the process of making the show. *(continued on next page)*

(cont. from page 8) Out TV Atlanta ran from 1999-2001 and was a half-hour weekly news and entertainment show focused on LGBTQ life that aired in Atlanta and Savannah. Events covered include Governor Roy Barnes' address to the Atlanta Executive Network, a gay professional organization (the first in the state), the first gay pride parade in Savannah, political events, art exhibitions and performances, and much more.

**Oconee Regional Library System (Dublin, Ga.):** [Digitization of monthly teacher reports](#) from African American rural and city schools operating from 1930 to 1939 in Laurens County, Georgia. These monthly reports were created by individual teachers to be submitted to the Laurens County Superintendent. The reports list student names, age, grade and attendance for the month. Many of these records also show teacher salaries, addresses, and other information.

**Thomasville History Center (Thomasville, Ga.):** Digitization of the correspondence and diaries of Hazel Beamer Cutler, a Broadway entertainer, and her family friend Candace Wheeler, founder of the American decorative arts movement, both of whom lived in southwest Georgia.

**University of West Georgia Special Collections (Carrollton, Ga.):** Digitization of publications from the Carroll County Genealogical Society that reflect the settlers of Carroll County in west Georgia after the Indian Springs Treaty of 1824, and inventories of burial sites for both whites and African Americans throughout the county.

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