

# TENNESSEE ARCHIVIST

The Newsletter of the Society of Tennessee Archivists



Chuck Sherrill, Tennessee State Librarian and Archivist, delivers keynote address at STA luncheon banquet.

## STA Annual Meeting 2010 Middle Tennessee State University

Middle Tennessee State University was the site of the recent Society of Tennessee Archivists' annual meeting November 10 – 12, 2010. Held at the James Union Building on the MTSU campus, the annual meeting was sponsored by the College of Mass Communication and the Center for Popular Music. This year's theme was: *Archives in Jeopardy: Maintaining Our Mission in an Uncertain World*. More than 60 archivists, records managers, professors, students, and others from across the state attended the sessions and workshops, which provided educational opportunities for addressing adverse economic issues, disaster preparedness and recovery, and practical solutions to changes in the modern archival profession, among others.

Conference attendees took advantage of two pre-conference workshops held on Wednesday, November 10. Carol Roberts, Director of Preservation Services, Tennessee State Library and Archives conducted *Collections Care and Management Part 2* and Bethany Hawkins of the American Association for State and Local History presented *Financial Management and Fundraising for Archives*. Then on Thursday, the annual meeting began in earnest with two sessions: *Records Emergency Preparedness and Response*, by Carol Roberts, and *The Digital Universe* presented by

Chuck Titus of FamilySearch. Next, Steve Cox, Special Collections Librarian and University Archivist in the Lupton Library, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, presented *Rare Books in the Repository: Is It a Rare and Valuable Book, or Just an Old Book?* Another excellent option was *Institutional Digital Repositories* by Ronee Francis, Digital Collections Archivist of Vanderbilt University Special Collections & University Archives.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the stirring keynote address by the Tennessee State Librarian and Archivist, Mr. Charles Sherrill. Mr. Sherrill spoke on "The Future of Archives" during a luncheon banquet held in the Tennessee Room. He encouraged archives to embrace technology and to reach out to younger generations for the appreciation and promotion of archives.

Two stimulating sessions commenced after lunch. *When the Door Closes, Open a Window: Promoting Archives and Access with Minimal Staff* was presented by Norma Myers Riddle, the University Archivist at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, and Bob Duncan, Director of the Maury County Archives. STA was particularly proud to have a student panel discussion on this year's program, *The Times They are a Changing: Future Archivists Speak Out*. Students from three university archival programs across the state participated in a lively discussion of topics such as community outreach, the cultural impact of archives and participatory archives. The panelists were Gareth Bleddynn and Mandi Pitt from Middle Tennessee State University, Pat Gerard and Joe Penza from East Tennessee State University, and Jennifer Randles and Matt Kirby from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Dr. Marie Tedesco, Director, Master of Arts in Liberal Studies, ETSU served as moderator.



Session attendees.

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# News and Notes

## STA Officers 2011:

**Lucinda Cockrell**  
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Murfreesboro, TN

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Tennessee State Library and Archives  
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Nashville, TN

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[www.geocities.com/tennarchivists](http://www.geocities.com/tennarchivists)

## National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and Preservation Programs Hosts 25th Annual Preservation Conference Wednesday, March 16 and Thursday, March 17, 2011

The venue for both days will be the Marriott Inn and Conference Center, located at the University of Maryland University College (UMUC) on University Boulevard in Adelphi, Maryland. The title of our conference, stated as a mathematical equation, is "Conservation 2 (squared) = Preserving Our Collections x (times) Our Environment." The theme of the conference can be summed up as:

"Success in achieving the long term preservation and availability of archival, library and museum collections requires that we meet the challenges of global climate and economic changes and the need for creative and sustainable solutions. This conference will bring together a group of expert practitioners and advocates in preservation, the environment and allied professions to discuss these changes, collaborative opportunities and options for the future. It will provide a venue for preservation and allied professionals to come together to discuss and to share knowledge relevant to institutions large and small. Program speakers include scientists, preservation professionals, administrators and facility managers; all advocates and thinkers in preserving our collections and our environment.

We anticipate a diverse audience of administrators of archives, historical collections, libraries and museums; architects, facilities managers and engineers: archivists, curators and librarians; collections care and preservation managers, and conservators and preservation specialists. The two-day program will provide opportunities for discussion and networking during the program and at breaks, lunches and a reception. Our intent, as always, is to build a community that shares information enthusiastically, questions and provides answers for each other, and for attendees to leave the conference with renewed enthusiasm and ideas."

The standard registration fee is \$285.00. Full-time students with ID have a reduced rate of \$195.00. The fee covers all food and beverages during break-times and lunch, a late afternoon reception on Wednesday, all handouts and free parking in the adjacent garage if you drive. Unfortunately, we do not have an online payment system established. I can also take registration information and credit card numbers over the phone. Faxing the form in to me can be done on an as-needed basis and by appointment only. I do not want a form with credit card information laying around the office if I am not there.

The Marriott is not connected to a user-friendly mass-transit route, so the easiest travel method is by car or even carpool. If you have no practical choice but to use Metro, the closest stops on the Green Line are either Prince George's Plaza or College Park. We cannot promise anything at this time, but we may be able to have limited shuttle service to and from one of those Metro stops. Please refer to the conference website for current information on this.

For those needing lodging, it is suggested that you stay at the Marriott itself. We have secured a reduced rate for a limited number of rooms, and the convenience factor would be hard to ignore. There are other hotels in the general vicinity, but you would need personal transportation to get you to and fro.

The conference website is  
<http://www.archives.gov/preservation/conferences/2011/>

If you have any questions, please call me directly at 301-837-3617. My email is [richard.schneider@nara.gov](mailto:richard.schneider@nara.gov)

We look forward to seeing you in March!

Richard Schneider  
Preservation Conference Coordinator

*More News and Notes on page 3*

# President's Message



A new year has begun, and I hope it proves a good one for each of you. The Society of Tennessee Archivists is also looking forward to a positive and productive 2011. You have a great executive committee this year and they are already off to a good start. Looking forward, I'd like to mention a few things that are on this year's agenda.

Since we are archivists, we first have to look to the past in order to get to the future. The theme of the 2010 annual meeting was *Archives in Jeopardy: Maintaining Our Mission in an Uncertain World*. Following that theme, one of the outcomes of the 2011 annual meeting was the question: "What role should STA assume in emergency preparedness and disaster response for archives and repositories across the state?" There have been several suggestions, and you will be hearing more on this topic later.

It has been five years since the executive committee wrote a five-year strategic plan. I admit, I'm a big one for planning, but it's been my experience that if you have a plan, some of the items (if not all) come to fruition. So we will be revisiting the strategic plan and revising it

for the next five years. I would like to see us look to the future by setting reasonable long-term and short-term goals with realistic objectives for making STA stronger and more responsive.

Then there are STA's ongoing programs and projects. Tennessee Archives Month will be in October, with STA offering encouragement for the celebration of archives and historical records across the state. The 2011 annual meeting takes a great deal of work and preparation and is always an agenda item for the Executive Committee. Gordon Belt, as the new vice president, is already planning and collaborating for the event.

The Executive Committee, along with the Education, Membership, Nominating, Scholarship, and Awards committees will be working to sustain existing programs, as well as identify future initiatives. And there are new committee appointments to be made. So don't be shy about getting involved. Taking a role in STA is a great way to become more involved in the archives profession, make friends, contacts, network, learn, and I hope, have fun. Do you have thoughts, suggestions, ideas, or ways you would like to help make a difference? Please drop me or any of the Executive Committee members an email, call, or use the STA blog. STA needs input from all of its members in order to remain vital and relevant.

*Lucinda Cockrell*  
STA President

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## More News and Notes

### 44th Annual Georgia Archives Institute June 6 - 17, 2011

Designed for beginning archivists, manuscript curators, and librarians, the 44<sup>th</sup> Georgia Archives Institute will offer general instruction in basic concepts and practices of archival administration and management of traditional and modern documentary materials. The Institute will be held at the Georgia Archives in Morrow, Georgia, 15 miles south of Atlanta.

Dr. Timothy L. Ericson, former Director of Archival Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Information Studies, will be the instructor during the first week. Topics will include acquisition, appraisal, arrangement, description, reference, as well as legal and administrative issues. The second week of instruction will begin with training on preservation by Christine Wiseman, Preservation Manager at the Georgia Archives. To link archival theory with real world application, students will also participate in individualized, three-day internships at local archival repositories. Tuition is \$500. Enrollment is limited and the deadline for receipt of application, resume, and \$75 application fee (refunded if not admitted to Institute) is March 1, 2011. Tuition does not cover transportation, housing, or meals. Tuition scholarships are available from the Society of Georgia Archivists, [www.soga.org](http://www.soga.org) and The Friends of Georgia Archives and History, [www.FOGAH.org](http://www.FOGAH.org). Scholarships have earlier deadlines.

For an application to the Institute or information, please visit the Georgia Archives Institute web site at [www.georgiaarchivesinstitute.org](http://www.georgiaarchivesinstitute.org) or contact:

Georgia Archives Institute  
P.O. Box 279  
Morrow, GA 30260-0279  
Email: [GeorgiaArchivesInstitute@yahoo.com](mailto:GeorgiaArchivesInstitute@yahoo.com)

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**Tennessee Archivist, Winter 2011**

## Annual Meeting, *continued*

One late afternoon session was offered titled *The Underfunded Archive: Preserving Regional Media Collections Without a Budget*, presented by Bradley Reeves, Louisa Trott and Dr. Todd Eaton of the Tennessee Archive of Moving Image and Sound. Meeting participants were also treated to tours of the Center for Popular Music and the Albert Gore Research Center at MTSU and the Rutherford County Archives before heading to the Heritage Center of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County for a reception complete with exhibits, music and hors d'oeuvres.



Carol Roberts, Director of Preservation Services, Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Friday morning. A resolution in honor of the late Dr. Pat Morris (TSLA archivist) was read and approved. In addition to the various committee reports, the following new officers were elected: President Lucinda Cockrell, Center for Popular Music, MTSU; Vice President/President-elect Gordon Belt, First Amendment Center, John Seigenthaler Center; and Treasurer Carol Roberts, Preservation Services Division, Tennessee State Library and Archives. The following officers will remain in their respective positions: Eric Head, Secretary, of the Knox County Archives; Lori Lockhart, Webmaster, of



Jim Havron, Dr. Ellen Garrison, Thweatt Archival Advancement Award winner, and Gordon Belt.

A congenial Awards Dinner followed at Oaklands' House Museum Visitors Center. Dale Cockrell, Vanderbilt professor and Interim Director of the Center for Popular Music spoke on *Music, Memory, and Autobiography: The Case of Laura Ingalls Wilder* after dinner, then Jim Havron presented the awards. Dr. Ellen Garrison, Associate Professor in the History Department at MTSU and in charge of the archival tract program and Mrs. Jean Sugg, former Tennessee State Librarian and Archivist were awarded the John Thweatt Archival Advancement Award. Joseph Penza from East Tennessee State University and Rachel Drayton from Middle Tennessee State University were awarded student scholarships.

STA President Jim Havron conducted the STA business meeting



Student panel for *The Times They Are A Changing: Future Archivists Speak Out*.

TSLA; Ralph Sowell, Archivist, of TSLA; and Jay Richiuso, Newsletter Editor, of TSLA. Jim Havron rotates off as SAC Representative and also moves to Immediate Past President. Next was a lively and productive roundtable discussion by all members present. The main topic of discussion was "what is STA's role in disaster preparedness and recovery?" (See page 5 in this issue.)

Many thanks to the arrangements committee members who helped Lucinda Cockrell with the meeting, namely members of the STA Executive Committee, John Lodl of the Rutherford County Archives, and Sarah Shippy Copeland of [Cleveland State Community College Library](#). Thanks also to MTSU for hosting the meeting with no charge for facilities, and all the meeting sponsors who provided funds and resources: MTSU College of Mass Communications, Center for Popular Music, and the MTSU Public History Program, the Heritage Center of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County, Rutherford County Archives, Rutherford County Historical Society and Oaklands Historic House Museum.

Plans are already underway for the 2011 STA Annual Meeting, with the theme of *Roots: Unearthing Family History in Tennessee Archives*. The location of the meeting will be the John Seigenthaler Center in Nashville, Tennessee. More information will be available in future newsletters and on the STA website.

Submitted by Lucinda Cockrell

## For Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Coordination Teams

### **STA's Role in Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response**

During the roundtable discussion that was part of the STA annual meeting on Friday, November 12, 2010, Linda Barnickel of the Nashville Public Library submitted this question for discussion: "What is STA's role in disaster preparedness and recovery?" Since the theme of the meeting was *Archives in Jeopardy: Uncertain World*, this was a most appropriate question. What ensued was a constructive discussion of how STA might help facilitate communication, information sharing, and recovery to archives across the state in the event of a disaster. Lessons were learned in the wake of the May 2010 flood, when archival, historic, and family materials were lost, damaged, and threatened. There are many excellent resources and programs already available. Such as the SSA Cares Web site, IPER, and other material and procedure links.

After the destruction of 2005 Hurricane Katrina, Brenda Gunn of the Society of Southwest Archives (SSA) set up a SSA Cares website that enabled archivists in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas, whose repositories were most affected by the hurricane, to communicate with one another. SSA Cares proved to be an important resource as members found the website the best way to immediately respond to those colleagues most in need and to donate supplies or services:

<http://herbie.ischool.utexas.edu/ssacares/>

There is also the Intergovernmental Preparedness for Essential Records (IPER) project. The IPER project extends and expands upon The Council of State Archivists' (CoSA) ongoing Emergency Preparedness Initiative (EPI) which began in the wake of the 2005 hurricanes. IPER's purpose is to "develop and deliver training to state and local governments about how to protect records before, during, and after disasters and other emergencies":

<http://rc.statearchivists.org/Content/IPER-Project.aspx>

The Society of Tennessee Archivists promotes MayDay: Saving Our Archives. This is a call for all archives to incorporate emergency response planning because "protecting our collections is one of our fundamental responsibilities as archivists." <http://www.archivists.org/mayday/>

Within the state of Tennessee, the Tennessee State Library and Archives and State Museum have done a good job of posting needed preservation information on their websites. <http://tn.gov/tsla/preservation/index.htm> and [http://www.tnmuseum.org/custpage.cfm/frm/39793/sec\\_id/63992](http://www.tnmuseum.org/custpage.cfm/frm/39793/sec_id/63992)

With all of this in mind, what is STA's role in disaster preparedness and recovery? Here are a few of the ideas that came from the roundtable discussion:

Put disaster-related links, network of contacts, mirrored sites of where to go for help and information on the STA website. Use STA to maintain a list of resources, professionals, supplies, and services. This would be especially useful for smaller agencies, archives, historical societies, and individual family records that have the most need or can't afford it. Include salvage for family collections, teach people how to be prepared for disaster in their home.

Create a network of Regional Responders or First Responders across the state that would improve contacts in the area and facilitate communication in the event of a disaster. This may require training for first responders. Create East, West, and Middle Tennessee teams of professionals able to assist area archives in need. STA would need to maintain this volunteer list and contact information of professionals in each area.

Use MayDay as a catalyst for establishing a disaster coordination committee. See what the needs are for archives across the state and connect those in need with available help. Start with STA members, then branch out to related organizations.

STA host a disaster-related workshop in April or May 2011, in remembrance of the one-year anniversary of the 2010 May flood.

So what are your ideas? What should be STA's role in disaster preparedness and recovery? Your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions are most welcome. Post something on STA's blog <http://www.tennesseearchivists.org/blog/wordpress/society-of-tennessee-archivists/> or email me at [lcockrel@mtsu.edu](mailto:lcockrel@mtsu.edu).

Lucinda Cockrell

# More News and Notes

## 25th Annual Western Archives Institute U.C. Berkeley in Berkeley, California July 10 – 22, 2011.

The Western Archives Institute is an intensive, two-week program that provides integrated instruction in basic archival practices to individuals with a variety of backgrounds, including those whose jobs require a fundamental understanding of archival skills, but who have little or no previous archives education; those who have expanding responsibility for archival materials; those who are practicing archivists but have not received formal instruction; and those who demonstrate a commitment to an archival career.

The Institute also features site visits to historical records repositories and a diverse curriculum that includes history and development of the profession, theory and terminology, records management, appraisal, arrangement, description, manuscripts acquisition, archives and the law, photographs, preservation administration, reference and access, outreach programs, and managing archival programs and institutions.

Dr. David Gracy has graciously agreed to serve as Principal Faculty Member for the 2011 Institute. Gracy is the Governor Bill Daniel Professor in Archival Enterprise, University of Texas at Austin School of Information. Dr. Gracy worked in the Texas State Archives and University of Texas Archives before becoming Archivist, Southern Labor Archives, Georgia State University, and then Director, Texas State Archives. He is a former President of both the Society of American Archivists and the Academy of Certified Archivists, and a Fellow of the Texas State Historical Association. Dr. Gracy's research interests include the history of archival enterprise, of archives and libraries in Texas, and of the information domain. He is the author of *Archives and Manuscripts: Arrangement and Description*; *The State Library and Archives of Texas: A History, 1835-1962*, and *Moses Austin: His Life*. This will be the fifth time Gracy has served as Principal Faculty Member of the Western Archives Institute.

Tuition for the Institute is \$700 and includes a selection of archival publications. Other non-negotiable fees including program transportation, facility fees, opening dinner, and luncheon at the closing program will be available in early February. Housing and meal plans are available at additional cost.

The application deadline for the 2011 Western Archives Institute is **April 1, 2011**. For additional program information, see <http://www.calarchivists.org/Default.aspx?pageId=704191>, or contact:

Administrator  
Western Archives Institute  
1020 O Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Telephone: 916/653-7715  
Fax: 916/653-7134  
E-mail: [ArchivesWeb@sos.ca.gov](mailto:ArchivesWeb@sos.ca.gov)

The Western Archives Institute is co-sponsored by the Society of California Archivists and the California State Archives.

The application package is available on the California State Archives website at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/wai/>, and on the Society of California Archivists web site at <http://www.calarchivists.org/Default.aspx?pageId=704191>.

Ellen Jarosz  
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# VP's Message



Happy belated New Year! It is my distinct honor and pleasure to serve you as STA Vice-President/President-Elect in 2010-2011. I have been a member of STA since 1999, and have served on a variety of committees, including the Nominations Committee, Education Committee, and Thweatt Award Committee. I have also been a vocal advocate for Tennessee archives through my blog, *The Posterity Project*. As someone who has embraced social media, I can tell you firsthand that these new online communication tools have given archivists a powerful medium and creative outlet to share their collections and network with colleagues. I must confess, however, that I have learned so much more about the archival profession, and have met with so many more great people through my association with the STA than through any blog or tweet. While technology may bring us closer together in a virtual sense, people actively engaging with one another in the real world are what really matter in an organization. I am grateful to have an opportunity to be actively involved as your Vice-President, and I encourage you to make a New Year's resolution to become actively engaged with your fellow STA members.

One of my resolutions and duties as STA vice president is planning for the next annual meeting. These annual gatherings give us a chance to reconnect with our peers and fellowship with our friends. The annual meeting also serves the STA's educational mission, and over the years has provided me with a wealth of knowledge about archives and the archival profession. Coinciding with "Tennessee Archives Month," this year's annual meeting will be held on October 26-28 at the Freedom Forum's John Seigenthaler First Amendment Center on the campus of Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. I am pleased to announce that our Keynote Speaker will be John Seigenthaler, founder of the First Amendment Center and chairman emeritus of *The Tennessean*. On Dec. 15, 2011, the First Amendment Center will celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the 220<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bill of Rights – the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution. I think it is only fitting that the STA – an organization that truly values our documentary heritage – holds its annual meeting in this venue, celebrating our own freedom of assembly – one of the five cherished freedoms of the First Amendment.

The theme chosen for this year's annual meeting is "*Roots: Unearthing Family History in Tennessee Archives*." Sessions will focus on genealogical resources available at Tennessee archives and historical repositories, including traditional materials as well as "hidden" and digital resources. Planning is currently underway, and I'm really looking forward to presenting an exciting and informative slate of programs based around this theme. There will be more information published in the STA Newsletter in the coming months. In the meantime, if you have ideas or suggestions for the annual meeting, or have questions about the STA, please let me know. I look forward to serving you in this New Year.

*Gordon T. Belt*  
STA Vice-President/President-Elect

## WHY NOT JOIN STA?

The Society of Tennessee Archivists invites membership from all persons interested in Tennessee's archives and historical resources. Membership is on a calendar basis. STA currently holds one meeting each year which includes the annual business meeting, at which the society officers are elected by the membership. STA publishes its newsletter several times a year and invites contributions from members and non-members. STA is a member of the Southern Archivists Conference (SAC), the regional association for Southern archivists and is currently comprised of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee. SAC meetings are held every other year with each state alternately hosting the meeting.

**Full Membership, \$20.00/year      Institutional Membership, \$20.00/year**  
**Associate Membership \$10/year**

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

**Carol Roberts, Treasurer**  
**Society of Tennessee Archivists**  
**c/o Tennessee State Library and Archives**  
**403 Seventh Avenue North**  
**Nashville, TN 37243-0312**

# Society of Tennessee Archivists Officers & Committees, 2010-2011

## Executive Committee

President: Lucinda Cockrell, Center for Popular Music, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro  
 Vice-President/President-Elect: Gordon T. Belt, First Amendment Center, John Seigenthaler Center, Nashville  
 Secretary: Eric Head, Knox County Archives, Knoxville  
 Treasurer: Carol Roberts, Preservation Services, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville  
 Archivist: David R. Sowell, Archival Technical Services, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville  
 Newsletter Editor: Jay Richiuso, Public Services Division, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville  
 Webmaster: Lori Lockhart, Archival Technical Services, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville  
 Past President: James Havron, Albert Gore Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro

## Arrangements Committee

Chair: Gordon Belt, Freedom Forum First Amendment Center Library, Nashville  
 Lucinda Cockrell, Center for Popular Music, MTSU  
 James Havron, Albert Gore Research Center, MTSU  
 Eric Head, Knox County Archives  
 Amber Gilmer, Preservation Services, TSLA  
 David R. Sowell, Archival Technical Services, TSLA  
 Jay Richiuso, Public Services Division, TSLA  
 Lori Lockhart, Archival Technical Services, TSLA  
 Carol Roberts, Preservation Services, TSLA  
 Taffey Hall, Southern Baptist Historical Library & Archives, Nashville  
 Ken Fieth, Metro Archives of Nashville and Davidson County

## Membership Committee

(2010) Chair: Open - TBD  
 (2010) Derrick Mink, Shelby County Archives, Memphis  
 (2010) Sarah Shippy Copeland, Cleveland State Community College, Cleveland

## Education Committee

Chair: Taffey Hall, Southern Baptist Historical Library & Archives, Nashville  
 (2010) Chris Ryland, Eskind Biomedical Library, Vanderbilt University, Nashville  
 (2010) Andrea Blackman, Nashville Public Library, Nashville

## Nominating Committee

Chair: James Havron, Albert Gore Research Center, MTSU  
 (2010) Ken Fieth, Metro Archives of Nashville and Davidson County  
 (2010) Susan Knight Gore, Historical Foundation, Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Cordova

## Southern Archives Conference (SAC) Representative

Open - TBD

### The 2011 Society of Tennessee Archivists Annual Meeting

## *Roots: Unearthing Family History in Tennessee Archives*

October 26-28, 2011

The location of the meeting will be the John Seigenthaler Center in Nashville, Tennessee. More information will be available in future newsletters and on the STA website.