



Winter 1990

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Tennessee Archivists





Editorial

Like the young man on the cover of this issue, I find myself wondering, "Just how did I get myself into this situation?"

Writing a newsletter takes a great deal more time, effort and dedication (not to mention chutzpah) than I had ever imagined. Bill Sumners is to be congratulated for filling the post of newsletter editor so long and so well. I have big shoes to fill.

I would like to start my "career" as editor by making a statement about those things I believe to be true about our profession.

I believe that archivists tend to be independent, self-sufficient and dedicated. I believe that we tend to be organized, self motivated and pragmatic. I believe that we value the past, but are not enslaved by it.

We must be independent and self-directed, self-motivated and self-sufficient because we frequently work alone, or are surrounded by those who only think they understand the complexities of our work. We are organized because that is the nature of what we do. We are dedicated. There is not a one of us who couldn't be making more money doing something else. The budgets we are usually given dictate that we be pragmatists. While we value history, we, perhaps more than any other group that is involved with history, have a sense of the realities of the past.

I believe that archivists form a unique profession that is distinct and separate from those other professions that surround and frequently threaten to overwhelm us.

I believe that we are nothing less than the guardians of the memory of our civilization. I believe that the work we do is exciting, stimulating and valuable. I believe that the work we do is more important than any considerations of geogra-

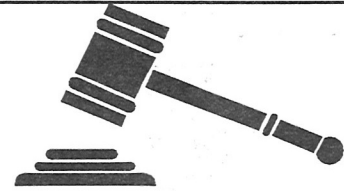
phy, religion, politics, personality or ego. I believe that the only thing that can stop us from achieving the respect, recognition and rewards that our work deserves is our own indifference.

I believe that in the past we have frequently been our own worst enemy. We're often seen as misers hoarding our treasures, and in the past that may indeed have been the practice in some places. But in so doing we have forgotten that these documents do not belong to us. We just look after them. We forget that the work we do has no value if the information we so painstakingly preserve is not used.

Much of the public has no idea what an archivist does. Some look upon us as mere paper shufflers. A few have a vague idea that archivists are some sort of amorphous priesthood. One gentleman thought I was some sort of archaeologist. These misconceptions simply mean that we must start educating people about archives. It is, after all, the people who support us. It is, after all, the people whose history is preserved in our stacks.

I will admit without equivocating that I am militant on the subject of archives. I am firmly convinced of the worth and importance of my profession. I am not blind, however, to its faults. In the issues to follow, I will continue to speak out on issues that I feel are of importance to us as a profession and as a society. I do not expect, nor do I hope, to go unchallenged. This is your newsletter. I am not an all-knowing fount of wisdom. If you disagree with me, say so.

-Mancil Johnson, Editor



President's Message

Following a request from the newsletter editor, I sat down to write this letter addressing the members of Tennessee Archivists; but I had many false starts. Most of these forsaken attempts focused on the importance of the archivists' work and the need for a strong professional organization or on recent changes in the profession and challenges of the future. I began to wonder what I could possibly have to say that would be worthwhile to all of you. I have no right to lecture on the importance of our work, for the amount and variety of experience among the members of this organization far exceeds my own. Some of you have been in this organization since its first years and would be better suited than I to recount the past accomplishments of Tennessee Archivists. So what does a new president say to the membership at the start of a new decade? Perhaps the most I have to offer is hope and encouragement.

It is my hope that in the coming years Tennessee Archivists can continue to grow in members and to broaden its activities. I want to encourage all members to take an active role in guiding the organization through the 1990s questionnaire. An organization can be no more than its members, and with the talent and potential of its members, I believe that the future of Tennessee Archivists can be very bright. I hope that the organization will continue to be a platform for the exchange of ideas among members and as a means to update members on the latest issues or solutions to common problems.

In May 1990, the Southern Archivists Conference (SAC) will meet for the first time since Tennessee joined with the states of

Alabama and Mississippi. The meeting will be held in Lake Guntersville, Alabama, on May 24 - 25 and will include time for Tennessee Archivists to meet. I urge everyone to attend this meeting in Alabama. The Southern Archivists Conference provides our members with an opportunity to increase ties with neighboring states. I hope that through participation in SAC, Tennessee Archivists can be a catalyst for cooperation not only among its members but among colleagues in Alabama and Mississippi.

Since its creation, Tennessee Archivists has served the professional needs of archivists across the state. I hope that the organization will continue this role and be an active voice presenting a positive image of the archivist to the public and, when necessary, providing a convincing expression of the issues and problems that concern the profession. I am encouraged by the creation of the Public Relations Committee and hope that the work begun in the previous year can continue.

Finally, I want to thank all the members who have worked diligently on behalf of the organization during the past eleven years. I also wish to express my appreciation to all who have agreed to serve as officers or on committees for the coming year. Based on your responses to my requests for help, Tennessee truly is the "Volunteer State". I am looking forward to the coming year in Tennessee Archivists.

-Norma Thomas, President

Gentry Crowell, 1932 - 1989

Before I was appointed to my present position, Gentry Crowell warned me that I was to become State Librarian and Archivist, and he never let me forget it. While his own interests lay primarily in the public library system, he knew well that the responsibility of the State Library and Archives in-

cluded both libraries and archives, as well as historical records across our state.

Even before the State Library and Archives was moved to the Department of State, Mr. Crowell believed strongly in the importance of books and reading. A self-made man without formal higher education, he believed firmly in the need for continuing adult education in the form of books and literacy programs offered through our public libraries. He believed in the importance of preserving and maintaining our historical documents through such projects as the Local Records Microfilming Program, one of the most ambitious such programs in the nation.

Mr. Crowell also supported our Local Records Advisory Service, in which staff members of the State Library and Archives serve as consultants on the management and preservation of local records of historical importance. He provided funds to improve the environmental conditions of the State Library and Archives building. Prior to his death, he authorized the State Library and Archives to apply to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission for funding for the Tennessee Historical Records Advisory Board.

The loss of Mr. Crowell was enormous, unexpected, incalculable, and tragic to the state of Tennessee. We will miss him. It is hard to believe that he is gone, for he was a man who was bigger than life, whose presence was always there, whose interest in the library and archives program never waned. I believe, in fact, that his contributions in this area will stand as his most lasting achievement to the state that he loved so much.

-Edwin S. Gleaves, State Librarian and Archivist

Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives Receives Denominational Records

The Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, operated by the Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, has recently received two major collections. The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs has deposited 35 linear feet of files dating from the 1940s. The materials document the early years of the committee's work and the leadership of Joseph M. Dawson.

The Radio and Television Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention has transferred 144 linear feet of records. These records include films, videotapes, publications, promotional material, photographs, scrapbooks, and correspondence and office files.

These two collections are significant additions to the growing number of denominational records placed with the Historical Commission. The Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, located in Nashville, is open to researchers each weekday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For a free brochure on the SBHLA, write the Historical Commission, SBC, 901 Commerce St., Nashville, TN 37203 or call (615) 244-0344.

Tennessee Archivists Newsletter

The newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Tennessee Archivists. Members of the society and others are encouraged to submit brief articles, information on acquisitions, openings, publications, staff, exhibits, special programs, and grant projects for inclusion in the newsletter. The editor appreciates your suggestions and comments about the content and the style of the newsletter. Send material to: Mancil Johnson, University Archives, Box 5066, Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, TN 38505.

Understanding Conservation Basics

-by Carol Roberts

Paper conservation and the care of historic documents can be an easy and common sense field provided we understand and follow two basic guidelines. First, we should understand the differences between conservation, preservation, and restoration as it applies to paper materials. Second, we should understand and follow an organized code of ethics governing the integrity of the conservation work as well as the conservator. Building on these basics can be the starting point for any type of preservation no matter how simple or how complicated.

Understanding the differences between preservation, restoration, and conservation begins with Webster's definitions of each area. Preservation involves any "activity taken which will prevent harm and will keep something intact, and will maintain as nearly as possible in an unchanging state." Restoration involves any "action that will return the damaged document as nearly as possible to the original form or historic integrity." Finally, conservation combines all aspects of preservation and restoration to "protect through planned management to prevent exploitation, destruction, or neglect." Paper conservation has the best interests of these definitions; however, some conservation techniques preserve but do not consider the original integrity of the item. Therefore, in order to make sure conservation can be carried out without compromising other aspects of the historic document, several items have been developed into a code of ethics.

The most inclusive code of standards has been developed by the American Institute of Conservation. Through this code each item can be studied and the conservator can better protect the historic document. These standards are:

Conservation Corner

A. Respect for Integrity of Object—All professional actions of the conservator are governed by unswerving respect for the aesthetic, historic, and physical integrity of the object.

B. Competence and Facilities—It is the conservator's responsibility to undertake the investigation or treatment of a historic or artistic work only within the limits of his professional competence and facilities.

C. Single Standard—With every historic or artistic work he undertakes to conserve, regardless of his opinion of its value or quality, the conservator should adhere to the highest and most exacting standard of treatment. Although circumstances may limit the extent of treatment, the quality of the treatment should never be governed by the quality or value of the object. While special techniques may be required during treatment of large groups of objects, such as archival and natural history material, these procedures should be consistent with the conservator's respect for the integrity of the objects.

D. Suitability of Treatment—The conservator shall not perform or recommend any treatment which is not appropriate to the preservation or best interests of the historic or artistic work. The necessity and quality of the treatment should be more important to the professional than his remuneration.

E. Principle of Reversibility—The conservator is guided by and endeavors to apply the "principle of reversibility" in his treatments. He should avoid the use of materials which may become so intractable that their future removal

could endanger the physical safety of the object. He also should avoid the use of techniques, the results of which cannot be undone if that should become desirable.

F. Limitations on Aesthetic Reintegration—In compensating for damage or loss, a conservator may supply little or much restoration, according to a firm previous understanding

with the owner or custodian and the artist, if living. It is equally clear that he cannot ethically carry compensation to a point of modifying the known character of the original.

G. Continued Self Education—It is the responsibility of every conservator to remain abreast of current knowledge in his field and to continue to develop his skills so that he may give the best treatment circumstances permit.

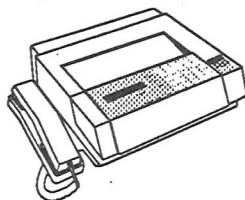
H. Auxiliary Personnel—The conservator has an obligation to protect and preserve the historic and artistic works under his care at all times by supervising and regulating the work of all auxiliary personnel trainees and volunteers under his professional direction. A conservator should not contract or engage himself to clients as a supervisor or insufficiently trained auxiliary personnel unless he can arrange to be present to direct the work.

The conservation of each item should be governed by these guidelines. By following the guidelines the conservator or those choosing a conservation contract can better determine the individual needs then follow through with the best techniques possible.

A brief article cannot completely cover all aspects of the ethics of paper conservation. There are several good sources for further study of the subject. These include: *Archives and Manuscripts, a Manual on Physical Care and Management* by Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler; American Institute of Conservation's "Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice"; and AIC's *Paper Conservation Catalog of Conservation Treatments*.

Suitability of 'Post-Its' for Use in Archives Questioned

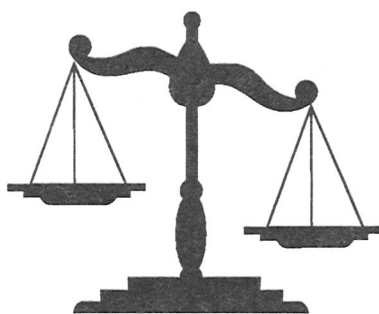
The National Archives has recently completed a study of the self-sticking notes known as "Post-Its." Regardless of the brand name, the researchers found that some of the adhesive remains after the note is removed. The document may then stick to other documents, folders and dirt. The tests indicate that if left for a long period, the adhesive may penetrate the document and cause it to become transparent. Even a short exposure to this adhesive may be a potential threat to documents. Additionally, some "self-stick" notes contain lignin and aluminum sizing, both of which speed up deterioration of paper. Also, in the event of water damage, the colored notes are likely to run, thereby staining the documents they are attached to.



The Facts on FAX

In recent years, technology has been both a blessing and a headache for the archivist. One of the most recent headaches that we must learn to cope with is the fax machine.

Most fax machines use thermal paper which reacts to heat to produce the print on a document. This paper also reacts to sunlight as well as vapors given off by such common plastics as PVC (polyvinyl chloride). The result is a faded, unreadable document. Since no formal testing has yet been conducted on fax paper, a solution to this problem is years away. Meanwhile archivists are encouraged to make copies of any faxed document that comes into their repositories.



Legislative Update

Three bills which have an impact on the archives and records management professions have been introduced into this session of the General Assembly.

House Bill 1601—This bill would create an informational management committee on the confidential records of children in state custody. The committee would consist of administrative heads, or their representatives from the office of the attorney general and reporter, the comptroller of the treasury, the departments of education, health and environment, human services, mental health and mental retardation, youth development, the commission on children and youth and the council of juvenile and family court judges. The committee will be charged with creating a manual on confidential records of children in state custody by July 1, 1991.

Senate Bill 465—This bill authorizes the collection of reasonable fees to recover the costs of developing and maintaining public records. Any local government may charge a reasonable fee for copying 5% or more of the data in any data base or other organized set of information which has commercial value and which has been developed at the expense of public funds. This fee will be added to any costs now in effect for copying, certifying and compiling extracts or copies of public records. This fee must clearly relate to the actual development or maintenance costs of the public records, and the monies collected must be used for the maintenance, operation or revision of such collections.

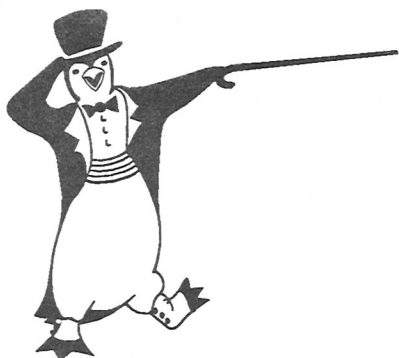
Senate Bill 72—This bill provides that general sessions court clerks may destroy originals of records which have been microfilmed after such records have been retained three years. Under current law, the county public records commission has to approve the destruction of such records.

You are urged to investigate these bills further. Contact your legislators and let them know where you stand on the issues and how this will affect archivists and records managers. We are the ones most closely affected by such legislation. If we remain silent, then we have no right to complain.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

If the difference between plagiarism and research is the number of sources one steals from, then I have certainly done my research for this issue of the newsletter. I have "borrowed" ideas for articles or features from the newsletters of the Kansas City Area Archivists, the Society of California Archivists, the Society of Georgia Archivists, the North Carolina Archivists, and the Colorado Archivists. In addition, I have plagued my fellow Tennessee Archivists for ideas and contributions. I am especially appreciative to Dr. Ed Gleaves, Pearl Cantrell, Michelle Fagan, Sara Harwell, David McWhirter, Carol Roberts, Mary Teloh, and Norma Thomas for their contributions and advice. I am especially appreciative to former editor Bill Sumners. He has left a formidable precedent for me to follow. I owe a special debt to assistant editor Greg Pool. To all those who expressed confidence in my abilities to do this job, thank you. I will try not to let you down.

-Mancil Johnson, Editor



Spotlight On...

Mississippi Valley Collection Memphis State University

Address: Mississippi Valley Collection, Memphis State University Libraries, Memphis State University, Memphis, TN 38152 **Telephone:** (901) 678-2210

Parking: University parking. Visitors are advised to park off campus. Several private parking lots are nearby. Visitors may ask for temporary parking permits at the information kiosk.

Access: Hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 - 4:30

Restrictions: No restrictions on the majority of the materials in the holdings of the Mississippi Valley Collection.

Copy Facilities: Copying machines are in another area. Patrons may make copies if accompanied by a staff member. Copies are ten cents each.

Major Subjects: The bulk of the holdings concentrate on West Tennessee, the Mississippi Valley and Memphis State University

Holdings: 30,000 books, manuscript collections, audio and video tapes, diaries, pamphlets and newspapers as well as the university archives

Accession Policy: The Mississippi Valley Collection accepts materials appropriate to its location. Items related to Memphis, West Tennessee, Northern Mississippi, Eastern Arkansas, the Mid-South and Memphis State are sought.

Director: Michelle Fagan, Curator of Special Collections

The Special Collections Department is the manuscript repository/rare books room of the Memphis State University Libraries. It was established in 1964, fourteen years after Memphis State College achieved university status. The school's administration saw the need for a regional historical collection and charged the department with preserving records that reflected the people and culture of the lower Mississippi Valley.

Memphis has long held a unique position in the Mid-South. Ever since the early settlement of the region, the people in West Tennessee, North Mississippi, East Arkansas and the Missouri Bootheel have maintained personal and business ties with the city. Merchants in this area frequently obtained their supplies here: people living in Union City, Holly Springs or Helena often had family and friends in Memphis. The chance to visit and shop brought Mid-Southerners to town. So did the proverbial bright lights and potential opportunities. Young

men like E.H. Crump came to establish careers. MSU wanted its Special Collections Department to reflect the region from which so many of its students came and to provide its faculty and students, as well as visiting scholars, with a significant research collection of the area's history.

Over the years the department has answered to two names—the Mississippi Valley Collections and the Special Collections Department. Originally designated the MVC and envisioned as a place for just Mid-South books, manuscripts and ephemeral items, the area began to receive other non-related rare works or examples of fine printing. The university also began to house its archives in the department. At that point, the MVC portion of the collection became the most important section, though still only part of the area. It was then decided that Special Collections was a more appropriate title.

The Oral History Research Office of the MSU History Department, headed by Dr. Charles Crawford,

deposits archival copies of its tapes and transcripts in the MVC. The ongoing work of this office includes interviews with people on such topics as the TVA, Winfield Dunn's career, the history of aviation in the Mid-South, and Mississippi riverboat personnel.

Since 1974 the West Tennessee Historical Society has housed both its organizational archives and its own manuscript/book collection in MSU's Special Collections Department. Among the Society's manuscript holdings are the Meriwether Family Papers, 1751-1951, which contain letters from Varina and Jefferson Davis as well as Nathan Bedford Forrest, and the Marshall Wingfield Papers, 1939-1961. Dr. Wingfield, a well known Memphian, was a minister of the Christian Church, an author, a historian and a former president of the West Tennessee Historical Society.

The MVC's manuscript holdings emphasize the 19th and 20th centuries. One of the most heavily used collections in the department is the Memphis Multi-

Media 1968 Sanitation Workers' Strike Papers. This material chronicles the traumatic months in Memphis during the strike which brought Martin Luther King to the city. Put together by a group of concerned citizens, many of whom had ties to MSU, the collection contains local TV newsroom film footage, oral history tapes and transcripts, photographs, hate mail, and an anecdote file of comments, sick jokes, and stories told during the strike and after King's assassination. Documentary film makers from Eyes on the Prize and the British Broadcasting Corporation, among others, have used this material. So have researchers interested in labor relations.

Another significant collection is the Robert R. Church Family Papers. Born a slave, the remarkable Robert Sr., became one of the South's first black millionaires after the Civil War. His son, Robert Jr., was a nationally recognized official in the Republican party. His granddaughter, Roberta, became one of the few women appointed during the Eisenhower administration to an important government position.

The MVC has many other manuscript collections that document various aspects of Mid-South history. Locked away in a strongbox at the First Tennessee Bank in Memphis, the Jefferson Davis-Joel Addison Hayes Papers went undiscovered for more than 80 years. The letters, most of which Davis wrote to his son-in-law, Hayes, deal with the management of the ex-president's Mississippi land, 1875-1881. The collection came to the MVC in 1980. Somewhat related in interest are the records of the Confederate Veterans Historical Association. Often allied with Co. A, Confederate Drum and Bugle Corps of Memphis, the group tried to preserve Confederate records, aid veterans and support local charities.

The Caleb Forshey Diaries reflect the Mid-South's special relationship with the Mississippi River. Before, during and after the Civil War, Forshey was a surveyor

and civil engineer all along the river. As he went, he jotted down his working notes as well as comments about regional and national politics and scientific discoveries.

The MVC is developing significant holdings of 20th century materials. The department has acquired the working papers of many political figures, including Harold Ford, Watkins Overton, Lucius Burch and Michael Kernell.

People outside the limelight are also represented. In 1918 an anonymous Memphis woman wrote down all her daily house-keeping activities, from cooking breakfast and talking with her neighbors to feeding the chickens. This mundane record is unique since few people have kept such journals, and in many instances, all the ordinary details of the past have been lost. More often people preferred to note what was new or exciting, not the everyday things.

The Fletcher and Martin Family Papers contain letters documenting black middle class life in Memphis and Chicago. The materials touch the common themes of courtship, church activities and work. Since Stella Martin was very active in the Eastern Star, the letters also capture much about the internal organization of the black Masonic groups in Tennessee.

Of more recent historical interest, the U.S. will soon commemorate the 50th anniversary of its entry into World War II. The MVC has been campaigning to make people aware that letters and other papers from the 1940s have historical value. Already several fine collections of World War II materials are housed in the department. The E. Frank Emmette Diaries tell what the war in New Guinea was like for a medical corpsman who once assisted at an appendectomy in a slit trench under shell fire. The Hope and Merrill Dan Papers not only recount a lieutenant's service as an artillery observer in the 30th Division (Old Hickory) in Europe, but preserve events in wartime Memphis and a romance. The

Samuel H. Mays Scrapbooks document the career of an officer in the 82nd Airborne from boot camp to occupied Germany through letters, photos and ephemeral items.

Murfreesboro First Baptist Church Site of Pilot Project



The First Baptist Church in Murfreesboro has been selected to test the project, "Documenting the Spirit," sponsored by the Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. On Sunday, October 8, the Historical Commission officially began this one-year pilot project during regular Sunday morning worship services at First Baptist.

Worship on October 8 featured "Documenting the Spirit" bulletin inserts and posters, a presentation by Lynn E. May, Jr., commission executive director, on the purpose and significance of the project, and May's introduction of Frank Ingraham, Nashville attorney and former Historical Commission trustee, who negotiated a gift of \$5,000 from the Jarman Foundation to fund the pilot project.

The brainchild of Bill Sumners, archivist for the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, "Documenting the Spirit" involves using creative methods to document and capture the spirit of a Baptist church.

During the year, the life and activities of the church will be photographed and video recorded, a scrapbook will be maintained, and several members of the church will keep individual diaries. Old photographs will be duplicated, church historical records will be microfilmed, and at least two surveys will be conducted among the membership on religious and social issues. The church history committee will be

(Continued on Page 9)

**Treasurer's
Report**
**Meeting
Minutes**
**Committee
Reports**

Business Matters

Tennessee Archivists Treasurer's Report 1989

Balance as of January 1, 1989 \$1,044.33
Balance as of December 31, 1989 754.06

Deficit for 1989 290.27

Total expenses \$5,187.11
Total receipts 4,896.84

Deficit for 1989 290.27

Receipts

Dues \$1,842.84
Spring meeting 1,842.84
Fall meeting 1,895.00

TOTAL \$4,896.84

Expenditures

Spring meeting, 1989 \$2,031.01
Fall meeting, 1989 1,880.09
Newsletter 707.08
Southern Archives Council Meeting
Expenses for President 195.48
Survey Expenses 78.00
Committee Expenses
Executive Committee 73.35
Membership Committee 135.87
Treasurer's Expenses 86.23

Total Expenses \$5,187.11

Annual Business Meeting

The annual business meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. on November 17, 1989. Sara Harwell, outgoing President, thanked Dr. Edwin Gleaves and his staff at the Tennessee State Library and Archives for hosting the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: David McWhirter read the treasurer's report, emphasizing that last year the Tennessee Archivists had a deficit of \$614. Dave raised the question of increasing dues. He also suggested that our Association become a chartered not-for-profit organization.

Sara Harwell formally raised the question of increasing annual dues from \$5 to \$10. A motion was made and seconded to vote by ballot. Ballots were distributed. The membership voted to increase the annual dues to \$10.

Committee Reports

• **Public Relations Committee**—Connie Burkhalter, Chair, reported that her group had met on September 29, and discussed numerous projects, including an outreach program, networking, a liaison between Tennessee Archivists and the General Assembly, and the publication of a list of repositories.

• **Membership Committee**—Doris Martinson, Chair, reported that brochures are being mailed to prospective members.

• **Preservation Committee**—Marice Wolfe, Chair, reported on her committee's survey of preservation preparedness in Tennessee.

Sara Harwell reported on her survey of archives in Tennessee and thanked everyone for his or her cooperation. Vanderbilt University Library will publish the results of her survey.

• **Nominating Committee**—Marvin Downing, Chair, announced the slate for election:

Jim Lloyd — Vice President, President-Elect

David McWhirter — Treasurer

Doris Martinson — Secretary

Bill Sumners moved that the nominating committee's report be accepted. John Thweat seconded. The motion was passed by acclamation.

Sara Harwell presented Bill Sumners with a gift in recognition of his many years of service as editor of our Association's newsletter. Mancil Johnson and Greg Poole will serve as newsletter editor and assistant editor beginning in 1990.

Sara Harwell turned the meeting over to Norma Thomas. Norma thanked Sara for her dedicated work on behalf of the Tennessee Archivists.

The business meeting was adjourned at 12:00.

Tennessee Archivists Committees

Membership Committee

James Lloyd, Univ. of Tennessee-Knoxville, Chair
Mary Jane Lowe, Tennessee Valley Authority
Barbara Flanary, Memphis - Shelby County Archives
Neal Harrell, Tennessee State Library and Archives
Tom Turley, Tennessee State Library and Archives

Education Committee

Carol Roberts, Tenn. State Library & Archives, Chair
Marvin Downing, University of Tennessee-Martin

(Continued next page)

Strawberry Luck, Vanderbilt University
Ann Phillips, Lambeth College
Bonnie Smith, Knoxville-Knox County Archives

Public Relations Committee

Connie Burkhalter, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Chair
Michele Fagan, Memphis State University
Ken Fieth, Tennessee State Library and Archives
Mancil Johnson, Tennessee Technological University
Stephen Richards, Richards and Richards Office Records Management, Inc.
Sally Ripatti, McClung Historical Collection

Preservation Committee

Marice Wolfe, Vanderbilt University, Chair
Steve Cotham, McClung Historical Collection
Carol Roberts, Tennessee State Library and Archives

Awards Committee *(Membership consists of three previous presidents)*

Jean Waggener, Blue Grass Reg. Library Ctr., Chair
Sally Ripatti, McClung Historical Collection
Sara Harwell, Vanderbilt University

Murfreesboro First Baptist Church Pilot Project

(Continued from Page 7)

responsible for implementing these activities. Materials produced in the project will be placed in the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives in Nashville.

"How do written records document a spiritual experience, a worship service, or a ministry to nursing home residents?" asks Sumners. "The commission staff has difficulty in documenting some aspects of church life through church records and traditional historical sources alone, so the goal of this project is to provide new sources for understanding and studying Baptist church life."

Gene Cotey, pastor of First Baptist in Murfreesboro, is experienced in the work of the Historical Commission. He has served as a former commission trustee.

The project is believed to be the first systematic attempt of this type of documentation project by a religious group or denomination.

STATE NEWS

- Congratulations to Brother Ignatius Leo of Christian Brothers College in Memphis. Brother Leo's efforts as founder and keeper of the college's archives were the subject of a long article in the *Memphis Commercial Appeal* (August 4, 1989). Brother Leo's 20 years of dedication and hard work serve as an example to all of us who labor in the vineyards of history.

- Congratulations are also in order to TA members Ellen Garrison and Mark Winter who have been appointed to the editorial board of *Provenance*, a professional publication by the Society of Georgia Archivists.

- Several TA members have received certification. Among those now certified are Ken Fieth of the Tennessee State Library and Archives and Mancil Johnson of Tennessee Tech University. Any member who has been certified and has not yet been recognized for his or her accomplishment should contact the editor of this newsletter.

- We would like to welcome Pearl Cantrell to Tennessee. Pearl is arranging the extensive holdings of Historic Rugby. She will be at Rugby until November 1, 1990. Pearl, who is a native of Ewington, Ohio, was formerly at the Jessie Ball DuPont Library at Stratford Hall Plantation, near Fredericksburg, Virginia. The site is managed by the Robert E. Lee Memorial Association.

- David McWhirter would like to remind all members that there will not be a spring meeting this year due to the S.A.C. meeting in Guntersville, Alabama. Since most members pay their annual membership fees at the spring meeting, this will put Tennessee Archivists in a financial strain this year. You are encouraged to send your \$10 fee to David as soon as possible. The address is:

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

Please make checks payable to Tennessee Archivists.



News From Across the Nation

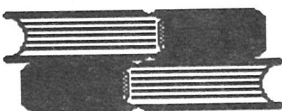
• **St. Louis, MO**—The Society of American Archivists met October 25-29. Three new Fellows were named: Richard Cox of the Department of Library Science at the University of Pittsburgh, Maygene Daniels, director of the Gallery Archives at the National Gallery of Art; and Terry Eastwood, professor of Library, Archival and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia.

• **Washington, D.C.**—The Commission on Preservation and Access announced receipt of a \$254,000 grant from the Getty Grant Program. The grant will be used to develop a joint task force and support research and demonstration projects on preservation microfilming for brittle books and photographs.

• **Montgomery, AL**—The Alabama Department of Archives and History announced a grant of \$156,623 from NHPRC in conjunction with the New York State Archives and Records Administration and the New York State Library Manuscripts and Special Collections Section. The grant will be used to develop and test a standardized procedure for describing archival map holdings.

• **Atlanta, GA**—The Society of Georgia Archivists celebrated its 20th anniversary last summer. Our colleagues are to be congratulated. Twenty years of service to the profession is a milestone worth celebrating.

FYI FYI FYI



From the Bookshelf

- **Archives Assessment and Planning Workbook**, published by SAA/NHPRC, \$19 (SAA Members), \$24 (non-members). Order from SAA, 600 S. Federal, Suite 504, Chicago, IL 60605.
- **Effects of Electronic Record Keeping on the Historical Record of the United States Government**, published by the National Archives and Records Administration. For more information, write the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, VA 22161.
- **Guide to Photographic Collections at the Smithsonian Institution, Volume I, National Museum of American History**, by Diane Vogt O'Connor, first of a five-volume set, \$29.95 plus shipping and handling (\$2.25). Order from Smithsonian Institution Press, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17294-0900 or call (717) 794-2148.



Audio-Visual Information

- **Let the Record Show: Practical Uses for Historical Documents**, New York State Archives and Records Administration, 16 minutes.

The basic message of this documentary is that historical records are crucial for a wide variety of practical purposes. Designed to appeal to a wide variety of audiences, *Let the Record Show* discusses how historic records are preserved, protected and made available to researchers. The presentation maintains that a well-developed, adequately supported program is needed to administer these invaluable materials. This program is available in either VHS or slide-tape format. For more information, contact Terri Sewell, State Archives and Records Administration, Cultural Education Center, Rm. 10A63, Albany, NY 12230.



Conferences

- **The Southern Archivists Conference—Lake Guntersville, Alabama, May 24-25**. On May 23, a day-long workshop is planned. Participants may choose to attend the session on collection development and appraisal, or the sessions on arrangement and description. Sessions on other regional archival organizations, photographic history, philanthropy in Southern universities, use of local records, state guides to historic collections, newspaper projects, and preservation are planned. Time has also been set aside for state organizations to meet.

FYI FYI FYI FYI

Since members of Tennessee Archivists are *de facto* members of the Southern Archivists Conference, you are urged to attend this meeting. For more information, contact Sara Harwell at (615) 322-2807 or Connie Burkhalter at (615) 741-2997.

• **1990 Regional ARMA Conference—Holiday Inn, Buckhead, Atlanta, Georgia, March 7 - 9.** Keynote speaker will be Ira A. Penn, CRM, CSP and editor of the ARMA publication, *The Records Management Quarterly*.

Four sessions will be offered. Track 1 will introduce basic information on records management. Track 2 will involve advanced records management information. Track 3 will present technology and applications. Track 4 will prepare participants for the CRM examination.

The cost to members will be \$250 until February 7, after which it will be \$295. Non-members can expect to pay \$285 until February 7, after which the cost will be \$330. For more information, contact Pat Huffman, P.O. Box 10968, N. Charleston, SC 29411-0968 or call (803) 745-5710.



Grants and Scholarships

Fellowships in Archival Administration, National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Funded jointly by the NHPRC and the Andrew J. Mellon Foundation, these fellowships provide advanced administrative training in archives. For the 1990-91 fellowship year, the stipend is \$28,000, plus up to \$5,600 in fringe benefits for a 9-12 month period between August and October 1990. Host institutions are the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Division of Archives and the Office of Secretary of State, Oregon State Archives Division. Applicants should have 2-5 years of experience as a full-time archivist. It is desirable, but not required, that archivists have the equivalent of 2 semesters in a graduate program containing an archives education component. To request more information or an application, write the NHPRC, National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408 or call Laurie A. Baty at (202) 523-5386. Deadline for application is March 1.

Colonial Dames Scholarship

A scholarship to the National Archives Modern Archives Institute is available from the Colonial

Dames of America. The institute will be held from June 4-15. The scholarship will cover travel, tuition, and housing expenses. To be eligible, an applicant must be an employee of an archival institution or agency with a fair percentage of its holdings predating 1825; must have been employed less than 2 years as an archivist and be working with archives or manuscripts regardless of title. Résumés accompanied by two letters of recommendation from persons having a definite knowledge of the applicant's qualifications should be submitted to Philip N. Cronenwett, Special Collections, Dartmouth College Library, Hanover, NH 03755 by April 15.

National Historical Publications and Records Commission

Funds are available for state-wide projects, state board of regents programs, archival programs in colleges and universities, archival programs in local government, proposals addressing native American initiatives, archival organizations, religious institutions and other non-profit and collection projects. Grants from \$1,000 to \$300,000 have been approved. Consultant grants are also available. Deadlines are June 1 for the October meeting of the commission; October 1, for the February meeting; and February 1 for the June meeting. For more information, call or write: Executive Director Program Assistant/(Grants Administration)/National Archives Building/Washington, DC 20408/(202) 523-5384 or (202) 523-5386.

National Endowment for the Humanities Grants

Proposals are invited in the following areas: appreciation and interpretation of cultural works, the illumination of historical ideas, figures and events, and understanding the disciplines of the humanities and special initiatives, which include projects on the foundations of American society and the Columbian quincentenary. Planning grants usually last no longer than six months and range from \$10,000 to \$20,000. Implementation grants average from one to three years and range from \$15,000 to \$500,000. Deadlines are March 16 or September 21. For more information, write or call: Humanities Projects in Libraries and Archives/Division of General Programs/National Endowment for the Humanities/Room 420/1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW/Washington, DC 20506/(202) 786-0271

Other grant programs are included in *The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance*, which is available from: Superintendent of Documents/Government Printing Office/Washington, DC 20402

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 quarterly newsletter and invites contributions from members and nonmembers. Officers are elected at the spring meeting.

TENNESSEE ARCHIVISTS MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

____ Full Member (\$10 a year)

____ Association Member (\$3 a year)

____ Institutional Member (\$10 a year)

Renewal? ____ Yes ____ No

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

(This is my ____ home ____ business address)

Please make checks payable to Tennessee Archivists and mail to:

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