



# The Tennessee Archivist

Fall 2007

Newsletter of the Society of Tennessee Archivists

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# The STA Annual Meeting

*Celebrating Success!*  
*Archives, Advocacy & Anniversaries*

**November 7-9, 2007**

**Natchez Trace State Park**



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**Join us!**

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## Dr. David B. Gracy, II – Keynote Speaker at STA Annual Meeting



One of the country's most accomplished and well known archivists, Dr. David B. Gracy, II has served the archival profession in America in leadership, teaching, administration, and editorial capacities for more than 50 years. A past president of both the Society of American Archivists and

the Academy of Certified Archivists, Gracy is the Governor Bill Daniel Professor of Archival Enterprise at the University of Texas School of Information and Editor of *Libraries & the Cultural Record*. He is a former Director of the Texas State Archives and author of several books, including *Archives and Manuscripts: Arrangement and Description*. He holds a Ph.D. in History from Texas Tech University, and an M.A. and B.A. in History from the University of Texas at Austin.

### 2007 STA Nominating Committee

STA now has a nominating committee, to help identify and secure qualified candidates for offices within the Society. They are:

**Carol Roberts**, (Chair) TSLA,  
Carol.Roberts@state.tn.us

**Norma Myers**, Archives of the Appalachia, ETSU,  
myersn@etsu.edu

**John Dougan**, Shelby County Archives,  
jdougan@co.shelby.tn.us

At present there will be two openings for election: Vice-president, and Treasurer. Another position, Webmaster, is also open, but is an appointed position. Anyone interested in these positions, or in nominating anyone for these positions, please contact any of the Nominating Committee members.

## News in Tennessee Archives

### Hickman County Opens Archive

On Saturday, December 1, the newly-formed Hickman County Archive will hold an open house from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will serve to introduce the public to the Archive and to celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of Hickman County. Birthday cake will be served in the lobby. Exhibits of county artifacts and photographs will be on temporary display in the lobby.

Initially, only bound volumes will be available for public review. Efforts to clean, organize, and index the loose records will be ongoing and volunteers will be appreciated. During this first year of operation, the Archive will be open only on Thursdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Archive is on the first floor of the County Courthouse on Centerville's Public Square. For more information, or to confirm office hours, contact Mrs. Austin Bullock, archivist, at (931) 729-6478.

### Member News

Doris Martinson, manager of the Knox County Archives, recently received a letter from the Academy of Certified Archivists that she had met the requirements of certification and maintained the title of certified archivist. Since 1989, she has met the maintenance requirements for certification. In 2001, she became a Charter Member of the Academy of Certified Archivists. Congratulations Doris!

### New SAA Student Chapter at East Tennessee State University

On May 31, 2007 the Society of American Archivists Student Chapter (SAASC) at East Tennessee State University in Johnson City was approved by the SAA Council as the 27<sup>th</sup> SAA student chapter. Student chapters are graduate student-level and require five voting members to be SAA members to maintain status as a student chapter. Julia Cowart is president of the new chapter, and Dr. Marie Tedesco serves as faculty advisor.

The eight founding chapter members are graduate students pursuing the Concentration in Archival Studies within the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS) program. The MALS program offers students a cross-disciplinary program of study consistent with recommendations of the Society of American Archivists. Students take core courses in both liberal studies and archival studies, with electives coming from library science, management, and a subject field. A practicum at a local repository is an elective option. An 18-hour Graduate Certificate in Archival Studies is also offered entirely online.

Two chapter members will be attending the SAA Annual Meeting in Chicago along with Dr. Tedesco. Plans for the fall semester include a career workshop, a field trip to a local repository, participation in Tennessee Archives Week, as well as attending the Society of Tennessee Archivists Annual Meeting.

For more information, please contact Dr. Marie Tedesco, Director, Master of Arts in Liberal Studies, (423) 439-5792 or [tedescom@etsu.edu](mailto:tedescom@etsu.edu).

## STA President's Page

By Taffey Hall, President of STA

This year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Society of Tennessee Archivists. It is a milestone, a celebration, and a reason to reflect on the vital role that we as archivists play in preserving and promoting the history of our great State of Tennessee.

History is important. Historian Gerder Lerner expresses her sentiments regarding the significance of history in *Why History Matters: Life and Thought*:

*We live our lives; we tell our stories. The dead continue to live by way of the resurrection we give them in telling their stories. The past becomes part of our present and thereby part of our future. We act individually and collectively in a process over time which builds the human enterprise and tries to give it meaning. Being human means thinking and feeling; it means reflecting on the past and visioning into the future. We experience; we give voice to that experience; others reflect on it and give it new form. That new form, in its turn, influences and shapes the way next generations experience their lives. That is why history matters.*

Since 1973, archivists from across the state have held organized meetings once, and sometimes twice, per year to discuss areas of common concern in collecting, preserving, and promoting records and manuscripts in Tennessee. Early gatherings prior to the formal creation of the Society of Tennessee Archivists were held at the Tennessee State Library and Archives, Cossitt-Goodwyn Library, Vanderbilt University, Country Music Foundation, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Memphis-Shelby County Public Library, and Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library. In 1977, individuals attending these archives meetings established themselves as an official group, Tennessee Archivists.

Tennessee Archivists met bi-annually and rotated meeting locations between East, Middle, and West Tennessee. At the November 1996 annual meeting, Tennessee Archivists voted to have one annual meeting held in the Autumn of each year. The next year, the organization changed its name to the Society of Tennessee Archivists. While a primary focus of the Society has been its annual meetings which provide educational workshops and membership networking opportunities, STA has also taken the lead in offering pre-conference workshops, awards recognition, and Tennessee Archives Week activities.

Past pre-conference workshops have included photograph preservation, loose records, introduction to records management, database design and management, grant writing, and basic document preservation. Last year, the So-

ciety co-sponsored a pre-conference workshop with the Society of American Archivists on digital libraries and digital archives. We are pleased to provide members of STA with two options for pre-conference workshops this year – one co-sponsored with the American Association for State and Local History on exhibit preparation and design, and a second on behalf of the Volunteer Voices digitization project aimed at getting more institutions involved in the statewide Volunteer Voices program. The annual awards banquet has long been a second favored feature of STA meetings. Through the John H. Thweatt Memorial Awards, the Society recognizes individuals in the State who have made significant contributions to the advancement of archives and archival issues in Tennessee. The Mary C. Barnes Archives Scholarship (created in honor of a former TSLA archivist), is aimed at helping a student or volunteer in an archive with a budget less than \$8,000 attend the annual meeting. Last year, the Society introduced a Student Scholarship program, which covers registration costs and hotel expenses and provides a \$100 stipend to two interested students to attend the annual STA meeting.

Tennessee Archives Week is our time to shine! The idea for Archives Week began in New York State in 1988. In 2000, the STA membership voted to adopt a "Blueprint for a Tennessee Archives Week," which outlined suggestions and recommendations for conducting Archives Week activities in Tennessee. Past TAW events have included Family Heritage Days, receptions in archival repositories, and archives stories highlighted in local newspapers. In an official proclamation, Governor Phil Bredesen has declared the week of November 4-10, 2007, as Tennessee Archives Week. A poster commemorating the event will be available soon. At 30, STA has matured into a thriving archival organization committed to providing opportunities for educational advancement and promotion of the archival record in the State of Tennessee. Yet, there is more work to be done. We must continue reaching out to students and encourage and mentor those with an interest in history and archives. We must continue offering workshops and sessions targeted to both beginning and advanced archivists within our State. And we must build upon the foundation of Tennessee Archives Week as our primary outreach tool for promoting our profession. History matters. Archives matters. We matter.



# Celebrate Success!

## Archives, Advocacy, & Anniversaries



### Program

**Society of Tennessee Archivists**

**November 7 – 9, 2007**

**Natchez Trace State Park**

**Wildersville, TN**

**Wednesday, November 7**

**Pre-Conference Events**

10:00 am	<b>STA Officers Meeting</b>	Breakout Room
11:00 am	<b>Early Arrival Lunch (Optional)</b> *Pay for your own	Dining Room
12:00 pm	<b>Pre-Conference Workshop A</b> <i>Volunteer Voices: How to Involve Your Archive in Tennessee's Digital Collection</i>	Pin Oak A Tiffani R. Conner
**OR**		
12:00 pm	<b>Pre-Conference Workshop B</b> <i>Introduction to Exhibits</i> *Co-sponsored by the American Association for State & Local History	Pin Oak B Bethany Hawkins
5:00 pm	<b>Early Arrival Dinner (Optional)</b> *Pay for your own	Dining Room

7:00 pm      **Opening Plenary Session**  
*Looking Back: STA at Thirty*  
 \*Long time members of the Society  
 share memories of STA's early days.

Natchez Room  
 Taffey Hall

8:00 pm      **Refreshment Break**  
 \*Sponsored by Central Business Group

Lobby

## Thursday, November 8

### Morning Events & Sessions

8:00 am      **Registration for Annual Meeting (Pick up Packets.)**

Lobby

9:00 am      **Session 1**  
*Advocating Archives: If We  
 Don't Do It, Who Will?*

Pin Oak A  
 Moderator: Jay Richiuso  
 Jackie Glenn  
 Stacy Kilgore  
 Monty Wannamaker

10:00 am      **Refreshment Break & Recognition of  
 New Members & 1<sup>st</sup>-time Attendees**  
 \*Sponsored by the Center for Popular Music,  
 Middle Tennessee State University

Lobby  
 Lucinda Cockrell

10:45 am      **Session 2**  
*Want to Be an Archivist? Tips for  
 Job Hunting & Career Development*

Pin Oak A  
 John Lodl  
 Additional Presenters TBD

**\*\*OR\*\***

**Session 3**  
*To Have & To Hold: Effective Acquisi-  
 tions & Collection Development Policies*

Pin Oak B  
 Moderator: Theresa Williams  
 Steven Cox  
 Erin Lawrimore

11:45 am      Lunch – on your own

### Afternoon Sessions

1:15 pm      **Session 4**  
*Space, the Final Frontier: Addressing  
 Records Management & Storage Issues*

Pin Oak A  
 Al Stewart  
 Bob Duncan

2:15 pm      **Refreshment Break**  
 \*Sponsored by Richards and  
 Richards Records Management

Lobby

**Afternoon Sessions (continued)**

3:00 pm	<b>Session 5</b> <i>The High Cost of History: Manuscript Dealers, eBay, &amp; the Antiques Road Show</i>	Pin Oak A Moderator: David R. Sowell George Webb Wayne C. Moore
		**OR**
	<b>Session 6</b> <i>How the West Was Won: Opportunities for Research in West Tennessee</i>	Pin Oak B Moderator: Patricia LaPointe Presenters TBD

**Evening Events**

6:00 pm	<b>Meet &amp; Greet</b> Musical Entertainment	Lobby McCann Clan String Band
7:00 pm	<b>Banquet</b> Keynote Address Awards Presentations	Natchez Room David B. Gracy II

**Friday, October 27****Morning Events & Sessions**

8:00 am	<b>Breakfast, Society Business Session, &amp; Door Prizes</b>	Dining Room Taffey Hall
9:00 am	<b>Session 7</b> <i>Archival History in the Modern World</i>	Pin Oak A David B. Gracy, II.
10:15 am	<b>Section Roundtable Discussions</b> <b>Roundtable A</b> <i>County &amp; Local Government Records</i>	Dining Room Chairs: TBD
		**OR**
	<b>Roundtable B</b> <i>Manuscript Collections</i>	Pin Oak B Chair: Karen Elmore
		**OR**
	<b>Roundtable C</b> <i>Religious Collections</i>	Pin Oak A Chair: Susan Gore
		**OR**
	<b>Roundtable D</b> <i>University Collections</i>	Natchez Room Chair: Steve Baker
11:00 am	<b>Adjournment</b>	Taffey Hall
11:15 am	<b>2007-2008 Officers Meeting</b>	Breakout Room



Celebrating Success! Archives, Advocacy, & Anniversaries

Registration Form

Annual Meeting
Society of Tennessee Archivists
November 7-9, 2007
Natchez Trace State Park
Wildersville, TN

Please print this form and mail to Jami Awalt / STA Treasurer / Tennessee State Library & Archives / 403 7th Avenue North / Nashville, TN 37243 by October 31, 2007. Make checks payable to Society of Tennessee Archivists.

SECTION I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name

Position

Position

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Fax

Email

**SECTION 2. REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

\_\_\_\_\_ Pre-Conference Workshop A. Wednesday, November 7, 12:00-4:00 pm  
Volunteer Voices: How to Involve Your Archive in Tennessee's Digital Collection  
There is no cost for this workshop.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pre-Conference Workshop B. Wednesday, November 7, 12:00-4:00 pm  
Introduction to Exhibit Preparation  
\*Co-sponsored by AASLH  
\$15.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Annual Meeting Registration Fees  
\$35.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Thursday Evening Banquet  
Keynote Speaker: Dr. David B. Gracy, II  
\$15.00

\_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED

**SECTION 3. ACCOMODATIONS**

Individuals should make room reservations at the Natchez Trace State Park by October 15, 2007. State that you are attending the Society of Tennessee Archivists annual meeting, or group no. 1957. The rate is \$64.00 per night, plus tax. Contact information for Natchez Trace State Park is 1-800-250-8616.

**SECTION 4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Sessions Include: Archival Advocacy, Job Hunting & Career Development, Space & Records Management, Promoting Archives, Collection Development, and the High Cost of History: Manuscript Dealers, eBay, & the Antiques Road Show. PLUS...

Section Roundtables & a special look back at STA at 30! Mark your calendars today!



## MTSU Students Receive SAA Awards

By Lucinda Cockrell, MTSU, and Mary Jo Pugh, Editor, *American Archivist*

**ELIZABETH SNOWDEN**, a graduate student in Public History Archival Management and Administration at Middle Tennessee State University won the 2007 Theodore Calvin Pease Award for her paper "Our Archives, Our Selves: Documentation Strategy and the Re-Appraisal of Professional Identity."



*Elizabeth Snowden (center) receiving award. To her right is Elizabeth Dow and to her left is Mary Jo Pugh.*

Established in 1987, the award is named for the first editor of SAA's journal, *American Archivist*, and recognizes superior writing achievement by a student enrolled in an archival administration program. Ms. Snowden received the award, along with a certificate and cash prize at the Society of American Archivist annual meeting in Chicago on August 31. The paper, written in the Fall of 2006 will also be published in the forthcoming publication of the *American Archivist*.

Ms. Snowden participated in the Southeast Archives Education Consortium, a consortium of five graduate programs that share classes in archives using Video Conferencing technology. At MTSU she was enrolled in the Seminar in Archival Management but the course was actually taught at Auburn University as the Seminar in the History of Records and Archives. Her instructor, Dr. Joseph M. Turrini, mentored Ms. Snowden during the conception and writing of the paper, and Dr. Ellen Garrison was faculty of record.

In her nomination form, Professor Garrison wrote "This innovative paper makes connections between two important movements in American archival practice, the documentation strategy and activist archivists, within the context of broad social and cultural trends of the period. The article also puts current interest pertaining to archives, social memory, and postmodernism ... in the context of earlier archival developments. In doing so, the author reflects major trends in the study of archival appraisal .... the

writer's scholarship reflects both an in-depth survey of the literature of documentation strategy and a cultural historian's understanding of baby boomer ethos and values."

In her abstract Ms. Snowden writes, "The relatively recent realization that archivists are more often shapers of the past than neutral keepers of the past has its root in the intersection of appraisal theory and professional identity. This paper explores the relationship between the two through an analysis of the literature on archival documentation strategy. Though ultimately unworkable, documentation strategy caught archivists' attention because, as this paper argues, it represented a practical application of a larger identity shift within the profession."

**DOROTHY DAVIS**, a graduate student in Public History Archival Management and Administration at Middle Tennessee State University presented a poster at the Society of American Archivist annual meeting in Chicago. Ms. Davis' poster, "Strangers in the Archives: The Documentation of Nashville Germans" was one of 23 student posters chosen for presentation from entries across the nation. Student posters highlight the research activities of graduate students in archives and records management programs, as well as projects and activities of SAA student chapters. Ms. Davis' poster was an outgrowth of her thesis bearing the same title.



*Dorothy Davis with Joel Wurl, examining the poster.*



## **STA Member Spotlight Marie Byers, Lipscomb University**

For this issue of the Tennessee Archivist's Membership Spotlight, we'd like to spotlight Marie Byers, reference librarian and archivist at the Beaman Library at Lipscomb University in Nashville. Marie joined STA in 1999, the same year she became the archivist at Beaman Library. Previous to that she was a reference librarian at the library since 1979. At the Beaman Library she provides reference services; coordinate Library Instruction programs for the University students and also the Campus Schools grade 9-12; teaches 20-30 classes per semester; supervise all book repair and conservation; and manages Special Collections which includes the school Archives. Marie is an alumnus of Lipscomb University (graduating when it was called David Lipscomb College) where she earned a BA in English. She later received an MLS from George Peabody College. Her other work experience includes working as a high school librarian/teacher at Memphis Harding Academy for six years; working as a librarian at Franklin (TN) Middle School for two years; and working as a librarian at Goodpasture Christian High School for one year.

Marie also holds professional memberships in the American Library Association., the Tennessee Library Association., and Christian College Librarians.

When asked about the most enjoyable aspect of her current job, Marie writes: "Working with students and faculty to satisfy their information needs and learning new things as libraries are constantly changing; restoring books or documents to a useful/useable condition; no excuse needed to pick up a book and read." If she had not ended up as a librarian/archivist Marie goes on to say, "I have always gravitated to teaching."

Marie's favorite pastimes are reading, working in my yard, visiting her grandchildren, traveling both in the U.S. and abroad.

We asked Marie to comment on the archival profession today and she wrote: "Popular interest in genealogy has created an awareness of the historical record; technology has given us the means to make those records more accessible. We need to encourage young people who show an interest in the two areas to pursue the training and learn the skills to become the managers of the information for tomorrow's world. This must surely be the most exciting of all times when we can almost seamlessly access the most current and ancient documents."

Kudos to the good work that Marie does at Lipscomb University!

## **JOHN H. THWEATT ARCHIVAL ADVANCEMENT AWARD**

Nominations for recipients of this year's John H. Thweatt Archival Advancement Awards, a part of Tennessee Archives Week (November 4-10, 2007), are now being accepted. Nominations should be sent to the awards coordinator, Ashley Via-Rhodes, Archivist for the Tennessee State Library and Archives. Individuals, groups, and organizations that have made significant contributions to the advancement of archives and archival issues within Tennessee are eligible to be nominated. This year's awards will be presented at the Society of Tennessee Archivists Annual Meeting banquet, Thursday evening, November 8, at the Natchez Trace State Park, Wildersville, Tennessee. Please send recommendations, documentation, and other materials relevant to nominees by September 1, 2007, to Ashley Via-Rhodes; Tennessee State Library and Archives; 403 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37243. Phone: 615-253-3457; Fax: 615-532-5315. E-mail: Ashley.Via-Rhodes@state.tn.us.

**We're looking for pictures of STA members and past meetings for a special exhibit at this year's meeting commemorating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Society. Please send any photos you'd like included to a member of the Executive Committee by Friday, October 26.**



## Statewide Vital Records Indexes Now Available Online

By John Dougan, Shelby County Archives

The Shelby County Register of Deed's Office recently placed three statewide vital record indexes on their website <http://register.shelby.tn.us/>. These indexes are intended to aid researchers requesting death, divorce and marriage records for all of Tennessee's ninety-five counties. Death records are searchable from 1949 to 2005. Divorce and marriage records are searchable from 1980 to 2005.

The indexes will be useful not only to local archives, but also to county officials and genealogical libraries where computerized indexes to local death, divorce or marriage records do not exist. With the exact date obituaries can quickly be located. The ten year marriage search for the couple that got married in "the late 80s or early 90s, I think," and who actually married in 1983 or 1999, can now be located in a minute or two. The divorce date the customer has tried their best to forget and now has to have in an hour at the Social Security office can be found in the same length of time.

The site allows statewide searches by name and date with filtering by county, and in the case of death records, by sex and race. With the number of entries in each database and both researcher computer processor and internet connection speeds, some searches may take several seconds to load but the information is definitely worth the wait.

Once the correct entry has been located a "Request Form" link directs the researcher to the appropriate request forms (the Tennessee State Library and Archives for Deaths 1949-1956 and the Tennessee Department of Health Office of Vital Records for all other records). Customers can now place the state certificate number on their form saving state archivists and vital records clerks the time of retrieving the number from microfilmed indexes.

A comparison of the entries against known Shelby County deaths, marriages and divorces indicates that although the index is substantially complete, some entries are missing. The county of marriage, anecdotally at least, seems to indicate the county where the ceremony occurred in some instances rather than the county of issuance (ex. A couple received their license in Memphis but was married in Pigeon Forge. The index lists the "County" as Sevier County not Shelby County).

(Continued on page 13)

**Tom Leatherwood** Shelby County Register of Deeds

*"The only reason we are here is to serve you, the customer."*

**Property Records**      **GIS**      **Archives**

Search Type: **Name**      Search Type: **Address**      Search Type: **Death Records 1949-2005**

**Name Search**      **Address Search**      **Name Search**

Name Type: **Both**      Address:       County: **All Counties**

Index Type: **Both**      To optimize search, leave street direction and type off. ie., MAIN instead of N MAIN ST.      Sounds like       Last Name:

Last Name / Company:       **Search** **Clear**      First Name:

First Name:       **Search** **Clear**      Start Date:

Start Date:       **Point and Click Search**      End Date:

ie - 01/01/1954 for Jan 1, 1954           ie - 01/01/1949 for Jan 1, 1949

End Date:       Gender: **All**      ie - 12/31/2005 for Dec 31, 2005

ie - 01/01/1954 for Jan 1, 1954      Race: **All**      **Search** **Clear**

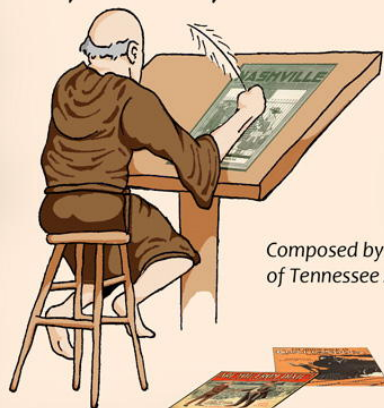
Instrument Type: **All Types**      **Available Information**

**Search** **Clear**      **Available Information**

Partial Indexes and Images from 1812 to present

# TENNESSEE ARCHIVES WEEK

CELEBRATING SUCCESS:  
ARCHIVES, ADVOCACY, AND ANNIVERSARIES



Composed by the Society  
of Tennessee Archivists

**NOVEMBER 4 - 10 2007**

Tennessee Archives Week is sponsored by the Society of Tennessee Archivists  
Images courtesy of the Center for Popular Music



## TENNESSEE ARCHIVES WEEK

It's time to start planning for this year's Tennessee Archives Week. This year's Tennessee Archives Week will begin Sunday, November 4, and run through Saturday, November 10. Presentation of the John H. Thweatt Archival Advancement Awards will again be presented at the Society of Tennessee Archivists (STA) annual meeting banquet the evening of November 8th.

Archives and archivists across the state are encouraged to participate in Tennessee Archives Week, as well as attend STA's annual meeting. Archives Week is an opportunity to let people know who we are and what we do. It is also the perfect time to host an event, exhibit, workshop, or program related to your archives and historical records in your archives.

*(For more about TAW, go to page 13)*

## SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE ARCHIVISTS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

In an effort to encourage student participation in the organization, the Society of Tennessee Archivists is pleased to announce the availability of two student scholarships to its annual meeting. The scholarships cover registration fees to attend annual meeting sessions, lodging expenses at the conference hotel (when travel from the student's home to the conference exceeds 50 miles), and a complimentary ticket to the Society's annual banquet. The scholarships also provide a stipend of \$100 to help cover costs of gas and food expenses. Recipients of the STA Student Scholarships will be recognized with a certificate at the organization's banquet.

### Eligibility:

The STA student scholarships are open to graduate and undergraduate students in archival and related programs, such as public history, history, museum studies, and library science in Tennessee colleges and universities.

### Process:

To apply, students should submit the following materials by **October 12:**

- Completed Scholarship Application
- Cover letter explaining why attending the annual STA meeting will benefit the student's current and future career goals.
- One letter of recommendation from a current or former instructor.

The STA Executive Committee will review all completed applications and notify recipients by mail of their awards. The Committee will also notify individuals who applied for scholarships but were not chosen as award recipients.

Interested students should submit a completed application packet by **October 12, 2007**, to:

Aimee B. James, C.A., Chair, Education Committee  
Society of Tennessee Archivists  
Manager, Special Collections Division  
Nashville Public Library  
615 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37219

(*Statewide Vital Records Index, continued from page 11*)

These records compliment the Shelby County records, exhibits and indexes already available on the Register's website. Indexes with images include: deeds 1820-present, births 1874-1906, deaths 1848-1956, marriages 1820-1910, and naturalizations 1856-1906. Indexes to Chancery Divorces 1945-1997 and Circuit Court Cases 1893-2000 were recently added to complement the more recent indexes on the court's websites. The site also hosts Shelby County's only publicly accessible GIS site, an exhibit on the Martin Luther King Assassination Investigation, and scanned images of the West Tennessee Historical Society Papers from 1947 to 2002.

Every effort was made to ensure that confidential information was not placed online. We hope you find this research tool helpful and we ask that any suggestions be emailed to [archives@shelbycountyttn.gov](mailto:archives@shelbycountyttn.gov).

The Archives next project is placing the Memphis City Directories from 1859-1924 online. The Archives, with assistance from the Memphis Bar Association Library, University of Memphis Special Collections, Elmwood Cemetery and the Woodruff-Fontaine House, are scanning and trying to piece together a complete as possible volume of each edition before placing them online. Once they are placed online, the hope is that other institutions can fill in any missing covers, pages or advertisements.

(*Tennessee Archives Week, from page 12*)

Additional information on Archives Week, and copies of the *Archives Week Action Guide*, which provides information on what Archives Week is, how to plan for it, and how to publicize it, are available by contacting:

Taffey Hall, Chair, Tennessee Archives Week Coordinating Committee 2007

Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

901 Commerce Street, #400; Nashville, TN 37203-3630

Phone: 615-244-0344; Fax: 615-782-4821; E-mail: [taffey@sbhla.org](mailto:taffey@sbhla.org)

### WHY NOT JOIN US?

The Society of Tennessee Archivists invite membership from all persons interested in Tennessee's archives and historical resources. Membership is on a calendar basis. STA currently holds one meeting each year which includes the annual business meeting. STA is a member of the regional association called the Southern Archivists Conference. Currently the four southern states of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee make up the conference. A SAC meeting is held every other year in conjunction with the other states and each state alternately host the meetings.

STA publishes a newsletter several times a year and invites contributions from members and non-members. Officers are elected at the annual meeting.

Full Member (\$20/year)  Institutional Member (\$20/year)

Associate Member (\$10/year)

Please make checks payable to: **SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE ARCHIVISTS**, and include membership information (name, address, institutional information, phone number, fax number, email address) and **mail** to:

JAMI AWALT, TREASURER, SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE ARCHIVISTS

Tennessee State Library & Archives  
Archival Technical Services  
403 Seventh Ave. North  
NASHVILLE TN 37243-0312