

OPEN ENTRY

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Newsletter of the Michigan Archival Association

<http://www.maasn.org>

Return to Frankenmuth!

MAA's Annual Meeting, June 21-23, 2006



From the Collections of The Henry Ford, ID#P:833.63921

Geyer's Original Frankenmuth Beer loaded in a Ford V8 Stack Truck, 1935.



HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 President's Corner
- 5 Ask Dr. Archives
- 6 *Michigan* Collections
- 12 Annual Meeting Preview
- 14 Migration of Film and Video to Digital
- 22 Lone Arranger

Table of Contents

Board Members	2
President's Corner	3
A New Way of Thinking	4
Ask Dr. Archives	5
Michigan Collections	6
Frankenmuth: MAA's 48th Annual Meeting	12
Pre-Conference Workshop: Digitization	13
Migration of Film and Video to Digital	14
Michigan Collections (continued)	16
Detroit Symphony Orchestra	21
Local Governments	21
Lone Arranger	22
Western Archives Institute	23
Calendar of Events: 2006	24
Photograph Sources	24

<http://www.maasn.org>



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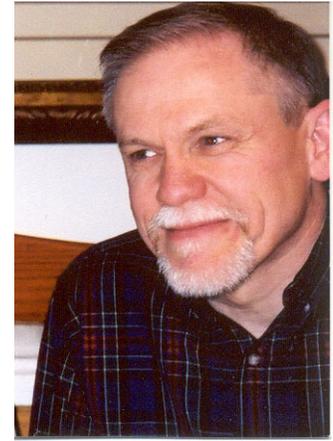
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President's Corner

by John Gibson

The complete story of salvaging the records, documents and artifacts damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita is yet to be written. Some idea of the sheer volume of public documents placed at risk can be determined by examining a map of just the public library buildings that were substantially damaged.¹



The web sites and newsletters of some Southern archival institutions have been searched to understand how the salvage effort has progressed. The Louisiana State Archives reported in their fall newsletter that they have been keeping track of over 500 local and state agencies in the area damaged by Katrina and over 475 local and state agencies in the area damaged by Rita.² The Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) stated in their *Mississippi History Newsletters' Special Edition: Hurricane Katrina Recovery* that their assessment teams traveled to sites on the Gulf Coast to perform damage assessments, clean mold from artifacts, and retrieve and prepare damaged records (such as the city council minutes and ordinances for the towns of Waveland and Bay St. Louis) for placement in freezer storage in Jackson, Mississippi pending restoration.³ Although MDAH was able to retrieve the archives from the Jefferson Davis Library, most buildings and artifacts housed at Beauvoir (the estate of Jefferson Davis located in Biloxi, Mississippi) were seriously damaged or destroyed, including the library building built in 1997.⁴ The New Orleans Notarial Archives had 60,000 notarial volumes covering three centuries compiled by the notaries of New Orleans, Louisiana stored in the basement of the Civil District Courts building. At tremendous cost the basement was immediately pumped out and the records were placed in freezer trucks and shipped by Munters Moisture Control Service to its regional drying center near Chicago for treatment.⁵

Many accounts of archivists working to retrieve and restore what the hurricanes damaged spoke of volunteers coming from out of state or area archivists traveling 2 to 3 hours daily to and from “home” to their work site. Of course some of this commuting can be avoided if you are willing to follow the example of Jack Elliott of the MDAH. When he is working at Beauvoir, he sleeps in a shed that was left standing on the 52 acre estate but is careful to not walk directly from the shed to his work site “in order to avoid the alligator” he spotted in the creek across from where he sleeps. Elliott said he assumes the 8-foot gator, a creature notorious for being territorial, was “swept in with the ocean surge caused by Hurricane Katrina, which also scattered valuable artifacts that had taken decades to collect.”⁶

Needless to say, opportunities to make a financial contribution abound. On behalf of our membership, the Michigan Archival Association made a contribution to the Emergency Disaster Assistance Fund created by the Society of Southwest Archivists and the Society of American Archivists. The fund was established to aid in the stabilization and recovery needs of archival repositories that have been directly affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. To make a donation or find out more please visit <<http://www.ssacares.org/grant.php>>.

1. Normative Data Project for Libraries at <http://www.libraryndp.info/special_katrina.html> retrieved 10 Feb 2006.

2. Louisiana State Archives Newsletter *Input*, Oct – Dec 2005 at <<http://www.sec.state.la.us/archives/archives/archives-reports-2005-dec.pdf>> retrieved 07 Feb 2006.

3. *Mississippi History Newsletter* at <http://www.mdah.state.ms.us/pubs/mhn/spec-ed_katrina_lo-res.pdf> retrieved 07 Feb 2006.

4. From *The Daily Texan* article: “Recovery and Relief Efforts: Memories of Old South Awash,” dated 17 Jan 2006 at <<https://www.heritagepreservation.org/programs/KatrinaUpdates.HTM>> retrieved 10 Feb 2006.

5. New Orleans Notarial Archives web page at <<http://www.notarialarchives.org/hurricane.htm>> retrieved 03 Feb 2006.

6. *Ibid.*

A New Way of Thinking: One Archivist's Journey

By Anonymous

A revolutionary thing happened to me earlier this year. It was truly earthshaking for both me and the archival repository* in which I work. After many (and I do mean many) years of creating our own standards for metadata capture, the idea was presented that we abandon our current format, and migrate to this new SAA standard called *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Now, don't misunderstand, the idea of abandoning our old format was not the revolutionary element of this brainstorm. We had done that many (and I do mean many) times before. In fact, that is how we came to be in the mess that we had recently discovered ourselves. The irony was that we hadn't even thought of ourselves as being in a mess until recently, but the process of training a new researcher had begun to shed light on the underlying complexities just taken for granted by those of us who had been here a while. The utterly confused look on this new trainee's face as I explained how the search methods, and terms, were different for each of our four different accession management databases clued me in to the fact that there might be a better way. The actual epiphany came when I started laughing as I was conveying the evolution of our various metadata structures.

The conversation went something like this:

Me: Well, you see in 1982, we dumped our original accession log spreadsheet into this database, and we added a few metadata fields. Then in 1989, one person created this new database to manage a large accession they were processing, and we liked it so much we adopted it as our new accession management solution. But, we kept the old database just to be careful. A few years later, in 1993, we realized that we weren't capturing all of the metadata we needed, so someone's techie friend created a new database for us, and we started using that for our collection management, but we kept the old ones too, just to be safe. Finally, in 2001, we created the database that we populate now, which has different metadata fields than the previous three, so we were never able to migrate all of the metadata over, so we just kept all of the previous databases to be safe.

Trainee: Huh?

It was after this training session that we decided to investigate our options. What we needed was an easy way to capture consistent metadata for our ever growing holdings. This new standard had to be affordable, scalable, portable, adaptable, and easy to learn. After much (and I do mean much) debate, we decided to embrace the most obvious solution: a metadata standard created by archivists, for archivists. The change that this new evolution has created here in my repository is nothing short of miraculous. It has taken some time to get all of our catalogers up to speed on this new form of metadata capture, but being used to change, they were all eager to try something new. We have adapted it slightly, agreeing to utilize some fields but not others, to better meet our needs, and everyone seems very happy with the results.

Our catalogers are now all speaking the exact same language when talking about our accessions. They ask each other's help in constructing relevant 2.3 Title elements, they grouse with each other over the necessary length of some of the 3.1 Scope and Content elements, and they all understand why we have chosen to not adopt the 6.4 Publication Note element. Additionally, our researchers have become much happier people since our change. They only have to search one database, using one search strategy, for the first time since my repository's creation. They can now answer a patron's question in a fraction of the time it used to take and, as a result, both the staff and our patrons leave here happier!

I guess the lesson I learned this past year is that while it is perfectly relevant to think of our respective repositories and holdings as completely unique, it is equally important to recognize that each of us is part of a collective profession, which is similar across industry, region, and culture. The desired outcome for all of us is the same: organized, accessible holdings, utilized effectively to meet our patron's information needs. As a result of this similarity, we have a great many common standards out there, all of which can make our work lives much easier, just waiting to be adopted and embraced!

*I've decided to let this repository, and this author, remain anonymous, mostly due to the fact that we could be anywhere in the archival world. I have worked in a number of repositories, and the one common thread amongst them is that each one fancied itself completely unique.



Note: Dr. Archives is away at the annual meeting of the National Association of Dubious Doctors at Disneyworld. In his absence Phil, the only ABD Eager Archival Assistant, has agreed to fill in.

Dear Dr. Archives,

Is there a metaphysical side to archives? Is everything merely an illusion? Am I spending my life pursuing a career that is more pointless than being the Queen of the May in the middle of February? What up??

Signed,

Indecisive in Indian River

Dear Indecisive,

Indeed, what is the metaphysical side of archives? How real are the manuscripts that we put into order despite the risk of paper cuts? Can our senses be trusted? Apparently, about as far as you can toss a jar of wheat paste. Here at the Dr. Archives House of Stygian Steno Pads, I and my fellow EAA's periodically emerge from our cells to contemplate the Universe. Using the power of Posnerian Logic, we have found it to be about a quart low. What to believe you say?? Let's do some x-plorin'.

Metaphysics is traditionally the search for the basis of all, seen and unseen. With apologies to Rene Bookcarte...er I mean Descarte, the irreducible statement for archivists would be "I know my provenance, therefore I am." But beyond that pale jest lurks the nagging suspicion that "reality" is more bizarre than Jessica Simpson reciting the Canterbury Tales. Simply put, existence is a triple-sided coin of unspace, the Realm of the Impossorous, and a brilliant fog, all divergent in the glittering plane of the Possible but Unlikely, the impure essence of pure thought with motivations un-apparent but for mucilage, post-it, print-out, P-90, Ich bin ein...

Gentile reader, it is I, the Disney Doc, returned with a Goofy hat and a story to tell. But first – Good Game, Phil! Hit the showers.

Indecisive, here is the scoop. It may well be that everything is as it appears, and what we touch has substance and existence beyond what our senses reveal. Or, everything is an illusion in which nothing matters, and reality may only exist on alternate Tuesdays in November. Take your pick. However, here is a kernel of wisdom that is inescapable: If we DON'T treat this little scam called archives as is if our next paycheck, indeed our entire being, depended on it, well.....we all will be in the unemployment line faster than you can say "Existence is futile!"

Michigan Collections

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September to April: Sa, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 a.m.

March to April: W 6:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.

New Acquisitions

AIDS Partnership Michigan records, 1983-2005.

AIDS Partnership Michigan is a Detroit-based organization that provides education about HIV/AIDS, and also provides services for those affected by HIV. The organization was formed in 1996, through a merger between Wellness Networks, Inc. (founded 1983) and AIDS Care Connection (founded 1989). The record group is comprised mainly of board meeting minutes of Wellness Networks, Inc., but also includes annual reports, financial reports, and educational pamphlets of AIDS Partnership Michigan and Wellness Networks, Inc.

Karoub family papers, 1958-ca. 2005. Hussein Karoub was imam of the first mosque in North America, in Highland Park, Michigan. The collection contains family history and publications by, and about, family members.

Race Relations Council of Southwest Michigan records, 1999-2003. Founded in 1998, the Council is a diverse group of citizens from Benton Harbor and Saint Joseph, Michigan dedicated to fostering interracial understanding and mutual respect. The record group includes informational material; questionnaires (with tabulation) from a survey of attitudes and perceptions of African American and white high school students, community college students, and church members towards each other; also a report on mortgage applications in the area.

Billie Louise Edwards papers, 1981-1993 (bulk 1987-1992). Billie Louise Edwards was a feminist, activist, lesbian, motorcyclist, co-parent, Metropolitan Community Church preacher, and clinical psychologist; she was also co-director of the University of Michigan Lesbian-Gay Male Programs Office (LGMPO) from 1987 to 1993. The Edwards papers include her educational materials and writings, training materials and correspondence from the LGMPO, audio cassettes from her ministry, and a photographic portrait.

Special Projects

A part of Michigan history from the World War I era of 1918-1919 has come to life at the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan. The library, in coordination with the U-M School of Information, has created the Polar Bear Expedition Digital Collections, an interactive Web site (<http://polarbears.si.umich.edu>).

At the end of World War I, the American military sent soldiers to Russia (nicknamed the Polar Bear Expedition) to prevent a German advance, and to help reopen the eastern front. Instead, the soldiers found themselves fighting Bolshevik revolutionaries for months after the Armistice ended fighting in Western Europe. Because many of the troops involved in the intervention were from Michigan, the Bentley Historical Library has long been interested in documenting this episode. Since the 1960s, the library has collected materials related to this event, and it now holds more than fifty individual collections of primary sources, including diaries, maps, correspondence, photographs, ephemera, printed materials, an oral interview, and a motion picture.

Associate Professor Elizabeth Yakel, who teaches in the Archives and Records Management program at the School of Information, leads the project. The site represents the first example of the School of Information's Next Generation Finding Aids Project, an effort aimed at creating innovative approaches to presenting archival content online.

When the Bentley staff first proposed digitizing the Polar Bear material, the purpose was to increase access to these widely used collections, and to protect and secure the fragile originals. Last year, however, the project expanded in scope when faculty and graduate students at the School of Information began the Next Generation Finding Aids Project. The digitized Polar Bear collections proved to be an excellent test-bed for the research group's experiment.

"The Polar Bear Expedition Digital Collections Project is the first example of rethinking archival finding aids to provide better access to primary sources on the Web," Yakel says. The collaborative project makes it easy for researchers to discover interrelations and links between various Polar Bear collections, something that was very difficult to do before. As an educational project, the Polar Bear Web site challenged SI students to rethink and reconfigure traditional finding aids.

The project team found ways to build on traditional EAD and employ collaborative filtering features as popularized in such Web sites as Flickr, Amazon,

Wikipedia, deli.cio.us, and Everything2. These features had not yet been explored in finding aids or archival digital collection projects.

Site users are able to take advantage of:

- **Commenting** — Users can comment on collections and individual items as well as search others' comments. Already visitors have created user biographies explaining their background and interest in this historical topic, have provided new information about soldiers, and linked to their own Polar Bear-related Web pages.

Archivists and reference archivists may use the comments to answer user questions or offer research advice and help. The comments will capture and preserve the knowledge of archivists and researchers, something not possible before in a traditional archival setting.

- **Expansion of EAD capabilities** — The site uses EAD and scripting to automatically compile related terms and concepts into a database. Visitors can get to collections through subject, geographic location, genre, individual name, and military unit.

- **Link paths** — Functioning as an automatic recommender system, this tool gives immediate feedback on the paths that others followed on the site to reach different collections and items. Link paths can provide alternative and unexpected interrelations between various subjects and collections.

"The site is a work in progress and will expand and grow depending on its use," Yakel notes. "You may see several additional innovative features in the near future." Under development is a "virtual call slip" generator for researchers to produce and print a call slip online that they can then bring to the archive as an aid in requesting physical collections. Also in the works is an implementation of the increasingly popular "tagging" feature that lets users assign their own one-word descriptions as a means of categorizing and organizing content to aid in retrieval for their own research. Users can already bookmark items of interest on the site, but down the road, users may be able to annotate and share these bookmarked "virtual" collections with others.

"We are very excited about every aspect of this project. For the first time we are able to deliver an entire set of related archival collections to our users via the Internet," Francis Blouin, director of the Bentley Historical Library remarks. "There is interest all over the world in this small chapter of a very big story."

Users are invited to give feedback to the project team through e-mail to polarbear@umich.edu. Researchers with queries concerning the content of the site, requests for duplication, or permissions to publish materials from the collections (either print or digital) must contact the Bentley Historical Library at <bentley.ref@umich.edu>.

By Marilyn McNitt

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Most Saturdays from September through May, 9am-1pm.

Call 989-774-3352. for a list of Saturdays.

Exhibit

Gnarled gnomes, Arthurian knights, and Pre-Raphaelite fairies will grace the Clarke's main exhibit gallery when a new exhibit, "Arousing Delight: Arthur Rackham, Artists and Illustrator," opens on February 24th. One of England's most renowned children's book illustrators, Rackham enjoyed a long and successful career, from the 1890s until his death in 1939. His artwork enlivened classics such as *Rip Van Winkle*, *The Wind in the Willows*, *Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens*, and *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, creating a world of flowing lines, subtle colors, and mythical imagery, picturesque in its detail but never sentimental. Rackham's art influenced generations of illustrators. For example, his drawings of lively, anthropomorphic trees heavily influenced the artists who drew the scary trees that clutched at Snow White's skirts when she ran from the huntsman in the beginning of the classic Disney movie *Snow White*.

The exhibit will showcase some of the 119 books illustrated by Rackham, as well as some original sketches, and published posters of his art, which the Clarke recently acquired with the support of the Friends of the Libraries. The collection includes many first editions, some signed by the artist. A catalog with an in-depth critical essay by Professor Anne Alton of the CMU English Department, and an annotated bibliography of the Clarke's Rackham holdings will accompany the exhibit. The exhibit will be open from February 24-July 28, 2006. The Clarke is open M-F, 8am-5pm, except for major holidays, and most Saturdays from September through May, 9am-1pm. For further information call 989-774-3352.

New Librarian

The Clarke staff is happy to announce that John Fierst is the joining the staff on January 16, 2006 as our Reference Librarian and Bibliographer. Fierst previously worked as the Head of Public Services at the Capital Area District Library in Lansing. He holds a MA in history from the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, and a MLS from Kent State University. Before moving to Michigan, Fierst was the Editor and Project Director of the John Tanner Project, a grant-funded initiative to develop a new

annotated edition of Tanner's nineteenth-century Indian captivity narrative. Prior to this, he served for several years as a Research Librarian at the James J. Hill Reference Library in St. Paul, Minnesota. If you have a question about Tanner, John Fierst knows the answer.

By Marian Matyn, Archivist

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Projects

One of the most encompassing projects for the Archives this past year has been our contribution to the project "Eero Saarinen: Realizing American Utopia" (<<http://www.eerosaarinen.ne>>). The project, sponsored by the Finnish Cultural Institute in collaboration with the Museum of Finnish Architecture and the Yale School of Architecture, has included several symposiums, a research website, and an upcoming exhibition and catalogue. Archivist Leslie S. Edwards has been the staff liaison for the project, working with scholars and researchers. She, with the assistance of Academy of Art graduate Mira Burak, has uploaded hundreds of images to the website, which will be made public once the exhibition opens in Helsinki in October 2006. Mark Coir was an active participant in the symposiums, and wrote an essay for the catalogue, while Leslie contributed several mini-essays. One of the most exciting aspects for the Archives was the discovery of new materials in our collection, and therefore, the opportunity to contribute to the project in a much

larger capacity than originally planned. Over 100 images and 42 architectural drawings will be included in the catalogue and traveling exhibit.

Recent Cultural Properties projects (under the jurisdiction of the Archives) have included securing works of art at Brookside School, the restoration of Paul Manship's Armillary Sphere, and the restoration of Kingswood School furniture. Assistant curator Diane Schmale researched the historic fabrics and paint samples in order to replicate Eliel and Eero Saarinen's original design and color scheme. Upcoming projects include restoration of several metal gates on campus

The Archives also received a two-year IMLS grant to catalog all works of art at Cranbrook House. In October, collections manager Angela Riedel was hired to manage the project, with the assistance of collections fellow Mira Burak, and several interns and volunteers. All of objects in the 1908 house are being inventoried and digitally photographed. The staff will then research our collections and enter each object into our Cultural Properties database.

Collections

The Archives recently received donations of papers from architects Benjamin Baldwin and Harry Weese. Both were former Cranbrook Academy of Art students. The collections include correspondence and photographs pertaining to the Academy in the late 1930s-1940s, as well as the drafts and images for the publication



Eero Saarinen, 1947



Cranbrook House, about 1912

“Benjamin Baldwin: An Autobiography in Design.” We also received the Hillis Arnold papers which consist of correspondence between Arnold and sculptor Carl Milles, spanning a 20-year time period. Arnold was the first deaf student to attend Cranbrook Academy of Art. After leaving Cranbrook, he became a renowned sculptor for his work in religious and symbolic subject matter.

Part-time archivist, Cathy Moras, has been cataloguing architectural drawings relating to Eero Saarinen projects. In addition, she is completing an inventory of our architectural drawings (over 20,000 items), which are stored in several locations on campus. This inventory will be used to develop long-range plans for drawing storage and conservation.

This past summer, intern Jill Griffiths, with the assistance of volunteer Hub Beudert, processed the Virginia Kingswood Booth Vogel Papers. Virginia, the daughter of Ralph Harmon and Mary Batterman Booth, inherited many works of art from her father upon his death, and was an avid art collector herself. She was a benefactor of the Milwaukee Museum of Art and the Detroit Institute of Arts, among others. The collection includes biographical records and detailed records of each piece of art that she purchased, sold or donated.

Programs and Outreach

The Cranbrook Cultural Landscape Project (funded by a Getty Grant) was completed in September. Studies have shown that Cranbrook Educational

Community has one of the most significant cultural landscapes in the country, engaging reknown landscape architects including Ossian C. Simonds, H. J. Corfield, and C. DeForest Platt, all of whom worked with George Gough Booth’s vision. The final report will be used as the template for restoration of the historic landscape.

By Leslie S. Edwards

See You There!
June 21, 22 & 23, 2006
MAA Annual Meeting
Frankenmuth
The Bavarian Inn Lodge

Ford Motor Company Archives

Dearborn, MI

In 2005, the Ford Motor Company Archives undertook a re-engineering project where accessions were reviewed one-by-one to determine relevance as compared to our collecting policy, accuracy of finding aids, and quality of materials. Accessions that did not meet the current collecting policy were either transferred, or de-accessioned. Although this process is ongoing, it has shown many benefits, including; precious shelf space recaptured from materials that were determined to have little, or no value; the ability to become better acquainted with individual valuable accessions; complete and accurate finding aids; and an increased volume of materials opened to the public through transfer to the Benson Ford Research Center of The Henry Ford (140 linear feet last year, as compared to 0 linear feet in 2004). Other areas that were dealt with as part of the re-engineering project were; the integration of an outdated and poorly accessible card catalog into our holdings database; the integration of several separate legacy databases into our holdings database; and the processing of several large, backlogged accessions. In addition to this project, the Archives also completed an annual shelf read. The location of each accession was physically verified by an archivist, and a listing of the shelf's contents is posted on the end of each shelving unit. This location guide is kept on a shared drive

and can be searched from the PC of any of the Ford Archivists.

The Ford Motor Company Archives has recently completed its review of materials created by the company's various business units that are available for destruction from the company's Annual File Review. This year's review was particularly difficult because, due to the introduction of a new file management system in 2004, there were two years worth of materials that required decisions. The Archives' staff reviewed descriptions for just over 40,000 boxes of materials, and nearly 5,000 of those boxes required a closer, physical review by an Archivist at Ford's Highland Park storage facility, which was one of our first manufacturing plants. About 400 boxes were ultimately determined to have historical value and were accessioned into the Archives holdings.

As part of the Ford Motor Company's desire to give back to the community, their staff is given the ability to volunteer at local non-profit agencies. The GIM (Global Information Management) Department, the umbrella organization for the Archives, spent two half days over the past year at Gleaner's Community Food Bank, in Detroit, helping fill containers with non-perishable food items to be delivered to other organizations in the area. This food will eventually be distributed to those in need. This activity has been very rewarding for the employees who volunteered. More

Our Appraisal Backlog at the Highland Park Plant.





A View of the Highland Park Plant in the Sunshine.

recently, several of the Archives' staff have volunteered their time to organize blood drives at Ford. The three most recent blood drives have collected over 170 pints of blood for the American Red Cross.

The Ford Motor Company Archives has also recently had several position changes. Curt Campbell and Maria Harris left the Archives for other positions. Curt is now a Senior Archivist for the Government Records Branch of the Saskatchewan Archives Board, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. Maria became the Head Librarian for the Detroit Institute of Arts. Another staffer, Michelle Drabant, was promoted from Intern to Archives' Assistant. In addition to her archival duties, she now works closely with the other departments within GIM on special projects. Jamie Myler, Leslie Armbruster, and Bonnie Walworth have also been given new titles. They are now the Senior Research Archivist, the Senior Collections Archivist, and the Senior Archives Specialist, respectively.

By Jamie Myler

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Closed Federal Holidays

Public Programs

2006 marks the 25th anniversary of the Ford Presidential Library and Museum. In celebration, the Library is sponsoring several events in Ann Arbor. On February 16, 2006 Steve Ford, actor and son of President Ford, will open the exhibit "Prime Time Presidents," with a talk entitled "Ready for Prime Time: Presidential Families and Television." Bob Woodward, noted author and award-winning journalist with the Washington Post, will be the keynote speaker for the 25th anniversary celebration on April 4, 2006. Both talks will be taped for later broadcast by C-Span. Also, Barry Werth, author of the forthcoming book, *31 Days* (Doubleday, April 2006), will speak at the Library on April 20, 2006.

Last October, Dowling College professor Yanek Mieczkowski spoke at the Library on his new book *Gerald Ford and the Challenges of the 1970s*. The talk was broadcast by C-Span as part of its Book Notes series. In December, the Library opened the exhibit "I'm Dreaming of a White House Christmas." Maria Downs, who served as White House Social Secretary to Mrs. Ford, opened the exhibit with an evening talk about holidays at the White House.

Collection News

The Library recently acquired the papers of J. Stanley Pottinger (46 feet). This collection documents his work as Director of the Office of Civil Rights for the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights during the Nixon and Ford administrations.

The Library has processed and opened the White House files of former Associate Counsel Barry Roth (42 feet). Other recently processed collections include a significant accretion to the Robert Horn Papers (8.8 feet), which detail the activities of the Presidential Clemency Board, and the files of Russell Armentrout (30 feet), who served as Director of the White House Social Entertainment Office.

(Continued on page 16)

Frankenmuth: MAA's 48th Annual Meeting

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday June 21-23, 2006

By Sandy Eklund, MAA Conference Coordinator

Pack your suitcase, grab a note pad, and bring your appetite to Frankenmuth! The Bavarian Inn Lodge is the site of MAA's 2006 Annual Meeting. A wide range of topics will be presented this year, including corporate and athletic archives, field work, local Frankenmuth history, preserving Michigan's heritage, visual materials, technology, minorities, and controversial collections and issues. In addition, small group discussions will be held on current archival issues.

A pre-conference workshop will be held Wednesday, June 21 (see separate article). The conference itself will open Thursday, June 22 at 7:30 a.m. with continental breakfast and registration. Three concurrent sessions will be held at 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. A soup, salad and cold cut buffet lunch will begin at 12:15, to be followed by the general business meeting, board elections and raffle.

The raffle is always a highlight of the meeting. Some of the prizes this year are wine, a Bavarian Inn Lodge Sunday brunch gift certificate, and a Nicklas Lidstrom autographed hockey stick. An Eames anniversary coffee table, valued at \$1200, is the grand prize. Only 500 of these tables have been produced, and each is tagged and numbered. You can visit <<http://store.yahoo.com/exitartcatalog/eaanta.html>> for further information and dimensions. ***(This table will be at the conference, and the winner needs to be prepared to take it home after the end of the conference. The dimensions of the box are 20" high x 42" long x 36" wide.)*** Proceeds from the raffle go towards MAA's contribution to Michigan History Day.



After the raffle, the rest of the day is yours to enjoy. We have arranged for a tour of the local museum, a walking tour, pretzel making, and a wine tasting for those who are interested. Pre-registration is required for these activities. You may also want to take a dip on one of the pools at the Lodge, get in a round of golf, take a ride on the Bavarian Belle River boat or in a horse drawn carriage, or go shopping! The choice is yours!



Bavarian Inn Lodge, Spring

Breakfast will be available again Friday at 7:30 a.m., with two concurrent sessions being offered at 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. A hot buffet lunch at 12:15 will be followed by a presentation by Mark Harvey, the new director of the State Archives. After lunch, two more sessions will be offered, ending at 2:45 p.m.

The registration packet will be in the mail the first week of April. Conference information will be placed on the MAA website (www.maasn.org) as it becomes available. Early bird registration, including meals, is \$60, registration after April 28 will be \$70, and walk-in registration is \$80. You can go to www.frankenmuth.org and www.bavarianinn.com for more information on Frankenmuth.

From the Bavarian Inn to Bronner's to Grampa Tiny's Farm; from electronic records to archives in the classroom to funding and staffing; whether you are from a major archival institution or a "small shop," MAA 2006 in Frankenmuth has something for everyone. Bring the family and be one of the over 2 million people to visit Frankenmuth this year.

MAA Pre-Conference Workshop: Digitization - The New Frontier

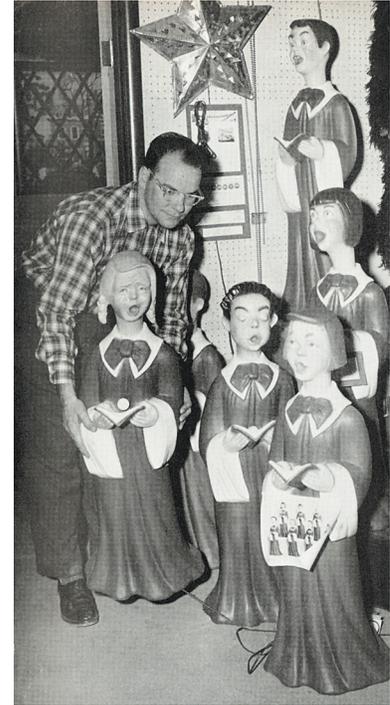
Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Smaller institutions with fewer resources can often feel left behind in the digitization revolution. This pre-conference workshop will work with individuals in smaller institutions to show that embarking on a digitization project can be possible and affordable. Workshop participants will be introduced to the basics of digitizing from start to finish: from equipment and software purchase to basics in scanning and digital image manipulation. An overview of the best practices in the field on copyright, duplication, and the emerging area of digital preservation will also be covered. Participants will develop solutions tailored to their institutions needs and resources.

Instructor

Jessica Lehr has worked extensively with digitization of collections, and with issues of Digital Preservation. A graduate of the University of Michigan's School of Information, Jessica worked as Manager of Digital Programs for the Benson Ford Research Center at The Henry Ford for a number of years. In this capacity, Jessica worked to preserve and provide broader access to digitized collection materials. Jessica currently works at the University of Michigan's School of Information.

Wally Bronner



Frankenmuth Historical Association

Conference Information

Program:

Nancy Deromedi, Marian Matyn, Polly Reynolds
(734) 764-3482
<maa2006@umich.edu>

Registration:

Sandy Eklund
(313) 884-5601
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Local Arrangements:

Jennie Thomas
(517) 629-0487
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Frankenmuth Historical Association

Bavarian Festival, Frankenmuth, MI, about 1958

Migration of Film and Video to Digital For Small Archives, Part 1

by Frank Wylie, Kinoville Digital Imaging

Introduction:

If you are like most small to medium sized regional archives, you probably have had a few restless nights worrying about your abilities to serve-up digital access to your patrons without negatively impacting both your preservation efforts and ongoing traditional access efforts. In the past, giving patrons on line or electronic facsimile reproductions of your materials was a very expensive process that didn't necessarily result in preservation-grade materials as the end product, and only marginally relieved access pressures on collections and put a heavy burden on the budget for actual preservation efforts. This problem was, in no small part, due to the expensive nature of reformatting analog moving image materials (both film and video) to the digital realm and the existing "standards" for acceptable copying and reproduction. In the near past, only high-end post-production facilities and very well endowed National Archives could afford the equipment required to reformat both film and video to an alternative presentation medium (usually a broadcast quality format video signal on a popular video format) and this reformatting process followed a costly process of the "Supervised Transfer."

A supervised transfer is a transfer session where a telecine or datacine operator mounts the media on a suitable transfer device and, under the supervision of the archivist, goes through the material scene-by-scene and establishes shot-to-shot density, color and defect repair to the satisfaction of the archival representative. At the end of the session, the archive representative walks away the minimum of a corrected master of the session and a copy or two of the finished product. While this process can result in exactly the transfer desired for that particular program, it is also terrifically expensive in relation to your total expenditure for preservation and for your ultimate goals of preservation of the entire collection under your care. There can be no doubt that this process has its place for premium content in your collections, but few if any archives have the budget to follow this model for routine materials. If small and regional archives remain wedded to this model, it then seems we are dooming our "routine" archive materials to decay and ruin, with no chance of preservation or access in the future.

However, how often have you found that an article that was deemed routine or unremarkable turned-out to be a unique artifact; a priceless scrap of information almost lost to an outmoded priority-based preservation system that only saves the "most important" relics based on incomplete information? Wouldn't a more logical system be centered around preserving all archive content for eventual evaluation, rather than make rushed judgments based on the imperfect knowledge at hand? What if this system could economically acquire all moving images at or above the native resolution of the film, or video, and allow the archive time to access and evaluate the full content of the program PRIOR to making any further decisions about relative worth? What if this system could generate access copies of unrestored elements, perfectly acceptable for content evaluation either as streaming videos or as cheap, easy to burn DVDs? What if this system could allow archivists, years in the future, to revisit materials deemed "routine" and upgrade them to premium status without loosing any quality or resolution of the original and still retain the ability to repair, correct and restore the item to full restored status from the native files obtained during the first transfer? What if this system was scalable to the budget and technical skills of an archive so that any archive, from the smallest to the largest, could utilize it's capacity to "save now, format later" in a relatively inexpensive manner?

In this multi-part article, I would like to propose a system of digitization that would allow a small to medium sized archive to migrate their film and video collection to digital media in a rational, relatively economical means, taking into account the before mentioned principals.

Why Digital? Why Now?

Not many readers of this newsletter know me, but if you did, you would understand that I have devoted the majority of my life attempting to master the art of analog image making; still photography, video production and in motion picture photography. My main area of specialty is photochemical motion picture film restoration work and still

think it the absolute best possible process for long term archival storage of moving images, but I yet see a real need for migrating many moving images to digital. It is a complex subject, but in a nutshell, I have come to realize you cannot get away from the inescapable conclusion that almost all motion pictures and video tapes in small to medium archives will disappear if they are not migrated to digital.

While I, as a photochemical lab person who knows, loves and understands the longevity of film, wishes it could go on forever, I also understand that motion picture film began life as a commercial medium, driven by market forces that gave it a certain large “scale of economy” that made it affordable to some degree to most people and institutions during its heyday. Now that the film industry is shrinking and experience with physically handling the medium as an ongoing production concern is becoming rare, prices can only go up and those archives who could not afford to preserve and restore their collections onto filmstock to begin with, are certainly NOT going to do it now when the price of the raw stock and lab work becomes more expensive. This, coupled with the continually falling price and growing quality of digital imaging sensors and imaging technology, begins to place digital capture increasingly within the range of smaller archives. Another aspect of changing times we must acknowledge is the fact that within modern society, knowledge and familiarity of computer use continues to grow with each passing generation and is becoming a common skill, unlike knowledge and familiarity of film and video production practices. Finally, we must face the grim, so far unspoken fact that if most archives don’t act promptly and start a reasonable digital migration scheme in the next decade, their film and video holdings will likely decompose and be lost for all time.

Digital equals easy and automatic, right?

Wrong. Sorry. There are those who would assure you simplistically that once images are captured to a digital format, issues of generational loss and degradation go right out the door. Oh, that it were so. The truth of the matter is that, if transferred or captured improperly, digital files can suffer the same or even greater losses than analog copying methods. While it is true that digital files can be copied bit for bit and remain exactly faithful to the original file format, a number of common circumstances can cause problems. Should a digital format become obsolete or be incompatible or unsupported with the software in use, the existing digital file must then be altered, or transcoded, to another file format before it can be used. Without care, this transcoding process can alter images, sounds or other data in subtle or not so subtle ways. Even the simple act of manipulating image or sound files in various programs designed specifically for digital image and sound production, can strip off metadata and rearrange file headers, loosing data and unintentionally altering the look and sound of processed files. Planning and implementing a digital restoration and archival system that minimally impacts image integrity takes time, testing and the willingness to understand the issues at hand.

Planning your Digital Workflow:

Nothing is easy about migration of media, period, but the relative effort and cost can be minimized with investigation and a clear understanding of what is required to build a digital workflow tailored to your institutions needs. You MUST do a comprehensive audit of all media types to be transferred, forecast your immediate access needs with future needs in mind and honestly look at your budgetary situation. Here is where your ability to predict future needs and capacities is paramount; work with your consultant or vendor to develop a 3 to 5 year forecast of desired outcomes; you will need to polish your crystal ball up a bit here! Observe the old “Law of the Triad”; Economy, Quality and Speed – you may have any two of these principals at the expense of the third. If you want Quality and Speed, then you sacrifice Economy, should you desire Economy and Speed, Quality will suffer, and so on. A good vendor or consultant should offer help by making available a series of “sliding-scale” plans for implementing a digital workflow. Depending upon your archive’s resources, the offered plans should range from very simple, largely manual and volunteer-based capture and storage system to largely automated, specialty trained technician-run archival systems.

Next Issue, I will outline a theoretical system for a typical small archive and illustrate possible strategies for inexpensive infrastructure.

Frank Wylie
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Michigan Collections

Gerald R. Ford Library

(Continued from page 11)

New Website

In February 2006, the Library launched a newly redesigned website, now available for public use, at www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov. Some of the old website's pages are still being converted to the new design so visitors may see pages from both until the conversion is complete.

Researcher News

Last fall, the Gerald R. Ford Foundation awarded travel grants to eight scholars, enabling them to conduct research at the Ford Library. More information about their projects and the research travel grants program can be found on our website. Application deadlines for 2006 research travel grants are March 15 and September 15.

In addition, the Ford Library annually awards the Gerald R. Ford Scholar Award (for Dissertation Research) in Honor of Robert Teeter. More information about this award can be found on our website. Application Deadline for the 2006 award is May 1.

By Joshua Cochran

Howell Area Archives

Howell Carnegie District Library

314 W. Grand River

Howell, MI 48843

Phone: (517) 546-0720 ext. 129

Web: www.howelllibrary.org

Hours: W, F, Sa 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

We are most fortunate to have the Howell Area Archives available to our community. It is due to the determination of the late Clifton Heller, and current volunteer Duane "Zemp" Zemper that we have an archive today. In 1978, the Howell Carnegie Library Board had the foresight to provide a small area for the Archives. This original location now houses the boiler and the custodian's office.

It is with the help of our volunteers, Zemp and Milt Charboneau, that we are able to have the Archives open to researchers and the general public three days a week: Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Other staffers include Janet Rohrabacher, who is available to help our patrons with genealogical research, Judy Burns, who excels in assisting those who are researching their property deeds

Reo motorcar in the Howell area, about 1916



or the history of their home, and finally, Lois and George Winegar, who are helpful with organization and storage of our electronic data. We could not be the successful institution we are today without the help of all of these people.

Each year the First National Bank in Howell is able to produce a calendar featuring photographs from our area with the help of Zemp, who has a first-hand knowledge of the Archives' photographic collection. In addition to being a nice memento for our local residents, these calendars serve as an effective outreach tool for the Archives, by publicizing a significant portion of our holdings.

We encourage all of our visitors to sign our registry book, and many comment on the excellent services of our volunteers who make it possible for them to work on their projects. Among those that have used our holdings are reporters and representatives from; Livingston County Press and Argus, Detroit News, Main Four Howell School, Michigan One Room Schoolhouse Association, and the Livingston Arts Council. Some of our most utilized collections include: obituaries, genealogical records, cemetery records, property deeds and titles, house histories, local photographs, civil war records, records of the Hillcrest Sanatorium, Indian burial ground records, information about Ty Cobb's visit to the Opera House, Underground Railroad records, and information about our local railroad tracks.

Part of our photographic collection can be viewed online from the Howell Carnegie Library's web site, <www.howelllibrary.org>. This online exhibit contains various modes of transportation seen in the Howell area from the early nineteen hundreds to the mid 1940s. One such vehicle, a Reo motorcar (circa 1916), can be seen in the image below. The exhibit also illustrates the progress of Grand River as a road, along with the various businesses that sprang up along this main thoroughfare. The following churches can be viewed on display as well: First Baptist, Emanuel Evangelical United Brethren, First Presbyterian and Grace Evangelical Lutheran.

By Bob Watson

Joint Archives of Holland

Hope College
P.O. Box 9000
Holland, MI 49422-9000
(616) 395-7798 Fax: (616) 395-7197
E-mail: archives@hope.edu
Web: <http://www.hope.edu/resources/arc/>
Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m. - Noon, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

The Joint Archives summer 2004 history project, conducted by Michael Douma, which concentrated on the history of the Veneklassen family and their many West Michigan brickyards, is now available. It was published in September by Eerdmans Publishing Company and is titled *Veneklassen Brick: A Family, a Company, and a Unique 19th Century Dutch Architectural Movement in Michigan*. For information on ordering the book visit the Joint Archives of Holland website listed above.

The Joint Archives of Holland also received 35 19th century ledgers for the City of Jenison, Michigan, a community inhabited since the 1840s. These items were discovered by our former research assistant, Michael Douma, while conducting research for Dr. Robert Swierenga's forthcoming book on the history of Holland, Michigan. Once this collection has been processed by our staff, the research community will be alerted to its availability. Another important collection received in January was the oral history collection (audiotape cassettes) of Robert Grunst, a former commercial fisherman and now an English professor at The College of Saint Catherine in St. Paul, Minnesota. Grunst's donation represents one of the best collections of the voices of commercial fisherman there is. We look forward to copying the collection, ranging in age from the 1970s-present, to digital format as well as transcribing to hard copies.

Staff News

Geoffrey D. Reynolds continues his research and writing about the boat building industry in Holland, Michigan, for a future book on the subject. Another article dealing with a major portion of this history, "Slick Craft: A Family's Business," was published in the September/October 2005 issue of *Classic Boating*.

By Geoffrey Reynolds

Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections

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Web: www.msu.edu/unit/msuarhc/
Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.; 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

The University Archives and Historical Collections has opened several new collections to researchers. One of the collections is from the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, and contains materials focusing on women's athletics from 1973-1978. These materials document the activities of the various women's sports just after the passing of Title IX. The records contain information about rosters, season records, scholarships, and clinics. In addition to the MSU related material, the collection also contains information on national and regional athletics associations for women.

Two collections relating to Michigan churches have also recently been processed. The records of the First Universalist Church of Lansing comprise two cubic feet of materials documenting the history of the church. The records date back to 1852, and go up to when the church merged to become the Universalist-Unitarian Church of Greater Lansing. The records of the Chain Lake Missionary Baptist Church are also open to researchers. The Chain Lake Missionary Baptist Church is one of the oldest, all-African American Baptist churches in the United States. The records date back to 1856, and contain meeting minutes, parish records, and written histories of the parish. Included in the collection is the first constitution of the church.

The UA&HC is continuing its work with the Department of Anthropology on the research into Saints' Rest, which was the first dormitory on campus. Built in 1857, it burned down in 1876. In summer 2005, a group of students participated in an archaeological dig of the site of the dormitory, digging up personal items from students, construction tools, and stoves, among other items. This semester a class will be coming into the UA&HC to do additional research of MSU during the time that Saint's Rest stood.

In staff news, Portia Vescio was recently promoted to Archivist II. She has been with the UA&HC since November 2002 and works in reference, processing, and outreach. Portia is also currently serving on the Task Force to Improve Outreach for the Academy of Certified Archivists.

By Portia Vescio

The Henry Ford Benson Ford Research Center

20900 Oakwood Boulevard
Dearborn, MI 48124-4088
(313) 982-6020
Fax: (313) 982-6244
E-mail: rescntr@thehenryford.org
Web: www.thehenryford.org
Reading Room Hours: M-F, 9 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Programs

Many years in the making, The Henry Ford opened a new permanent exhibit on January 16, 2006, "With Liberty And Justice For All." It created the opportunity to display hundreds of paper documents and graphics from our collection, including the 1823 copy of the Declaration Of Independence, the 1865 duplicate copy of the Thirteenth Amendment, of which only 3 were made, and other material related to the social themes of the key transformative moments in the American quest for freedom: the Revolutionary Era, the Antislavery Movement and Civil War Era, Woman's Suffrage, and Civil Rights. We also hosted the Disney exhibit celebrating 50 years of Disneyland which included artists' design renderings and other material from the Disney archives that had never before been available for to the public viewing before. The Benson Ford Research Center (BFRC) sponsored a symposium for each of these exhibits featuring noted scholars and experts discussing the social and cultural issues presented in the exhibits. In addition to the symposiums, the Research Center has continued to present the Ideas and Innovations Lecture Series with presentations on topics ranging from "The Fashions of Elizabeth Parke Firestone" to "The People's Tycoon, Henry Ford and the American Century" by author Steven Watts.

New Additions to the Collection

- The research papers of Robert Post (12 cubic feet) relating to American automobile racing in the latter half of the century.
- Papers and product literature from a California Auto dealer Raul Eubanks (48 cubic feet) donated by the American Heritage Center in Laramie, Wyoming because it was out of scope for them.
- Ford Motor Company (FMC) donated a variety of material ranging from small viles of perfume used to promote the 1958 car line to a large donation of automotive product literature from Ford and other companies needed to fill a gap in our collection from the 1980s into 2000.
- Barney Oldfield collection of photographs of the early race driver and a wide variety of racing events.
- Eva Tanguay collection of sheet music, playbills, photographs, and clippings documenting the career of the early vaudeville performer.

The Ford Historical Resources Collaborative

The Ford Historical Resources Collaborative Management Team, seven archivists from the FMC Archives and the BFRC, meets biweekly to guide and monitor collaborative activities. With an amended master agreement in place at the end of 2004, the team established 2005 as “the year to move forward.” It was a year to leverage expertise, streamline and align processes, and quantify progress.

A key project toward these ends was the creation of a joint descriptive manual. An arrangement and description team met over several months to deliberate over standards outlined in *Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DAC5)* and create shared guidelines, element by element. Use of the guidelines by archivists at each institution smoothes the transition when transferring accessions, improves efficiency, reduces redundancy, and facilitates all levels of description and reference work.

BFRC arrangement and description work continued to focus primarily on the 1965 donation of early FMC records and papers. The processing team created 40 linked catalog records describing ca. 500 cubic ft. of material for FMC automotive divisions records, Edsel Ford office papers, and FMC Office of the Secretary records. The team intellectually arranged and is currently cataloging ca. 200 accessions (ca. 2,600 cubic feet) of records representing Henry Ford Office papers, FMC financial records, and FMC manufacturing records. Approximately 60 catalog records were prepared for FMC donations that are not part of record groups (personal papers and intentionally assembled collections). Additionally, approximately 500 cubic feet of early FMC records were processed or reprocessed and updated finding aids created. Catalog records are accessed via the BFRC online catalog, found at <http://www.thehenryford.org/research>, and OCLC's WorldCat.

Reference and Outreach

The BFRC serves as the gateway for researchers to more personally access the collections of The Henry Ford. Through traditional on-site reference service, innovative remote services and a wide variety of special programs, the BFRC provides personal access to the most significant collections in the United States concerning the impact of the automobile, industrial manufacturing and design, and many other aspects of American culture and everyday life.

In 2005, the Research Center staff completed more than 5000 individual, in-depth research requests. These researchers span every age and educational group, ranging from school children to scholars. Requests were also received from every state in the Union and every continent except Antarctica.

The Research Center continues to provide access to new audiences using digital technology to produce imaginative research tools. Online exhibits include *Pic of the Month* for September 2005, “Walt Disney Visits Henry

Ford's Greenfield Village” with photographs and tintypes made in Greenfield Village, <http://www.thehenryford.org/exhibits/pic/2005/september.asp>, and *Pic of the Month* for October 2005, “Sketching Henry Ford's Lawsuit” discusses Irving Bacon's drawings of people at the libel suit against the *Chicago Tribune* in 1919, <http://www.thehenryford.org/exhibits/pic/2005/october.asp>.

Internships

The past year brought a diversified pool of talent to learn and assist in the Research Center.

From Wayne State University:

- Valerie Cunningham and Venus McCorvey are creating and adding MARC records to our Library Catalog for Trade Catalogs and creating and uploading selected digital images of historical photographs to our Image Server.
- Chela Weber is working on a variety of archival processing projects.
- Jennifer Hassel is working to survey and describe photographic files as well as streamline processes.
- Dawn Dittmar processed the Mechanical and Electrical collection of product literature, brochures and photographs.
- Kathy Keefer completed extensive research on the Wright Brothers home.

From the University Of Michigan

- Julie Pepera is reprocessing the Edsel Ford papers.
- Emily Flanagan is processing the papers of early vaudeville star Eva Tanguay.
- Heather Oswald is organizing the papers of Ann Arbor social activists Kathryn Emerson and James Bunton.
- Jennifer Sharp is studying ways to capture the constantly changing Ford Motor Company website.
- Erin Podolsky created detailed MARC catalog records for the buildings in Greenfield Village.
- Melissa Allen worked on the Jenny Chandler collection digitizing large format early 20th century glass plate negatives and genealogical research.
- Eva Gronowska has completed uploading selected digital images of historical photographs to our Image Server.

From the University Of Michigan-Dearborn

- Joseph Anteau, a history major, is researching primary sources for camera manufacturers.
- Rachel Lindsey-Gumbus, history undergraduate, has been working on a variety of digitizing projects.

From Ball State University

- Erin Mulloy from Ball State University, completed processing of the Herman Miller collection

Epilog

Melissa Janz Barbey, one of our very talented processors has left us to return to Wisconsin. Her husband Joe accepted a position at the University of

Wisconsin-River Falls. We are sorry to lose her skills and personality but she is closer to her family and will no longer need to brave the freeways of Chicago when traveling home.

Stephanie Chontos has accepted a position as the new archivist at the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and is buried in all the joys and problems of starting an archive almost from scratch.

And sadly, the Research Center has had to downsize, thanks to the Michigan economy. Jessica Lehr, our Manager of Digital Programs, and Nakia Baskett our Administrative Coordinator, were laid off. Jessica is working with her colleagues at the University of Michigan School of Information and the Ann Arbor Public Library, and Nakia has a position at the Detroit Medical Center.

By Terry Hoover

University of Michigan Special Collections Library

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Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1205
734 764-9377 Fax: 734 764-9368
E-mail: special.collections@umich.edu
Web: <http://www.lib.umich.edu/spec-coll>
Hours: M-F 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sat 10:00 a.m. – noon

New Exhibit

In celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Avery and Jule Hopwood Awards Program, the Special Collections Library has mounted an original exhibit entitled *A Remarkable Legacy: Hopwood Winners from Arthur Miller to Elizabeth Kostova*. “Avery Hopwood’s bequest to the University of Michigan was intended to reward the creativity of young writers,” says Kathryn Beam, curator of the exhibit. “We are honored to be the library entrusted with archiving the history of the awards, and for the last twenty-five years have been actively pursuing literary archives of past winners.” The exhibit includes original manuscripts and published books from each decade of the Hopwood Awards, along with photographs, articles, and books illustrating the later successes of many student winners. The exhibit runs February 8 through July 15 in the Special Collections Library, located on the 7th floor of the Hatcher Graduate Library. The public is welcome. Events are planned for April. For more information, email special.collections@umich.edu or call 734 764-9377. For information about the Hopwood Program, and a calendar of events, visit <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/english/hopwood/>.

Projects

The Digital Library Production Service and the Special Collections Library are pleased to announce the

availability of Anarchism Pamphlets in the Labadie Collection online. A selection of pamphlets is already available online at <http://www.hti.umich.edu/l/labadie>. Pamphlets determined to be in the public domain are available to the general public; those for which the public domain status cannot be guaranteed are restricted to campus users only. For more information about the Labadie Collection visit <http://www.lib.umich.edu/spec-coll/labadie>.

By Julie Herrada

Walter P. Reuther Library Wayne State University

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(313) 577-4024 Fax: (313) 577-4300
E-mail: reutherreference@wayne.edu
Web: <http://www.reuther.wayne.edu/>
Hours: M-Tu 11:00 a.m. – 6:45 p.m.
W-F 9:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.

The Walter P. Reuther Library is pleased to announce the opening of *Through the Lens of Dan Grashuck*, a photographic exhibit featuring the work of sports photographer Dan Grashuck. The exhibit will run through August 2006.

Each year, the American Federation of Teachers, in conjunction with the Walter P. Reuther Library of Labor and Urban Affairs, sponsors the Albert Shanker Fellowship for Research In Education. This research grant provides assistance for advanced graduate students, and junior and senior faculty, utilizing the American Federation of Teachers archives, as well as collections related to educational history, housed at the Walter P. Reuther Library. Two grants in the amount of \$500 are awarded in support of research. This year’s winners are Associate Professor Daniel Perlstein from the University of California-Berkeley and Assistant Professor Bethany Rogers from the College of Staten Island, CUNY.

The Reuther is also pleased to announce the first recipient of the Margery A. Long Scholarship for Archival Administration, Joyce Zurel. The scholarship was established to promote academic achievement in the field of Archival Administration at Wayne State University.

The 48th annual “Michigan in Perspective” Local History Conference will be held on April 21-22, 2006 at the McGregor Memorial Conference Center on the campus of Wayne State University. For more information contact Alberta Asmar at ad3196@wayne.edu or (313) 577-4003.

By Kristen Chinery

Unique 'Performance' in the Future for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra

By Stephanie Chontos

Over the past several years, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra (DSO) has been working towards establishing an Archives Development Project. With the help of a National Historical Publications and Records grant, awarded to the DSO in Summer 2005, this project will feature the establishment of an archives program for the DSO's historical materials dating back to its 1914 incorporation and, if we are lucky enough, uncover materials from its origins in 1887. After initial organization, description, and storage, the DSO's records will be made fully accessible to researchers and to the public. Currently, the archival materials are being assessed to determine their physical condition and conservation needs, which, will lead to a plan ensuring their long-term preservation. The Project will also set the stage for the creation of an ongoing archives and records management program at the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

The first phase was hiring a full-time archivist (Stephanie Chontos), who will be advised by the DSO Historian and retired DSO bassoonist (Paul Ganson), and an expert consultant (none other the metro Detroit's famous Dr. Phil Mason), and will be working with qualified interns and volunteers. The project team will also have the expertise of an Archives Committee, composed of archival experts and other interested

members of the community. Next we will work toward preparing the archives and inputting data into the Orchestra Planning and Administration System (OPAS) library system, which will allow us to become searchable online. We are also applying to other grant funding sources and hoping to digitize some historical performances.

The history of the DSO is significant as an essential component of the history of Detroit, the history of orchestral and jazz music in the twentieth century, the history of African American musicians, and the history of nonprofit management. Today, the DSO is widely considered to be among the top ten symphony orchestras in the United States and has a widespread reputation for being a forerunner in the Orchestra industry, for recording the works of a variety of composers, and for implementing diversity programs in modern times.

The Archives Development Project will make it possible for many to know what currently is known by too few. Discovering necessary information will be simply possible rather than daunting, and a greater knowledge of the DSO's past will provide a welcome certainty and inspiration as the Orchestra directs its course to the future. So, I ask you to please keep your ears tuned in for more news as we expand and develop into a premier symphonic archives where you can not only read about the past, but also listen to it.



Pistons Basketball Team from the Exhibit, *Through the Lens of Dan Grasbuck*, at the Walter P. Reuther Library

LONE ARRANGER

By Jennie Thomas

Marilyn Crandell Schleg Archivist & Special Collections Librarian
United Methodist Church West Michigan Conference Archivist
Stockwell-Mudd Libraries, Albion College

Nicknames given me by Albion College staff:

“Dusty” “St. Joanie of Archives” “Archives Jennie” “Archives Girl”



Only in the past decade or so have Archivists begun to harness the power and flexibility of the Internet for access and communication. Through HTML, then XHMTL and SGML, and now XML and EAD, we are providing our researchers with more user-friendly finding aids. By the means of relational databases and metadata, we can provide digital images to online users through simple keyword searching; then we can control the quality of the image, use an e-business structure to manage purchase of the image, and protect the copyright of the image through techniques such as digital watermarking. Essential to big business in today's world, enterprise content management (ECM) and digital asset management (DAM) ensure that electronic records are being held as accountable to records management policies as paper.

But now there are even more new technologies we can see coming on the horizon. How does the lone arranger cope? Besides being brilliant, and growing that second set of arms you always wanted, you have to learn the jargon and the acronyms – RSS, CSS, AJAX, widgets, XGULFs, JavaScript, PHP, MIL, XPath, FLICKR, memes, wikis, podcasting, TrackBacks, blogs, blogrolls, moblogs, milblogs, splogs, blebs, vlogs, plogs – oh, and have you heard of Web 2.0?

A number of these technologies are simple to use, and are geared towards making the location and dissemination of information an easier task. Librarians and libraries are already attempting to utilize these new tools to attract a younger and more technologically-savvy user base, to teach better information literacy, and provide more user-friendly interfaces to what Bill Gates calls the “knowledge economy,” or “information combined with experience, context, interpretation and reflection.”

For instance, some libraries are using Web logs (blogs) to put a human face on their electronic services, offering more transparency and direct communication with their users through sharing book reviews, comments on library services, and interactive learning activities. At St. Joseph County Public Library in Indiana, librarians are utilizing wikis (software that allows anyone anywhere to create and edit Web page content using any Web browser) to create subject guides and discussion pages for their patrons. It is also being discussed if wikis could be used in conjunction with the library OPAC so that patrons could see past user commentary in item records and be able to retrieve materials by searching through folksonomies rather than by traditional classifications.

The Yale Law Library is using RSS (Really Simple Syndication), an “XML format that allows organizations and individuals to feed news data directly into news readers or webpages as it is updated.” (Innovative Interfaces, Inc.) This type of information dissemination allows Yale Law Library to provide always-current information to their users on the latest additions to their catalog. RSS feeds can also transmit all the information and news that is posted to a library's blog without the user having to actually visit the blog page itself.

Podcasting (audio files that are delivered via an RSS feed) is another technology that is starting to be used in libraries for meet-the-author events, information literacy education, dissemination of archival audio files (i.e., commencement addresses), and faculty lectures. Stanford University, for instance, provides a subscription to faculty lectures, interviews, music and sports via iTunes (<http://itunes.stanford.edu/>) – this is a service that is available to anyone around the world for free.

PictureAustralia® is a free Internet-based service that allows users to search its image collections database. (Libraryman.com) It is a partnership between the National Library of Australia and Flickr™ (software that allows users to share digital images). The majority of the images currently in PictureAustralia® are archival, but Flickr™ will allow millions of contemporary photographs and associated metadata to be added to the database, which means to document Australian life. This is another technology that makes folksonomies of more use to the library of the future than indexing by common LCSH terms.

Bill Gates proclaims that the next version of search engines will not only be able to locate information for its users, but be “pattern-recognition engines and mental models that help people mine and assess the value” of the information located for them, and infuse that “data with meaning and context.” The innovations mentioned above have, for the most part, evolved as social tools, and are not focused on searching for information, but on *finding* it. How will these technologies, soon to become common techno-speak, affect the “tyranny of expectation” of our users? (Etches-Johnson 2005) What will we need to do in order to keep up with the Joneses? What is the place of archives in the knowledge economy?

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Western Archives Institute

The 20th annual Western Archives Institute will be held at San Diego State University in San Diego, California, June 18-30, 2006. This intensive, two-week program provides integrated instruction in basic archival practices to individuals with a variety of goals, including those whose jobs require a fundamental understanding of archival skills, but have little or no previous archives education; those who have expanding responsibility for archival materials; those who are practicing archivists but have not received formal instruction; and those who demonstrate a commitment to an archival career.

Dr. Elizabeth H. Dow will be the principal faculty member for WAI 2006. Dr. Dow is currently Assistant Professor in the School of Library and Information Science at Louisiana State University, where she created the archives specialization, and teaches the archives program full-time. She obtained the grant funds to establish the Southeast Archives Education Collaborative, now a formal, ongoing arrangement for sharing archives faculty, and students, among five universities in five states, and two time zones. She regularly teaches courses as part of the collaborative. Before joining LSU, she worked in Special Collections at the University of Vermont where her duties included developing an electronic publishing and database center to provide web-based intellectual access to historical documents. She was a Project Archivist for the Vermont State Archives, and for the Sheldon Museum in Middlebury, Vermont. She served on the Vermont State Historical Records Advisory Board, and taught a number of local community-based workshops. Dow is the author of *Creating EAD-Compatible Finding Guides on Paper*, and articles about

Encoded Archival Description. She received her Ph.D. in Library Science from the University of Pittsburgh.

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

Tuition for the program is \$650 and includes a selection of archival publications. Housing and meal plans are available at additional cost. Admission is by application only and enrollment is limited. The application deadline for the 20th Western Archives Institute is **March 15, 2006**. For additional information and an application form, contact:

Administrator, Western Archives Institute
1020 O Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Telephone: 916/653-7715
Fax: 916/653-7134
E-mail: ArchivesWeb@ss.ca.gov

The application package is currently available on the California State Archives web site at <<http://www.ss.ca.gov/archives/archives.htm>> and on the Society of California Archivists web site at <<http://www.calarchivists.org>> under Western Archives Institute.

The Western Archives Institute is co-sponsored by the Society of California Archivists, the California State Archives and San Diego State University Library and Information Access.

Calendar of Events: 2006

February - August 2006 – Exhibit, *Through the Lens of Dan Grascback*, Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI <www.reuther.wayne.edu>

February 24 - July 28 – Exhibit, *Arousing Delight: Arthur Rackham, Artists and Illustrator*, Clarke Historical Library, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI <<http://clarke.cmich.edu>>

April 21-22 – Michigan in Perspective Local History Conference, McGregor Memorial Conference Center, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI <www.reuther.wayne.edu/>

April 27-29 – Midwest Archives Conference, Spring Meeting, Bloomington-Normal, IL <www.midwestarchives.org>

May 20-26 – Michigan History Week <www.michigan.gov/hal/>

May 4 – Creating and Maintaining Digital Collections, presented by the Northeast Document Conservation Center, Andover, MA <www.nedcc.org>

June 10 at 1 pm – Lecture and book signing by Bill Anderson, author of *The view from the dugout; the journals of Red Rolfe*, will occur in the area outside the special exhibits gallery of Henry Ford Museum art of the Ideas and Innovations Series, sponsored by Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford. <<http://www.thehenryford.org/research/events/default.asp>>

June 18-June 30 - Western Archives Institute, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA - see page 23 for description <www.ss.ca.gov/archives/archives.htm>

June 21 - Digitization - The New Frontier: **Michigan Archival Association** Pre-Conference Workshop, Frankenmuth, MI - see page 13 for description <www.maasn.org>

June 21-23 – **Michigan Archival Association**, Annual Meeting, Frankenmuth, MI - see pages 12-13 for description <www.maasn.org>

June 23-25 – Historical Society of Michigan, Annual Upper Peninsula History Conference, Escanaba, MI <www.hsmichigan.org>

July 30 - August 6 – Society of American Archivists, Annual Meeting, Washington, DC <www.archivists.org/conference>

August 4 at 1 pm – Lecture by Karal Ann Marling, “Three strikes and You’re ART!” American images of the national pastime and signing of exhibit catalog, *America As Baseball*, will occur in the area outside the special exhibits gallery of Henry Ford Museum and are part of the Ideas and Innovations Series, sponsored by Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford. <<http://www.thehenryford.org/research/events>>

Photograph Sources

Page 1 – The Henry Ford, ID#P.833.63921

Page 3 – John Gibson

Page 8-9 – Cranbrook Archives

Page 10-11 – Ford Motor Company Archives

Page 12 – Top: Bavarian Inn Lodge

Bottom: Herman Miller

Page 13 – Frankenmuth Historical Association

Page 16 – Howell Area Archives

Page 21 – Walter P. Reuther Library

Page 22 – Jennie Thomas

Michigan Archival Association

William LeFevre

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