



# OHIO ARCHIVIST

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NEWSLETTER  
AUTUMN 2015

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## "INVITATION TO INNOVATION" 2015 FALL MEETING WITH THE LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE

### By Suzanne Maggard, University of Cincinnati

Are you looking for a great opportunity for some professional development and a chance to network with colleagues in the local history field? If so, join the Ohio Local History Alliance and the Society of Ohio Archivists for **Invitation to Innovation: 2015 Annual Meeting & Conference of the Ohio Local History Alliance in partnership with the Society of Ohio Archivists**. The meeting will take place on Friday, October 2, and Saturday, October 3, at the Holiday Inn in Worthington, Ohio.

This is the 5th year that SOA has partnered with the Ohio Local History Alliance and the SOA Educational Programming Committee has planned an exciting track for Friday, October 2, highlighting the expertise of our members. The day will begin with the popular "Ask the Archivist" panel where attendees will be able to ask archival experts any questions they have on subjects ranging from preservation and processing, to

digitization, records management and outreach. Representing SOA on the panel will be Lily Birkhimer, Digital Projects Coordinator at the Ohio History Connection, Robin Heise, Manager/Archivist at the Green County Archives, Jennifer Brancato, University Archivist and Special Collections Coordinator at the University of Dayton, and Lonna McKinley, Museum Manuscripts Curator at the National Museum of the United States Air Force.

The SOA track will also include two sessions on different aspects of preservation. Holly Prochaska, Head of the Preservation Lab, a joint lab

of the University of Cincinnati Libraries and the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, will present "Tips and Tricks to Get You Quickly from 'The Disaster' to 'The Recovery.'" This session will help you get started with disaster planning and will cover topics including forming a team, using available manual templates, and getting to know your facilities. If you are confused about preservation of elec-

*Fall Meeting,  
continued on page 3.*

INVITATION  
TO  
INNOVATION

OHIO LOCAL  
HISTORY ALLIANCE  
Inspire. Connect. Educate.

2015 Annual Meeting  
& Conference  
in Partnership with the  
Society of Ohio Archivists

October 2 & 3, 2015  
Holiday Inn, Worthington

Dear SOA members,

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for being elected to serve as the 2015-2017 president of the Society of Ohio Archivists. It is an honor to serve the organization in this capacity. As I begin my term, I will draw upon the information that I have garnered from the membership to continue our organization's forward momentum.

I would like to congratulate and thank the Educational Programming Committee for another excellent Annual Meeting this past spring. There were many informative sessions and an excellent plenary by Jenny Robb, Curator of The Ohio State University Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum. It was an honor to present two merit awards this year to Janet Carleton and Gillian Marsham Hill, both of whom are dedicated members of SOA and the Ohio archival community. Also, thanks to the many organizations that contributed to the silent auction. This year's auction rose close to \$400 for the scholarship fund!

In council news, President Judith Wiener, council member Amber Bice and long-term secretary Gillian Marsham Hill ended their terms in office. We thank them for their dedicated service and for all they have done for the organization over the years. We also welcomed two new council members, Jennifer Brancato and Robin Heise, as well as Lonna McKinley, who will be serving as vice-president and Nathan Tallman who will be serving as secretary. I am excited to begin working with council on upcoming programs and projects. If you are looking for ways to get involved with SOA, there are always opportunities to volunteer with our committees and special events. To learn more about how you can participate please visit the SOA website, join our listserv, or contact a committee chair directly. We look forward to hearing from you!

For the fifth year in a row, SOA will partner with the Ohio Local History Alliance to offer a fall conference in Worthington, Ohio, on October 2-3. I hope you are



able to join us at the conference as there are sure to be many informative sessions and opportunities to network with your OLHA and SOA colleagues.

October is also Archives Month. This year's theme is "STEM – Local and Global." Thank you to all of the organizations that nominated photographs for the poster and to everyone who voted. If your organization is planning any Archives Month activities please let us know so we can help promote your event through our website and social media.

I can be reached for any of your questions, comments, ideas, or concerns, using the contact information below. I look forward to speaking with you and learning how SOA can best serve our membership.

Sincerely,

Jillian Carney  
President, Society of Ohio Archivists  
[jcarney@ohiohistory.org](mailto:jcarney@ohiohistory.org)

tronic records and digital collections, be sure to attend, "Digital Curation Considerations." Sasha Griffin, University Archivist and Special Collections Librarian at Dennison University, will introduce you to the basics of digital curation and digital preservation. Leave this session with a framework for how to understand born-digital preservation and conceptualize digital curation at your own institution.

SOA will also highlight Ohio's 2015 "I Found it in the Archives Contest Winner." In conjunction with American Archives Month, Ohio institutions take part in a national contest called "I Found it in the Archives," which allows researchers to tell their stories about successfully using archival collections. In this session, learn about this year's Ohio contest winner and how this program has been used to strengthen and build relationships with archives users.

The final SOA-sponsored session will focus on "Grants for Archives and Local History Projects." Andy Verhoff, History Fund Grant Manager at the Ohio History Connection, and Fred Previts, State Archivist and OHRAB State Coordinator, will provide overviews of the Ohio History Connection's History Fund grant and the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB) re-grant program. Whether you are interested in applying for grants or just want to learn more, this session is for you!

Plus there is much more of interest to SOA members. Jennie Thomas, Head Archivist, and Andy Leach, Director of Library and Archives, from the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and

Museum will describe their History Fund Grant project, "A Day in the Life' of Jane Scott." Jane Scott was a pioneering female music reporter for the Cleveland Plain Dealer. The goal of this multifaceted project which includes physical processing, digitization, programming and even-tual crowdsourcing is to completely process and digitize a portion of the Jane Scott papers.

Other great Alliance sessions address a variety of topics including educational programming, marketing, management, increasing diversity, engaging and accommodating people with disabilities, and discussions of historical events highlighted in Ohio local historical institutions. Many of the conference sessions are specifically geared towards local history organizations, museums, and small shops with limited funding. See the full brochure for details on these exciting sessions at <http://www.ohiolha.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/2015mtg-brochure-electronic.pdf>.

For those interested in even more learning opportunities, a pre-conference workshop will take place on Thursday, October 1, at the Ohio History Center in Columbus. "Going Off the Script – Learn Video Workflows that Work" will be taught by Ty Pierce, Department Manager of Multimedia Services at the Ohio History Connection. During this hands-on workshop, participants will learn techniques, workflows, and best practices for unscripted video production.

Don't miss the special events connected with this conference. There

is an optional keynote and lunch on Friday. Dr. Jarrod Burks, Director of Archaeological Geophysics with Ohio Valley Archaeology, Inc., will give a keynote entitled "Archaeology's Geophysical Survey Revolution: Rediscovering Earthworks in the Ohio Valley." Dr. Burks received his PhD from Ohio State University and will explain how geophysical survey techniques like magnetometry and ground-penetrating radar are revolutionizing the study of the past. On Friday evening, join your colleagues for a reception and dinner at the Wine Bistro (less than two miles from the conference hotel). The event will include appetizers, a main course buffet and a dessert station. Saturday's special events include the Ohio Local History Alliance Awards Lunch. The awards recognize excellent projects, programs, and publications produced by Ohio's historical societies, museums, and related organizations.

Register online at <http://connect.ohiohistory.org/events> or download the registration form: <http://connect.ohiohistory.org/events>. Pre-registration closes on September 23.

**Registration rates:** SOA or OLHA members \$70, Non-members \$90, Friday or Saturday only \$50. Students receive a 40% discount on the cost of registration. The costs for optional lunches on Friday and Saturday are \$20 each and the cost for the reception is \$25.

**Accommodations:** A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn Worthington

*Fall Meeting, continued on page 9.*

**By Suzanne Reller, University of Cincinnati**

The 2015 Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting was held at the OCLC Conference Center in Dublin, Ohio on May 15, 2015. The conference took place in OCLC's General Session room which provided plenty of space for the eighty-five attendees to network and reconnect. The theme of the conference was "Archives Amplified" and the six concurrent sessions and four poster presentations demonstrated how archives around the state are intensifying and amplifying their repositories and their work.

Jenny Robb, Curator and Associate Professor of The Ohio State University Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum, served as this year's plenary speaker. Robb's talk, entitled "Building Stories: Amplifying the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum," described the Ireland Museum's ambitious exhibition program and their new \$14 million facility on Ohio State's campus.



searchers, outreach efforts with local schools and teachers, efforts by archivists to insert themselves more fully into teaching and research at universities, undergraduate instructional efforts using technology, and coordinating large-scale moves. Four professional posters were also presented at the conference. More detailed descriptions of the sessions and posters are provided in this newsletter and many of the presenters have also made their slides and posters available on the annual [conference page](#) on SOA's website.

Award winners were recognized during lunch. Gillian Marsham Hill and Janet Carleton were recognized with merit awards for their service to SOA and the archives profession. Shanee' Yvette Murrain and Maren McKee received new professional scholarships and Nina Ann Herzog and Shelby Dixon received student scholarships to attend the annual meeting.



*Jenny Robb, Ohio State University (OSU), gives the plenary address on the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum at the 2015 SOA Annual Meeting.*

The plenary session was followed by six concurrent sessions which were interrupted by lunch and a new feature called Speed Networking. Topics discussed during the concurrent sessions were the Wright Brothers Newspaper digitization project, making digitized Ohio Department of Health death certificates available to re-

The annual SOA business meeting was held at the end of the day and included updates from SOA committees and officers including the secretary and treasurer's reports. George Bain, SOA's first official policy board representative, provided an update on the National Coalition for History, and Janet Carlton, co-chair of the SAA Host Committee for the 2015 annual meeting in Cleveland, encouraged SOA members to attend the conference or a pre-conference workshop. Minutes from the business meeting are available on SOA website's minutes page here: [http://www.ohioarchivists.org/council\\_meeting\\_minutes/](http://www.ohioarchivists.org/council_meeting_minutes/).





*2015 Spring Meeting Scholarship and Award Winners with SOA President, Judith Wiener. R to L, Maren McKee, Nina Herzog, Shelby Dixon, Gillian Marsham Hill, Shaneé Yvette Murrain, Janet Carleton, and Judith Wiener.*

Many thanks go to SOA's Educational Programming Committee who coordinated and moderated the sessions, found donors for the silent auction, staffed the registration desk, put together the registration packets, and so much more. Thank you Amber Bice, Lily Birkhimer, Jillian Carney, Amy Dawson, Natalie Fritz, Robin Heise, Jacky Johnson, Liz Plummer, Cate Putirskis, Suzanne Reller (co-chair), Kristin Rodgers (co-chair), and Jenni Salamon. Thanks also to the staff at the OCLC Conference Center who have continued to work with SOA each year to make our annual meeting run smoothly.

### **Silent Auction**

The Silent Auction raised \$384 which will provide meeting scholarships for both students and new professionals. Thanks to the volunteers who solicited donations, organized and ran the auction, and to Amy Dawson and Natalie Fritz for coordinating this effort and Jenni Salamon who served as a receiving point for donations. A huge thanks also goes out to those who donated items to the auction and to the many attendees who bid on the Silent Auction items. Plus, congratulations to those who won!

### *Silent Auction Contributors*

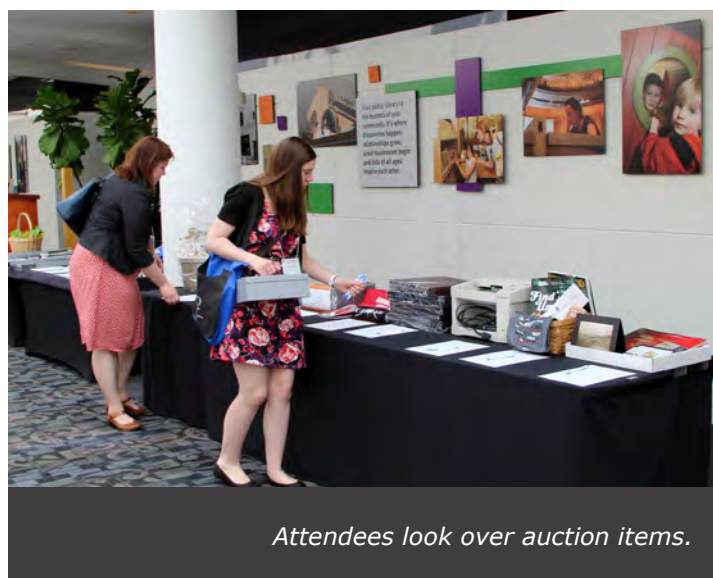
Cleveland Public Library, Special Collections Department  
Gaylord  
Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce  
Greene County Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Hollinger Metal Edge  
iArchives  
NASA  
Ohio Center for the Book  
Ohio History Connection  
The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center  
Society of American Archivists  
University of Cincinnati Libraries  
Wright State University

### **Concurrent Session Synopses**

#### ***Delivering the Ohio Department of Health Certificates Digitally***

Presenters: Liz Plummer, Phil Sager, and Teresa Carstensen, Ohio History Connection  
*Synopsis by: Suzanne Reller*

Liz Plummer, Manager of Research Services, Phil Sager, Digital Projects Developer, and Teresa Carstensen, Library Reference Assistant at the Ohio History Connection, discussed a project to make digital copies of Ohio Department of Health death certificates from 1954-1963 available to researchers. The project started in



*Attendees look over auction items.*

June of 2013 when Fred Previts, State Archivist, and Liz Plummer, Manager of Research Services, met with Dan Burleson, Public Inquiries Supervisor at the Ohio Department of Health Vital Statistics. The department had digitized the death certificates and wanted to provide the digital images and the digital index along with the original paper death certificates to the Ohio History Connection.

The dilemma for the Ohio History Connection was how to provide access to the digitized death certificates to researchers. Liz Plummer provided an overview of the project and the delivery options the Ohio History Connection investigated. Although the Ohio History Connection considered microfilm, ultimately they decided that all access would be provided through the digitized index. Sager discussed the technical aspects of the project to make 78.2 GB of files available to the public. Sager described resizing, converting, and copying the files to a local server. The files were then made available to workstations in the research room. The files were not made available online. Carstensen discussed managing the research requests that the Ohio History Connection receives for Ohio death certificates. New workflows were needed since now the Ohio History Connection held pre-1954 death certificates on microfilm and post-1954 death certificates in digital format. She described their delivery solutions which included having staff email digital copies and printing and mailing copies of the microfilmed versions.

#### ***Focusing on Field Trips & Hands-on History: Archival Outreach with Local Schools and Teachers***

Presenters: Jodi Kearns and Natacha Keramidas, Cummings Center for the History of Psychology, University of Akron; Shelby Dixon and Nina Herzog, Wright State University

*Synopsis By: Suzanne Reller*

Collaboration with K-12 students and educators is increasingly useful practice in archival outreach. This session explored the research, design, and results of two outreach efforts. Jodi Kearns and Natacha Keramidas of the Cummings Center for the History of Psychology discussed an IMLS-funded partnership with teachers to design field trips with self-directed, hands-on learning. The central problem they sought to solve was "What can we do to make our materials helpful and interesting

for high school students and teachers." The components of their project included a workshop for teachers, a teacher's package (including lesson plans and focused field trips) and an exhibit. The focused field trip entailed a pre-visit, the actual museum visit, and then post-visit educational goals and programming. The focused field trip provides students with an experience that corresponds to current classroom curriculum, achieves a well-defined learning objective, engages students in the classroom and museum, utilizes a range of museum resources and portrays a museum as a resource for life-long learning. Kearns and Keramidas discussed their project outputs – the Measuring the Mind Exhibit, lesson plans, and a teachers package. They created four lesson plans which mapped to standards in Common Core Literacy & Math, ODE Social Science & Science, APA High School Psychology, and AASL Information Literacy. They included a gallery guide and worksheet, chaperon's guide with answers and additional resources for teachers. Kerns and Keramidas provided audience members with a sample lesson plan.

Shelby Dixon and Nina Herzog, graduate students in Wright State's public history program, described a Wright State University effort to create primary source workshops for local students and teachers. Dixon and Herzog brought photocopies of primary source materials and then the student had to put together a "mini-exhibit" of the materials on poster boards and answer questions about the photos. One of the goals of the project was to have the students put themselves in someone else's shoes. Topics that they used in this year's workshops included Jim Crow, Mercer County immigration, the March on Washington, and Freedom Riders. The challenges of this project were that the archivists could not cover all the topics that the teachers needed and sometimes they got short notice to develop a lesson plan. On the positive side, it was a great way to take primary sources to teachers who have little time or money for field trips. Their goals for the next school year include focusing on one broad topic which will change each year, having boxes containing pre-made activities and projects ready-to-go, and getting more public history students involved.

#### ***Wright Brothers Newspaper Digitization Project***

Presenters: Lisa Rickey and Ryan O'Grady, Wright State University; Bill McIntire, Dayton Metro Library

*Synopsis by: Natalie Fritz*

Most people are familiar with the Wright Brothers as the pioneering inventors of the airplane. A lot of people probably don't know that before beginning their efforts in flight, and even before they opened their bicycle shop in Dayton, Wilbur and Orville Wright operated their own printing business from 1889 to 1899. During that time period, they produced several local publications and newspapers. Both the Dayton Metro Library and the Wright State University Special Collections and Archives have almost a complete run of the Wright Brothers Newspapers. For this collaborative project, the Dayton Metro Library and Wright State University partnered together to digitize the original Wright Brothers Newspapers, utilizing the best copies of each between the two institutions to create a more complete and searchable online archive.

Speaking on behalf of the Dayton Metro Library, Bill McIntire spoke about how grant funding and the collaboration itself allowed them to overcome the problems that so many face when tackling a project – lack of time, money, staff or resources. Since the copies at the Dayton Metro Library were Orville Wright's own copies of the newspapers, his originals in many cases were in better condition. Many years ago, the Dayton Metro Library microfilmed all of the newspapers and later digitized the microfilm (Available here: <http://content.daytonmetrolibrary.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/wbnews>). While the Dayton Metro Library had more (and often better) copies of the newspapers, they did not have the time, staff, or resources available to complete the digitization alone. The partnership with Wright State University offered the use of staff time and digitization services that might have otherwise been unavailable.

Lisa Rickey, Archivist for Digital Initiatives & Outreach with the Wright State University Special Collections and Archives, next explained how the best newspapers were selected for digitization and shared details about the spreadsheets that were created to track the steps of the project and the process of removing items temporarily from their locations within each institution. The project was completed in batches, so the newspapers were prepared for digitization by removing the encapsulation to allow for a clearer image capture and interleaving each

newspaper in oversized boxes. Doing the project in batches kept costs lower because necessary supplies could be reused.

Ryan O'Grady from Wright State University's Digital Services Department detailed the digitization process. He explained the use of an overhead large format scanner which was able to capture each page with only one shot. The scanned pages were then processed using OCR software to turn them into searchable PDFs, allowing them to be easily searched through CORE Scholar, Wright State's online digital repository (available here: [http://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/wright\\_newspapers/](http://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/wright_newspapers/)). The digitized copies will soon also be available through the Dayton Metro Library website, Dayton Remembers.

### ***The Value-Added Archivist: Becoming an Integrated Part of the Academy***

Presenters: Kevin Grace, Eira Tansey, and Veronica Buchanan, University of Cincinnati

*Synopsis by: Suzanne Reller*

"The Value-Added Archivist" explored the need for archivists to be fully involved in scholarly work in their institutions and related to their repository's holdings. In this session, three archivists at the University of Cincinnati detailed their work either creating new archival collections or becoming an active partner in research and publication by focusing on shepherding early adopters for a digital repository, in co-researching and authoring a census on the rare Vesalius anatomy monograph, and in teaching courses that include creative research projects specifically designed for archives.

Kevin Grace, Head of the Archives and Rare Books Library at the University of Cincinnati, began the session with a discussion of his role as a professor in UC's Honors program and his work with various courses throughout UC's colleges. Grace mentioned using items like the Koran and the Holy Bible in courses, and having his students Skype with students at the University of Edinburgh. In a class about Irish Cincinnati, Grace created an assignment where students used UC's digitized collection of Cincinnati Birth and Death records to create profiles of Irish men and women who lived in Cincinnati. Eira Tansey, Digital Archivist and Records Manager at the University of Cincinnati, detailed her work serving as a shepherd for early adopters of UC's institutional

repository. Tansey provided details of the current state of the repository which is being developed at UC on the Hydra platform and how the development has progressed. Tansey spoke about the opportunities to work with faculty who are testing the repository as "early adopters" and the benefits to UC Libraries, the Archives and Rare Books Library, where she works, and the personal benefits in making connections across the university. Veronica Buchanan spoke last with a talk entitled, "Plugging In: Facilitating a Meaningful Connection with Researchers." Buchanan is the Archivist at the Henry R. Winkler Center for the History of the Health Professions. She has spent a good deal of time researching and co-authoring a census on the rare Vesalius anatomy monograph and she provided some tips for becoming more involved with researcher projects. Buchanan provided tips on the process from initial engagement with the researcher to figuring out what you can provide a researcher.

### ***Speed Networking***

The Speed Networking session was a new addition to the SOA Spring meeting which was modeled on a similar session held each fall at the Ohio Local History Alliance Annual Meeting. Speed Networking was a quick, informal, and interactive session where attendees could meet members of SOA's council and committee, members of MAC and SAA, and archivists who have experience in various areas of the field. Attendees had just a few minutes to meet with members of SOA and other professional groups including George Bain, Janet Carleton, Jillian Carney, Ron Davidson, Dawne Dewey, Emily Gainer, Andrew Harris, Robin Heise, Mark Sundlov, Jenny Robb, and Judy Weiner. Thank you to all who participated and provided feedback on this session.

### ***Creating Digital Stories and History Harvests for Outreach and Instruction***

Presenters: Jacqueline Johnson and Helen Sheumaker, Miami University; Brian Leaf, The Ohio State University  
*Synopsis By: Lily Birkhimer*

"Creating Digital Stories and History Harvests for Outreach and Instruction" focused on the use of technologies to help promote archives, and how tools like Pinterest and Digital Storytelling were used in classes with undergraduates. Jacky Johnson of the Miami University Libraries spoke about the nature of special collections at

Miami University and how they have merged from the previous schools that make up today's university. She first explained how patrons use these collections. Then Johnson focused on the Freedom Summer archives and events designed to promote access to, and encourage interest in, the collection. Johnson connected with Helen Sheumaker, a professor in the History Department, with the goal of getting students involved with the collection.

Helen Sheumaker then briefly discussed the process of planning the Freedom Summer conference and student involvement with the conference. The History Harvest model that was used for this project comes from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Under the History Harvest model, a call is sent out to local community members for historical material. Students capture the material digitally and conduct interviews with each individual. Students then create a narrative of what they have learned with the goal to decentralize where history "goes" (i.e. what the final result looks like), encouraging a more participatory model to broaden a project's reach. In the Freedom Summer project, the students used Pinterest to create exhibits about their narrative. Sheumaker explained that these exhibits required preliminary "storyboarding," a theme, curated images, and contextual captions. Sheumaker also explained why Pinterest was used. Pinterest is best suited to static exhibits but it encourages the circulation of digital content and provides analytics to let you track the use of the material.

The final speaker, Brian Leaf from The Ohio State University, described instructional design and storytelling within the Medical Heritage Center at OSU. As part of a course, Leaf had students create a digital story which was a three to five minute video with images, narration, a focused point-of-view, and optional music. The goal was to engage undergraduates with the resources at the Medical Heritage Center, and Leaf encouraged students to focus more on the process rather than the product. Leaf explained the components for digital storytelling and provided the elements that make up storytelling as defined by the Center for Digital Storytelling [<http://storycenter.org/>]: Point of view, Dramatic elements, Emotional content, Gift of voice, Power of a soundtrack, and Economy and Pacing. Leaf also focused on the importance of creating an authentic learning environment for students that allows the learner personal



agency and meaning-making (emphasizing the importance of connection and empathy in creating value for a user).

### ***Out of Site: Coordinating a Large-Scale Move of Archival Materials***

Presenters: Camila Tessler and Karen Glenn, The Ohio State University

*Synopsis by: Cate Putirskis*

Camila Tessler and Karen Glenn of The Ohio State University described the project of planning for and executing a move of approximately 20,000 cubic feet of archival materials from the campus of The Ohio State University to an off-campus storage facility managed by a third-party vendor. Tessler and Glenn worked on the project together, but each worked specifically with collection materials in an assigned building. The materials that were sent to the off-campus facility were roughly split 50/50 between the two buildings.

Tessler and Glenn started by introducing the state in which the materials existed before any work was completed, including an overview of the physical condition of the collections and summarizing the intellectual control that existed (which was minimal). The bulk of their presentation covered the work they did to re-house, inventory, and otherwise prepare the collection material to be moved, including many examples of how previous housing decisions had not held up over the years. Tessler and Glenn provided many statistics on the number of containers they worked with and how containers fit into many different categories (by collection, type, etc.). In just one of the facilities, a total of 1265 hours of staff and student work was spent on this project. Finally, Tessler and Glenn reviewed the off-campus move phase of the project and discussed working with the

vendor to ensure everything was transported safely and correctly.

Tessler and Glenn passed on the lessons that they learned during this project. They suggested preparing metadata early and always buying more supplies than you predict you will need. They stated that archivists considering similar moves may want to consider flagging off-site material, and anticipate hiring additional help but also anticipate providing them with training.

### ***Poster Session***

*Synopsis by: Cate Putirskis*

Four posters were presented at the SOA conference this year, covering a range of topics. Janet Carleton (Ohio University) presented on the Ohio EAD FACTORY finding aid creation tool, sharing information both about the history of the Tool's development and providing practical information to interested potential users on how the Tool could benefit their work. A group of six presenters from across the state shared a poster on the Ohio Digital Hubs Project, providing information about this collaborative regional digitization center's initiative for the state of Ohio and on their work to develop more standardized metadata. Nora Blackman (Case Western Reserve University) presented a poster on the history of the archival profession in Northeastern Ohio and the impact those archivists had on the profession, both regionally and beyond. Blackman also presented a second poster, with Amy Dawson (Cleveland Public Library), on the American Theatre Archives Project initiative in Ohio, providing information about how archivists can support theaters in archiving the historical record of theaters throughout the state.

## **FALL MEETING, CONTINUED.**

[<http://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/worthington/cmhw/hoteldetail>]. Mention the Ohio Local History Alliance annual meeting or the Ohio History Connection to receive the discounted conference room rate of \$75 + tax per night. Be sure to book your reservation by September 23 to receive the discounted rate.

Parking is free.

For more information about the meeting, visit the Alliance meeting page at <http://www.ohiolha.org/alliance-annual-meeting/>.

## MERIT AWARD WINNERS

On May 15, 2015, President Judith Wiener presented this year's two SOA Merit Awards at the Annual Spring Meeting at OCLC's conference center in Dublin, Ohio. Gillian Marsham Hill and Janet Carleton were recognized for their service to the SOA and the archives profession.

**Janet Carleton**, Digital Initiatives Coordinator at Ohio University Libraries, is honored for her exemplary service to the Society of Ohio Archivists. Janet's strong commitment to SOA and archives is demonstrated by her tireless efforts, such as her extensive service on a number of SOA committees including the Public Information/Website Committee, Archives Week and Local Arrangements. Most importantly, Janet has served as editor of the Ohio Archivist newsletter from 2012 to 2014. She reinvigorated the newsletter, bringing on numerous new writers and contributors to provide substantial content of strong interest to the archival community. She established a new model for the newsletter which will ensure its continued strength and longevity. Janet works tirelessly to promote archives, digitization, and libraries, through her work with professional organizations including OhioDIG, Midwest Archives Conference, Society of American Archivists, and the Society of Ohio Archivists. For her steadfast devotion to Society of Ohio Archivists and the archival profession, it is fitting that the Society of Ohio Archivists presents Janet Carleton with a 2015 SOA Merit Award.

**Gillian Marsham Hill**, of Greene County, Ohio, is honored for her exemplary service to the archival profession. Gillian has served as an advocate, teacher, leader, mentor, and friend to many an archivist in the state of Ohio. As the Records and Information Manager and Archivist for Greene County, Gillian built a county records management program that would go on to set the standard for archives across the region. She has tirelessly advocated for the importance of archives and in particular, local government records. She was a founding member of the Miami Valley Archivists Roundtable and the Ohio County Archivists and Records Managers Association as well as a long-term member of the Society of Ohio Archivists and the Greater Dayton Chapter of ARMA. For her steadfast devotion to the archival profession, it is fitting that the Society of Ohio Archivists presents Gillian Marsham Hill with a 2015 SOA Merit Award.

For a list of previous Merit Award winners see the SOA Website: [http://www.ohioarchivists.org/merit\\_award/](http://www.ohioarchivists.org/merit_award/).



This year's theme for Archives Month is "Both Local and Global: STEM Activity in Ohio." With many achievements in the area of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics for which Ohioans can take pride, the SOA 2015 Archives Month poster will feature photos of a 1917 scarlet fever quarantine at Defiance College, John Glenn being fitted for his space suit in 1961, Franciscan nuns assisting doctors in an operation in Columbus in 1905, and BF Goodrich scientists working to develop synthetic rubber in the early 1940s. The poster, which will be smaller in size this year, will be distributed to members by mail during September.

To accompany the poster, the members of the SOA Advocacy and Outreach Committee encourage archivists across Ohio to develop activities that will raise the awareness of citizens around the state about the work archivists do and the importance of Ohio's archival collections.

October will also include a public recognition of the winner of the second Ohio-wide "I Found It in the Archives" contest. People were invited to vote during August to determine a winner from among three contestants who found significant information on subjects of personal research in the Greene County Archives, the Clark County Historical Society, and the Ohio History Connection. The winner will be honored in Worthington on October 3rd as part of SOA's programming at the fall meeting of the Ohio Local History Alliance.

## Both LOCAL and GLOBAL: STEM Activity in Ohio

All things, it is said, are local - somewhere. But some things local also become national or even international in importance and significance. For Archives Month in 2015 the Society of Ohio Archivists features people, places and events in Ohio that are both local and global - with particular emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics best known by the acronym STEM - for which accomplishments Ohioans have much to be proud.



## ARCHIVES MONTH IN OHIO

## October 2015

Photo Credits, clockwise from top left: Scarlet Fever Quarantine at Defiance College (1917), from the Defiance College Archives, Defiance; Fitting John Glenn for his Space Suit, from the B.F. Goodrich Company Records (1961), University of Akron, University Libraries, Archival Services; B.F. Goodrich Chemists Creating Synthetic Rubber (early 1940s), from the B.F. Goodrich Company Records, the University of Akron, University Libraries, Archival Services; Operation at St. Francis Hospital, Columbus, Ohio, ca. 1905, Surgeon Dr. Ted Gilliam, Sister Supervisor in charge Sr. Claudia Mulhearn, SPSE from the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor Congregational Archives, Cincinnati.

Ohio Archives Month is sponsored by the Society of Ohio Archivists and the Ohio History Connection.  
Visit us online at <http://www.ohioarchivists.org/>.



## SOA 2015 ELECTION RESULTS

The annual election for SOA leadership was held during the annual business meeting on May 15. Elected to office were Jillian Carney, The Ohio History Connection, President; Lonna McKinley, National Museum of the United States Air Force, Vice President; Nathan Tallman, University of Cincinnati, Secretary; Jennifer Brancato, University of Dayton, Council and Robin Heise,

Greene County Archives, Council.

Congratulations to the winners! SOA greatly appreciates all who ran for office and the hard work of the nominating committee for putting together the 2015 slate of candidates.



## STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

**Shelby Dixon**

Thank you Society of Ohio Archivists for giving me the opportunity to attend my first annual meeting as a scholarship recipient. The meeting was very educational and I was incredibly grateful to present, "Hands-on History: Archival Outreach with Local Schools and Teachers." My fa-

vorite part was discussing educational outreach one-on-one with archivists after our presentation! All of the sessions I attended taught me something new about archival outreach. I particularly enjoyed learning about Pinterest and how it can be used to develop narrative-driven exhibitions during the "Creating Digital Stories and History Harvests for Outreach and Instruction" session. It was great to be among such experienced archivists and learning from their many projects. I also enjoyed seeing so many students like myself and new archivists at the meeting.

I have always known I wanted to work in history and gravitated toward social science education in my undergraduate degree at Wright State University. Working in the classroom was a rewarding experience that helped me understand how students comprehend historical topics and primary documents. The graduate program in Public History at Wright State helped me realize I can continue working with history students as an archivist! The support I have received since being involved with Wright State's Special Collections & Archives has helped me combine my passion for teaching with my love of history through its educational outreach program.

I am very grateful to have been awarded a student scholarship and I am excited to now be an SOA member. I hope to use what I learned at this conference to enhance my outreach efforts and help others see the value in archival outreach programs.

Contact Shelby Dixon at [sdixon1810@gmail.com](mailto:sdixon1810@gmail.com).

## STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

**Nina Herzog**

I enjoyed attending the first of what I am sure will be many Society of Ohio Archivists conferences. The SOA Annual Meeting was well organized, and I found it extremely helpful that highly-useful information and additional materials for the day were handed out in an archival folder. The presentation by

the plenary speaker was interesting and provided new ways to display exhibits, such as methods that will give patrons the ability to appreciate close-up views of archival materials. I also greatly enjoyed the conference break-out sessions. The networking session was an advantageous opportunity to meet colleagues and learn from their work. Overall, attending the conference offered the prospect to get my "feet wet" by presenting, learning from, and meeting with seasoned archivists in the field. I am thankful to the Society of Ohio Archivists for the scholarship to attend the conference and the opportunity to do a presentation on primary source outreach.

## NEW PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

**Maren McKee**, Collections Manager, Oberlin Heritage Center

I am tremendously grateful to have received the 2015 Society of Ohio Archivists New Professional Scholarship and to have had the opportunity to attend Archives Amplified, the 2015 spring meeting. It was a great honor to be selected and I am excited to be-





come more involved with the Ohio archivist community.

As a 2013 graduate of Eastern Illinois University's master's program in Historical Administration, the majority of my education and professional experience had been focused on the care and management of museum collections. This changed in the summer of 2014 when I was hired as the Collections Manager at the Oberlin Heritage Center. I took on the new challenge of managing their archival collection in addition to their object collection. Since then, I have looked for opportunities, such as the SOA spring meeting, to continue building on my knowledge of the archival world.

Being able to attend the SOA conference this year was hugely beneficial for me. I was able to network with, and learn from, knowledgeable and helpful archives professionals. The speed networking session was a great way for me to quickly pick up information on some of the fantastic resources available to Ohio archivists. I also learned so much from the sessions I attended. I found "The Value Added Archivist: Becoming an Integrated Part of the Academy" session especially interesting. Although I do not work at a university, I learned many helpful hints for fostering mutually beneficial relationships with researchers that I can apply in my work at the Oberlin Heritage Center.

I had a wonderful experience attending the SOA spring meeting this year. Providing opportunities like this for emerging professionals is crucial for building a strong future for the field. Thank you for making it possible for me to attend.

Contact Maren McKee at [history@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:history@oberlinheritage.org).

#### NEW PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

**Shaneé Yvette Murrain**, Seminary Archivist, Payne Theological Seminary

The Society of Ohio Archivists Annual Meeting provided multiple opportunities to dialogue with a variety of archival colleagues about providing quality reference instruction that will attract new patrons to our collections and encourage self-mastery of conducting research.

In addition to hearing about the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum at The Ohio State University from Jenny Robb, I attended the following sessions, "Delivering the Ohio Department of Health and Death Certificates Digitally", "The Value-Added Archivist: Becoming an Integrated Part of the Academy", "Creating

Digital Stories and History Harvests for Outreach and Instruction", and "Out of Site: Coordinating a Large-Scale Move of Archival Materials".

All of the sessions were informative but I was most intrigued by the Value-Added Archivist presentation in which the flipped classroom model was highlighted. We were challenged to think about creating a strategy for archives integration into the curriculum, determining research and teaching needs (not digitizing for digitizing sake, and defining the first steps in creating assignments for sustainable projects.

As the adolescent who spent way too much time on Ancestry.com, I was fascinated by the Health and Death Certificates presentation. The Ohio History Connection provides access to 2,000,000 digitized Ohio Department of Health and Death certificates for patrons to research. The presenters shared Orville Wright's death certificate with us (SUPER COOL) and explained how they created an online index and email system for sending PNG copies of certificates to patrons for a fee of \$7.

The first thing I noticed about the SOA membership is that it is small and everyone knows one another, therefore it is fairly easy to get involved in committees and approach colleagues about tangible collaborations. I volunteered to serve on the Advocacy and Outreach Committee and have since been appointed to the Co-Chair position. I am very pleased and grateful to have received the New Professional award and look forward with delight to serving the association.

Contact Shaneé Yvette Murrain at [smurrain@payne.edu](mailto:smurrain@payne.edu)



# Digital:

**Daniel Noonan, editor**  
e-Records/digital resources archivist  
The Ohio State University

I first encountered the term when researching the topic of the records continuum—a records management model that diverges from the concept of a records lifecycle—and I have always approached it from an electronic records point-of-view. I could spend a whole column on the records continuum (and maybe I should in the future); however most concisely the records continuum suggests that the creation and use of records are continuous and is a time/space construct, not a life model. That is not to say that a record does not have a lifespan, however, that after creation and before its final disposition the life of a record is fluid and can be utilized in many ways and

That engaging debate led to a debate session regarding post-custodialism at this summer's annual Society of American Archivists meeting in Cleveland. The panel for *Postcustodial Theory of Archives: A Debate (and We're Not Talking About Janitors)* included: Session Chair Na-

## POST-CUSTODIAL: IS IT TIME FOR A DEFINITION UPGRADE?

talie Bauer, University of Miami; Affirmative Team - Jennifer R. O'Neal, University of Oregon Libraries and T-Kay Sangwand, University of Texas at Austin; Negative Team - Gerald Chaudron, University of Memphis and Cliff Hight, Kansas State University; and myself as the moderator. The purpose of the debate was two-fold, should archivists be actively embracing the concept of post-custodialism and is it time to reconsider its definition?

The Affirmative Team asserted that much like Ham's original concept, post-custodialism is more of a framework than a prescriptive set of rules, and has a broader impact than simply electronic records. Further, they acknowledged that they are not arguing for universal acceptance, rather that it has its place in the archival spectrum especially in underrepresented and marginalized communities. These communities may recognize the need to preserve their documentary heritage and legacy, but at the same time the records may still be in use (records continuum), in a venue where the law inhibits collecting, or that the records-creating communities may distrust our institutions (archives).

The Negative Team emphasized institutions must have custody of records to be able to provide professional, basic archival functions of description, preservation and access, as well as the records may be better positioned to demonstrate their authenticity if they pass the "archival threshold." Further, they questioned whether post-custodialism may lead to no custodianship.

After the initial position statements were made, the discussion between the teams and the audience included:

- Digital barriers are universal regardless of whether we are addressing preservation and access from a post-custodial point-of-view or not.
- The role of the archivist in a post-custodial situation may be one of stewardship instead of custodianship.
- Authenticity may not be the role of the archivist, but that of the community member or the user of the record.
- Preservation and access to the records may be crucial to a community, but we also have a moral responsibility to protect their privacy. As such it may mean the records stay with the community as op-

posed to be accessioned to a repository that requires them to be open.

- Sometimes there is no one community who is the "voice" of a movement.
- There is a need to both determine and develop standards for the record creating communities.
- We have a greater chance of preserving the common person, not just the elites in a post-custodial world.
- Transparency and open communications are key to success post-custodial collaborations.
- The professional literature is lacking and has not addressed the social action/justice aspect of the concept.

Finally, both teams concurred and the audience appeared to be in agreement that custodial and post-custodial are not an either/or approach, but one that is a spectrum. What is more, now may be the time for a definition upgrade, and that our archival community would benefit from starting and engaging in a larger interdisciplinary discussion of the post-custodial theory and what it means in our current archival milieu.

### NOTES

1. Richard Pearce Moses, *A Glossary of Archival and Records Terminology* (2005)  
<http://www2.archivists.org/glossary/terms/p/postcustodial-theory-of-archives> accessed August 26, 2015
2. Frank Upward, *Structuring the Records Continuum - Part One: Postcustodial principles and properties* (1996- 1998)  
<http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/research/groups/rcrg/publications/recordscontinuum-fup1.html> accessed August 26, 2015
3. Gerald Ham, "Archival Strategies for the Post-Custodial Era," *American Archivist*, v.44 no. 3 (Society of American Archivists, Summer 1981): 207-211.



## AWARDS

### OHRAB (Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board), Ohio Archives Grant Program, 2015 Re-grant Awards

The Ohio Archives Grants are funded by the NHPRC (National Historical Publications and Records Commission, an arm of NARA (National Archives and Records Administration)). The funded projects include organizing and preserving historical records and cataloging and digitizing records for improved access.

#### 2015 Grant Recipients & Projects

- **Delaware County Historical Society**, Delaware, OH: Microfilming the Delaware Gazette Newspaper 1928-1933
- **Franciscan Sisters of the Poor Congregational Archives**, Cincinnati, OH: Processing the St. Mary / Providence Hospital (Cincinnati) Collection
- **Huron Historical Society**, Huron, OH: Digitizing and Sharing Huron's Historic Images
- **Kent State University Libraries**, Kent, OH: Providing Access to the Kent State Shootings Audio Archive
- **Lakeside Heritage Society**, Lakeside, OH: Enhanced Preservation of Newspapers and Other Records
- **Marion County Historical Society**, Marion, OH: Processing the Richard Carey Collection of Historic Records
- **Milan-Berlin Library District**, Milan, OH: Preserving and Providing Access to the Library's Photograph Collection
- **Payne Theological Seminary**, Wilberforce, OH: Arrangement and Description of the Payne African Methodist Episcopal Church Archives

- **Rodman Public Library, Alliance**, OH: Preservation and Digitization of Alliance's Historical Documents
- **Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens**, Akron, OH: Processing the Irene Seiberling Harrison Collection
- **County of Summit Records Center**, Akron, OH: Preservation of the Edwin Shaw Tuberculosis Sanatorium Scrapbooks

For more information on the recipients and projects please see OHRAB website at <http://www.ohrab.org/grants/regrant/>.

## DEADLINES

### OHC (Ohio Humanities Council): Education Enrichment Grant

When: Draft due Tuesday, Sep. 15, 2015; Application due Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015

Description: Ohio Humanities considers applications for projects that support intellectual and professional enrichment for K-12 educators. These projects should serve as professional development opportunities for educators to improve the quality of humanities-based classroom activities. - Proposals must include a strong humanities curriculum designed for Ohio educators. The project must also include an option for Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and a plan for follow-up programming. (614) 461-7802 <http://www.ohiohumanities.org/grants1.html>.

### OHC: Monthly/Planning Grant Application Due

When: Thu., Oct 1, 2015

Description: Ohio Humanities considers mini grants on a monthly basis. The deadline for a completed application is the first business day of the month at least eight weeks before the start date of a program. For example, the completed proposal for a project starting no earlier than March 1 would be due to Ohio Humanities by January 1. - Applicants will be notified of the funding decision within three weeks of the submission date. (614) 461-7802 <http://www.ohiohumanities.org/grants1.html>.



**OHC: Heritage Tourism Grant**

When: Draft due Saturday, Oct 24, 2015; Application due Sun. Nov. 15, 2015

Description: Ohio Humanities considers applications for tourism projects designed to explore the history, highlight the culture, and foster the appreciation of local assets. Proposed projects should work toward enhancing community life and focus on tourism as a learning opportunity for travelers and local residents. - Planning Grants (max \$2,000): These support planning activities that help communities convene stakeholders to assess potential projects, consult with humanities professionals, and identify regional themes. - Implementation Grants (max \$10,000): These are available to help build sustainable cultural tourism initiatives. (614) 461-7802 <http://www.ohiohumanities.org/grants1.html>.

**OHC: Quarterly Grant Application Due**

When: Application due Sun., Nov 15, 2015

Description: Applicants should plan to submit a draft up to three weeks before the final deadline. Applicants will be notified within six weeks after the final deadline. (614) 461-7802 <http://www.ohiohumanities.org/grants1.html>.

**OHC: Media Grant**

When: Draft due Tue., Dec 1, 2015; Application due Fri., Jan. 1, 2016

Description: Ohio Humanities defines media as documentary projects with humanities content that are produced for public distribution. - Ohio Humanities considers media grants twice each year. Applicants should plan to submit a draft one month before the application deadline. - Applicants may only apply at the media production grant deadlines. See website for deadlines. (614) 461-7802 <http://www.ohiohumanities.org/grants1.html>.

**OHC: Major Grant**

When: Draft due Tue., Dec 15, 2015; Application due Fri., Jan. 15, 2015

Description: Ohio Humanities considers major grant proposals twice a year. See website for deadlines. -

Applicants for all major grants should plan to submit a full draft to Ohio Humanities staff one month prior to the deadline. - Applicants are notified of funding decisions within three months of the submission date. (614) 461-7802 <http://www.ohiohumanities.org/grants1.html>

**NHPRC (National Historical Records and Publications Commission) Digital Dissemination of Archival Collections Grant**

When: Application deadline October 8, 2015

For more information: <http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/digital.html>.

**NHPRC Literacy and Engagement with Historical Records Grant**

When: Application Deadline: October 8, 2015

For more information: <http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/literacy.html>

**NHPRC Publishing Historical Records in Documentary Editions Grant**

When: There are two deadlines for this opportunity. Projects currently receiving funds from the NHPRC may apply at either deadline. Projects not currently receiving funds from the NHPRC must apply against the second deadline.

Application Deadline : June 17, 2015

Second Deadline: Any currently funded NHPRC documentary edition project and any project seeking first time support

Application Deadline : October 8, 2015

For more information: <http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/editions.html>.

**NHPRC State Government Electronic Records Grant**

When: Application Deadline : October 8, 2015

For more information: <http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/electronic.html>.

## NEWS & NOTES

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Lisa Rickey, editor

Archivist for Digital Initiatives & Outreach

Wright State University

Send news items to [lisa.rickey@wright.edu](mailto:lisa.rickey@wright.edu)

### INDIVIDUAL NEWS

**Anna Heran**, Outreach & Education Coordinator and Exhibition Curator at the Lloyd Library and Museum in Cincinnati, has been elected to the Ohio Library Council Subject and Special Collections Division Action Council

**Elise Kelly**, Public Outreach Coordinator at the Greene County Archives, became the newest Chair of the [Miami Valley Archives Roundtable](#) in August. Elise took over as Chair from Lisa Rickey, who had served as MVAR Chair since November 2012.

### ORGANIZATIONAL NEWS

#### Center for the History of Psychology, The University of Akron

November 2015 marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Archives of the History of American Psychology, now known as the Drs. Nicholas and Dorothy Cummings Center for the History of Psychology (CCHP). It was founded in 1965 by Dr. John A. Popplestone and Dr. Marion White McPherson at The University of Akron with the mission to collect and preserve the history of psychology. From its humble beginnings of several boxes of materi-

al, the Cummings Center has grown to become the largest collection of its kind in the world, additionally having the prestigious status as a Smithsonian Affiliate since 2002.

In celebration, the CCHP will have special exhibits on display and host a variety of events throughout the year that are open to the public. More information is available on the CCHP website at [www.uakron.edu/chp](http://www.uakron.edu/chp), which will be updated as programs are added. For more information, contact [gruich@uakron.edu](mailto:gruich@uakron.edu) or call 330-972-7284.

#### Dayton Metro Library

The Dayton Metro Library played an important role in a recent episode of TLC's [Who Do You Think You Are?](#) The television series delves into the genealogy of various celebrities; this episode, which aired on August 23, featured actor Bryan Cranston.

Local History Librarian, Nancy Horlacher, provided researcher Carolyn Burns an 1889 *Dayton Daily Democrat* newspaper containing an article about the death of Cranston's great grandfather. In May, show producers visited the Library's [Genealogy Center](#) at 359 Maryland Avenue to view the resources and take photos. The actor was filmed looking at the old newspaper at the Dayton VA Center.



*Dayton Metro Library, Local History Librarian, Nancy Horlacher.*

"It's exciting to provide a key piece of information for any history researcher, whether it's a celebrity or not," said Horlacher. "It's rewarding when our materials can help people fill in the blanks."

This is not the first time the Dayton Metro Library has been called upon to help with unique genealogical research projects. [The Department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency](#) works to return the remains of missing service members to their families. "Sometimes we help provide obituaries, and other materials like census records and telephone listings to help the volunteer researchers find living descendants in order to match DNA samples," said Genealogy Librarian Shawna Woodard.

"We also get the occasional phone call from news stations wanting old headlines or articles from the *Dayton Daily News*," said Woodard. "It seems that they are often cold cases of murders that have been reopened with new DNA evidence or testimonies."

Images and material from the Library's Local History Collections were used in an episode of [American Experience](#) about the Wright Brothers on PBS, as well as several local Think TV productions including *Let's Go Down to Rike's* and *Goodbye, The Levee Has Broken*.

"There are so many new and exciting things happening in this digital era of library service," said Horlacher. "But it's important that the Dayton Metro Library also preserves our past and makes it accessible, since it belongs to all of us."

For more information on the Dayton Metro Library's [Local History and Genealogy](#) services and programs, call (937) 463-BOOK.

### **Franciscan Sisters of the Poor (Cincinnati)**

The Franciscan Sisters of the Poor are a proud recipient of a 2015 OHRAB grant. The grant award is being used to process the St. Mary/ Providence Hospital (Cincinnati) collection. St. Mary, opened in 1858, was the first hospital the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor operated in the United States. Providence Hospital, located on the former estate of industrialist Powel Crosley, Jr., replaced St. Mary in 1971. Archivist Jennifer Gerth-Unger and Wright State University intern Timothy Goins are processing the collection.

### **Greene County Archives (Xenia)**

The Greene County Archives has recently created an [Educator Resources page for their website](#). Teachers will be able to learn about the many primary resources that are stored and preserved at the

Archives. They will have access to the Archives' online resources and to fun student activities, such as a Greene County history crossword puzzle and a word search. In addition, the web page offers history programs that are designed for 4th-9th grade students. Utilizing primary and secondary resources, the programs will be presented in the classroom by the Archives' Public Outreach Coordinator, Elise Kelly. Lastly, the web page has useful website links for educators. Please take a moment to check out the Educator Resources page and discover something new about Greene County!

The Greene County Archives also successfully completed their 2nd Annual "I Found It In the Archives" contest. This gave them an extraordinary opportunity to showcase how the information found in their repository has touched people's lives. They had five contest participants, and over 165 people voted for their favorite entry.

Congratulations to the local winner, Amber McKenzie! Her entry essay, "The Dark Side of My Family History," has been submitted to the state-level contest. All of the entries received were intriguing, and the

Archives would like to thank everyone who submitted an essay! They would also like to thank everyone who read and voted for their favorite story; the number of voters really exceeded expectations!

They wish Amber the best of luck at the state contest, and they are already looking forward to their 3rd Annual "I Found It In the Archives" contest.

### **Hiram College**

In early July, the Hiram College Archives welcomed a film crew from the Jiangsu Broadcasting Corporation of Nanjing China. The production will document the 1937 Siege of Nanking (as it was then known) and the efforts of three men to protect women and children. One of the men who set up the Safety Zone for protection was Miner Searle Bates, a Hiram College graduate, Rhodes Scholar, and son of College President Miner Lee Bates. The crew filmed items featuring Bates that are part of the College



*Lu Kun and his team filming College Archivist Jennifer Morrow in the Hiram College Archives Reading Room with portrait and bust of James A. Garfield in the background (Courtesy of Hiram College).*



## NEWS & NOTES

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Lisa Rickey, editor

Archivist for Digital Initiatives & Outreach

Wright State University

Send news items to [lisa.rickey@wright.edu](mailto:lisa.rickey@wright.edu)

Collection and interviewed College Archivist Jennifer Morrow. It came as a bit of a surprise to the college community how very revered Bates was in China with the crew referring to him as "one of China's Schindlers." The program is scheduled to air in China in December 2015.

### **Kelvin Smith Library, Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland)**

Case Western Reserve University's Kelvin Smith Library (KSL) has acquired the archives of the Cleveland Performance Art Festival (PAF), an innovative event that brought international emerging artists to Cleveland from 1988 through 1999. Gifted to the library by the festival's founder and manager, Thomas Mulready, the collection includes over 1,000 hours of video recordings, 6,000 photographs, and other archival records maintained by Mulready.

"With the technological resources and expertise at CWRU Kelvin Smith Library, the Cleveland Performance Art Festival couldn't ask for better partners in this challenging task to host, manage, and make accessible thousands of hours of video and thousands of photographs of the most important (along with the most obscure) per-

formance artists working at the end of the 20th century," said Mulready, who currently owns and operates the [Cool Cleveland](#) e-newsletter. "What I found remarkable is the passionate engagement of the CWRU team with the mission of the Cleveland Performance Art Festival: to educate the public through this powerful, iconoclastic art form."

With roots in dance, theatre, and visual art, performance art developed as a fine art form in the twentieth century. It solidified as a movement in the art world in the 1960s and gained recognition by major museums in the '80s and '90s. The PAF hosted more than 100 performance artists each year, including the well-known Blue Man Group.

KSL is currently digitizing the video content in the collection, which will be distributed online via [Digital Case](#).

Kelvin Smith Library also recently installed a new exhibit in the [Special Collections](#) Hatch Reading Room entitled "The Quickening: The Archives Profession in Northeast Ohio, 1957-1977." Created to coincide with SAA15 in Cleveland in August, the exhibit runs through September. Hatch reading room hours are M-F 10 am - 4:30 pm. For more information contact: [kslspecialcollections@case.edu](mailto:kslspecialcollections@case.edu). The exhibit grew from an SAA15 session proposal concerning regional histories of the archives profession.

### **Lloyd Library and Museum (Cincinnati)**

The Lloyd launched its [PastPerfect online collection](#) this past

spring. The online collection currently includes photographs, artwork, book images and records, and a host of museum objects. Archival materials will be added periodically as showcased items. Just 3 months in to the project, we have cataloged and loaded over 1000 items, with changes and additions several times a week.

The Lloyd will open a new exhibition, "The Forest for the Trees," a look at urban green spaces and the historic forested landscape, on October 12, 2015. The show runs through January 15 and features photographic and artistic works by Eugene and Diana Avergon.

### **Montgomery County Records Center & Archives (Dayton)**

A document from the Montgomery County Records Center & Archives was used during the filming of the August 23 episode of the TLC program [Who Do You Think You Are?](#) The production crew used a page from the Soldiers' Home Inmate Register, 1867-1888, during the filming of the show at the Dayton VA Medical Center. Local genealogist Carolyn Burns discovered that Joseph Cranston, the ancestor of





actor Bryan Cranston, had lived at the Soldiers' Home. The filming used the Montgomery County document, as well as items from the Dayton VA Medical Center and the Dayton Metro Library, to illustrate Mr. Cranston's journey of discovery to find out who his ancestor was and how that ancestor died here in Dayton.

### **Lawrence and Lee Theatre Research Institute, Ohio State University (Columbus)**

The Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute is pleased to announce its acquisition of the [Ralph MacPhail, Jr., Howdy Doody Collection](#).

The collection was donated by Ralph MacPhail, Jr., Professor Emeritus of Theatre at Bridgewater College of Virginia, who has long been a *Howdy Doody* scholar and

enthusiast. Professor MacPhail is also an authority on Gilbert and Sullivan and serves as the Artistic Director of the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin.

This resource provides deep insight into *The Howdy Doody Show* and is also a treasure trove of information about puppetry, performance in children's television, early television programming, and merchandising history. Some collection highlights include: original H.D. "Test Pattern" flip card used at the end of telecasts; scripts, manuscript music, and photographs from *The Howdy Doody Show*; extensive information on Eddie Kean, script writer, music composer, and driving force behind *The Howdy Doody Show*; extensive information on "Buffalo Bob" Smith, creator and star of *The Howdy Doody Show*; working papers for issues of *The Howdy Doody Times* (newsletter of the Doodyville Historical Society). In addition, the collection contains hundreds of toys, product premiums, and audio and video recordings.

The collection is available for use by students, faculty, and researchers worldwide. For those interested accessing it, please contact the TRI staff at 614-292-6614, or visit [go.osu.edu/tri](http://go.osu.edu/tri) for more information.

### **Ohio History Connection (Columbus)**

Digital Services staff at the Ohio History Connection (OHC) are proud to announce the receipt of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for a project titled "Little Stories of the Great War: Ohioans in World War I," which commenced on May 1. The year-long planning grant will help prepare the organization for a larger project to construct a statewide digital collection of WWI materials, designed to align with the centennial of U.S. involvement in the Great War, 1917-1919.

Over the coming year, project staff will convene an advisory board composed of historians, educators, and curriculum coordinators to help identify materials for digitization and plan for the creation of a collection (and associated learning resources) for scholars, students, and the general public. By May 2016, project outcomes will include a prototype collection of a preliminary selection of WWI materials, as well as a publicly-available union bibliography with a complete listing of WWI holdings within our collections and from other organizations around Ohio.

Stay tuned over the coming year as OHC shares the progress of "Little Stories of the Great War." Additional questions about the grant and how to get involved may be directed to the project staff at (614) 297-2530 or [ohiomemory@ohiohistory.org](mailto:ohiomemory@ohiohistory.org).



Ralph MacPhail, Jr. with Howdy Doody and "Buffalo Bob" Smith, stars of *The Howdy Doody Show*, along with items from the Ralph MacPhail, Jr. Collection.

## NEWS & NOTES

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Lisa Rickey, editor

Archivist for Digital Initiatives & Outreach

Wright State University

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### Payne Theological Seminary (Wilberforce)

The history of Payne Theological Seminary, one of the nation's oldest African American seminaries, is now at users' fingertips thanks to a collaboration between Payne and Princeton Theological Seminary.

With funding from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundation, Payne Theological Seminary is actively digitizing materials from its historical archives and contributing the digitized versions to the [Theological Commons](#), the digital library of Princeton Theological Seminary, for public access. The collection will contain curated, contextualized sub-collections of images and textual materials for the study of the history of the African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E) denomination and Black Church tradition while chronicling the leadership, and legacy, of Payne Theological Seminary.

The records available for research include blueprints, handwritten manuscripts, rare books, bulletins, and photos dating back to the 1800s which document the establishment of the Black Church in America and the physical changes and developments of a number of AME Educational Institutions.

For more information about the project, contact Seminary Archivist Shanee' Murrain at [smurrain@payne.edu](mailto:smurrain@payne.edu).

### State Library of Ohio (Columbus)

The State Library of Ohio is pleased to announce that the State Library Board recently awarded \$39,916 in federal [IMLS LSTA](#) funding to the Columbus Metropolitan Library to conduct a Digital Public Library of America Planning Project from July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016. The project will develop a plan for Ohio libraries and cultural heritage institutions to participate in the [Digital Public Library of America](#) (DPLA) through creation of an Ohio Service Hub. In 2014, the State Library used LSTA funds, matched by [OPLIN](#) funds, to develop Digitization Hubs at four metropolitan libraries. "Working toward creating a DPLA portal for Ohio's libraries supports the State Library's strategic focus on expanding digitization and resource sharing opportunities for libraries," said State Librarian Beverly Cain.

"The DPLA Planning Grant is a logical next step for digitization activities in Ohio," said Missy Lodge, Associate State Librarian for Library Development. "The collaboration, begun through the 'DigiHub' grants, is continuing as the Hub partners look toward becoming an Ohio portal to DPLA."

Partners in the DPLA Planning Project include the Cleveland Public Library, Columbus Metropolitan Library, LYRASIS, OCLC, OhioLINK, Ohio History Connection, Ohio State University, Ohio University, OPLIN, Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, and the State Library of Ohio. The Bishoff Group, LLC are lead consultants for the project.

Founded in 2010, the DPLA is the nation's digital library with the goal



of bringing together the riches of America's libraries, archives, and museums, and making them freely available to the world. Participation in the DPLA will make material from Ohio's libraries, museums and archives accessible to millions of users who search the Digital Public Library of America.

### University of Akron Archival Services, University Libraries

Thanks to a recent \$20,000 grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, The University

of Akron Archival Services, a division of University Libraries, was able to digitize and make available online a large selection of materials from the John S. Knight Papers. The items selected focus on the innovations of John S. and James L. Knight and their contributions to the Akron area as well as many interesting and historically significant documents and photographs from the collection.

John S. Knight (1894-1981) was a journalist and newspaper publisher from Akron who inherited the *Akron Beacon Journal* from his father and parlayed it into a newspaper conglomerate known as Knight-Ridder Newspapers, Inc. Knight's personal papers, which total over 100 cubic feet and date from 1912 to 1981, consist primarily of materials relating to Knight's life and career and his family, including his brother James L. Knight. They include correspondence, speeches, scrapbooks, newspaper clippings, photographs, phonotapes, memorabilia, and Knight's "Editor's Notebooks," for which he won the Pulitzer Prize.

During the project, over 600 photographs and 570 folders of documents totaling nearly 29,000 pages were digitized and made available online for searching or browsing in the department's [digital archives](#). Some of the most interesting materials include images of John S. Knight during his visit to the Pacific at the end of World War II, where he witnessed the surrender of the Japanese on the *U.S.S. Missouri*. In addition, photographs of John F. Kennedy show the president at the Inter-American Press Association Conference just days before his assassination. Other materials include photographs, and correspondence, between Knight and

leading publishers and journalists of the day as well as prominent politicians and heads of state.

The John S. Knight Papers and other historical resources on Akron and Summit County are available by visiting Archival Services located in Room LL-10 of the Polsky Building in downtown Akron. Business hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Additional information about Archival Services can be accessed on the [department's website](#).

### **Warren County Records Center & Archives (Lebanon)**

The Warren County Records Center and Archives is happy to announce that they recently launched a [Facebook page](#) and [Wordpress blog](#) as part of their community outreach efforts. They have some exciting things happening over the next few months, and these new social media channels will be great new ways to reach out to the community. They hope to attract not only people interested in their family history within the county, but also those interested in the rich history that Warren County government has accumulated over the last 200+ years by also attracting educators and historians. Special thanks go to their intern Shelby Dixon for all of her efforts on this endeavor. Please check out the blog, and "like" them on Facebook! Please contact Jennifer Haney, Records Manager/Archivist, with any questions at [Jennifer.Haney@co.warren.oh.us](mailto:Jennifer.Haney@co.warren.oh.us).

### **Wright State University Libraries, Special Collections & Archives (Dayton)**

Special Collections and Archives in the Wright State University Libraries and the Dayton Metro Library

have partnered to create an online archive of the most complete run of Wright Brothers' newspapers available to date. Both the Dayton Metro Library and WSU's Special Collections and Archives house original issues of the Wright Brothers' newspapers. By combining the two collections in an online archive, this valuable resource will be available in a readily accessible format worldwide.

The Wright Brothers operated a printing business from 1889 to 1899, before they started their bicycle business, and before they tackled the challenge of flight. Over the years, they worked on several publications and local newspapers, including: *The Midget*, a small school newspaper; church pamphlets; the *West Side News*; *The Evening Item*; parts catalogs for bicycles; and the *Dayton Tattler*, published for neighborhood friend and noted poet and novelist, Paul Laurence Dunbar.

With the expertise of the Digital Services Department of the Wright State University Libraries, the Wright Brothers' newspapers will be available in digital format on both Wright State's CORE Scholar and on the [Dayton Metro Library's Dayton Remembers digital image site](#) thus making the newspapers accessible in not one, but two, online locations. All issues of the newspapers are currently available on CORE Scholar; the Dayton Metro Library expects to add the newspapers to its Dayton Remembers web site later this year.

Jamie McQuinn, Special Collections Manager for the Dayton Metro Library, said of the project: "The Dayton Metro Library welcomes this collaborative effort with Wright



# NEWS & NOTES

**Lisa Rickey, editor**

Archivist for Digital Initiatives & Outreach

Wright State University

Send news items to [lisa.rickey@wright.edu](mailto:lisa.rickey@wright.edu)

State University Libraries and appreciates the skills and expertise offered by the Digital Services Department. We are excited that the rich history of our community and its favorite sons will be more easily accessible to researchers in the Dayton area and around the world."

Dawne Dewey, Head of Special Collections and Archives, Wright State University Libraries, stated: "This project benefits both institutions by combining our rich Wright Brothers

Newspaper Collections into one online source. And that in turn benefits researchers. When we share our resources in this way, we make the Wright Brothers' and Dayton's history much more accessible."

Jane Wildermuth, Head of Digital Services in the Wright State University Libraries, described the digitization process: "Digital Services staff digitized the Wright Brothers' newspapers using an overhead large format scanner to capture the pages in one shot. Pages were processed, quality checked, and made into PDFs. We then used optical character recognition software to make the text on the pages full text searchable. In CORE Scholar, researchers can search across all of the Wright Brothers' newspapers to find keywords/topics quickly and efficiently."

To learn more about the project, contact Dawne Dewey at [dawne.dewey@wright.edu](mailto:dawne.dewey@wright.edu) or 937-775-2011; or Jamie McQuinn at [jmcquinn@daytonmetrolibrary.org](mailto:jmcquinn@daytonmetrolibrary.org) or 937-496-8650.



The Wright Brothers Newspapers Digital Archive Project provides researchers worldwide with high quality searchable scans of over 150 issues and nearly 800 pages of news stories from the Wrights' neighborhood publications. This project was made possible through a donation to the Communication Department at Wright State University from The Greenwood Family.

One of the approximately 150 issues of Wright Brothers Newspapers digitized in the project.



## ARCHIVES 2015: SAA ANNUAL MEETING

Archives 2015, the annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists, welcomed nearly 1,800 registrants from all over the US and around the globe, to Cleveland in the third week of August. The meeting was held in the Cleveland Convention Center--a first for SAA. Previous meetings had always been centered in a single hotel. Blessed by great weather, attendees traveled between the 3 official conference hotels and the convention center, happily visiting local restaurants and cultural institutions along the way and in side jaunts.

We are very grateful for all the great Ohio hospitality shown by the volunteers from the Ohio cultural heritage community, and the local institutions and their staff who opened their doors for tours and open houses. Volunteers who worked the entrance, registration desk, and pop-up table were: Mark Bloom, University of Akron; Jennifer Brancato, University of Dayton; Stephanie Bricking, Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County; Carol Jacobs (retired); Sarah Lund-Goldstein, CorpArchivists; Lonna McKinley, National Museum of the United States Air Force; Cate Putirskis and Kristin Rodgers, The Ohio State University; Ashley Skwiera (intern), Oberlin College; and Lisa Smilnak, Cleveland State University.

The SAA Archives 2015 Host Committee members did a wonderful job both leading up to the meeting--most visibly by providing copious content to the HC Blog (<https://saa2015cle.wordpress.com/>), coordinating the service project and tours, managing volunteers--and



*SAA Host Committee members Jeremy Feador (L) and Nicole Laflamme (R) are assisted by volunteer Jennifer Brancato at the Archives 2015 registration desk in Cleveland.*

working onsite. It consisted of archivists from around Ohio: Leslie Cade, Cleveland Museum of Art; Janet Carleton (cochair), Ohio University; Jillian Carney, Ohio History Connection; Ron Davidson, Sandusky Library; Jeremy Feador, Cleveland Indians; Nicole Laflamme, The J M Smucker Company; Rita Knight-Gray; Angela Manella; Lisa Rickey, Wright State University; Anne Sal-sich, Oberlin College; Jill Tatem, Case Western Reserve University; Jennie Thomas (cochair), Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum; and Judith Wiener, The Ohio State University.

## CONNECT WITH SOA

Get the latest news about SOA and the archivist profession in Ohio! Join us on the SOA [Listserv](#), [Facebook](#) group, and [LinkedIn](#) group.

Meeting photos from both 2014 meetings are on Flickr at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/ohioarchivists/>! What are Ohio archives doing online? Come see on the SOA Pinterest page at <http://www.pinterest.com/ohioarchivists/>! Have you seen the SOA website? Visit at [www.ohioarchivists.org/](http://www.ohioarchivists.org/).



## Newcomers



Stephanie Bricking / editor / Metadata Librarian  
at Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

### On the Importance of Internships: How to Ensure your Experience is Marketable During your Job Search

*By Stefanie Hilles*

*Expanding upon last spring's piece on internships, Stefanie Hilles column below provides useful advice for students. Stefanie Hilles, a graduate student at Kent State University, cites both library literature and her own experiences to provide helpful information for those searching for, or already participating in, an internship. – Newcomers Editor, Stephanie Bricking*

Everyone knows that internships can help students and recent graduates of archival studies find jobs. We've heard it repeated by our professors and peers, during guest lectures and from professional organizations. To ensure their internships are significant, students and recent graduates should choose opportunities that emphasize practical experience and specific projects as well as networking and mentorship. Students who focus their attention on these aspects will find their internships more beneficial when it comes time for their job search.

From January 2013 to January 2015, I was an intern at the library and archives of the Akron Art Museum (AAM). This experience was project oriented and allowed me to increase my professional contacts through networking and mentorship. It was an ideal internship to enhance my resume.

First and foremost, internships provide practical experiences that cannot be taught in school.<sup>1</sup> Whereas coursework is often theoretical, internships, in contrast, provide real world experience.<sup>2</sup> Marian Hoy refers to internships as "experiential learning," and notes they are, "an essential element for applying theory to practice."<sup>3</sup> Lorraine Madway also emphasizes the practical nature of internships, calling them an opportunity for "hands-on experience."<sup>4</sup>

Completing projects for an internship thus provides interns with concrete knowledge to refer to during interviews. For example, library and archival instruction might be taught during coursework, but the

student will probably not get the experience of actually teaching a class. While interning, the student might have the opportunity to lead a one-shot archival instruction course, providing practical experience not gained in school. During an interview where the position required instruction responsibilities, the fact that the intern has actual experience in instruction is more beneficial to their candidacy than if they just had the theoretical knowledge of how to implement an instruction session.

When Hoy surveyed former interns who had recently found employment at collecting institutions, which she defined as libraries, museums, and archives, she found that "all responded that their qualifications and previous work experience [including internships] had been relevant at some level and the skills and knowledge they had acquired could be applied to their new work environment."<sup>5</sup> Moreover, interns learned how different collections functioned and gained more accurate outlooks on their future workplaces and opportunities.<sup>6</sup>

For these real world experiences to be the most beneficial, Stephanie Chase recommends that interns focus on a particular, well-defined project within the institution.<sup>7</sup> As an intern at AAM, I worked on two main projects: cataloguing the analogue photograph collection consisting of slides, film, and negatives into an Excel spreadsheet for future database transition and filing archival materials into the physical archives. While both of these projects were beyond the scope of completion by a single intern, the in-depth nature of the work provided me with more practical experience than a class project could allow. For example, filing documents into the archives gave me a concrete understanding of how the archive is structured to aid retrieval and how the documents related to one another within the archive as a whole. Having clearly defined projects also created a valuable internship experience; I was never stuck fulfilling the stereotype



*Filing documents into AAM's archive gave Hilles hands-on experience and a practical understanding of the archive's structure.*

of making photocopies or fetching coffee because I always had a defined and important role within the institution.

One thing the intern should consider is the documentation of their internship. If the intern is working in conjunction with a specific project, they can add that work to their portfolio.<sup>8</sup> Portfolios are beneficial during a job search since they provide concrete examples of work experience.<sup>9</sup> While my filing in the archives did not afford any opportunities for documentation, the metadata I created while cataloguing the analogue photograph collection serves as an excellent example of my work that I can add to my professional portfolio.

Meagan Lacy and Andrea J. Copeland also note that internships afford "students an opportunity to obtain work experience in a specific context and to apply the knowledge learned in their LIS programs to their coursework."<sup>10</sup> Internships and coursework complement one another and students should seek out opportunities where the two can overlap. I was writing

a research paper which argued that controlled vocabularies need to be more widely implemented in art museums while working with the Getty's controlled vocabularies at AAM, cataloguing their analogue photographs. As such, my internship informed my research and, likewise, my research supported the importance of the skills I learned during my internship. As an extension of this point, it should be noted that both behaviorist and cognitive/constructivist learning theories name active learning as essential to the success of the instruction process.<sup>11</sup> Internships, with their practical focus, are an example of active learning.

Real world experience is the most obvious way internships can increase the marketability of the intern on the job market. In addition to the hard skills gained by practical experience, internships can help students' job prospects by providing opportunities for networking and mentorship, which also increase the chances of successful employment. As Rebecca L. Mugridge notes, "many librarians will tell you that their success has been at least partially due to the connections they have made over time."<sup>12</sup>



## Newcomers



Stephanie Bricking / editor / Metadata Librarian  
at Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

### On the Importance of Internships: How to Ensure your Experience is Marketable During your Job Search

*By Stefanie Hilles*

As an intern at AAM, I became known to museum staff beyond the library that can now attest to the quality of my work in a variety of contexts. These relationships may will prove beneficial and advance your career. The library, museum, and archive world is a relatively small one. A recommendation, even given in passing, could mean the difference between landing an interview and desperately waiting for the phone to ring. In addition to choosing an internship that pertains to a particular project, especially a project that can be added to their portfolio, interns would be wise to develop professional connections throughout the larger institution whenever possible.

Mentorship, consistently cited in the literature as one of the primary benefits of internships, is yet another way to ensure the internship experience is valuable. Lacy and Copeland's analysis of mentor/mentee relationships found three main ways that mentorship benefits interns.<sup>13</sup> First, mentorships provide the intern with knowledge of the day-to-day work life of the mentor.<sup>14</sup> While this provides the practical experience previously discussed, a mentor/mentee relationship also affords a more holistic view of the job skills required. This could help the mentee decide if they enjoy a certain kind of work, thus making them more aware of their preferences in their job search.<sup>15</sup> Second, mentorship can increase job-seeking skills by providing the mentee with someone experienced to ask for guidance.<sup>16</sup> Need someone to proofread your resume or perform a practice interview? A mentor is the ideal person to fulfill this role; they have been through the job search themselves and know what to

expect. Finally, mentorship can increase the mentee's understanding of workplace expectations.<sup>17</sup> For example, the mentee could accompany the mentor to professional organizations, thus demonstrating the importance of membership in said organizations in the archival, library, and museum field, as well as increasing the intern's professional contacts.

While at AAM, my supervisor, the Library and Archives Manager, became my mentor. Since she graduated from the same MLIS program I currently attend, I often asked for advice on which classes I should take. I was also able to discuss the professional associations I should join and brainstorm ideas for class projects. Even though my internship has ended, we remain in contact and I continue to seek her guidance. She will be a perfect reference for future employers.

Finally, but no less importantly, internships breed confidence.<sup>18</sup> Job-hunting is intimidating. Gaining real world experience, having a network of professional contacts, and finding a mentor are three ways confidence can be built. I know I feel more assured in my own skills after my internship at AAM. Moreover, I now have an example of my work to add to my portfolio.

We all know that internships are important for those in the archival, museum, and library science fields. However, by investigating further and elucidating why internships are important, interns can ensure their experiences are meaningful and support their job search. When planning for internships, students should look for ones that provide practical experience, ideally

*Stefanie Hilles is a MLIS candidate at Kent State University. She also has an MA in art history from Case Western Reserve University and lectures on the subject at the University of Akron and Kent State University, Stark Campus. Recently, she accepted the position of Library and Archives Manager at the Akron Art Museum, where she was once an intern.*



as part of a project.<sup>19</sup> This will keep the internship focused and offers the opportunity to add concrete work examples to employment portfolios.<sup>20</sup> In addition, students should look for internships that offer chances for networking and mentorship. Internships that meet these recommendations will prove the most marketable during the job search.

## NOTES

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# Feature Article



George Bain  
Features Editor

## El Pasado Fue Prologo: the Cuba Project of the Society of Ohio Archivists

*By Fred Lautzenheiser*

*The Cuba Project discussed below was one of the most significant outreach projects SOA has ever conducted. Fred Lautzenheiser of the Cleveland Clinic Archives, who at the time served as editor of the Ohio Archivist, added to his duties that of liaison to Cuban archivists. He recounts here the major results of the partnership, including his own personal trips to Cuba. Feature Editor, George Bain.*

In Cuba the whole decade of the 1990s was overshadowed by one major event – the sudden disappearance of Soviet investment resulting from the dissolution of the USSR. The massive effects of this on the Cuban economy included drastic cuts in funding for education just when the University of Havana's

School of Library and Information Science was bringing along a fledgling archival education program. When we received a letter from Carlos Suarez Balseiro asking for outside help, SOA's Council and President Mike McCormick reacted favorably. I don't know what other organizations may have received a similar letter or whether he just picked us out for some reason, but we were happy to do what we could. And I became the primary contact for SOA.

With the Russians gone, the tough regulations for accepting visitors went by the wayside and the Cuban government began to reconstruct its tourism industry. Although the United States kept its embargo until just a few months ago, other countries immediately saw a chance to pursue business as usual with the island. By 1994 the Spanish Guitart hotel chain had contracted with the Cuban government to reopen several hotels that had been famous before the 1959 revolution. Companies from countries such as Italy and Canada began positioning themselves to take pieces of the commercial pie. Cubans were beginning to test the commercial waters themselves. There were a number of reasons for wanting to visit Cuba in the early

1990s, but the immediate stimulus was Carlos's first letter of April 4, 1993, addressed to the Society of Ohio Archivists at the Cleveland Clinic Archives. He was asking for help to work around the financial problems of the time. He was concerned that the new ventures – as well as established organizations – were not thinking about their records, either current or permanent. Records management, and following that, archives, needed to be brought into their consciousness before valuable documentation was destroyed. Also, the archival frame of mind was very traditional. Some archivists felt that while paleography and history were fine, they needed up-to-date arrangement and description, and above all, an awareness of the need for records management and a smooth transition of permanent records to archives.

### ASPECTS OF THE CUBA PROJECT

This project only lasted for a few years, but even so it was multifaceted. The original interest of the Cubans, and specifically Carlos, was in records management. Another of the desiderata was the publication here of articles written by Cuban archivists who could not otherwise publish; the economic disaster of



*Norma Barrios, Vice Dean of the School of Library and Information Science at the University of Havana, and faculty member, Carlos Suárez Balseiro, who mainly taught records management courses, 1996. Carlos was our archival contact in Cuba. Photo by the author.*

## FEATURE ARTICLE: EL PASADO FUE PROLOGO

1991 eliminated many forums for scholarly writing and publishing. A third aspect was their gaining support from outside professionals for requests they were making to the authorities. Another facet was supporting the library of the School of Library & Information Science in the Facultad de Comunicación, the home of the major (if not the only) archival education program in Cuba. After 1991 the library had no means of purchasing essential publications for archival students. The only facet where we ended up being completely frustrated was in getting a PC for the archival program in the library school. Last but not least was the project to bring a Cuban archivist to the U.S. to make contacts for further projects and to see the state of archives and records management in this country.

#### *Records Management*

Although we sent publications about records management to Cuba, in general our donations to the library were related more strictly to the archival field. None of the American archivists closely involved with the Cuba project were really in the records management field, so records management objectives fell short.

#### *Publication of Cuban Articles*

The Ohio Archivist provided a place to publish articles by Cuban archivists, although there were some impediments. The Internet was not as universally available as now (especially in Cuba), and articles were still being mailed in as hard copy with photographic prints for illustration. Also, having met very few of our Cuban colleagues, we did

not have the contacts to go searching for worthwhile articles ourselves. There was also the language problem; anything we published in Ohio would have to be in English. As a result, only the following three articles were published, although we could have done many more:

Suárez Balseiro, Carlos A. "Will Our Past Be Prologue?: The Urgency of Records Management for Cuban Organizations," *Ohio Archivist* (Spring 1995), pp. 4-7.

Frades, Luis, Milagros Vaillant & René López, "The Conservation of Documents in Cuba: The National Archives Conservation Policy," *Ohio Archivist* (Fall 1995), pp. 4-6.

Guerra Menéndez, Ariagna, Alicia Naranjo Garzón, & Yanet Ramírez Hernández, "Cuban Records and Information Managers: Some Ideas on Being a Professional," *Ohio Archivist* (Fall 1997), pp. 8-11.

#### *Support for the Profession in Cuba*

George Parkinson, as SOA's President, wrote at least one letter of support for a project of the Cuban archivists' group. It was needed because Carlos thought recommendations from outside groups would help the authorities realize that the project was unquestionably professional in character and according to best practices in the archival world. This type of support was probably not considered as important by us as it was to the Cubans, but they understood their world and its bureaucracy better than we did.

The other part of this objective was to help the interest group Sociedad y Archivos (the Asociación de Archi-

vistas de Cuba seems to have given place to this organization) in its educational mission to disseminate archival practice into the provinces from Havana. We visited a couple archives outside the main archival scene in Havana, but neither of these visits developed into anything. We heard about the Finca Hemingway, but were not able to visit it. Carlos made archival trips to other provinces, but he seemed too tied down with all the projects in Havana to pursue this to a very great extent. During the short life of our project, we were not able to do much in this department.

#### *Materials for the Library*

The Facultad de Comunicación of the University of Havana was basically a school for journalism. I am not sure exactly how the School of Library and Information Science with its archival education program became attached to it. It was located off the main university campus in a former mansion in the Vedado district of Havana. During Cuba's economic meltdown in the early 90s the budget for acquisitions in the school's library was non-existent. The faculty teaching archival courses were completely at a loss as to how to get materials and so they asked SOA if we could help. We canvassed not only SOA members, but MAC and SAA as well as many repositories, for copies of useful new publications. The library did not have many holdings in the field other than the publications of the Cuban National Archives. They especially asked for long runs of journals if possible to fill in gaps in their retrospective collections. This was an area where we

*Continued on the next page.*

## FEATURE ARTICLE: EL PASADO FUE PROLOGO

could help.

### A Computer for the School

This part of the project was more difficult and ended up frustrating us. There appeared to be a mechanism by which we could obtain a PC from Case Western Reserve University, and Helen Conger of the University Archives was working on this for a while, but the aftermath of an airplane incident between Cuba and the US in February 1996 put an end to this project.

### *Bringing a Cuban Archivist to the U.S.*

This project, though it was ultimately unsuccessful, was quite a lot of work, with innumerable emails and phone calls, and continual changes and adjustments. We publicized the project through the Archives listserv and there was quite a bit of enthusiasm in Ohio as well as other places throughout the U.S. Carlos Suárez Balseiro was to be the visitor. Because it was an educational project, there was a reasonable chance that the visa would come through, especially considering the expertise of Case Western Reserve's immigration officer, Lila Krause.

We eventually gathered quite a bit of support. Carlos was to travel in a wide loop around the eastern and midwestern parts of the country after arrival through Montreal. He was to speak at a number of archival meetings and/or various institutions. A number of institutions and organizations would divide up the costs of around \$900 apiece. Although some dropped out or were added at vari-

ous times, the main supporters were:

- Northeast Ohio group (combining resources) – Cleveland Archival Roundtable; ARMA's
- Cleveland Chapter; Oberlin College; Lorain County Historical Society
- Columbus – Society of Ohio Archivists
- Ann Arbor – University of Michigan School of Information; Bentley Library
- Milwaukee – University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, archival training program
- Madison – State Historical Society of Wisconsin
- Chicago – MAC/Midwest Archives Conference
- San Antonio – U. of Texas San Antonio Small Business Development Center
- Atlanta – Georgia Records Association
- Washington DC – NARA's Center for Electronic Records; Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference/MARAC showed some interest as well
- Boston – JFK Library; NEDCC/Northeast Document Conservation Center; Simmons College

Carlos was to fly into Montreal on April 11, 1998, thence to Cleveland. After six days in Ohio, he would visit Ann Arbor, Milwaukee and Madison,

go to Chicago for the spring MAC meeting, then San Antonio, then to Atlanta for a Georgia Records Managers meeting, and end up in Washington, DC where he could visit NARA. Boston was going to be at the end. Our guest would leave from Montreal on May 16.

As it happened, at the end of 1997 Carlos received an invitation from the Spanish government for an all-expenses-paid year of graduate study in Spain, which encompassed the time he would have been visiting here. While studying at Carlos III University in Madrid, his life took an unexpected turn and he did not return to Cuba. So much for the tour project.

### VISITING CUBA

Although the tour project did not end up the way I expected, I personally derived a great deal of knowledge and pleasure from my trips—some archival, some personal—to Cuba. There were many advantages to being the liaison with the Cubans. Who wouldn't enjoy a trip to a beautiful country with lovely and generous people and a long historical tradition?

Archival highlights included an "Archives Day" on May 17, 1996. First on the tour was a business archives, EPROYIV. This was an architectural engineering office employing over 700 people, and it had established an archives in the early 1970s. There were four archivists. Records were kept in a records center, with an archives for the material not regularly referenced. There was an up-to-date disaster plan because



## FEATURE ARTICLE: EL PASADO FUE PROLOGO

there had been several unfortunate events in the history of the archives, so awareness was very much heightened.

The next archives was at the Cementerio Cristóbal Colón, the giant historic cemetery which is Havana's answer to Paris's Cimetière Père Lachaise. Cuban researchers have often used its extensive records as source material for all sorts of studies, whether sociological, demographic, or even economic. The physical statues, walls, and mausoleums were the object of a massive restoration project, so in addition to historic genealogical records, there were records of various types of conservation work and scientific research.

The Cuban National Archives was mind-boggling with its huge old building and enormous holdings dating from the early 16th century to the present. This was of course the best-funded archives in Cuba and the archivists there were using computers in a variety of ways. At the end of the tour my hosts and I had to rush through micrographics, microbiology, the computer part, and the chemistry lab. Nevertheless we were able to tour extensively

through the other parts; the archives was divided into major departments: scientific/technical; information services; technical services (automation & reprography); conservation; and financial. The same types of work were being carried on as in large archives anywhere else (arrangement/description, reference, conservation, etc.). Finding aids were extensive and there was an overall classification system as well as an in-house photo cataloguing system. There

I was able to visit other archives at other times besides Archives Day 1996, but without such good guides and explanations. I visited the church of Jesu del Monte in Regla, south of Havana Harbor. It was in a dreadful neighborhood, but the church itself was beautifully maintained and possessed a spectacular archives with neatly kept records on appropriate shelving. I saw records there going back at least to the 17th century. On another trip I visited the Cathedral of Santiago, which is famous for its musical archives, having been a center for Cuban sacred music in previous centuries. Although I did not get into the archives, I did see two very old pipe organs that looked extremely interesting and were probably from the 18th century.



*Avenue of family mausoleums in the Cementerio Cristóbal Colón, with mortuary chapel in the background, Havana, Cuba. The cemetery is famous not only for the important people buried there, but for its architecture, sculpture, and its specimens of plants and trees. The Cementerio Cristóbal Colón is an enormous and historic cemetery with a very large and rich archives used for many types of research. Photo by the author.*

were also (among others) a map room, an extensive exhibit hall, a very large and elegant reading room, a photographic office, and a small shop selling publications. As in European archives, there is a research function in addition to ordinary reference, and some of the archivists are full-time historians.

tels had just been unlocked and taken out of mothballs. My friend (and interpreter) and I stayed at the Hotel Riviera on the Malecón (the oceanside drive and promenade), which looked exactly the way it was in 1959 when it was shuttered and locked up. It was like living in a museum of the 1950s. The art on the

Cuba from 1994 to 2000 was changing. In 1994 there were still a lot of political billboards, and the old ho-

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walls, the diving board at the swimming pool, the chairs and the bedspreads were all original period pieces. In 1994 most Cubans seemed very innocent, and people never asked for money. On our first day we were followed by a tall unknown person and immediately had visions of knives flashing and us lying helpless on the sidewalk – but it turned out he was admiring our baseball caps and wanted to see which teams they featured. We ended up buying him a soft drink and giving him a baseball cap, which delighted him more than I can say. A great meal in a restaurant for two people cost a few dollars, and you could just signal to any car driver that you wanted a ride and get a super-cheap drive to just about anywhere. Dollars were legal currency, so there were no money-changing headaches.

By the year 2000, a tall new hotel had gone up a block from the Riviera. Its restaurant was expensive and a change of clothes was appropriate before going there. You could have a fantastic dining experience in a private home, but it cost a bit more. The immensely long “guaguas” (pronounced “wawa”) that bent in the middle to get around corners were replaced by standard-size buses to provide public transportation. Drivers were being arrested for driving unlicensed taxis; the Riviera was being renovated and the 1950s décor was disappearing. A lot of buildings in Old Havana were be-

ing restored and you could stay on somebody’s second floor if they weren’t using it and pay less than a hotel. Now there were some people who would be your guide, but wanted money for it. Artists were displaying their work outdoors on a lot of streets in Old Havana. Regular restaurant prices were going up and the Spanish and Italians were running all of the official hotels. Innocence was beginning to disappear and more and more things were for sale. There were many more foreigners visiting Havana, not only Europeans and Latin Americans, but more people from the U.S.

### AFTERTHOUGHTS

This project started over 20 years ago, but in a way it would be just as relevant now as it was then, and today it probably would meet with more success (although it would be twice as expensive), since many restrictions have either been lifted or may soon disappear, making it easier to get library materials or computers to the people who need them.

Interest in the island is enjoying an upswing with the change in US foreign policy. I think we could learn a lot from Cuban archivists, who come from a different archival tradition and which would also provide endless material for historical articles about topics from the days of Columbus (or maybe before) to the present.



*Baroque Revival window, façade of the National Archives building, Compostela Street, Havana, Cuba. Though established by order of the Queen of Spain in 1840, the collection contained therein dates to the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The Archivo Nacional partakes of many characteristics of the European archival tradition: archives of licensed notaries (these take the place of our governmental vital records); departments such as Paleography—needed if one is to use four hundred year old documentation; and a tradition of archivists as scholarly historians, who not only provide access to scholars, but also are themselves scholars. Photo by the author.*

Fred Lautzenheiser ([lautzef@ccf.org](mailto:lautzef@ccf.org)) completed the double degree archival program in history and library science at Case Western Reserve University in 1981 and then worked for Ruth Helmuth in the University Archives. He started at the Cleveland Clinic Archives part-time in 1982 and went full time at the Clinic Archives starting in 1985 as Associate Archivist. He was Editor of the Ohio Archivist from 1989 through 2000, when it was still a paper publication.

## MISSION

*Founded in 1968, the Society of Ohio Archivists' mission is to exchange information, coordinate activities, and improve professional competence in Ohio's archives and manuscript repositories. Membership in the society is open to the public, and we invite anyone with an interest in archives and manuscripts to join.*



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