

## THE DUSTY SHELF Spring 2019, Vol. 33, No.1

### SENIOR CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Spring Breathes New Life into KCAA

Adam Paxson, Librarian – MCC – Penn Valley, and Archivist - Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth

Dear Archivists,

It appears that spring might finally be here—a fitting time for our newsletter to make its bounce back from dormancy. A huge thanks is due to Samantha Bradbeer for getting this put together, as well as to everyone else who has contributed.

In addition to the welcome changes happening outside, our organization is undergoing some changes of its own. Some, like upgrading our email service, will give us a few headaches, but all will make KCAA better in the long run. Thanks to the collaboration of new and veteran members of our steering committee, membership can now be updated and paid for online *and* for the first time in several years, the scholarship committee is reviewing applications and awarding scholarships to fund our members' professional development (rumor has it there are still a few available). I look forward to reading about these experiences in future newsletters!

One more big change—for me, at least—is that our upcoming annual meeting will be my last as Senior Chair. Samantha is ready to step into my spot and will, no doubt, continue to do fabulous things. She will be joined by our new Junior Co-Chair, Megan Rohleder! Now, I'm not going away completely. At our last steering committee meeting we discussed the need for a nominations chair. We want to continue bringing new faces into our leadership, so I'll *occasionally* be bothering you for just a little while longer.

Speaking of the annual meeting, next month we are being graciously hosted by our friends at the National WWI Museum and Memorial. Over the last 5 years as Senior Chair, I've stood in the backs of meeting rooms (and one beer hall) from Lawrence to Independence and listened to our colleagues give tours and talks on all manner of topics. Although I learned about project management, social media, and preservation, I also learned just how valuable our gatherings are. Yes, I saw people taking presentation notes, but I also saw people visiting new collections for the first time, and perhaps more importantly, I saw people making new connections, having meaningful conversations about their work, and supporting each other through challenges. Archival work can be pretty solitary at times, so please consider joining us in April and taking advantage of KCAA's best resource, the archivists! Hope to see you there.

- Adam

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### SPRING MEETING

National WWI Museum and Memorial  
2 Memorial Drive, Kansas City, MO 64108



KCAA's Spring Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 18 at the [National WWI Museum and Memorial](#) from 3:00–5:00 pm. Topics to discuss include KCAA Constitution & Bylaws, Board of Directors / Committee Updates and Needs, Membership Cycle and more.

Host Jonathan Casey, Director - Archives and Edward Jones Research Center will

share information on museum exhibitions and programs, including the [Living History Volunteer Corps](#), and provide a tour of the Archives and Edwards Jones Research Center, after all outstanding business needs are addressed. Jonathan highly encourages members to tour the museum (12:00–2:00pm) and eat lunch in the [Over There Café](#) (2:00-3:00pm) before the Spring Meeting, as discounted tickets will be provided (Note - General Admission - \$18 | KCAA Members - \$10).

Please send your RSVP to Samantha Bradbeer ([samantha.bradbeer@hallmark.com](mailto:samantha.bradbeer@hallmark.com)) by Friday, April 12, and please let her know if you plan to tour the museum or not, as she will need to prepay and collect KCAA's tickets in advance.

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## ARCHIVIST PROFILE

It's in the Cards!

Samantha Bradbeer, Historian – Hallmark Cards, Inc.

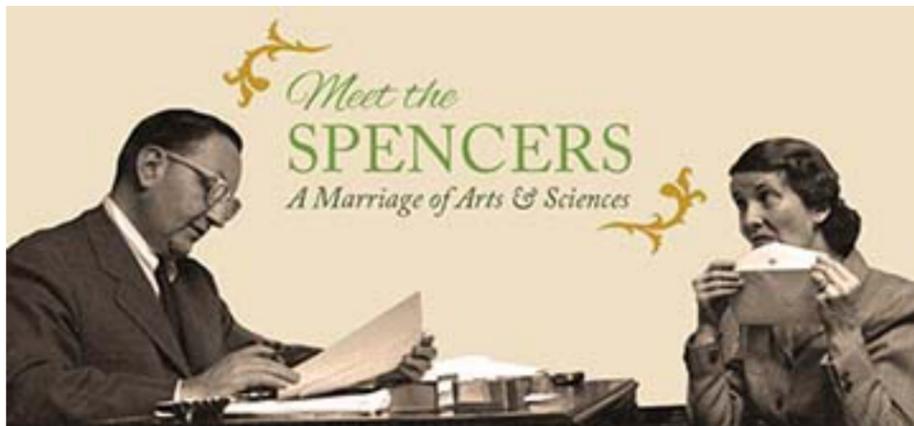
Samantha Bradbeer spends her days at Hallmark making sure that an accurate and varied record of company, family, and product history is preserved for future generations. As the company archivist and historian, Samantha oversees the preservation of advertisements, audio visual materials, chromolithographs, company records, greeting cards and other products, original artwork, postcards, progressive proof books, rare books, prints and folios, scrapbooks, salesman's sample books, trade cards, and writing manuals. [Continue reading online now!](#)

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## EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHT

Meet the Spencers: A Marriage of Arts & Sciences

Marcella Huggard, Archives and Manuscripts Coordinator – Kenneth Spencer Research Library



“Meet the Spencers: A Marriage of Arts & Sciences” is currently on display through June 28, 2019, at the [Kenneth Spencer Research Library](#), located on the University of Kansas campus in Lawrence. The exhibit explores the personal, professional, and philanthropic lives of Kenneth and Helen Spencer, a Kansas City-based couple of the mid-twentieth century. It is part of Spencer's ongoing fiftieth anniversary celebrations; the

library was originally dedicated on November 8, 1968.

Kenneth Spencer (1902-1960) was a businessman and industrialist. He started his career working as a mining engineer at Pittsburg & Midway (P&M) Coal Company in Pittsburg, Kansas, under the direction of his father Charles Favor Spencer. During World War II, Kenneth was among the leading advocates who lobbied the federal government for the development of defense industries in the Midwest. In July 1941, the War Department commissioned P&M to design, construct, and operate Jayhawk Ordnance Works in southeastern Kansas. The plant produced synthetic ammonia and other munitions chemicals.

After the war, Kenneth converted Jayhawk to a civilian, commercial enterprise manufacturing fertilizer, plastics, and other industrial products. Under Kenneth's leadership, Spencer Chemical Company quickly expanded and became one of the largest businesses based in Kansas City in the 1940s and 1950s, while he was simultaneously running P&M.

After Kenneth died unexpectedly in 1960, his wife Helen Foresman Spencer (1902-1982) took control of the charitable foundation the couple had started in 1949. Through her leadership, the Kenneth A. and Helen F. Spencer Foundation provided funds for major projects in the greater Kansas City area, specifically in the areas of health and sciences, youth-based organizations, and arts and culture. These projects included, but were not limited to, the construction of KU's Kenneth Spencer Research Library and Helen F. Spencer Museum of Art; purchases of major works of art and construction of a new library space at the Nelson Gallery of Art (now the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art); construction of an educational center at St. Luke's Hospital; and construction of a chemistry building and performing arts theatre at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Additionally, the Foundation – and Helen privately – provided funds for general operating expenses and

other projects at institutions that included the Midwest Research Institute (now MRIGlobal), Linda Hall Library, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Junior Achievement of Greater Kansas City, and many other organizations in the region. The Spencer Foundation was dissolved in 1979.

"Meet the Spencers: A Marriage of Arts & Sciences" is free and open to the public. Kenneth Spencer Research Library is open Monday through Friday, 9:00am – 5:00pm, throughout the year. During the fall and spring semesters when University of Kansas classes are in session, the library is also open on Saturday, 9:00am to 1:00pm.

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## PUBLICATIONS

KCAA is seeking a Newsletter Editor | We need your help! KCAA's [The Dusty Shelf](#) newsletter is back (after a 5-year hiatus!) in circulation. We hope to produce quarterly newsletters with similar content moving forward. Please send any comments, ideas, or suggestions to Samantha Bradbeer ([samantha.bradbeer@hallmark.com](mailto:samantha.bradbeer@hallmark.com)), and please let her know if you would like to serve as our next Newsletter Editor.

SAA's March/April [Archival Outlook](#) is now online | In the latest issue of *Archival Outlook*, IPWG member Eric Harbeson explores how recent changes to the Copyright Act affect archivists, Ray Barker and Calvin Rydbom share strategies for managing donor relations, and Kristina Wilson examines how a near loss reenergized the collections policy at the Curtis Institute of Music. Also in this issue, Tim Pyatt recalls a series of thefts that shook archives; Chris McDougal uses genealogical research skills to find the identity of a WWII radio messenger; and Cliff Hight, Nate Jones, and Meg Phillips discuss transparency in appraisal and retention schedules at the National Archives and Records Administration.

SAA is [seeking two Editors-at-large for American Archivist Reviews Portal](#) | The Editors-at-large of *American Archivist* Reviews Portal will write reviews focusing on web-based tools, software, and apps; exhibits; digital humanities projects; reports and white papers; and archives and archivists in pop culture and society. These volunteers will work in collaboration with the Reviews Editor and the Reviews Portal Coordinator.

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## LOCAL ARCHIVES IN THE NEWS

Black Archives of Mid-America

- [Community Editors Work to Get More Information About Kansas City's Black Artists on Wikipedia](#), KCUR 89.3, February 27, 2019
- [Chiefs help children learn about African American history](#), Fox 4 WDAF-TV Kansas City, February 22, 2019
- [How One Kansas City Hospital Treated Segregation in The '50s](#), Flatland KCPT's Digital Magazine, February 20, 2019

Hallmark Cards, Inc.

- [Shamrocks Are Everywhere on St. Patrick's Day. Here's How the Three-Leaf Clover Became a Symbol of All Things Irish](#), Time Magazine, March 15, 2019
- [Cherubic Cupid is Everywhere on Valentine's Day. Here's Why That Famous Embodiment of Desire is a Child](#), Time Magazine, February 13, 2019

National WWI Museum

- [At Kansas City's World War I Museum, Personal Legacies of Service Live On In Fabric](#), KCUR 89.3, February 19, 2019
- [Black History Month: African American World War I heroes had big role defining 'true meaning of democracy'](#), Fox News, February 15, 2019

University of Kansas

- [New Conservation Lab Advances Library, Museum Goals](#), University of Kansas | News, February 18, 2019

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## NETWORKING

[Modernist Happy Hour](#) | Join [The Modernists](#) for drinks and general revelry at the National WWI Museum and Memorial on the final Thursday of the month. Open to members and non-members alike, and they promise good company and conversation with even better libations. Learn more about upcoming events, membership and ways to support the museum.

[Third Thursdays](#) | Stop by the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art every Third Thursday for live music, free programs, art activities and more showcasing the talents of local artists and collaborators, all for adult audiences! Learn more about this month's activities and upcoming themes.

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## EDUCATION

Plan to attend an upcoming conference or workshop? Let us know! We hope to include conference and/or workshop reviews in future newsletters.

### Annual Meetings

- [2019 MAC Annual Meeting](#), Midwest Archives Conference, Detroit, MI, April 3 - 6, 2019
- [Digital Directions: Fundamentals of Creating and Managing Digital Collections](#), Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC), Overland Park, KS, August 19 - 20, 2019 | Guided by a faculty of national experts, attendees will gather with colleagues from institutions large and small for two days of instruction on good practices and practical strategies for the creation, curation, and use of digital collections. Attendees will have opportunities to network with colleagues who have similar challenges and interact with faculty one-on-one while gaining a comprehensive introduction to digitization and digital preservation.
- [ARCHIVES RECORDS 2019: TRANSFORMATIVE!](#), Council of State Archivists (CoSa) and Society of American Archivists (SAA), Austin, TX, July 31 – August 6, 2019

### Workshops

- [Sharing Community Stories: Storytelling and Effective Interpretation in Exhibits](#), The Story Center at Mid-Continent Public Library, Kansas City, MO, April 16, 2019 | Facilitated by Linda Norris, author of *Creativity in Museum Practice* and Director, Global Network, International Coalition of Sites of Conscience. Workshop participants will understand how different perspectives-through stories-can create deeply engaging exhibitions. They will experiment with different ways of sharing stories in exhibition formats and gain confidence in sharing and collecting stories. Linda will share new ideas in museum practice to create opportunities for deeper connections and learning.

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## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Attention Job Seekers! Here are the latest career opportunities shared with KCAA. View all postings as they are received on KCAA's [LinkedIn Group Page](#).

- FT [Head of LaBudde Special Collections](#), University of Missouri – Kansas City, Kansas City MO (Application Deadline: March 24, 2019)
- FT [Conservator / Sr. Conservator](#), Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City, MO (Application Deadline: March 31, 2019)
- FT [Archives Technician](#), Missouri State Archives, St. Louis, Missouri (Application Deadline: March 31, 2019)
- FT [Archivist](#), Boehringer Ingelheim, St. Joseph, Missouri (Application Deadline: N/A)
- PT [Non-Credit Instructor for Art Museum Youth Programs](#), Johnson County Community College, Overland Park, KS (Application Deadline: April 1, 2019)

## INTERNSHIPS

- [Summer Collections Internship](#), National Museum of Toys & Miniatures, Kansas City, MO (Application Deadline: March 31, 2019)
- [Marylouise Meder Internship](#), Kansas State Historical Society (Application Deadline: April 15, 2019)
- [Summer Internships](#), National WWI Museum and Memorial, Kansas City, MO (Application Deadline: April 15, 2019)

- [Summer Internship – Archives Division](#), Missouri Secretary Archives, Jefferson City, MO  
(Application Deadline: April 30, 2019)

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#### DEADLINES

- Mar. 30     [Survey on Donor Expectations](#)
- Mar. 31     [Applications for Editors-at-large of \*American Archivist\* Reviews Portal](#)
- Apr. 12     RSVP for KCAA Spring Meeting
- May 1       [SAA Foundation Travel Awards](#)
- May 31     [ACA Exam Application](#)

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#### SUBMISSIONS

Please send any comments, ideas, or suggestions about The Dusty Shelf to Samantha Bradbeer ([samantha.bradbeer@hallmark.com](mailto:samantha.bradbeer@hallmark.com)).

