



The Tennessee Archivist

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History in Oak Ridge

By Teresa Fortney, Oak Ridge Public Library

Residents and researchers are welcome to visit the Oak Ridge Room at Oak Ridge Public Library and learn the rich history of Oak Ridge and the Manhattan Project. This unique collection was established to gather, catalogue, and preserve the records and history of the area and provide assistance to the public in researching Oak Ridge history. Information and artifacts reveal what life was like in the 1940's when Oak Ridge was a brand new town built to government wartime specifications. Current information about our city government and issues important to citizens today are also included.

The Library maintains a collection of books that tell the story of Oak Ridge. *City Behind a Fence* by Charles W. Johnson and *The Oak Ridge Story* by George O. Robinson give an excellent overview of how Oak Ridge came to be. *The Oak Ridgers* by Martha Cardwell Sparrow paints a vivid picture of daily life in this "frontier town." *We'll Call it Wheat* by Dorothy Moneymaker chronicles the thriving Wheat Community that existed in Roane County before Oak Ridge was built. In addition to these titles researchers can find materials about the Manhattan Project and the making of the first atomic bomb. *The Manhattan Project* by Stephane Groueff, *Now It Can Be Told* by Leslie Groves, and *The Road to Trinity* by Kenneth D. Nichols are only a small selection from the historical reference material in the Oak Ridge Room.



Traveling Book Truck, 1945

Many Oak Ridger's have taken the time to write about their life and work here. The Library is fortunate to have copies of their memoirs. Bill Wilcox, George Jasney, Walcott Watson, John Googin, Alvin Weinberg, Sam Sapirie, and William Pollard all have contributed their writings and personal recollections to the Library. The Library offers biographical information on each of these and many other Oak Ridgers. In addition to these accountings, The Oak Ridge Heritage and Preservation Association and the local chapter of the American Association of University Women each have undertaken oral history projects. These tapes offer a wealth of information about life here and are a valuable part of the Library's historical collection. Library staff are currently proofreading and editing transcriptions of these audiotapes in order to make them more accessible to the public.

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STA News

In a letter recently received by STA President Taffey Hall from Vice-President Wayne Dowdy, Wayne announced his decision to step down as Vice-President of STA. In the letter he stated, "*The press of work and my involvement in the Volunteer Voices digitization project does not leave me enough time to devote to the preparation of the annual meeting.*" The Executive Board of STA is sorry to see Wayne step down, but realize that we all have our day jobs, and sometimes those responsibilities make extracurricular duties difficult. The board wants to thank Wayne for the work he's already done, especially in the initial planning for our annual meeting in November (see page 12 for more info). Thanks, Wayne, and we hope to see you at the meeting! Because the Vice President assumes the position of President the year after he or she serves as Vice-President, the Executive Board of STA discussed a solution and as a result of this discussion President Taffey Hall was asked by the board to serve another year, and she graciously agreed. We will elect a Vice-President to serve next year, and in 2009 as President, at the Annual Meeting in November.

STA Treasurer Jami Awalt recently announced to the STA Executive Board that she will be stepping down as treasurer of STA, a position she's held for several years. A new treasurer will be elected at the Annual Meeting. STA benefited greatly from Jami's careful managing of the Society's funds and her service on the Executive Board of STA. We were very fortunate to have Jami as treasurer. Members interested in nominating another member or serving themselves as treasurer for STA are encouraged to contact a nominating committee member, who will be named in the fall newsletter.

STA Webmaster Needed

After several years of dedicated service STA webmaster, Cathi Carmack has decided to step down. The Executive Board of STA appreciates and thanks Cathi for her service and membership on the Executive Board of STA. If you are interested, and have web design experience, please contact any of the executive board members of STA. This position is not an elected position, but appointed by the President of STA for a three year term, which may be renewed. STA plans to develop a new web site soon and the new webmaster will play an important part of this process.

Tennessee to Host SAC Meeting in 2008

In 2008 Tennessee will host the Southern Archivists' Conference (SAC), which meets every two years. Everyone who is a member of STA is also a member of SAC and is welcome and encouraged to attend this meeting. It will be held on March 26-28, 2008 at the Nashville Public Library. Jim Havron has been named as STA Southern Archivists' Conference representative. For more information he can be contacted at: James.Havron@nashville.gov. Additional information will be shared when it becomes available.

Archivesand Trout Fishing by Taffey Hall STA President

I love to fish. It is a pastime I inherited from my grandfather, Fred Hall (now deceased), who was an expert at tying trout flies in Western North Carolina.

My grandfather's fly-fishing story began in the 1940s, when, after being wounded in the Second World War, he returned to his Appalachian home, pawned his shot gun for \$50.00, and purchased supplies to tie fish flies. An enthusiastic fisherman himself, my grandfather's hobby soon evolved into a living. Many locals knew him as the "Master Fly-Tier of the North Carolina Smokies." Author Don Kirk called him the "Dean of Smokey Mountain Fly Tiers."

I have many childhood memories of sitting on the stool beside my grandfather's work table and watching as he created the trout flies. I remember the Forked Tale, Tellico Nymph, Yeller Hammer, Royal Wulff, Irresistible, Thunderhead, Quill Gordon, Grasshopper, Male Adams, Female Adams, and Caddisbuck flies. He would explain to me how some patterns were more effective on certain days. Sometimes, he'd even invent his own patterns, and he always tested his own work to insure his flies' reliability.

Our work as archivists is much like the work of a tier of trout flies. Just as my grandfather knew the trout in the Nantahala River, we must know the intricacies of our archival collections. We must effectively communicate with our researchers and we must give painstaking attention to the preservation of our records and manuscripts.

An avid trout fisherman will always seek out the flies of a local fly tier over store bought bait. Similarly, researchers, from the genealogist to the dissertation scholar, will value the assistance and knowledge of an expert archivist.

My grandfather never finished high school and he never set foot on a college campus. He and my grandmother lived provincial lives in the Appalachian Mountains. But through tying trout flies, my grandfather taught me a valuable life lesson of doing a job as perfectly and completely as possible...and he gave me a lifelong love of fishing!



Science and Culture Collection in Martin

By Richard Saunders, UT-Martin

The University of Tennessee at Martin acquired six file cabinets of material in January, representing the first installment of Wintfred Smith's collection documenting Reelfoot Lake. Dr. Smith, recently retired from the UTM biology faculty, devoted thirty years of his career to collecting and organizing scientific and cultural record of the lake.

Until the early 19th century, Reelfoot was a marshy river draining the extreme northwest corner of the state. During the series of New Madrid earthquakes in 1811–1812, the active fault shifted the region geologically. The Reelfoot marshes sank several feet, river bluffs collapsed, and for a time a section of the Mississippi River itself flowed backwards. Within weeks a shallow lake was formed which took its name from the river it used to be.

Over the next two hundred years the lake would become a critical wildlife habitat. As Euroamerican settlement began in the 1840s, the lake served as a local food source. Decades later, its reputation as a sportsman's destination would be built on exploiting the ducks, fish, and game for visitors. Tension between local users and outside interests over control of the lake and its resources were behind the vigilante actions of the Reelfoot Night Riders between 1909 and 1911. Local citizens were able to build the lake into a tourist destination. Today the lake still serves as a destination for bass and pan-fish anglers, duck hunters, and boating.



Dr. Wintfred Smith and his files

Because of its recent geologic origins, the lake itself has been heavily studied and is well documented. Beginning in the 1910s a research station was founded at the lake. Hundreds of scientific studies ranging from aeration to geology to zooplankton have been conducted at the lake. U.S. Geologic Survey, Tennessee, and scholarly studies in many subjects are included. The Smith collection includes copies (and often duplicates) of about 97% of all

scientific work directly or indirectly involving Reelfoot Lake and the area around it.

Cultural material relating to Reelfoot Lake and the surrounding region is also included, even if the citation is little more than a passing mention. In Charles Lindbergh's book *We*, for instance, mentions a night crossing of the Mississippi river at the Tennessee-Kentucky border as he ferried the *Spirit of St. Louis* east to the New York airstrip from which he began his transatlantic flight. Among the voluminous files are antiquities reports, business advertising, recordings, historical studies of various types, and magazines. Eventually Dr. Smith's collections of postcards, fine art, and art prints will be coming as well. Among the rarest treasures is a double-sheet movie poster for *Mystery Lake*, a short feature film produced by Walt Disney in 1953 partly from wildlife footage taken by wildlife photographer Karl Mazlowski in the 1930s and 40s. A digital copy of the single remaining print of Mazlowski's original footage is in the collection as well.

Public and scholarly interest in the collection has been active. However, research use has been limited. Processing for the core of the collection, the research file, should be complete by the end of the summer. A finding aid for the series, searchable by author and title, will be available electronically. It will be supplemented by additional parts as the remaining series are processed.

Anyone interested the collection or its status is invited to contact Richard Saunders at the Corbitt Special Collections and University Archives.



Dr. Wintfred Smith holding up a poster for the 1953 Disney-produced "Mystery Lake"

Beaman Library Special Collections Receives Letters

By Marie Byers, Beaman Library, Lipscomb University

"My Dear Mama," writes Truly Blackwell in a weekly letter to her mother and family from the Fanning Orphan School, *"be sure and take good care of yourself...and try to stay well."* She always expresses appreciation for letters from home or any small gift—a jar of pickles or a box of apples. *"I sure was proud to get the ink and it's such a good kind too. I appreciated the paper very much also."* (Oct. 1920)

Throughout the correspondence which covers 1919–1924, Truly recounts the daily chores - (*"I'm in division no. 4 now, Milkmaids. I like it fine so far. I was glad to change divisions."* [December 5, 1920]) school events, church attendance, friendships, and other activities of daily life - (*"I have heard that the smallpox is scattered in Nashville. The Dr. is to come out and vaccinate us tomorrow for smallpox."* [Dec. 12, 1920]) at the institution founded in 1881 by Charlotte Fall Fanning after the death of her husband, Tolbert. Truly allows small glimpses of life in the early twentieth century as she corresponds with her family at home in Coble, Tennessee: (*"Has the boys' tie job opened up yet? Everybody is talking about people being out of a job. Seems like the working people just can't get a job and it's so hard on folks especially at a time like this. I don't see hardly how the people in the cities that live on their day's wages can get along at all...I'm perfectly willing to make out with just as little as I possibly can, Mama."* [May 8, 1921])



Fanning Orphan School, 1902

Orphaned herself at age nine, Mrs. Fanning's desire in opening the school was that *"orphan girls may be instructed in books and trained in habits of industry. I require that the Bible shall be made a regular text-book and shall form a part of the daily study...The pupils must perform services as cooks, laundresses, dairymaids, housekeepers, etc., so that they may earn in such employment, if necessary, an independent and honest living."* (Page, Emma. *The Life Work of Mrs. Charlotte Fanning*, McQuiddy Printing Co., 1907)

Chartered on October 8, 1881, Fanning Orphan School continued the tradition begun by Tolbert and Charlotte Fanning when they established their first school in 1837 in Franklin, Tennessee – The Eclectic School for Young Ladies. The young couple was well qualified to operate a school. Tolbert had graduated from the University of Nashville, studying under Dr. Phillip Lindsley. Charlotte began her education under her brother's tutelage, the evangelist and educator Philip S. Fall. She later completed the Nashville Female Academy and taught there for several terms.

After purchasing Elm Crag on Couchville Pike, about five miles from the city, Tolbert and Charlotte Fanning founded Franklin College in 1845. Although Franklin College educated young men, Mrs. Fanning simultaneously operated a school for young girls on the same grounds. The Civil War forced both schools to close. Following the war, the Fannings continued their educational efforts by opening a school for girls, Hope Institute, in 1866. This school continued until shortly after Tolbert Fanning's death in 1874.



Trustees of Fanning Orphan School planned and built a larger building in 1902 near the site of Hope Institute. This facility continued to educate and nurture orphaned girls until the property was condemned by the city of Nashville in 1942 for development of a Municipal Airport. A historical marker stands today at the intersection of Vultee Boulevard and Briley Parkway commemorating the work of Tolbert and Charlotte Fall Fanning.

Lipscomb University students still benefit from the scholarships made possible by Charlotte Fanning's estate and her dream of providing an education for girls who have lost one or both parents. Lipscomb University gratefully acknowledges the gift of Truly Mary Eunice Blackwell's letters to her mother, Mary Blackwell. The letters were donated by Truly's daughter, Martha Ann Morrison Johnson and have been added to the Fall-Fanning Collection in the library's Special Collections.

Charlotte Fall Fanning

Time Capsule Recovered in Chattanooga

By Steve Cox, archivist at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and Suzette Raney, archivist at the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library

On February 7th of this year workers on Chattanooga's City Hall removed a time capsule that had been placed there ninety-nine years earlier, during the building's dedication in 1908. The existence of the time capsule was discovered by Matt Lea, assistant to Chattanooga Mayor Ron Littlefield. Mr. Lea notified area archivists Mary Helm (head of the History Department at the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library), Suzette Raney (an archivist also with the public library), and Steve Cox (archivist at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga).

The City Hall was being renovated when Mr. Lea found a newspaper article from 1908, which reported a time capsule had been placed in the cornerstone of the building by then-mayor, W.R. Crabtree. February 7th was chosen as the date for workers to remove the cornerstone and to recover the time capsule inside. Mr. Lea arranged for archivists Helm, Raney, and Cox to be on hand to assist. A crowd was also on hand that morning for the occasion, including all the local television stations and the local newspaper, the *Chattanooga Times Free Press*. The removal took longer than expected and the cornerstone was finally removed by mid-afternoon. Mayor Ron Littlefield and City Council Chairman Leamon Pierce were on hand for the occasion and were given the honor of prying the capsule loose from the stone, to cheers from the dozens of onlookers, city officials, and reporters. It was then taken inside City Hall where a hacksaw was applied by Mr. Lea and in minutes the top of the copper box was peeled back. One by one the contents were carefully removed and archivists Helm, Raney, and Cox immediately began examining the items, all in apparent good condition. The items included several newspapers, such as the *Chattanooga News*, dated April 23, 1908, a *Chattanooga Daily Times*, dated April 24, 1908, and a copy of a rare and long-defunct newspaper, the *Chattanooga Star*, dated April 23, 1908. Other items included a committee and director roster of the 1908 Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce, an Officers and Board of Directors roster of the Chattanooga Manufacturers Association, a directory of the Chamber of Commerce, an article titled "Diversified Industrialism at Chattanooga," an advertising poster for architect R.H. Hunt, designer of the building and other buildings in the South, business cards for many 1908 Chattanooga councilmen, amendments to the Chattanooga City Charter 1901-03, and a 1908 Chattanooga City Directory. Aside from a slight yellowing of the newspapers and the disintegration of staples in some of the documents, the items were very well preserved for their age. Fortunately, the time capsule had been built to remain air tight. The items were then taken to the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library for archivists Helm and Raney to implement conservation and preservation measures on the items, and to arrange for their display.



Chattanooga Mayor Ron Littlefield (right) and Councilman Leamon Pierce (with cap) gently removing time capsule from cornerstone

On February 16th, Raney demonstrated for television and newspaper crews the processes in preserving paper documents. She cleaned, deacidified, and encapsulated three of the smaller cards and flyers, and presented the rest of the documents for the media to peruse. All of the documents except for the city directory and Hunt poster were preserved and returned to city hall for display.

On April 12th, a new time capsule was placed in the cornerstone. A new copper box was built, to specifications similar to the 1908 capsule. This time the capsule was filled with photographs of Chattanooga landmarks, tourism brochures, business cards of City Council Members and department administrators, a copy of the *Chattanooga Times Free Press*, a community profile from the Chamber of Commerce, currency, and a data disc, although many wondered if the technology to read a disc of today would be in existence whenever the capsule is recovered.

(continued on page 12)



Time Capsule, as it looked before opening

Rutherford's Records Settle Into Home

New building makes archives more accessible

By TURNER HUTCHENS
Gannett Tennessee

Reprinted with Permission

MURFREESBORO — The Rutherford County Archives has a new home, and the staff wants to show it off.

An open house for the 10,000-square-foot building at 435 Rice St. in Murfreesboro was held April 20th from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The facility has been in operation since September, but there hadn't been a grand opening.

"It's been a long time coming," County Archivist John Lodl said of the new building.

The archives include all of the county's permanent records — birth certificates, death certificates, marriage license and tax documents. Since 1996, the records had been housed in several small rooms on the third floor of the Rutherford County Courthouse.

In the new building, which cost \$1.3 million, there is room not just for the 5,000 square feet of climate-controlled records storage, but a reading room and a large room dedicated to document restoration and preservation.

Staff is knowledgeable

Lodl said officials are still in the process of moving everything from the courthouse.

Thomas and Terra Jones of Atlanta were in the new building Monday doing genealogy research. The couple said the facility is great but what was really impressive was the help they received from staffers.

"It's not just the helpful attention, but the knowledge," Terra Jones said. She said it made all the difference that the staff is able to tell them where documents are and how they are organized.

"Otherwise, you can spend all afternoon spinning your wheels trying to find something," she said.

The archives is operated with the help of graduate students from Middle Tennessee State University and volunteers from the community, Lodl said.

"I've come to rely heavily on the volunteers, and we're always looking for more," Lodl said.

(continued on page 12)

It's time for the renewal of your STA membership!

Please remit payment to: Jami Awalt, Treasurer, TSLA, 403 7th Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37243.

We welcome the participation of everyone interested in preserving and making available Tennessee's documentary heritage. *Annual membership dues are due in April of each year. Memberships are not pro-rated.*

As a member of the Society of Tennessee Archivists, you will receive all these benefits and more!

Regular Membership: \$20.00 per year (for full or part-time employees in the field of archives, manuscripts, or records management). *Regular Membership in STA brings you the following benefits:*

- Professional development and networking among archivists throughout the state
- Access to pre-conference workshops and professional training opportunities
- The Society's newsletter, *Tennessee Archivist* (available online at: www.geocities.com/tennarchivists)
- Annual Membership Directory – access to colleagues, students across the state
- Full voting privileges in elections and at the annual STA Business Meeting
- Registration for conferences and workshops at the discounted member rate
- Membership in the Southern Archivists' Conference

Associate Membership: \$10.00 per year (for individuals interested in allied disciplines, students, and others who do not qualify for regular membership).

Associate Membership in STA brings you the following benefits:

- All of the benefits listed above with the exception of voting privileges or the ability to hold office.

Institutional Membership: \$10.00 per year (for archives, libraries, businesses, government agencies, and other organizations).

Institutional Membership brings your institution the following benefits:

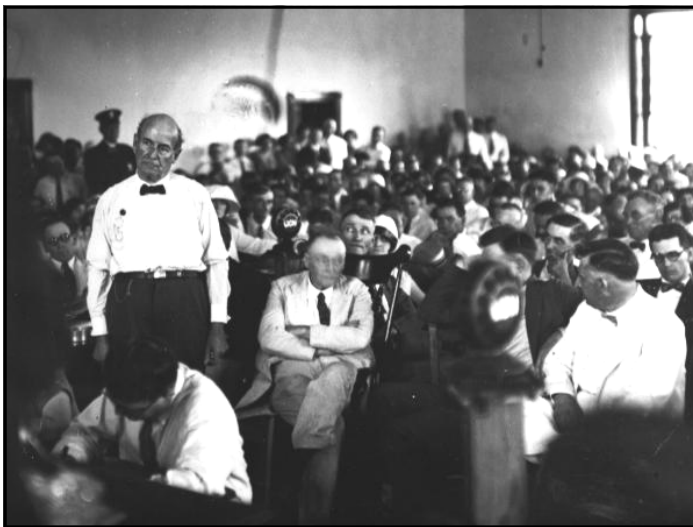
- All of the benefits of regular membership

A Monkey on Tennessee's Back: The Scopes Trial in Dayton

The Tennessee State Library and Archives (TSLA) in Nashville opened its new exhibit, "A Monkey on Tennessee's Back: The Scopes Trial in Dayton," on June 1, 2007. The exhibit will probe the history behind the famous Scopes Trial, a court case that received national attention as attorney Clarence Darrow battled William Jennings Bryan on behalf of a Rhea County teacher's decision - prompted by the ACLU's quest to find a biology teacher to challenge the newly passed Butler Act - to teach evolution.

Without a doubt, the question, "where do humans come from?" was asked long before Charles Darwin published *Origin of Species* in 1859. Yet throughout the twentieth century and into the twenty-first century, the debate amongst members of the scientific and religious communities has continued to be a divisive and widely debated topic. The Scopes "Monkey" Trial is perhaps one of the critical events of this controversy and one of the landmark legal decisions of the twentieth century. Through this exhibit, we will consider the debate over evolution versus creationism from its beginnings to the present, but our focus will be the trial that took place during the hot summer months of 1925 in the small town of Dayton, Tennessee.

This exhibit will run through December 31, 2007. The Tennessee State Library and Archives is located in downtown Nashville at 403 7th Avenue North, across from the State Capitol. The exhibit is free and open to the public. Limited street parking is available for visitors near the archives building.



Courtroom at the Rhea County Courthouse during the trial. Shown are William Jennings Bryan, Ben McKenzie, and Ben's son, Gordon McKenzie.



Interior view of Robinson's Drugstore where the Scopes Trial started. Shown are George W. Rappelyea, Walter White, Clay Green, F. Robinson, and Owen Wasson.



Two high school girls, Dee Robinson and Margaurite Purser, "shaving" toy monkeys that were later sold as souvenirs.

(Oak Ridge, continued from page 1)

The Library is fortunate to have a collection of photographs taken by Ed Wescott during his years as Atomic Energy Commission photographer. These photographs depict life in early Oak Ridge, which was especially remembered for the mud, the lines, and the security gates. Reprints of these photographs can be ordered through a local photographic studio.

The vertical file collection in the Oak Ridge Room contains a wealth of information about our community. There you can find designs for the "alphabet housing", a history of our fine school system, and information about the many clubs and organizations in Oak Ridge. You will also find environmental reports from the Department of Energy as well as information about the three government facilities here.

In addition to the materials listed above, you can find a variety of other resources in the Oak Ridge Room. There are histories of area counties, cemetery records, and historic maps and blueprints. Local historian Snyder Roberts gave the Library much of his material, which is a colorful as well as historic account of this area.

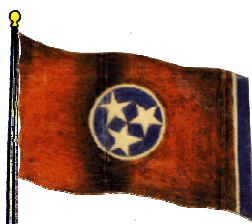
The Oak Ridge Room is open upon request. For more information, contact the Library by phone at 865-425-3455, by email at reference@corn.org, or visit the Library's web page at www.orpl.org where a bibliography of Oak Ridge Room books can be found under the *Reference Services* link.

Volunteer Voices Steaming Ahead

Andy Carter, Content Specialist in West Tennessee for the Volunteer Voices digitization project was on the campus of Union University in Jackson scanning photos and documents for inclusion. About eighty images were selected representing the history of Denmark, Tennessee; Bemis, Tennessee; and the early history of Union University.

Volunteer Voices is a grant project funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services that will allow K-12 educators and students free online access to a variety of primary, or first hand, sources related to Tennessee's history, culture, government, and industry.

www.volunteervoices.org



STA Member Spotlight— Irene Baker, Scott County Historical Society

Tennessee's county historians and archivists play a crucial role in preserving Tennessee county histories. Oftentimes working on slim (or non-existent) budgets they diligently process their records, photographs and documents. For our first membership spotlight we would like to recognize their contributions in the efforts to document and preserve Tennessee history. This month we recognize STA member Irene Baker, president of the Scott County Historical Society.

The Scott County Historical Society will be celebrating their 25th Anniversary this year. Irene Baker has served as President of the Society for 25 years and we have chosen her for our first STA membership spotlight!

Prior to becoming president of the Scott County Historical Society, Irene has worked for Fisher Body GMC, Rocketdyne, Chrysler, and various Tool & Die shops. She also served in the Marine Corp Women's Reserve during World War II. With over 50 years of office work, Irene enjoys working with records in order to make them more accessible for researchers. When asked about possible alternative career paths, Irene states, "Been there done that, at my age just doing what I enjoy is very satisfying." She is very proud of what her repository has accomplished without county, state, or federal funds. Irene explains that without the assistance of volunteers and donations, the society could not have preserved all of the records they have today. The Scott County Historical Society is located in Huntsville, Tennessee and welcomes visitors to their archives.



Scott County Historical Society Archives Bldg., Huntsville, TN.

Scott County Historical Society

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.

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

MARY C. BARNES ARCHIVES SCHOLARSHIP

The Society of Tennessee Archivists is pleased to announce the Mary C. Barnes Archives scholarship is available for award to individuals to attend the annual meeting of the Society of Tennessee Archivists.

The scholarship includes registration to the workshops and annual meeting and includes accommodations for two nights.

Eligibility:

The scholarship committee will consider undergraduate and graduate students in history, historic preservation, public history or archives. Also, individuals who are working or volunteering in a school, university, religious or local archives a minimum of 15 hours during a seven day period will be considered.

Applicants must be residents of Tennessee, be employed in Tennessee or are continuing their education in Tennessee.

Application Guidelines:

Applicants should send a letter of application no later than September 30, 2007. The letter should be no more than two pages and should include the applicants mailing address, daytime telephone, and email address. The letter should state reasons for attending the annual meeting and a brief description of how attendance at the meeting will be of benefit. Include at least two references who can attest to the applicant's interest in the archives field.

Applicant letters should be sent to:

Kenneth Fieth, C.A.

Scholarship Committee

Metro Nashville Archives

3801 Green Hills Village Drive

Nashville, TN, 37215

(615) 862-5880. Ken.fieth@nashville.gov

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.

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.

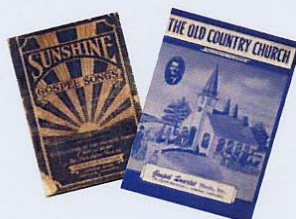
The STA Executive Committee will review all completed applications and notify recipients by mail of their awards. The Committee will also notify individuals who applied for scholarships but were not chosen as award recipients.

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



“FARTHER ALONG”: A CONFERENCE ON THE SOUTHERN GOSPEL CONVENTION-SINGING TRADITION



The Center for Popular Music at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro is in the early stages of planning the first-ever academic conference devoted to the Southern Gospel Convention-Singing tradition. The conference is set for **April 4-5, 2008**.

A formal call for papers will be issued in April, 2007. The conference planners invite proposals on all aspects of the convention-singing tradition and related activities. Topics may include, but are not limited to, studies of:



- composers and lyricists
- publishers
- geographical distribution of convention-singing
- community traditions
- singing schools
- pianists
- songs and songwriting
- performance style
- crossover with bluegrass and country gospel
- relationship to professional southern gospel
- inter-cultural exchange
- mass media
- the business of gospel music



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**JOIN THE CONFERENCE
MAILING LIST!**
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CALL FOR PROPOSALS***The Center for Popular Music at Middle Tennessee State University
invites proposals for presentations in:******"FARTHER ALONG"***

*A Conference on the Southern Gospel Convention-Singing Tradition
4-5 April 2008*

Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Southern gospel convention singing is an amateur American musical tradition in which practitioners train at singing schools and gather at monthly and annual singings to sing and play from upright, or octavo, "new books" containing southern gospel songs in seven-shape notation. Historically it follows the four-shape tradition (*Southern Harmony*, *Sacred Harp*, etc.) and has been led primarily by publishers such as Ruebush-Kieffer, Anthony J. Showalter, James D. Vaughan, Stamps-Baxter, Hartford, and others. These publishers also sponsored the largest and best-known singing schools from the 1870s through the early 1960s. Emphasizing new songs in the gospel style, as opposed to the four-shape tradition's more conservative bent, the southern gospel convention tradition also embraces the use of instruments, most particularly piano, to accompany the singers. In addition, this amateur tradition and the publishing and educational industry that accompanies it have been the fertile ground from which has come many well-known songs, and from which has emerged the world of professional southern gospel.

Southern gospel convention singing, in turn, is part of a broader musical phenomenon stemming from the Protestant Reformation and Americans' responses to it: the recreational and congregational group singing of sacred music. This phenomenon has played a central role in the history of Protestant music-making in the United States of America, from the unison and heterophonic psalm-singing of the colonial era through the part-music of the nineteenth century to the unison and homophonic choruses of modern praise-and-worship music. After almost a century of scholarship devoted to this broader musical phenomenon, the southern gospel convention-singing tradition remains little understood by the larger scholarly community--an anomaly, given its popularity.

"Farther Along": A Conference on the Southern Gospel Convention-Singing Tradition is intended to help address this oversight. We expect the conference to include sessions devoted to:

- Scholarly presentations
- Practitioners' perspectives: i.e., the views of today's publishers, singing-school teachers, songwriters, singers, and pianists
- Singing

We encourage proposals for papers and presentations on all aspects of the convention-singing tradition and related activities. Topics may include, but are not limited to, studies of:

- Composers and lyricists
- Publishers
- Geographical distribution of convention singing
- Community traditions
- Singing schools
- Pianists
- Songs and songwriting
- Performance styles
- Crossover with bluegrass and country gospel
- Relationship to professional southern gospel
- Inter-cultural exchange
- Mass media
- The business of gospel music

Proposals should include an abstract of 250-300 words and an indication of audio-visual needs. Electronic submissions are strongly encouraged, but hardcopy submissions will be accepted. SUBMISSION DEADLINE: October 1, 2007

Submit proposals to:

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Those who do not wish to submit proposals but who want to keep abreast of conference news may join the conference mailing list by sending contact information to Kym Stricklin.

(Time Capsule, continued from page 5)

Mayor Littlefield also placed a letter to the future mayor of Chattanooga. As to the content of the letter, Mayor Littlefield said "I plan to express how we have attempted during our brief period of stewardship to relate our city to its past, deal with the challenges of transition, and lay a foundation for a very different future. I cannot begin to imagine how different the world will be when the capsule is opened in the future, and I will not speculate."



Contents of the Time Capsule after removal

On May 19, Mayor Littlefield and other dignitaries re-dedicated the renovated City Hall with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Individuals dressed in period costume, and newsboys hawked the day's edition. People viewed the beautiful stained glass, floors, and ceilings, and the items removed from the time capsule. One hundred years from now, it will be interesting to see what historians and archivists do with the items stored in the current time capsule.



The new time capsule, which will replace the old one, in the cornerstone of City Hall, and which bears the seal of the city of Chattanooga

Save These Dates!!

2007 STA Annual Meeting

November 7-9, 2007

Natchez Trace State Park

Wildersville, TN

The Theme of the Annual Meeting will be:

**"Celebrating Success:
Archives, Advocacy, and
Anniversaries"**

**More information will be given in
the summer/fall newsletter,
in mid-September.**

**If you are interested in helping with
the meeting or sessions please
contact Taffey Hall at
taffey@sbhla.org or at
(615) 244-0344**



(Rutherford County Archives, continued from page 6)

In the back of the new building, Dorothy Davis and Ryan Darrow, both MTSU students, were shifting through about 30 years of documents from the Rutherford County mayor's office, laying pages out on long tables in the center of the room and trying to understand how the 40-some boxes of papers had been filed.

"It's just a lot of searching right now," Davis said.

Darrow said the ample space and clean surfaces in the new building made the work a lot easier.

"I'm not sure I've ever seen an archives so nice," he said.