



The Ohio Archivist

Spring 2006, Volume 37 Number 1

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Spring Brings New Energy and Ongoing Challenges

By Beth A. Kattelman, editor

Another extremely successful Spring Conference has come and gone, and I—for one—am already looking forward to the next “get together.” Attending SOA events always serves to remind me how intelligent and resourceful our members are. I come away with new ideas and renewed energy.

Attending these meetings also reminds me, however, that we still have a lot of work to do. For example, we have recently seen an increasing trend toward the re-classification of government documents that have been previously open to the public. Politicians are using “executive privilege” to close ever-broadening categories of records, thus preventing public scrutiny, and legislation is serving to support this trend. For example, the recent Ohio Supreme Court ruling in *Dann v. Taft* denies public access to many significant records of Ohio's governor. This ruling sets a dangerous precedent and is a direct attack upon the people's right to know. In order to express our concern about this issue, the SOA Council has passed a resolution against *Dann v. Taft*. [see pg. 3] We, as information professionals, must continue to fight this trend toward the suppression of information. Make sure your legislators know how you feel! You can show your support for our resolution by visiting our new SOA blog at <http://ohioarchives.blogspot.com>. And don't be afraid to contact your legislators directly. They need to know that this is an important issue to us.

Before ending this column, I'd like to extend a special thanks to the following outgoing council members who completed their terms last month:

Judith Wiener, Medical Heritage Center, OSU
Shari Christy, Air Force Research Lab History Office
Laurie Gemmill, OCLC Online Computer Library Center

They have been a joy to work with!



President's Message

Last month we held our 38th annual conference at the Ohio Historical Center. It was undoubtedly one of our most successful conferences to date. We had several members who volunteered countless hours working on both local arrangements and the program. Their hard work truly paid off. There are many successes we can note including: over 100 people in attendance, sponsorship reaching new heights, two strong session tracks addressing novice and experienced archivists' needs, and we even came out in the black. Thank you to all who worked on the conference and especially to Angela O'Neal who served as chairperson of the meeting. During the conference 3 of our council members, Judy Wiener, Shari Christy, and Laurie Gemmill, wrapped up their terms in office. I want to thank them for all of their work over the past 2 years. Their support and enthusiasm for SOA will sorely be missed.

I have really enjoyed my first year as president of SOA and I look forward to the upcoming year's exciting events. The Fall Symposium will be held in the Cleveland Area, Archives Week coming up in October will spotlight African American History in Ohio, and our spring 2007 conference jointly hosted with Midwest Archives Conference (MAC) will be held in Columbus. If you are looking to get involved in SOA this is the year to do it. There is a ton of work to be done. Remember SOA needs your help to continue its success. Get involved in SOA!

MONDAY, MAY 01, 2006

Society of Ohio Archivists Passes Resolution Against *Dann v Taft*

The Ohio Supreme Court ruling *Dann v Taft* broadly defines "communications to and from the Governor made for the purpose of fostering informed and sound deliberations, policy making and decision making" as subject to executive privilege, and thereby redefines public records laws in Ohio.

Editorials in the Columbus Dispatch, the Cincinnati Enquirer and the Toledo Blade have also expressed their dissatisfaction with the ruling.

SOA Council passed the following resolution on May 1, 2006:

WHEREAS, democracy requires an informed electorate; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Supreme Court's recent ruling in *Dann v. Taft* denies the public access to many significant records of Ohio's governor; and

WHEREAS, such a ruling limits Ohioans' right to know about the decisions and actions of their government; and

WHEREAS, the ruling will result in an incomplete historical record of the actions of Ohio's government; and

WHEREAS, the Society of Ohio Archivists hears the concerns of archivists, records managers, and members of the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Society of Ohio Archivists expresses profound dismay about this ruling and hopes that this issue will be addressed quickly through legislative or other action.

Show your support of the resolution by leaving a comment at
<http://ohioarchives.blogspot.com>

News and Notes



HUDSON LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S NEW FACILITY IS A HIT WITH VISITORS!

On June 11, 2005 the Hudson Library & Historical Society dedicated its new 52,000 square foot facility at 96 Library Street in Hudson, Ohio with about 9,000 people in attendance. The Archives department (featured in the photograph) houses the historical collections of artifacts, manuscripts, local history, and genealogy collections in their 3,187 square feet. Hudson Library & Historical Society has a 95 year history as an association library and historical society. Dan Meehan was the architect and Donley Inc. was the primary contractor. The community is seemingly in love with the new library and historical society. Please stop and visit when you are in the neighborhood and say hi.

--Gwendolyn Mayer, Acting Archivist, Hudson Library & Historical Society

Ohio Humanities Council (OHC)

The seventh annual Oral History Institute will be held June 6–8 at Kenyon College in Gambier. Recommended for local historians, librarians, teachers (grade school through university level), and others requiring training and expertise to complete successful oral history projects. OHC and the Rural Life Center at Kenyon College, in cooperation with Ohio Association of Historical Societies and Museums and the Ohio Historical Society present this opportunity. http://www.ohiohumanities.org/his_institute/his_institute.htm

OhioLINK

The Database Management and Standards Committee's EAD (Encoded Archival Description) Task Force will soon distribute a draft "Content Guidelines for EAD" for comment. The initial method of draft distribution will be via the SOA and OHIODIG Listservs. The guidelines are part of a larger effort to build a repository of EAD finding aids for institutions across Ohio at OhioLINK. The repository will include tools to simplify encoding and a search engine that will allow users to search across the entire repository of finding aids, or browse individual finding aids one at a time. For task force information contact Amy McCrory at mccrory.7@osu.edu. <http://www.ohiolink.edu>

History Day

630 students participated in History Day on Saturday, May 6. This year's theme was "Taking A Stand in History: People, Places, Ideas." As part of History Day, students write a paper in which they must demonstrate exceptional research and use of primary sources. This year the The SOA Award winners were:

Junior Division - Anirudh Dasarathay, Birchwood School, Cleveland - "The Cuban Missile Crisis: Taking a Stand Against Cuban-Soviet Conspiracy"

Senior Division - Ashley Clary, Allie West, Glenna Wright, South Gallia High School, Crown City "Freedom's Wheels Are Rolling: The Freedom Riders Take a Stand"

Ohio University Library

Two staff members at the Mahn Center for Archives & Special Collections, Ohio University Libraries have departed recently. Genealogical specialist Karen Jones retired at the end of April after nearly 20 years in the department. Records Management Associate Shelia Curtis has taken a post in the Libraries administrative office; her position is scheduled to be replaced.

The Collection of William G. Myers MD, PhD: The Godfather of the Cyclotron

by Mary Manning, M.A., M.L.I.S.

Archivist, Medical Heritage Center, Prior Health Sciences Library
The Ohio State University

In 1940, just one year after Ernest O. Lawrence won the Nobel Prize for his invention of the cyclotron, William Myers attended a lecture by Ernest's brother John Lawrence on the potential uses of the cyclotron in medicine. The cyclotron was one of the earliest sub-atomic particle accelerators. When accelerated particles in the cyclotron struck ordinary nuclei, radioisotopes were produced. Lawrence pointed out that, at times, these radioisotopes had potential uses for medicine. Lawrence's lecture ignited Myers's interest in what was to become his life-long research pursuit: using the cyclotron to develop radioactive isotopes for medical use.

The William G. Myers, MD, PhD Collection at the Medical Heritage Center (MHC) of The Ohio State University documents the personal life and professional career of this pioneer in nuclear medicine. At approximately 150 linear feet, it is one of the MHC's flagship collections. Myers (1908-1988) made many contributions to nuclear medicine and was instrumental in bringing a cyclotron to the Physics Department at Ohio State in 1941. In 1948, he introduced cobalt-60 as a substitute for radium in cancer treatment, and in 1952, he and Benjamin H. Colmery introduced gold-198 as a replacement for radon-222 in permanent seed implantation for cancer therapy. Myers was also instrumental to the development of radioisotopes for diagnostic and investigative medicine. He introduced more radioisotopes into nuclear medicine than any other individual—eleven in all.



Myers with radioactive gold seeds for permanent seed implantation in cancer therapy (Photograph courtesy of The Ohio State University Photo Archives)

The Myers Collection contains photographs, correspondence, news clippings, report cards, and other ephemera that document Myers's early life. Born in Toledo, Ohio, Myers was the son of a farmer and a factory worker. His parents divorced when he was very young, and as a result, he lived in an orphanage for a number of years. After remarrying, his father reunited the family and moved them to a homestead in Alberta, Canada. As a boy, Myers helped build the family log cabin and support the family by hunting and fishing.



Myers with another child and two dogs at the Myers family log cabin in Alberta, Canada. (Photograph courtesy of the William G. Myers, MD, PhD Collection)

Myers rode ten miles by horse to attend the local school. However, he left home and school as a teenager to support himself as a photographer and waiter. Myers eventually returned to his family, and to school. A decent student whose grades were not always stellar, he excelled in the sciences, particularly in chemistry. Myers graduated from Wauseon High School and won a competitive tuition scholarship to The Ohio State University. By attending 39 consecutive quarters, Myers earned his PhD in physical chemistry in 1939 and his MD in 1941.

The Myers Collection contains his master's thesis, dissertation, and course work that document his years at The Ohio State University, where he supported himself as a barber and a teaching assistant in chemistry. A highlight of the Myers Collection are the letters he wrote in 1946 to Florence Lenahan, his new bride, describing his experience as a radiation security officer and radiation monitor during Operation Crossroads



Letterhead depicting the atom bomb tests of Operation Crossroads, from Myers to his wife June 28, 1946. It explains that personnel were permitted to write five letters that were held until the day the first bomb was exploded. The letters were sent in envelopes with the same design as the letterhead and received a special postmark commemorating the date. (Letter from the William G. Myers, MD, PhD Collection.)

This joint Army and Navy nuclear weapons test series took place in the Bikini Atoll of the Marshall Islands and comprised the first post-WWII nuclear bombing tests. The series consisted of two tests, Able and Baker, each using the same type of MK 3A fission bomb that was dropped on Nagasaki. Able was the first test designed to study the effects of the atomic bomb on naval vessels, planes, and animals. Utilizing an airburst-type detonation, Able produced radiation contamination that quickly dissipated. Baker, on the other hand, employed a sub-surface burst and yielded very different results: an explosion that bathed the fleet in radio-active mist and debris and required close to a year of decontamination efforts. All personnel were exposed to unhealthy levels of radiation, but in his job as monitor, Myers had the greatest risk of harmful exposure. This experience cemented his interest in what he called "atoms for peace."

Containing approximately 16,000 letters, memos, and postcards, the Correspondence Series of the Myers Collection is especially strong. Myers cultivated professional and personal relationships with Nobel Prize winners and other important figures in the fields of chemistry, physics, and nuclear medicine at hospitals and research centers throughout the world. The collection includes letters from many important figures in the field of nuclear medicine and physics, including Paul Aebersold, John Lawrence, Rosalyn S. Yalow, Hal Anger, Irene Curie, and Glenn T. Seaborg. Myers made copies of the letters he sent, and consequently, there is a complete record of his written communications. The topics of his correspondence include his teaching, research, students and colleagues, civic and administrative activities, and professional and publishing activities.

The correspondence also provides information about Myers's interest in the history of nuclear medicine. A founding member of the Society of Nuclear Medicine, Myers remained active in the organization throughout his long career and served as the society's historian for 13 years (1973-1986). During this time, he published many articles documenting the history of nuclear medicine in the society's journal, *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*. Correspondence with various United States government agencies is also represented, including the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

The Photographs Series of the Myers Collection is particularly rich and includes approximately 3,840 photographic prints, 4,508 negatives, and 18,400 slides. Myers was an avid photographer and an active member of the faculty photography club. His photographic subjects include nuclear medicine pioneers, historical OSU Medical Center events, and nuclear medicine equipment. Myers was among the first researchers employing radiation in medical studies and counted among his friends many of the early innovators mentioned in the previous paragraph as recipients of his letters. Myers was particularly proud of the photograph he took of Madame Marie Curie's daughter Irene Joliot-Curie, which he donated to the Institut du Radium at the University of Paris.

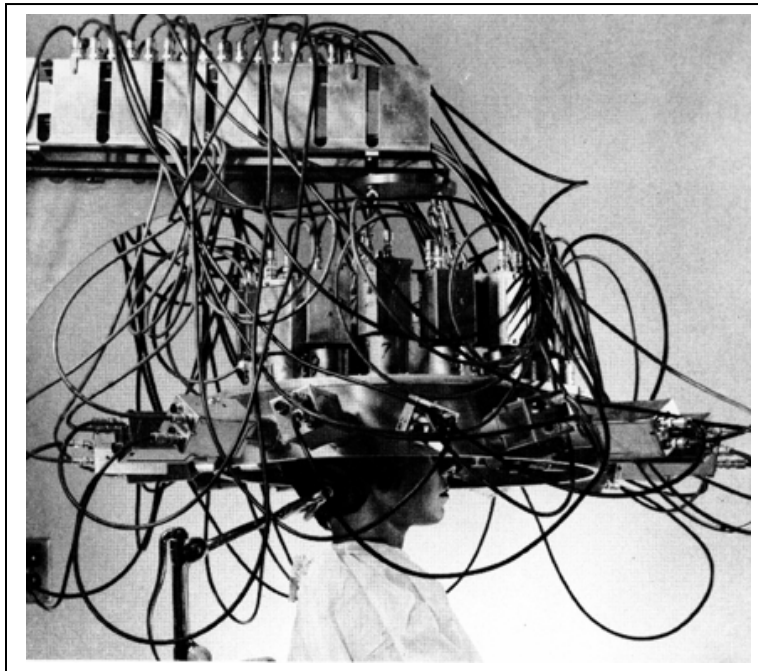
Perhaps the most fascinating photographs in the collection are those shot during the early days of nuclear equipment production when changes occurred rapidly and the previous year's innovations were quickly dated and discarded. The images include early, experimental models of which very few images exist today. To better identify this equipment, the MHC is working on a photograph identification project with specialists in nuclear medicine who are still familiar with this early equipment.



Notable images include those of one particular piece of experimental equipment: the Anger scintillation camera.

Hal O. Anger with the early version of the Anger scintillation camera, which is also called a gamma camera. (Photograph from the William G. Myers, M.D., Ph.D. Collection.)

The scintillation camera, also known as the gamma camera or the Anger camera, was one of the earliest radionuclide imaging cameras, and was invented by Hal O. Anger in 1958. Although Ben Cassen developed the first imaging camera in 1950, Anger's had the advantages of simultaneously recording emissions from a large area at once and recording the motion of organs and fluid in the body. The Anger camera is still in common use and paved the way for more sophisticated imaging systems today. Through the determination of Myers, OSU purchased the first commercial version of it in 1962. Other important images include photographs of Michel Ter-Pogossian with the first in-hospital cyclotron, the gamma ray positron camera, and the Gammicon. The collection contains photographs of cyclotrons around the world. Photographs of remarkable equipment with colorful names, such as the "Monster" and the "Head Shrinker" are also included in the collection.



The "Head Shrinker"
one of many images
of early, experimental
equipment in the
Myers Collection.
(Photograph from the
William G. Myers, MD,
PhD Collection.)

Other series, such as Associations and Conferences; Publications; Research, Speeches and Exhibits; Teaching; and Equipment, Laboratories, and Supplies in the Myers Collection document Myers's forty-plus years in the burgeoning field of nuclear medicine. The Association and Conferences Series contains over three linear feet of civil-defense-related materials. Myers pioneered safety standards for nuclear waste as well as the use of radio isotopes for medical use. As a faculty member at The OSU College of Medicine, Myers researched and taught for more than forty years. He taught the university's first radiation biology course (the first course in the world to be taught by a

physician), held faculty positions in the departments of Medicine, Physiology, and Radiology, and earned emeritus professor status in 1979. Additionally, he served as visiting professor of biophysics at the University of California, Berkeley (1970s) and Cornell University (1980s). Myers also spent considerable time researching with larger cyclotrons at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Myers was a prolific author, publishing over 200 articles during his lifetime.

Throughout his career, Myers championed the cyclotron. With Myers as its backer, OSU acquired one of the first cyclotrons in the world and was one of the first universities to make short-lived radionuclides for medical use. However, the development of the nuclear reactor, which could produce larger quantities of radioisotopes than the cyclotron, began to put cyclotrons on the back burner. As Myers's career progressed, he studied radionuclides with progressively shorter half-lives. Many of these shorter-lived radionuclides could not remain radioactive in transit from a large nuclear reactor and could be better produced in a cyclotron. Myers argued that every hospital should have its own cyclotron. Through continuing research with cyclotrons, Myers played a large role in their resurgence in the 1990's. For his continuing role as proponent of the cyclotron, Henry Wagner, present historian of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and co-author of the soon-to-be-published book *Atoms for Life: A Personal History of Nuclear Medicine*, called Myers the "godfather of the cyclotron." This is a title he greatly deserves.

The Myers Collection is expected to generate a great deal of research interest when it is opened to the public in the spring of 2006. The collection opening will be accompanied by an exhibit and public programs that will enhance awareness of its availability for research. The MHC's website will feature a Myers virtual exhibit and a new MHC digital library with the Myers Collection serving as the pilot collection. For future access to these digital resources or to find out more about the Medical Heritage Center, please visit our web site at <http://mhc.mad.ohio-state.edu>

On May 25, 2006, as part of the opening festivities, nuclear medicine history scholar, long-time associate of Myers, and author of *Atoms for Life: A Personal History of Nuclear Medicine*, Henry Wagner MD, will lecture on the history of nuclear medicine and Myers's role in that history. For more information on that event or the collection, please contact the Myers archivist, Mary Manning MA, MLIS, at manning.84@osu.edu or 614-292-9966.

Spring Conference Recap

Moving Archival Basics Into the Future April 19 -21

This year's Spring Meeting was held at the Ohio Historical Center in Columbus, Ohio. In addition to a wonderful plenary, lunchtime program and numerous informational sessions, the conference also included student poster sessions, a silent auction, the SOA business meeting and tours of the Ohio Governor's Residence, the State Library of Ohio/Ohioana Library and the Ohio Historical Society.

At the Spring Meeting, the following new council members were elected:

Stephen Paschen, The University of Akron -- Treasurer

Mary Manning, Medical Heritage Center, OSU – general council

Erik Mayer, OCLC Online Computer Library Center – general council

Also, at the meeting, **Leigh A. French** was presented with the SOA Continuing Education Stipend to help defer travel expenses, and Merit Awards were presented to **Judith Cobb**, **Anna Heran** and **Mark Leff** in recognition for their contributions toward improving the state of archives in Ohio.

[We'd again like to thank our CONFERENCE SPONSORS:](#)

OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Ohio Historical Society, Metal Edge, Inc.,
Current business Solutions LLC, Allegra Print & Imaging, Central Business Group, Ohio
Preservation Council, Ovid

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Archival Products, Cord Camera, Experience Columbus, Gaylord, Kent State University,
Light Impressions, Ohio Library Information Network, Ohionet, Ohio Historical Society,
Wright State University

Plenary Session

The plenary was delivered by **Max J. Evans**, Executive Director of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. (NHPRC) Evans informative talk was on the “archives of the future,” and the ways in which we, as information professionals, will need to adjust our methods in order to respond to the “most astoundingly rapid adaptation of technology” that has ever existed.

Evans discussed the social phenomenon in which people expect to find everything they need instantly and online, and how we must respond to this need by becoming more efficient at handling the large volume of materials under our care. He noted the problem of “hidden collections,” and argued that we must work to make these collections available more quickly by finding new methods of processing. To these ends, he proposes a “new strategic model for organizing archival work.”



Evans new strategic model is a commons-based, peer production model that uses groups of individuals in collaboration to successfully carry out large-scale projects. For example, he says, it is possible to coordinate a team of volunteers to help input metadata. This could even be done by off-site volunteers, thus taking some of the workload off of archive personnel. By using this method, Evans says, we can make information accessible to the public in a much more timely fashion than is currently possible. Evans also notes that we must develop a “lean and efficient system of minimum-level processing.” He argues that, in our quest to be exact and thorough, we sometimes inadvertently “hide” materials from our customers. He posits that we should be willing to accept a minimum level of processing that will allow, at least, some modicum of access for our customers. For example, Evans notes, it is better to put up scanned images and to describe a collection in aggregate than it is to allow a collection to remain untouched until it can be thoroughly processed and described in detail. This at least allows researchers to know that the collection exists and gives them a rudimentary idea of what it might contain.



Max Evans addresses the SOA membership during the 2006 Spring Meeting plenary session.

Responding to a question from the audience, Evans addressed the issue of quality-control in his new processing model. He noted that it is possible to build in quality-controls by setting up specific guidelines and offering volunteers very specific choices – such as pull-down menus – for the initial inputting of metadata. Evans also mentioned that grants are available from the NHPRC to organizations who wish to institute the type of commons-based, peer production project that he suggests. His insightful and thought-provoking comments were well-received by the SOA membership.



The Silent Auction was a great success. Proceeds will be used to fund continuing education scholarships

Lunchtime Speaker

The lunchtime program for the Spring Meeting was provided by John E. Haas, Reference Archivist at the Ohio Historical Society. He is also the co-editor, with Glenn Longacre, of *To Battle for God and the Right: the Civil War Letterbooks of Emerson Opdycke*. Opdycke was a lieutenant and commander during the Civil War who played a pivotal role in some of the major battles of the western theater. Haas wrote the book after coming across Opdycke's wartime letters to his wife, Lucy, in the Historical Society Archives.

Haas gave a wonderful presentation on the experience of researching and writing a book based on archival materials, and presented the audience with numerous anecdotes from Opdycke's life accompanied by visual materials from the Historical Society collections. After his presentation, Haas spent time signing books for conference participants.



Author and historian John E. Haas shares stories of the life of Civil War veteran Emerson Opdycke

Merit Award Winners

JUDITH COBB

In recognition of her outstanding contributions towards the Society of Ohio Archivists, SOA takes great pleasure in awarding Judith Cobb its Merit Award. Judith worked tirelessly during her five year tenure as Editor of the *Ohio Archivist*. She lobbied for and managed the effective transition from a print to an online publication thus moving the publication into the digital age. This transition enabled far more effective distribution of the publication to an ever increasing audience. In addition, this shift provided considerable savings to SOA, contributing substantially to its current fiscal soundness. SOA applauds Judith Cobb for her efforts on behalf of Ohio's archival community.

ANNA HERAN

For several years Anna Heran has served as Chair of SOA's education committee. In that capacity she continued SOA's excellent track record for providing accessible, low-cost education on archival basics for groups across the state. Anna has stepped down from the chair but remains a member of this committee. In recognition of her yeoman service to the SOA through her impressive work with the Education Committee, the SOA is happy to bestow upon Anna Heran the SOA Merit Award in 2006.

MARK LEFF

In recognition of his outstanding use of archival materials in broadcast journalism, Ohio University professor Mark Leff has been selected for a Merit Award from the Society of Ohio Archivists. Mark's work includes the documentary "The Sky Has Fallen" about events at Ohio University during the unrest of 1969-1970, and a series of "Bicentennial Minutes" that aired on WOUB-TV in 2004 in conjunction with the 200th anniversary celebration of the founding of Ohio University. Both works relied heavily on archival materials from the Mahn Center for Archives and Special Collections, the National Archives, Ohio State University Archives, and the Ohio Historical Society. The Society of Ohio Archivists is pleased to present the Merit Award to Mark Leff for his work promoting the use of historical collections in broadcasting and journalism.

Spring Conference Session Reports

Pre-Conference Workshop

Scrapbooks:

Challenges and
Opportunities for
Archivists and Preservation
Librarians

Sponsored by



Scrapbooks are inherently unique resources, even when containing only newspaper clippings and other mass printed media. Additionally, many scrapbooks also contain a variety of original materials including manuscripts, mementos and personal notations that give the modern researcher vital clues to the compiler's authorial voice. Alas, scrapbooks are often as fragile as they are illuminating. Bindings are compromised, printed contents are deteriorating and unique additions (such as medals, photographs and biological materials) threaten the integrity of the paper supports. Furthermore, competing issues arise about the use of these materials: how best to preserve these unique items while also allowing access to researchers and other interested users?

This workshop addressed the fundamental problem of honoring the scrapbook's original structure and intent, preserving it for future use as well as making this important resource available to the public. Handouts were provided to assist librarians and archivists with recommendations for housing, re-formatting and preserving scrapbooks in their collections. Attendees gained hands-on by working with scrapbooks from their collections.

Brian Meggitt is the Paper Preservation Assistant at the Intermuseum Conservation Association in Cleveland, Ohio. His duties at the ICA focus on the preservation and conservation of archival collections and historical documents. For many years he consulted with the Cleveland Public Library Preservation office, where he worked on over 150 scrapbooks: his efforts included the creation of finding aids, the preparation of scrapbooks for microfilming and reformatting, conservation treatment and re-housing. He has also worked as a historian and researcher for the Ohio Artists Project and helped produce the project's mammoth *Artists in Ohio: 1787-1900* (Kent: Kent State University Press, 2000). His background in research, preservation and conservation has allowed him to appreciate the difficulties and opportunities inherent in scrapbooks as an invaluable, yet fragile, resource.

Session Title: Preservation Basics: Photograph Care and Storage**Session Time: Thursday, April 20, 9:15 – 10:30 a.m.****Chair: Kim Brownlee, University of Toledo****Speaker: Eric Honnefer, Bowling Green State University**

This session provided the basics of preservation practices for photographs, offering many wonderful tips and practical advice. Eric Honnefer, preservation specialist from Bowling Green University, began by discussing how temperature and humidity affect materials, and how these must be controlled in order to minimize disintegration. He also discussed the danger mold poses. Honnefer then moved on to the various types of enclosures available for photograph storage, noting that the correct plastics to use are polyester, polyethylene or polypropylene. Plastics should not be used, however, on items with loose emulsion or pastel or charcoal. With these materials a flap enclosure should be used. After providing these general principles, Honnefer moved into some special topics including storage for negatives, humidification of rolled photos, hinging methods for oversized photos, re-encapsulation for items that haven't been de-acidified, and adding identification information. The presentation also included many actual examples of enclosures and materials that are available for photograph preservation and storage

Note Taker: Kim Brownlee, University of Toledo

Session Title: Advocacy for History in Ohio**Session Time: Thursday, April 20, 9:15 – 10:30 a.m.****Chair: Jim Strider, Ohio Historical Society****Speakers: Jane Wildermuth, Wright State University****Amy Crow, Ohio Genealogical Society****Todd Kleismit, Ohio Historical Society**

The panel presented a discussion on the importance of advocacy and of the various ways in which archivists can get involved. Jane Wildermuth started the session by giving a power point presentation outlining the various SOA activities and events that serve to advocate for history in Ohio. Included were discussions of Archives Week, the Merit Award, History Day, the Ohio Memory Scrapbook Award, poster sessions, Education Committee workshops, *The Ohio Archivist*, and legislative advocacy. Wildermuth made special mention of this past year's Statehood Day, a successful event in which participants were able to meet with legislators and lobby for issues of importance to archivists and historians. Following Wildermuth's presentation, Amy Crow and Todd Kleismit provided some specific examples of ways in which the State of Ohio has tried to

remove information from public view. For example, Crow talked about how the State was trying to redact some information found on marriage records. The redaction of this information would have created a serious problem for genealogists and historians. By mounting a special campaign, the genealogists were able to stop it from happening. Crow reminded the audience that we must be proactive in order to keep records open. Kleismit also offered some firsthand experiences of challenges to access. Near the end of the session, Jim Strider moderated a general discussion on advocacy prompted by questions from the audience.

Note Taker: Beth Kattelman, Theatre Research Institute, Ohio State



Jane Wildermuth, Amy Crow, Todd Kleismit
discuss the importance of advocacy.

Session Title: Planning for Tomorrow When Today is Here and Now: Disaster Planning for the Practical Archivist

Session Time: Thursday, April 20, 1:15 – 2:30 p.m.

Chair: Gillian Hill, Greene County Archives & Records Center

Speakers: Tom Claeson, PALINET

Barbara Floyd, University of Toledo

Speaker 1: Barbara Floyd, Director of the Ward M Canady Center for Special Collections at the University of Toledo

Barbara, using her own institution as a vivid illustration, discussed the many difficulties facing archivists in trying to establish disaster preparedness and recovery plans for their buildings and collections. Despite a recent water disaster (resulting from a faulty toilet

flushing mechanism), which gushed 100 gallons of water into Barbara's special collections causing damage to a valuable recent acquisition awaiting shelving, nothing has been spent on either improving the facility, or updating the 1980s era disaster plan. Barbara posited the reasons behind this lack of protection for historical collections in her library and other institutions—a lack of thought about the future, a lack of money (there have been continuing budget cuts), a prejudice in favor of digital resources, the diminishing role of humanities generally as more money goes to science and technology, and fewer trained staff. The time of the remaining staff is therefore taken up with daily duties, with little time left to devote to planning for the prevention of, and recovery from, disasters that might never occur.

Speaker 2: Tom Claeson, PALINET

Tom came to the rescue by talking about major new initiatives and resources to help struggling archivists. After defining disaster, from major national emergencies to community and regional catastrophes, he discussed the results of the recent Heritage Health Survey, which showed that 70% of archives and 92% of historical societies across the country have no emergency plan in operation. Help is desperately needed. He mentioned the work of the Heritage Emergency National Task Force following Hurricane Katrina last year, and then said that a Field Guide to Emergency Response will be available in the summer of 2006 at low cost. There is also a new publication, *Before and After Disasters*, providing information on 15 federal grant and loan programs. He told us that Ohio is a leader in Alliance for Response. This organization, started in 2003, strives to raise the awareness of first responders to the need to protect cultural heritage material. Also, on the horizon is dPlan, the online disaster-planning tool from Northeast Document Conservation Center. This product, which provides a template onto which you can build your own plan, will be available free of charge this summer. Tom closed his presentation with an offer of help from PALINET where they are willing to look over any institution's own plan to identify gaps.

Note Taker: Gillian Hill, Greene County Archives & Records Center

Session Title: The OCLC Digital Archives: A Digital Preservation Case Study

Session Time: Thursday, April 20, 1:15 – 2:30 p.m

Chair: Susan Allen, Worthington Libraries

Speaker: Judith Cobb, OCLC

Kathy Hughes, State Library of Ohio

Nicole Merriman, State Library of Ohio

Judy Cobb began the session with an overview of how the Digital Archives works. She discussed the various capture tools available with the Digital Archives and the way access can be handled and controlled. She discussed the way that OCLC can provide a batch archiving option in which an organization can send a digital collection that is “ingested” into the Digital Archives. This process automatically generates metadata records and notifies the organization when their collections have been completed. Cobb then went on to talk about how the Digital Archives can work as part of a digital preservation strategy and presented examples of how such a strategy might be implemented.

Nicole Merrimen then discussed the Ohio Documents Depository Program, a program in which state documents that are “born digital” can be captured for the Digital Archive. Once in the Archive, the document remains accessible even if the agency changes access on its web site. Merrimen then “walked through” the process of finding an object online.

Kathy Hughes provided a live demo of how to access the Digital Archives. This helpful demonstration gave participants an actual look at the search capabilities and layout of the Digital Archives screen.

Following their presentation, the panel opened the floor for questions.

Note Taker: Beth Kattelman, Theatre Research Institute, Ohio State

Session Title: National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) Funding in Ohio

Session Time: Thursday, April 20, 2:45 – 4:00 p.m.

Chair: Max Evans, NHPRC

**Speakers: Charles Arp, Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board, Battelle
Ruth Holt, Ohio Historical Society
Christine Schmid, American Jewish Archives**

Grant funding is an increasingly important way for institutions to gain funding for important programs. The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) is the grantmaking affiliate of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). This session covered many elements of the grants process. Attendees learned how to prepare a competitive grant proposal and heard from an Ohio institution who recently received funding from NHPRC how the funding impacted their programs. Attendees also learned how to work with OHRAB to submit more competitive proposals to NHPRC

Session Title: OhioLINK EAD Task Force Update**Session Time: Thursday, April 20, 2:45 – 4:00 p.m.****Chair: Mary Manning, OSU Medical Heritage Center****Speakers: Linda Cantara, Case Western Reserve University****Dianna Ford, University of Akron****Toni Jeske, Wright State University**

This panel discussed the use of EAD and the work of the OhioLINK EAD Task Force. The session started with a brief explanation of EAD. The participants explained that EAD is an XML, hierarchical-driven standard that enhances standardization while still allowing for flexibility. Other benefits of EAD are that it enhances access through increased search capabilities and that it is used internationally. The panel then reported on how the EAD Task Force is working on an EAD finding aid repository for Ohio. They are working to develop an application profile for OhioLINK EAD documents and they are also looking into providing an online encoding tool that could be used by OhioLINK participants.

The panel noted that EAD provides some exciting benefits for researchers, including the ability to search across multiple institutions. They also stressed that, currently, the plan is for OhioLINK to provide space in which to host the EAD documents. The EAD Task Force will submit a final report by December of this year.

Note Taker: Beth Kattelman, Theatre Research Institute, Ohio State

The EAD panel fields questions from the audience

Session Title: Developing and Executing Exhibits**Session Time: Friday, April 21, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.****Chair: Judith Wiener, Medical Heritage Center, Ohio State University****Speakers: Jenny Robb, Cartoon Research Library****Kimberly Brownlee, University of Toledo****Gill Gonzales, Hayes Presidential Center**

Speaker 1, Jenny Robb, Cartoon research Library, Ohio State University Library System, “Ten Things Every Archivist Should Know about Exhibits.”

1. Start early
2. Develop a core idea or thesis for every exhibition
3. Evaluation leads to better exhibitions
4. Select objects that support the core idea
5. More is not better when it comes to writing labels
6. Know your audience and write for them
7. Know the rules of label design. Experienced graphic designers can break them, but you probably shouldn't
8. Most archival materials are particularly light sensitive
9. You can produce quality, effective exhibitions on a small budget and in less than ideal spaces.
10. Use cartoons in your exhibit whenever possible!

Speaker 2, Kimberly Brownlee, Canaday Center, University of Toledo, “Exhibits: How We Do Them.”

Brownlee's presentation concentrated covered the following points

- Why do exhibits?
- Where do the original concepts come from?
- Types of materials used
- Nut and bolts
- Security and preservation concerns
- Publicity
- Opening and receptions
- Evaluation
- What happens after the exhibit closes?
- Library lobby displays

Speaker 3, Gill Gonzales, Hayes Presidential Center, “Developing and Executing Exhibits.”

Gonzales talk highlighted the following points

- Where do exhibits come from?
- Having an idea for the exhibit and making the pitch
- Assessing your holdings
- Researching and writing
- Selecting a title
- Giving donors conspicuous credit and acknowledgements
- Style sheets
- Common sizes for display boards
- Type size for signage
- Marketing the exhibition

Note Taker: Mary Manning, Medical Heritage Center, OSU

Session Title: Photoshop: An Archival Perspective

Session Time: Friday, April 21, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Chair: Erik Mayer, OCLC

Speakers: Phil Sager, Ohio Historical Society

Stacia Kuceyeski, Ohio Historical Society

Phil Sager began by offering some reasons for digitization, including preservation, reproduction, access and graphic design. He then presented some handy tips and tricks for getting the best results when working on digital images using Photoshop. Sager noted that Photoshop is good at correcting images, but it is still important to start with the best image possible. When working on an image it is advisable to keep some of the palette tools open for easy access and, according to Sager, it is not advisable to use the brightness/contrast controls. It is better to use the histogram instead. For more advanced users, the curves tool is the best. When working to sharpen the image, it is best to use the unsharp mask controls. Sager also noted that the patch tool is useful in taking out photo imperfections.

Stacia Kuceyeski discussed the use of Photoshop in graphic design. She discussed how layers should be used to build the design. Kuceyeski explained how it is helpful to collect promotional materials that can serve as an idea base for the non-professional graphic designer. She also gave some specific tips to help enliven graphic designs, such as enhancing text with drop shadows and other effects.

Note Taker: Erik Mayer, OCLC

Session Title: Privacy and Public Records Issues for Archivists

Session Time: Friday, April 21, 10:30 – 12:30 a.m.

Chair: Laurie Gemmill, OCLC

Speakers: Sol Berman, Moritz College of Law, Ohio State University

Lisa Wu Fate, Auditor of State's Open Government Unit

Tom Neel, Ohio Genealogical Society

This informative session dealt with the topic of privacy and public records. Attorney Lisa Wu Fate began by introducing the function of the Open Government Unit, explaining that it was set up by Betty Montgomery to train local officials how to apply with open records law. Then Wu Fate took the audience through the specific characteristics of a public record:

1. It must be stored on a fixed medium
2. It must be created, received or sent under the jurisdiction of a public office
3. It must document what the office does

A record must satisfy all three criteria in order to be considered a public record.

Then, Sol Bermann gave an update on recent developments in Ohio that concern electronic court records. He also noted two important reason why we need to keep records open: it shines the light on the working of government and it promotes government accountability. Bermann also discussed how the issue of privacy and open records has become increasingly important--and confusing--because "technology has outstripped the law."



Lisa Wu Fate discusses
public records law

Tom Neel discussed the issue of open records from a genealogist's point of view. He noted that 73% of Americans have an interest in discovering their roots, and that the closing of public records severely hampers this type of research. Neel noted that it is an ongoing struggle to preserve access to birth and death records, two of the most important types of documents used by genealogists. A lively discussion followed between the panel and the audience in which some specific situations were explored.

Note Taker: Beth Kattelman, Theatre Research Institute, Ohio State

Session Title: New Developments in Digital Ohio

Session Time: Friday, April 21, 10:30 – 12:30 a.m.

Chair: Janet Carleton, Ohio University

**Speakers: S. Victor Fleischer, Youngstown State University
Angela O'Neal, Ohio Historical Society
Cathy Whittaker, Toledo's Attic
Holley Witchey, Cleveland Museum of Art**

According to the Pew Center for Internet and American Life, more than 70% of Americans use the Internet on a daily basis. Attendees learned how cultural heritage organizations throughout Ohio are using the Web to connect patrons with the "real stuff" of history. The session highlighted innovative examples of online resources from: the Cleveland Museum of Art, which is using its online collection catalog and galleries to provide access during a construction project that has closed the museum until the Fall 2007; the Ohio Historical Society, whose Remarkable Ohio historical markers site focuses on audience engagement by encouraging users to contribute GIS data and photographs; the University of Toledo, with a redesign of Toledo's Attic that will continue the site for many years to come; and Youngstown State University, who is creating an institutional repository powered by DSpace in which to store digital collections created by the university.

Session Notes: Outreach from the Archives**Session Time: Friday, April 21, 1:45 – 3:15 p.m.****Chair: Ron Davidson, Sandusky Library****Speakers: Jody Blankenship, Ohio Historical Society****Lucy Shelton Caswell, Ohio State Univ. Cartoon Research Library****William Barrow, Cleveland State University**

Three speakers, representing three distinct fields of service, presented overviews of their practices and experiences in outreach to users and donors, and offered helpful advice to session attendees.

Speaker 1: Jody Blankenship, Outreach Projects Manager, Ohio Historical Society

Jody Blankenship spoke about his work on collaborative outreach programming at the Ohio Historical Society, and gave overviews of several recent projects, with descriptive handouts to provide further details about these programs. His programs, such as *History Works*, *History in the Heartland*, and *Think History*, primarily work with K-12 history teachers to increase their knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of traditional American History. His programs are often designed to address specific needs in the curriculum, such as the requirements established by the *No Child Left Behind* law, and in the use of local historical sources. He works closely with faculty to identify instructional needs and to connect needs with resources and partners. He stressed the importance of creating an evaluation plan for the projects -- to define the needs of the partners and to assess the results of the projects to ensure that the goals of the project meet the needs of the project audience, thus promoting sustainability of the projects.

Speaker 2: Lucy Shelton Caswell, Professor and Curator, The Ohio State University Cartoon Research Library

Lucy Shelton Caswell, the founding curator of the Cartoon Research Library at OSU, began by noting the role of outreach in the creation and development of the collection. The library was opened in 1977, with the papers of the famous cartoonist Milton Caniff as the foundation of the collections. She noted that, since virtually all of the collections in the Cartoon Research Library are donated to the university, good outreach is essential to grow the institution. She described a “horizontal model” for outreach, stressing that everybody in the institution has a role in the development of the institution. (She used an example of clean restrooms, and the image it presents of the institution, as a form of outreach.) Networking – both within the institution and outside – is critical; good relationships with potential donors and with other departments within your institution can produce mutual benefits (e.g., a donor who contributed collections to multiple departments). It is also important to create relationships and work together with other organizations with similar interests. She concluded her presentation by emphasizing that

the need to establish a rapport with potential donors is vital in helping to gain their trust, describing four main characteristics of the horizontal model for outreach: Be anticipatory (educate staff to be ready for potential questions and needs); be committed (be sure of your message and be enthusiastic about it); be persistent; be entrepreneurial (be creative, energetic; follow-up quickly and consistently; have ideas ready).

Speaker 3: William Barrow, Special Collections Librarian, Cleveland State University, Cleveland Memory Project

Bill Barrow began his discussion of outreach by describing his early experiences as an animal welfare worker – noting that each interaction within an organization can work through various exchanges to bring results to that organization. These exchanges are what he sees as the basis of outreach. As with the other speakers, he emphasizes the importance of evaluating the needs and desires of the audience to find the solution that matches those needs. As most of the collections under his management at Cleveland State University are donated, recognition of donors is especially important, which allows future donors to understand that their contributions will be appreciated. Managing relationships is the key to the process of outreach. The Cleveland Memory Project helps to “project the collections outward” and create an awareness of the collections to the greater community.

Each speaker was asked how they identify potential donors and partners:

Lucy Caswell emphasized the importance of seeking out the organizations that represent potential donors and to become an active participant in these organizations. An example she gave was the Association of Editorial Cartoonists – going to their meetings and joining their mailing lists helps to provide insight into its activities and members.

Jody Blankenship said that he tries to identify potential funding sources first, then develops ideas for projects from the funding sources, and, finally, seeks out partners who could have interest in such projects.

Bill Barrow noted that interest often develops when a subject is included on the website. Those interested in the topic (the “mildly obsessed”) make further contact, and often a relationship is developed when you show an interest.

Note taker: Ron Davidson, Archives Librarian, Sandusky

Session Title: Access, Preservation, and Interchange: Digital Imaging with JPEG 2000**Session Time: Friday, April 21, 1:45 – 3:15 p.m.****Chair: Beth Kattelman, Theatre Research Institute, Ohio State****Speaker: Peter Murray, OhioLINK**

Peter Murray of OhioLINK gave a presentation detailing the benefits and challenges of using JPEG 2000 as an image compression architecture. Murray noted that his presentation was based on one presented by Dr. Robert Buckley at the ALA Annual Conference. JPEG 2000 provides formats for single, motion and document images and may offer a useful alternative to the current JPEG and TIFF standards because it uses a codestream as the image compression standard, and this allows for image progression by size or resolution. Murray outlined the increased security and error-resilience features present in JPEG 2000, and noted that one very attractive feature is that the standard is open and royalty-free. Murray also discussed the implications of moving to JPEG 2000 as a digital format for archival materials and the pros and cons that the switch might hold for cultural heritage institutions of various sizes.

Note Taker: Beth Kattelman, Theatre Research Institute, Ohio State

Photo courtesy of Ohio Historical Society



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