



TENNESSEE ARCHIVISTS

NO. 11 Summer '83

NARS

On March 23, Senators Thomas Eagleton (D-MO) and Charles Mathias (R-MD) introduced S.905, the National Archives and Records Administration Act, to establish the independence of the National Archives and Records Service (NARS) from the General Services Administration (GSA). Among the senators who signed on as co-sponsor on the day of the bill's introduction was Tennessee's Democratic Senator, Jim Sasser. In a recent letter to the Tennessee Archivists, Senator Sasser expressed his belief that the National Archives' responsibility of preserving the nation's documentary heritage can best be achieved independently from GSA.

GSA, Senator Sasser said, has relegated NARS to a "low-priority status" which is reflected in its "inadequate funding for basic archival functions;" the reluctance of GSA to comprehend and appreciate "the less tangible archival and cultural activities of NARS;" and the demonstrated "danger in placing archival decisions in the hands of political appointees who can override expert professional judgements."

Sasser, who believes that "no price tag can be placed on the intrinsic value of the preservation of our nation's historical records," is cosponsoring S.905 to strengthen "the Archives for the future."

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Tennessee Archivists' 1983 Fall Meeting will be held in late October or early November in Jackson, TN. The actual dates will be announced as soon as the arrangements are confirmed.

In order to better serve the needs of Tennessee's archivists, we are accepting abstracts of papers for presentation at the Fall meeting.

REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES

Papers will be selected solely on the basis of submitted abstracts. Only abstracts are required at this time.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is my first opportunity to greet you as President of Tennessee Archivists. Since assuming the duties of this office at our recent meeting in Red Boiling Springs, I have consulted with our executive committee and as a result of preliminary discussion, several goals have been set for the next two years. Among the objectives recommended for immediate attention are the following:

1. Expansion of our present membership through an active recruitment campaign;
2. Arrangement and scheduling of more attractive programs; and,
3. Introduction of a new newsletter format as a vehicle for more effective membership contact.

Our success in reaching these goals and those to be announced later is dependent on the participation of our entire membership. I hereby call for your active support so that together we can build a good organization into an even better one.

John H. Thweatt

NEW MEMBERS

The Tennessee Archivists extends a warm welcome to the following new members:

Dr. Ellen Garrison
Director, Archives of Appalachia
Johnson City, TN

Kenneth Fieth
Nashville, TN

Richard Belding
Public Records Div., KY Dept. for
Libraries & Archives, Frankfort, KY

Judy Hazelwood
Jackson, TN

Connie McKissack
Nashville, TN

Bill Sumners
Archivist, Dargan-Carver Library
Nashville, TN

SPRING MEETING

Tennessee Archivists Spring Meeting
Red Boiling Springs, Tennessee
May 19-20, 1983

The Tennessee Archivists Spring Meeting was held at the Donoho Hotel, Red Boiling Springs, TN, on May 19-20, 1983. President William J. MacArthur, Jr. (McClung Historical Collection, Knoxville) welcomed the group.

Vice-president John Thweatt (TSL&A) introduced Richard Belding (KY State Archives) who spoke on "Assessing the Needs Assessment Project: The Kentucky Experience." Belding mentioned that Tennessee is being considered for an assessment project.

The afternoon session continued with "Frugal Fixin's: Conservation on a Shoe-string Budget," presented by Patricia Morris (TSL&A) and Marice Wolfe (Vanderbilt Special Collections).

Jean Waggener (TSL&A) relayed regrets from Tennessee State Librarian Olivia Young, who could not be present at the meeting.

Following dinner at the Donoho Hotel, Dr. Calvin Dickinson (Tenn. Technological University) addressed the group. After supplying a brief history of Red Boiling Springs' past as a resort area, Dickinson spoke about Memphis State University's Tennessee County series publishing project. The project, which was started in 1978, is now under the management of a new editor and is operating under new policies. Much of the writing is being done through professors at Tennessee's universities and Dr. Dickinson is currently working on the history of Morgan County for the series.

The group adjourned, retreating to the porch for rocking chairs and conversation.

On Friday, May 20, the Tennessee Archivists reconvened and heard Mrs. Shirley Hoskins speak about her research on the Cherokee Indians which led to the publication of CWY YE Cherokee Blood.

The business meeting was called to order by William MacArthur. The reading of the minutes was dispensed with since they were published in the Summer 1982 newsletter.

Treasurer David McWhirter (Disciples of Christ, Nashville) reported a balance of \$577.53 as of January 1, 1983. The balance does not reflect the finances of the May 19-20 meeting.

The matter of the unprocessed checks from the 1979 Nashville workshop registrations was brought up, with McWhirter requesting

those who had attended the workshop to re-issue checks to him to cover the \$25.00 registration fee.

Membership dues may be paid at any time. Full membership is \$5.00; \$3.00 for associate status.

President MacArthur reported that he has written twice to the Governor's office regarding the appointment of an archivist to the Tennessee State Library and Archives Advisory Board. There was no response to either letter and it appears that an Advisory Board has never been appointed.

Sally Ripatti (McClung Historical Collection, Knoxville) reported that the Society of American Archivists is sponsoring a photograph workshop in Atlanta on June 15-17, 1983. The meetings will be held at the Georgia Department of Archives and History.

William MacArthur presented the following slate of officers for 1983-85. There were no nominations from the floor and the slate was unanimously elected. The 1983-85 officers are:

President . . .	John Thweatt (TSL&A), Nashville
Vice-president.	Mark Winter (TVA), Chattanooga
Secretary . . .	Sally Ripatti (McClung Historical Collection), Knoxville
Treasurer . . .	David McWhirter (Disciples of Christ), Nashville

There was a brief discussion about the Fall meeting to be held in West Tennessee. A committee will be appointed to make the arrangements.

John Thweatt thanked William MacArthur for serving as president from 1981-83, and thanks were returned to John Thweatt for his work in organizing the meeting at Red Boiling Springs.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Sally Ripatti, Secretary,
Tennessee Archivists.

DIRECTORY

The 1983 Membership Directory will be published in the next issue of the newsletter. If you haven't already paid your 1983 dues, send them, today, to David McWhirter, TA's treasurer.

OFFICERS

During the Spring meeting, the Tennessee Archivists elected their officers for the 1983-85 term. Although their names and faces are familiar to most of us, they may not be as well-known to the members who cannot regularly attend our meetings. In keeping with TA's commitment to upgrading the archival profession within Tennessee through the exchange of information and ideas, the officers' biographical sketches are presented to the membership.

President

A native Memphian now residing in Clarksville, John H. Thweatt is Senior Archivist in the Archives and Manuscripts Section of the Tennessee State Library and Archives. Prior to coming to the State Library and Archives in 1971, he held teaching positions in the History Department of Austin Peay State University in Clarksville; Hargrave Academy in Chatham, Virginia; Texas A & I College; and in the Todd County, Kentucky, Public School System.

TA's president holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in History from Baylor University, and spent one year in the American Studies Program at the University of Denver in Denver, Colorado. He is also active in the Society of American Archivists, the Southern Historical Association, the Tennessee Historical Society, and the Association of Records Managers and Administrators.

Vice - President

A records officer in the Records Administration Section of the Tennessee Valley Authority since September, 1980, Mark R. Winter holds a B.S. degree in History from Mankato State University in Mankato, Minnesota; and a M.A. in History, specializing in Archives and Records Management, from Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Prior to assuming his present position, Mark was the archivist for the Aurora Public School District in Aurora, Colorado. He has also been an oral history interviewer for local oral history projects, a historian for the U.S. Army, and currently is a resource person for a local history museum. A member of the Tennessee Archivists since 1980, Mark is also a member of the Society of American Archivists, the Oral History Association, the American Association for State and Local History, the National Council on Public History, and the Brown County (Minnesota) Historical Society.

Treasurer

David I. McWhirter is the Director of the Library and Archives for the Disciples of Christ Historical Society. He joined the staff of the Historical Society in October, 1976. Mr. McWhirter is responsible for supervising professional staff and the work of the library and archives comprising one of the significant research centers in American Protestantism. The Society extends its services to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the Christian Churches, and the Churches of Christ.

Prior to coming to the Society, Mr. McWhirter served on the library staff of the Christian Theological Seminary starting in 1962. He holds a B.S.L.S. from the State University of New York at Geneseo; a M.S.L.S. from Syracuse University; and a B.D. from the College of the Bible (now Lexington Theological Seminary) in Lexington, KY.

In addition to his duties as the Tennessee Archivists' treasurer, Mr. McWhirter is active in the American Theological Library Association, the Society of American Archivists, the Tennessee Theological Library Association, and the Belmont Hillsboro Neighbors, Inc.

Secretary

Sally Ripatti was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and moved to Sevierville, Tennessee, at the age of thirteen. She received her B.A. in History from Birmingham-Southern College in Alabama in 1975 and her M.S. in Library and Information Science from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1976. Ms. Ripatti attended the Georgia Department of Archives and History's 11th Archives Institute in 1977, and has completed the course work for a M.A. in History at UTK.

Sally joined the McClung Historical Collection, a department of the Knoxville-Knox County Public Library, in 1978. She is a member of the Society of American Archivists and has been a member of the Tennessee Archivists since 1978. Sally has been TA's secretary since 1981.

LOOKING AHEAD

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|-------------|---|
| Oct. 5 - 8 | Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN. |
| Nov. 9 - 12 | Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, Charleston, SC. |

Please submit your calendar items at least two months in advance of the event.

EXHIBITS

The Tennessee Valley Authority, as part of its 50th anniversary celebration, has two historic document exhibits available for loan to interested institutions and archives within the TVA service area.

The Historic Traveling Exhibit, "Independence Through Job Skills--A TVA Philosophy," traces the development of the job skills training program and the general adult education program which TVA began in 1933 in conjunction with its first construction project, Norris Dam. The exhibit features early photographs, maps, documents and original sketches.

The Unique TVA Documents Exhibit contains original documents, photographs, and artifacts. Included in the exhibit are a copy of the TVA Act signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and one of the pens with which he signed that legislation. The exhibit has special security requirements.

For more information, contact Ronald E. Brewer, Assistant TVA Archivist, Tennessee Valley Authority, 100 Lupton Building, Chattanooga, TN 37401, (615) 751-2520.

If you are not a member, become one. Tennessee Archivists needs your support.

NEWS WANTED

Have you: Released a new publication?

Received a grant or award?

Started or completed a project of interest to others in the state?

Got a problem and need help?

Received or donated records?

Changed jobs or hired new employees?

If you have, or if you have anything else of interest, please send your news items to:

Mark R. Winter
Tennessee Archivists
1447 Brenda Road
Chattanooga, TN 37415

Copy deadline for the Fall issue is September 10, 1983. News items may be edited.

ORAL HISTORY

TVA's 50th Anniversary Oral History Project is identifying and interviewing knowledgeable people about the formulation, implementation, and ramifications of legislative mandates and internal TVA policies and programs upon the agency and the natural and human environment. Specifically, this project concentrates on collecting information about the agency's power program, water control (including navigation and floodplain management), environmental policies and programs (including fertilizer research and development), community and regional development, and agency reorganizations. Former TVA employees and power distributors, as well as other people who were directly affected by the agency's programs, are being interviewed.

Fifty to seventy-five interviews are planned. The agency will release the transcripts and tapes for research through the TVA Technical Library in Knoxville as they are completed.

The Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library launched its oral history project in early 1982 to record the social, cultural, political, and educational history of the Chattanooga area. Included in the project is a special segment pertaining to Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, a military installation during both world wars. To date, twenty-two interviews have been transcribed, edited, indexed, and cataloged. The tapes and transcripts are available to the public in the Local History section.

COMPUTERS

The Society of American Archivists is interested in hearing from archivists who are using small computers to assist them in archival work. Specifically, information is sought on the brand and model of equipment, the ways in which it is being used, whether or not copies of the program(s) are available to others, and whether you might be interested in participating in a users' group. Reply to Deborah Risteen, Society of American Archivists, 330 S. Wells St., Suite 810, Chicago, IL 60606. [ISAA Newsletter, July 1983]

Your Tennessee Archivists' dues may be tax deductible. Check with your income tax specialist or accountant to be sure.

MANAGEMENT

Managing Archival Institutions, published periodically by the Society of American Archivists, made its debut in April, devoting the entire issue to performance. Specifically, the SAA staff discussed performance in the areas of appropriating resources, people decisions, innovation, and planning.

The second issue, which appeared in June, concentrated on productivity. While acknowledging that white collar productivity is difficult to measure, the issue does provide hints to measuring productivity and offers suggestions which, if carefully evaluated, could improve the productivity of your archives.

At six dollars per year, Managing Archival Institutions is a bargain. For further information about this periodical, contact the Society of American Archivists, 330 S. Wells, Suite 810, Chicago, IL 60606.

Address Changed?

Send your address changes to Mark Winter. Avoid missing an issue of the newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance
(Nov. 1, 1982) . . . \$600.87

Receipts

Dues	\$123.00	
'82 Fall Meeting	734.00	
'83 Spring "	652.25	
Total		1,509.25

Expenditures

'82 Fall Meeting	\$785.34	
'83 Spring "	630.40	
Newsletter	48.00	
Total		1,463.74

Ending Balance
(July 1, 1983) 646.38

NEW BOOK

Gardner, James B., and George Rollie Adams, eds. Ordinary People and Everyday Life: Perspectives on the New Social History. Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1983.

DONATION

The Local History section of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library recently received seventy boxes of Tennessee Electric Power Company records from TVA. These records date from 1901 to 1950 and include financial reports, correspondence, construction records, and railway division records.

INVITATION

Tennessee Archivists invites memberships from all persons interested in Tennessee's archives and historical resources. Membership is on a calendar-year basis. TA holds two meetings each year. The Spring meetings include the annual business meeting and is held in Middle Tennessee. The Fall meetings are alternately held in East and West Tennessee. TA publishes a periodic newsletter which invites contributions from members and nonmembers. Officers are elected at the Spring meeting of every odd-numbered year, e.g., 1983, 1985, 1987.

TENNESSEE ARCHIVISTS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Enclosed is my check for membership in the Tennessee Archivists as a:

☐ Full Member (\$5.00 per year)
☐ Associate Member (\$3.00 per year)
☐ Institutional Member (\$10.00 per year)

Renewal: Yes ☐ No ☐

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

(This is my ☐ home ☐ business address)

Please make checks payable to Tennessee Archivists and mail to:

David McWhirter
Disciples of Christ Historical Society
1101 19th Avenue South
Nashville, TN 37212

OFFICERS' ADDRESSES

CALL (from p.1)

President. John H. Thweatt
 Tenn. State Library &
 Archives
 403 Seventh Ave., N.
 Nashville, TN 37219

Vice-President . . . Mark R. Winter
 (and Editor) 1447 Brenda Road
 Chattanooga, TN 37415

Treasurer David I. McWhirter
 Disciples of Christ
 Historical Society
 1101 Nineteenth Ave., S.
 Nashville, TN 37212

Secretary Sally K. Ripatti
 McClung Collection
 Knoxville-Knox County
 Public Library
 500 West Church Ave.
 Knoxville, TN 37902

- Abstracts should be approximately 250 words, typed and double-spaced.
- Abstract title is to be identical to paper title.
- Abstract should be concise and representative of subject matter.
- Abstract should include the author's name, title, affiliation, and address.
- Abstract should be submitted for consideration by September 1, 1983, to:

John Thweatt
 Tennessee Archivists
 Tenn. State Library & Archives
 403 Seventh Avenue North
 Nashville, TN 37219

Papers selected shall be suitable for a 20 to 30 minute presentation. It is understood that for each paper accepted, at least one author will register for, and attend, the meeting to present the paper. Notice of acceptance will be mailed by September 15, 1983.

TENNESSEE ARCHIVISTS
 1447 BRENDA ROAD
 CHATTANOOGA, TN 37415



Marice Wolfe
 Vanderbilt Univ. Archives
 Nashville, TN 37203