

Archivists Respond to September 11

A Special Message from SAA's President

Excerpt. *What we have witnessed is nothing less than a frontal attack on the very underpinnings of human civilization. As archivists we understand that we serve a vital role as gatekeepers to the history of that civilization; the documents within our respective repositories give us the perspective with which to see that humanity has undergone many such assaults in the past and to assess and judge these actions in their full context. It is an eerie irony that virtually the only thing that has survived the mass destruction of the World Trade Center is paper – much of it singed and dusty, but intact nonetheless. The streets of lower Manhattan along with the graveyards of Trinity and Grace Churches lie several feet deep in memos, letters, resumes, accounting records, reports and other papers that were at the core of the business of early Tuesday morning and that would have eventually found their way to our repositories. As unable as I am to make sense of the larger tragic events, I am equally at a loss to draw any significance from this phenomenon that wouldn't somehow trivialize the enormous personal and social losses that so many have suffered. Nonetheless, for me they serve as a silent and solemn reminder of the importance of our role in maintaining the evidentiary continuity of our civilization and cultures so that we might always learn and always remember.*

Steve Hensen, SAA President

The tragic events of September 11 have affected us all, as Americans and as archivists. In a society that often seems to ignore historic events, the timely development of a broad public awareness that the events of September 11 would change our world and our lives is reassuring. Many memorials have been created to honor the dead and those who have worked so valiantly to combat this tragedy and a wide variety of organizations have moved quickly to preserve our own ephemeral reactions to the disaster itself. A few of these projects are detailed below.

The New York State Historical Records Advisory Board has taken the lead in coordinating efforts by archival and historical institutions to document the disaster and its impact on the state. NYSHRAB's webpage, <http://www.nyshrab.org/WTC/wtc.html>, lists institutions known to be undertaking documentary projects, institutions affected by the disaster, and links for affected repositories seeking assistance with recovery efforts. For persons thinking of donating September 11 materials to a repository NYSHRAB provides

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MAC coming to KC in 2003!

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The Corner Chair by Angela Curran

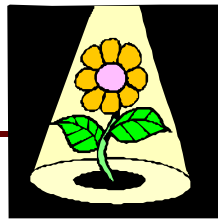
I feel the need to introduce myself. I am the new Junior Co-Chair of KCAA. I am the Archivist and Manager of the Archives for Family Practice in Leawood, Kansas. My institution is part of the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation. I have been there eight years. For seven of those years, I was one of the silent, but ubiquitous, Lone Arrangers in the archives world. Fortunately, last year I was blessed with a part-time assistant, but I still have a special understanding for other archivists trying to do their jobs while wearing many hats.



I am honored to be filling this role for KCAA and lucky to be serving under the guidance of Cynthia Laframboise, KCAA's Senior Co-Chair. We had a delightful and informative meeting on October 3rd hosted by Cynthia at the Kansas State Records Center in Topeka. Though small in numbers, the members that attended were inquisitive and appreciative of the unique opportunity to see where and how the State of Kansas stores its inactive records. Thanks to Cynthia and her staff for taking time out of their busy schedules to have us over!

Looking ahead, KCAA has many exciting things planned. Our December meeting will be held at the Steamboat Arabia in Kansas City, Missouri. The date is December 13th. We'll keep you informed as more information becomes available. We are also planning to host an educational workshop in the spring of 2002. Ideas for topics are welcome.

Spotlight on ...



NARA's Central Plains Region by Mary Burtzloff

Institutional Profile. After much waffling, I decided to kick off the new "Spotlight" series with a profile of my own institution. NARA's Central Plains Region consists of an archives, three records center operations, and a records management team. The federal records centers in Kansas City, Missouri, Lenexa, Kansas, and Lee's Summit, Missouri store and service the non-current records of various federal agencies on a reimbursable plan. Federal agencies will soon be free to choose whether to contract with NARA or a private company for records storage. The records management team provides support, training, and advice to federal agencies on records management issues.

The archives, located in the Kansas City, Missouri Bannister Road facility, receives the permanently valuable, non-current records of federal agencies in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. Less than one percent of the records produced by the federal government qualify as "permanently valuable". Currently, our holdings date from 1821 to the early 1990s. Minnesota and the Dakotas were part of our

region until 1972; some federal records of those states remain here. The archives has accessioned about 42,000 cubic feet of records, much of it from the federal courts, the BIA, and the Army Corps of Engineers. With our stack area nearly full, we have begun placing some of our least-requested materials in off-site storage at the Federal Records Center in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

As a very small component of a large agency, we face some unique challenges. The staff of each regional archives must reproduce in miniature the principal tasks and services of the National Archives with very limited access to the full resources of the agency. The types of records we can acquire, the services we provide, and the manner in which we provide them are governed by statute. Many of the procedures we follow and the initiatives we undertake were designed to meet the needs of our agency's two large facilities in the D.C. area. On a humorous but illustrative note, our Washington preservation staff recently sent us a map transporter (a large cart with a concave surface), the

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better to convey oversized items to researchers. Now, if it would only fit through the door of the research room....

Staff. The archives section has six employees: **Diana Duff**, our Director of Archival Operations, takes care of our administrative needs, directs our public programs, and provides oversight. **Alan Perry** oversees the nuts and bolts activities of holdings maintenance, accessioning, arrangement, and description, authors "Preservation Notes" for the Dusty Shelf, and makes sure we all maintain our sense of humor. **Tim Rives**, our resident military and veterans' records expert, has tirelessly spearheaded many of the special projects we've undertaken recently, and is busy now with preparations for the upcoming Missouri Conference on History. **Marilyn Finke**, a frequent speaker on genealogical topics at local and regional gatherings, assists researchers with our Bureau of Indian Affairs records. **Barbara Larsen** keeps our Corps of Engineer records in line and oversees much of the prep work for microfilming projects. I, **Mary Burtzloff**, coordinate our volunteer program, and work extensively with court records, particularly naturalizations. I am the newest member of the staff, with only three years under my belt. Lest you get the impression that our jobs fit neatly into discrete pigeon holes, let me say that there is a great deal of overlap. Sooner or later, we all try our hand at just about everything that's done here.

Our volunteer program is now in its eighteenth year. Several of our current volunteers have been with us since the beginning. These dedicated women and men provide more than one FTE of labor every year, assisting patrons in our microfilm research room, performing holdings maintenance, organizing and

creating finding aids, giving talks, and fixing microfilm readers. They make a tremendous difference in our ability to serve patrons efficiently and well.

Researchers. In addition to original records, we provide an extensive selection of federal records on microfilm for our patrons. Our population census schedules, military indexes, and Indian records draw many area genealogists as well as out-of-towners. Some remain to view original records related to their research. Legal researchers, graduate students, historians, authors, and the occasional History Day competitor constitute the bulk of our textual researchers.

Future Challenges. Space, space, and more space. We may receive several thousand cubic feet of new accessions in a given year, and, were it not for the courtesy storage given us by the Federal Records Center, our stack area would be filled to capacity and beyond. Space for offices, supply storage, and researchers is also limited. Long-term options include a bay in the underground Lee's Summit Federal Records Center, or a completely new facility. At present, we will continue to place seldom-used records in off-site storage as needed.

We are putting a number of old finding aids in computer databases, and creating some new ones. The data entry phase is tedious, but the ease with which we can identify a record in a frequently used series using a database seems to justify the time spent. Our favorites are the Leavenworth Penitentiary inmate file database (1895-1920), and the U.S. Marshals Service alien enemy registration affidavits (1917-1918) for Kansas.



Calendar

December 13, 2001

KCAA Winter Meeting
Steamboat Arabia Museum, Kansas City, MO

April 18-20, 2002

Missouri Conference on History Annual Conference
Marriott Hotel, Kansas City, MO

April 25-28, 2002

American Assoc. for the History of Medicine (AAHM)
Annual Conference
Westin Crown Center, Kansas City, MO

May 2-4, 2002

Midwest Archives Conference (MAC) Spring Conference
Radisson Metrodome, Minneapolis, MN

July 10-13, 2002

National Assoc. of Government Archives and Records
Administrators (NAGARA) Annual Meeting
Denver, CO

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u s e f u l i n f o r m a t i o n a t
<http://www.nyshrab.org/WTC/individual.html>.

Columbia University has launched an ambitious two-year oral history project funded by a \$90,000 grant from the National Science Foundation. The "Narrative Networks: The World Trade Center Tragedy" project aims to interview 300 people around the country in the tragedy's aftermath, after six months, and finally after two years, to investigate how the event may affect their life-stories. Columbia also offers a listing of official documents relating to September 11 at www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/dsc/wtc.html; most of the listed documents can be accessed through the site.

The Library of Congress commissioned the creation of the September 11 Web Archive, found at <http://web.archive.org/collections/sep11.html>. The site has captured thousands of webpages representing the government and military, charitable organizations, and the news media (national and international). In many cases, sites were captured dozens of times over a period of weeks or months, allowing users of the Web Archive to see how the site changed over time.

The American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress has asked folklorists and others to audiotape the reactions of ordinary Americans to September 11 (see <http://lcweb.loc.gov/folklife/nineeveven/>). The

recordings will be preserved in the Archive of Folk Culture. The project seeks to replicate the efforts of folklorist Alan Lomax, who on December 8, 1941 urged

American folklorists to record interviews with ordinary men and women on their reactions to the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Submissions are wanted by December 1, 2001.

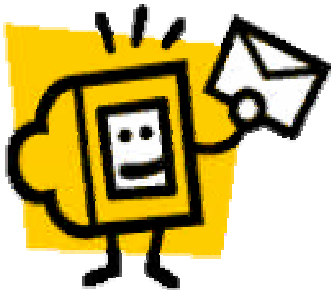
Citylore: The New York Center for Urban Folklife has been photographing community shrines to the missing around the city. Some of the affecting photographs can be viewed at

It is an eerie irony that virtually the only thing that has survived the mass destruction of the World Trade Center is paper – much of it singed and dusty, but intact nonetheless.

http://www.citylore.org/exhibits_misshome.html.

Will these projects succeed in preserving a rich historical record for future historians? Are we saving the things they will want to study? The overwhelming flood of public reaction has produced more emails, more stories, more voicemails, more news clips and photographs than can possibly be retained. The urge to save something, to keep some kind of physical object to reinforce or validate our perception of change is strong. There is a cellular phone bill I am saving. It lists a call made in the vicinity of Ellsworth, Kansas at 3:02 pm on September 11. I was returning to Kansas City from a trip to Yellowstone and judging by that bill, I first turned on the car radio about 3:00 pm. The bill has no historical value. The telephone call it documents was neither unusual nor historically significant, but it has an intrinsic value for me, and I'll be keeping it.

You are the KCAA Listserv



Like the *DustyShelf*, the KCAA Listserv is officially one of the benefits to membership in KCAA. Recently the KCAA Steering Committee, with concurrence of the membership, voted to automatically add to the Listserv all members who provide an email address. The KCAA Listserv is an easy way to alert members of upcoming events, reminders about deadlines, and share information needed by the Kansas City archival community. For you and your archives, it is a way to broadcast news or to ask the collective wisdom of KCAA for advice.

It is free and we don't send junk mail! (In fact only subscribers can send mail to other subscribers.)

Postings to the KCAA Listserv should be sent to

KCAA@listserv.umkc.edu

Thank you. If you have questions, direct them to Dave Boutros at BoutrosD@umkc.edu or at (816) 235-1543.

PEM, PI, and TWPI Are Coming

Environmental monitoring, as all good archivists know, is an important element in any long-term records preservation program. We also know its another one of those essential but unglamorous chores that is oh-so-easy to neglect.

The dependable old standby, still practical today, is the recording hygrothermograph, calibrated regularly (I hope) with a swing or power psychrometer. The hygrothermograph gauges temperature through expansion and contraction of either a bimetallic element or a closed tube ("Bourdon Tube"), and reads relative humidity (RH) by means of the expansion and contraction of human hairs gathered in an element. A marvelous nineteenth century device indeed. They generate a running record of environmental conditions by means of a paper graph driven by a spring-loaded or battery-powered drum. The chart must be changed weekly. New hygrothermographs do not come cheap. The Belfort Model 594, for example, will run your equipment budget down by a hefty \$2,500-\$2,600. (See Belfort's somewhat difficult to navigate website at www.belfortinstrument.com). One or more properly maintained hygrothermographs tucked into strategic locations in your stack area will provide both instant temperature and RH readings, and a hard copy historical record for documenting the environmental stability (or lack thereof) in your stacks.

Like archivists, hygrothermographs go out of whack occasionally and should be regularly calibrated. Fortunately, a dependable and compact power psychrometer can be had in the \$150-\$175 range. We've been happy with our Cole-Parmer EW-03312-20 (<http://www.coleparmer.com>). These devices operate by comparing the temperature indicated by a "dry bulb" thermometer with that of an adjoining "wet bulb" thermometer. The dry bulb thermometer is a simple glass thermometer. The wet bulb thermometer is identical, except for the cloth wick attached to the base. Wetting this wick with distilled water, then pulling air over the wick with the instrument's built-in fan, produces a lower temperature reading through evaporation of the water. The differing readings are then plotted on a chart to get an accurate RH reading. This and the dry-bulb temperature reading can be used to calibrate your hygrothermographs.

You really should have a power psychrometer. In addition to calibration duty, they can be used to get a quick RH reading anywhere you feel there may be a humidity problem, and are particularly handy if you are setting up a drying area after a water disaster. Hand-held swing psychrometers are also available. You spin a hand-held psychrometer about your head to create the necessary air movement that a power psychrometer produces with its little fan. Researchers and colleagues unfamiliar with the hand-held swing device may look startled and call for help at the sight of you wandering around and apparently pointlessly whirling a toy about your head. Better, really, that you should invest the few extra dollars in the power model.

So you are buying a power psychrometer. Should you also invest in a hygrothermograph, or spend the many hundreds of dollars it will cost to have your old one repaired if it has been showing signs of age? Possibly not.

Various electronic "dataloggers" have been moving into the environmental monitoring market in recent years, and one of the latest varieties demonstrates significant advantages over the old-time hygrothermograph. Note that you cannot read the results of some dataloggers unless you download the device's memory into a computer, which means carrying it to the computer, connecting a cable, and then hoping the sometimes quirky program will work.

Enter the Image Permanence Institute, a nonprofit laboratory attached to the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York. Using grant money from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Mellon Foundation, the institute has produced, specifically for cultural institutions, its Preservation Environmental Monitor (PEM) datalogger and accompanying Climate Notebook software. The PEMs and the Climate Notebook are now being run through their paces in field trials at about 180 American libraries, archives and museums. My place of employment, the National Archives' Central Plains Region, is fortunate to be one of the field trial sites.

The 7" x 4" x 2" PEMs provide instant readings of current temperature and RH, as well as two newly devised measurements of the stability of one's storage environment: the Preservation Index (PI) and Time-Weighted

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Meeting Notes

KCAA SPRING MEETING
JOHNSON COUNTY ARCHIVES – OLATHE, KS
MARCH 8, 2001

Note: There was a large turn out of both members and non-members for this quarter's meeting. Five of the people attending came as a result of the newspaper advertisements that Bryan Culp (Publicity Committee Chair) sent out. There also a few graduate students attending who were thinking of going into the archival profession.

The Senior Co-Chair (Deborah Dandridge) opened the meeting by thanking those present for coming. She had those present introduce themselves and state why they chose to attend the meeting, before introducing the KCAA officers.

Special presentation: Before the officers gave committee reports, there was a special presentation for our host Jerry Motsinger who will retire in April. Jerry was presented with a KCAA Certificate of Appreciation and a gift certificate. Deborah Dandridge, Nancy Hulston, and Robert Knecht gave brief vocal tributes to Jerry.

Secretary (Letha Johnson): Minutes from the Winter 2000 meeting were handed out and approved pending changes. The minutes will be distributed via the listserv and newsletter.

Treasurer (Mary Hawkins): The Treasurer's Report was passed out. Balance of accounts is \$16,000 plus. There was little activity this quarter, but there was some increase in profits from Memberships and sales of *Keeping Your Past*. None of the CDs matured this quarter.

2001 Annual Dinner (Pam Kontowicz): The Annual Dinner will be held June 9, from 6 to 10 p.m. in Leavenworth. There will be a cash bar this year, three menu choices, and a dessert bar. The Publicity Chair will send out announcements at a later time.

Newsletter (Stan Ingersol and Mary Burtzloff): Stuart Hinds will not be able to take over as editor of *The Dusty Shelf*. It was proposed and approved that Dave Boutros will do the layout, Stan Ingersol will stay on as the copy editor, and Mary Burtzloff will be the new editor. Dave will print and mail out the newsletter. Many thanks went out to Stan for staying on at the newsletter. Email all newsletter submissions to Mary at mary.burtzloff@nara.gov. It was noted that Stan has been involved with the newsletter for the past 10 years.

Publicity Committee (Bryan Culp, Chair): Bryan introduced himself and thanked those present for coming to the meeting.

Awards Committee (Angela Curran, Chair): Angela needs nominations/suggestions for the Junior Co-Chair position and for the awards to be given out at the Annual Dinner. She will send out notices to the membership for nominations for the Award of Excellence (given to a non-professional), Fellow Award (given to a member of length), Award of (given to a retired member), and Certificate(s) of Recognition.

Minority Internship Committee (Amy Williams, Chair): Amy introduced herself and spoke about the purpose of the internship.

Scholarship Committee (Eric Page, Chair): Eric encouraged members to use the fund. He also handed out National Endowment for the Humanities grant flyers.

Deborah asked the group if there were any other announcements before the meeting adjourned for the tour of the archives. Ann McFerrin reminded the group that she still had a few t-shirts left.

The meeting adjourned for a tour of the Johnson County Archives and refreshments.

Respectfully Submitted:

Letha E. Johnson
Secretary, KCAA

Approved: Oct. 3, 2001

KCAA STEERING COMMITTEE SPRING MEETING
JOHNSON COUNTY ARCHIVES – OLATHE, KS
MARCH 8, 2001

Members present: Deborah Dandridge, Cynthia Laframboise, Bryan Culp, Pamela Kontowicz, Angela Curran, Amy Williams, Eric Page, Stan Ingersol, Mary Hawkins, Mary Burtzloff, and Letha Johnson.

Secretary (Letha Johnson): September minutes approved and December 2000 corrected and approved pending general membership approval.

Treasurer (Mary Hawkins): Balance of accounts is \$16,000 plus. There was little activity this quarter, but there was some increase in profits from memberships and sales of *Keeping Your Past*. None of the CDs matured this quarter. Regular expenses incurred this quarter were from mailings, the newsletter, etc.

Publications Committee (Pam Kontowicz, Chair): There was nothing new to report.

Membership Chair (Marilyn Burlingame): No report.

Publicity Committee (Bryan Culp, Chair): Advertisements for the Spring Meeting were placed in several newspapers and on various listservs and web sites. Bryan raised the question of whom we want to target with the ads, the membership, non-members in the profession, or the general public.

The suggestion was made about reaching out to church archives and other small groups that might have archives. This could be done by newspaper ads and mailing. We could also develop a survey for businesses and other organizations like the one Jackson County did. We could also develop new membership categories.

Senior Co-Chair (Deborah Dandridge): Deborah gave a brief update on current activities.

2001 Annual Dinner (Pam Kontowicz): Pam scouted locations and costs for holding the dinner in Leavenworth, Kansas. This year's annual dinner will be held at the Riverside Community Center on June 9. It will cost \$120 to rent the room and \$50 for a cash bar (drinks will be \$2). The three menu choices are: KC Strip (\$21), Shrimp Scampi (\$23), and Vegetarian Lasagna (\$15); there will be a dessert bar. The cash bar will be opened from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., and dinner will be served at 7 p.m.; the business meeting will follow dinner.

Bryan Culp will contact Brian Burnes with the Kansas City Star about being the speaker for this year's dinner. If he agrees, Bryan will add a short biography of Mr. Burnes to the dinner announcement. The RSVP date for attending the dinner will be May 18. A general discussion regarding possible speakers at future engagements ensued.

Jim Fisher will be honored for promoting local repositories in Leavenworth.

Awards Committee (Angela Curran, Chair): Angela needs nominations/suggestions for the Junior Co-Chair position. She will send out notices to the membership for nominations for the Award of Excellence (given to a non-professional), Fellow Award (given to a member of length), Award of (given to a retired member), and Certificate(s) of Recognition. Co-chairs commended Angela for getting the certificates to last year's recipients of Certificates of Recognition.

Newsletter (Stan Ingersol and Mary Burtzloff): Stuart Hinds will not be able to take over as editor of *The Dusty Shelf*. It was proposed and approved that Dave Boutros will do the layout, Stan Ingersol will stay on as the copy editor, and Mary Burtzloff will be the new editor. Dave will print and mail out the newsletter. Many thanks went out to Stan for staying on at the newsletter. Email all newsletter submissions to Mary at Mary.Burtzloff@nara.gov.

It was suggested that Steering Committee members should submit a summary of activities to the newsletter at least once a year; they should also be responsible for reporting their repository news. Reminders will be sent out to the Steering Committee members.

A discussion convened on a new format for the newsletter and on how many issues to do a year. It was suggested

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that it be briefer in content and come out more frequently. It was also suggested that there only be three issues a year.

Education Committee (Bobbi Rahder, Chair): No report from the committee. Bobbie was unable to attend the meeting.

Minority Internship Committee (Amy Williams, Chair): A draft of the internship agreement was handed out; Amy asked that comments be sent to her. Suggestions were to add language from the SAA Code of Ethics. Amy also mentioned advertising the internship in August for the Spring Semester.

Symposium Ideas (Deborah Dandridge): Deborah contacted the MAC Education Committee regarding their workshop on acquisitions, appraisal, and preservation; it can be presented with or without a MAC presenter. College credit can be given for attending as well.

Bryan suggested giving 90-minute workshops on areas where members may lack training such as dealing with the press, layout/design, outreach, and building a public portfolio. Mary Hawkins suggested hosting two such training sessions on a single day.

It was decided to try to put together a small August symposium that would be aimed at professionals and to be held at UMKC possibly. In the Spring a symposium for a wider audience will be held.

The committee will also try to hold a genealogical workshop this fall.

Scholarship Committee (Eric Page, Chair): There is \$3300 in the scholarship fund. Eric mentioned the need to promote the fund to encouraged members to use it.

Plans for next year: Fall meeting in Topeka, Winter meeting in KC at the Steamboat Arabia, and the Spring 2002 meeting at the Truman Library. Mary Hawkins suggested giving a Holly Award to the people at the Steamboat Arabia. A suggestion was also made to give lifetime memberships to retired members.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

Letha E. Johnson
KCAA Secretary

Approved (with minor corrections): October 3, 2001.

Membership Committee Report by Marilyn Burlingame

Currently the renewed membership stands at 132, including institutional. Approximately 30 members have not renewed at this time. Renewals were first sent early in June, with a reminder notice going out September 26th. Two email reminders were sent in October. Work is ready to begin on the new directory with a mailing in mid-November, hopefully. Those not renewed by this time will not be in the directory. I will, however, continue to pursue a renewal from them.

325 solicitations were sent for the new membership drive. This year two new lists were acquired and the mailing went very well. Only 11 were returned for incorrect information within the addresses. New membership is a total of 9. We have lost one long-time member because of a move to Turkey.

Welcome to new members whose names were not in the last newsletter: Rebecca Matticks, Butler County Historical Society; Tammy Kelly, student; Daniel Coleman, Kansas City Public Library Special Collections; and Mrs. Myrtle Twedt. Welcome back to Kimberlee Ried, Kansas City, Kansas, Public Library.

Our thanks to the following members who have contributed to our scholarship funds: Paul Goudy, Jean Bischoff, Janet Fisher, Dr. Eugene Pearce, Carol Dage, Bob Walter, Eliot Berkley and Deborah Dandridge.

Tired of turkey? Here's a dish sure to impress your holiday guests!



Whale Croquettes

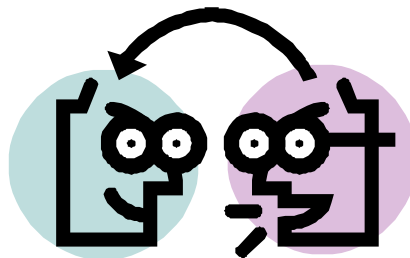
3 cups of left-over
cold roast whale
1½ teaspoons salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper
3-tablespoons melted butter
1/2 teaspoon savory,
if desired

2 teaspoons parsley,
chopped fine
1 large onion, chopped
fine
6-8 walnuts, chopped fine,
if desired
1/2 cup dried war bread
crumbs

Combine the above ingredients. Moisten with enough gravy to hold meat together. Shape into croquettes. Egg and crumb in the same manner as cutlets and bake in the oven. Serve at once garnished with parsley and pickles. The same mixture may be moistened with a beaten egg, formed into meat cakes and fried in a pan, or made into Whale Hash.

---oOo---

[scanned whale recipe; caption: *Courtesy of NARA's Central Plains Region, RG 4*] During World War I, the U.S. Food Administration advocated the use of "sea beef" by Missouri homemakers. There is no indication that Missourians took the bait.



Have An Item You'd Like to Share?

Humorous/unique/poignant photos and scans from your repository are welcomed for future issues. Please include a caption with your submission. Contact the editor regarding size, etc. at Mary.Burtzloff@nara.gov or (816) 823-5032.

Kansas State Historical Society

In August, Justin Dragosani-Brantingham joined the KSHS staff as a government records archivist. He has an English degree and an M.A. in history from Emporia State University. Prior to coming here, he worked for the University of North Dakota. Justin will work half time with state government and half time with local government providing records management assistance. He is also the divisional volunteer coordinator. He is a welcome addition and he has already been put to work on more projects than he imagined. Submitted by Cynthia Laframboise

Jackson County Historical Society

The Society collaborated with the Hyde Park Homes Association's "Hyde Park Homes Tour" October 6 and 7. David Jackson, Director of Archives and Education with the Society, presented two workshops each day: "These Walls Were Made for Talking: How to Construct Your Home's History," and "Practical Preservation: Simple Steps You Can Take to Preserve Your Family's Heirlooms." Two, 12-page premium booklets of the same titles were produced and introduced at the Home's Tour. These booklets are now currently available for \$2 each; try using the Society's virtual bookshop at www.jchs.org.

Those interested in United States and Missouri state and local history are invited to subscribe and contribute to the Society's JOURNAL. The JOURNAL is published twice annually (Spring and Autumn) as a benefit to members of the Society. Individual copies may be obtained for \$5 when available. Additionally, the

Society produces an online version of this publication to increase access and offer complementary information to historical topics explored in the printed publication. The Autumn 2001 JOURNAL will be available by November 9.

The "Jacomo Bookmark: Online History/Educational Sources In and Around Jackson County, Missouri," introduced in the previous Dusty Shelf, is proving to be quite helpful to online visitors. Research archivists also refer patrons to the page of links offering additional resources for further research. The "Jacomo Bookmark" is believed to be the most comprehensive listing of metropolitan Kansas City history/educational-related websites yet compiled. Bookmark this page for your own use. If you have additions or corrections write to info@jchs.org.

Submitted by David W. Jackson

University of Kansas Medical Center Archives

The KUMC Archives is happy to report that we hosted this summer's KCAA Minority Internship. Pearl Johnson, recipient of the internship, is working on a master's degree from UMKC, and plans to get a Ph.D. after that. Pearl's interest in going into archives and/or museum work led her to apply for the internship. Pearl arranged and described correspondence pertaining to museum donations. She also processed a recently acquired manuscript collection, the Rose Riste, MD, Collection. Dr. Riste was a 1920 graduate of the KU School of Medicine, and spent nearly forty years as a medical missionary in India.

Since the end of her internship, Pearl has continued working in the

archives on a volunteer basis. Thanks to her efforts we have located and contacted surviving relatives of Dr. Riste, thus enabling us to acquire additional manuscript materials and an unpublished autobiography.

We Have Acquired Another Motsinger! Jerry Motsinger, former Director for Johnson County Archives and Records Management, is now working on a part-time basis in the KUMC Archives. Jerry's projects include reorganizing the photograph collection and entering it into Past Perfect, processing small collections, and, of course, tidying up everything in sight. As Jerry has been away from actual archives processing for a while, Nancy Hulston is re-teaching him everything he knows. Jerry is the fourth Motsinger to work for the History of Medicine Department. Not bad for a family of six.

Upcoming Conferences

Clendening History of Medicine Museum

The Clendening History of Medicine Museum is preparing for two upcoming exhibits. The first, opening in October, will be of the Browning Lighting Collection. This is a collection of over 200 antique lamps and other lighting devices donated to the museum by Dr. and Mrs. William H. Browning of Wichita, Kansas. The exhibit is being curated by research assistant Matthew Scanlon.

Through January, a photograph exhibit, "On Aging in Kansas," can be seen in the foyer of the Clendening History of Medicine Library. The photographs are the result of a contest held by the Alf and Theo Landon Center on Aging. This exhibit will be curated by museum director Nancy Hulston.

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Clendening History of Medicine Library

Robert Martensen, MD, PhD, Chairman of the Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine and Director of the Clendening History of Medicine Library is pleased to announce the appointment of a new Rare Books Librarian, Dawn McInnis.

University of Kansas Medical Center Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine

The Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine will be hosting the 75th Annual American Association for the History of Medicine (AAHM) Conference April 25-28, 2002. The conference will be held at the Westin Crown Center. Local Arrangements chair is Robert L. Martensen, MD, PhD.

Gathering in Kansas City in conjunction with the AAHM conference will be the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (ALHHS) Annual Meeting. The local arrangements committee for ALHHS includes, Nancy Hulston, Director, KUMC Archives and Clendening History of Medicine Museum, Angela Curran, Manager, American Academy of Family Physicians Archives, and Joan Hilger-Mullen, Curator, Donald Kirk Piper Memorial Medical Museum, St. Joseph Health Center.

For further information on these conferences please contact Nancy Hulston at (913)588-7243 or nhulston@kumc.edu

National Auctioneers Museum

The National Auctioneers Museum has been in existence since 1983 and is located inside the National Auctioneers Association building at 87th near 69 Highway in Overland Park, Kansas. The National Auctioneers Foundation is a non-

profit branch of the National Auctioneers Association and operates the museum, raises money for charity, and provides educational scholarships for the children of auctioneers.

The museum has exhibits on the history of auctioneering, different types of auction sales, and information on the history of NAA. The archives has many books on auctioneering, numerous sale bills from the early 1800's to the present, photographs, and complete sets of the Auctioneer magazine, published since the 1940's.

I started working here in July and have been busy going through the collection, establishing a Collection Management Policy, and revamping the exhibits. I work 10 hours a week in the evenings and weekends, while continuing to care for my daughter (21 months old now and very active) during the day. It is a great part-time job and I really enjoy it. Submitted by Lynn Ward

Truman Presidential Museum & Library

The Truman Presidential Museum & Library will open for research 15 audio recordings, totaling approximately 14 hours of private interviews between former President Harry S. Truman and his advisors William Hillman and David Noyes which were recorded from September 8 to November 17, 1959. All but one of these recordings was used to help the former President in preparing his book, "Mr. Citizen." One recorded interview was used to assist the former President in writing a series of articles for the North American Newspaper Alliance.

These original reel-to-reel tapes cover a variety of topics, such as: Russian Premier, Nikita Khrushchev, the Cold War, the firing of MacArthur, President Truman's daily

life and work at the Harry S. Truman Library, the elections of 1952 and 1956, former presidents of the United States and other prominent individuals (such as George C. Marshall and Sam Rayburn), labor unions and their participation in politics, big business and the stock market, the importance of military power, weather, farms, the atomic bomb, the hydrogen bomb, religion and its place in politics, South America and its importance to the United States, the presidency, the year 2000 and what it will bring, President Truman's grandchildren, the Federal Reserve Bank, and income tax. Transcripts of the recordings formed the basis for a new book edited by Ralph E. Webber, "Talking with Harry: Candid Conversations with Harry S. Truman" (Scholarly Resources Inc.: 2001).

William Hillman was a veteran writer and radio news correspondent and the author of "Mr. President," a semi-biographical account of President Truman's career. Mr. Hillman also assisted in the preparation of Mr. Truman's Memoirs. David Noyes was a retired advertising executive who had been an unofficial advisor to President Truman during his White House years and served occasionally in the same capacity after President Truman's departure from office.

Union Station Kansas City/Kansas City Museum

We are very pleased to announce that we are the recipient of a \$25,000 grant from the Missouri Historical Records Grant Program. The award will be used for the preservation of the museum's film collections. This includes acquiring equipment and hiring a film technician to work on its news film collections, as well as sending rare footage of R. A. Long

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and Corinthian Hall to a film lab for restoration. This grant coincides with the archive's move to its new home at Union Station. The archives is part of a new collections area that includes storage for the museum's three dimensional collections and work space for preparation of artifacts and documents. The new archives space has a research room and space for new compact shelving, which has yet to be ordered. The museum's archives is currently housed in a temporary storage room at Union Station and is available for researchers during this time of transition. Please direct any questions to Denise Morrison,

Archivist at Union Station Kansas City, 816/460-2052.

Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Kansas City

The Women's Chamber of Commerce has dissolved after almost ninety years in existence. WHMC-KC has been the repository of their records since 1989, and has just received the last series of administrative materials.

An interesting new collection is the personal and professional papers of *Kansas City Star* journalist, Atwell Loomis Bohling, Jr. The fifty cubic feet of materials dates from the 1930s to the 1990s and gives insight into a variety of area topics. Finally, WHMC-KC has received the records of the Elizabeth Benton Chapter of the

Daughters of the American Revolution, dating to 1915.

Our book, *Cher Oncle, Cher Papa: The Letters of Francois and Berenice Chouteau* should arrive from the printers by the end of the year. It is a 300-page study of the French and the fur trade in the Kansas City region that will add significantly to the knowledge of the period. Cost \$24.95. Order from WHMC-KC.

2002 Save America's Treasures Grants

Guidelines and application procedures for 2002 should be available on the National Park Service's website at <http://www2.cr.nps.gov/treasures> by late December of this year. From *AASLH Dispatch*, November 2001

Archives & the Nation: History, Archives, and the Public Interest

Executive Order 13233, "Further Implementation of the Presidential Records Act."

On November 1, President Bush issued an executive order on the implementation of the Presidential Records Act of 1977- that appears to largely nullify the PRA's intent. The executive order comes on the heels of months of delays in the release of Reagan Administration documents. It gives an incumbent President broad authority to deny access to a former President's papers, even if the former President wishes them released. In addition, former Presidents and even their families would have the authority to block the release of presidential papers, even against the wishes of the incumbent President. Both incumbent and former Presidents have an unlimited amount of time to review documents for release.

Society of American Archivists President Steve Hensen, in an open

letter to Representative Stephen Horn, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Government Efficiency, wrote, "[E.O. 13233] violates both the spirit and letter of existing U.S. law on access to presidential papers," and "For [free and open] access to be curtailed or abrogated by an executive process not subject to public or legislative review or scrutiny would violate the principles upon which our nation was founded—all the more troubling at a time when we should be holding the beacon of freedom higher than ever. Jeanne Young, President of the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators, wrote, "NAGARA strongly urges the Congress, on behalf of the American people and in defense of the free flow of information, ideas, and public discourse . . . to assert its authority over Presidential records" in a letter to Stephen Horn. The Midwest Archives Conference expressed its

support for the comments of SAA and NAGARA in a letter to Horn. Journalists and historians across the country have roundly criticized the order.

Lawsuit Challenges Bush Presidential Records Executive Order On November 28, Public Citizen (a Washington D.C. based nonprofit consumer advocacy organization) filed suit in a federal court in Washington, D.C. on behalf of the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, the National Security Archive, the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, Public Citizen, and eminent presidential historians Hugh Graham and Stanley Kutler, to overturn an executive order issued by President Bush (E.O. 13233) that limits access to the records of former presidents. The plaintiffs contend that the executive order violates the Presidential Records Act (PRA), which opens most

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presidential records to public access 12 years after a president leaves office. The suit seeks to compel the National Archives to abide by the terms of the 1978 PRA and to release to the public some 68,000 pages of records of former President Ronald Reagan, that should have been released last January, 12 years after President Reagan left office. A copy of the complaint may be viewed at <http://www.citizen.org>. The plaintiffs contend that the Bush executive order jeopardizes access to those records, and those of other former presidents, by allowing a former president to assert a claim of "executive privilege," at any time thereby preventing the Archives from opening records to the public even if the claim of privilege is legally invalid. (From *NCC WASHINGTON UPDATE*, Vol. 7, #48, November 29, 2001, by Bruce Craig, National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History (NCCPH)).

Archives and E-Mail Reference Services

"A Virtual Expression of Need: An Analysis of E-Mail Reference Questions," appeared in the Spring/Summer 2001 edition of *The American Archivist*. The authors, Wendy M. Duff and Catherine A. Johnson, found that many patrons "were looking for information about people rather than subjects, or they were searching for specific forms." Information retrieval systems, by implication, are most effective when they allow searches on "proper names, dates, places, subject, form, and ... events" rather than general subject terms. Duff and Johnson also noted that the appearance of indexes on websites lead to increased requests for copies of documents. The posting of an order form on the website can expedite the request process for both staff and patrons.

2002 Missouri Conference on History Call for Papers

The 44th Missouri Conference on History will convene in Kansas City, April 18-20, 2002, at the Marriott Crowne Plaza Hotel.

We invite paper and panel proposals on all aspects of Missouri, Midwestern, and American history. The 2002 conference will include a special session on the Korean War.

Please send a 100-200 word abstract and brief C.V. by January 1, 2002, to:

National Archives-Central Plains Region
2312 E. Bannister Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64131
ATTN: Tim Rives

Abstracts accepted by post, fax, or email.

Fax: (816) 926-6982
Email: timothy.rives@nara.gov
Telephone: (816) 823-5031

Book and Article Prizes

The Missouri Conference on History invites nominations for its 2002 book and article prizes. The book award will be given to the best volume on any historical subject written by a Missouri resident and published during 2001. Articles must relate to a Missouri history topic and have been published in 2001. There is no restriction on the residency of authors in the article category.

Please send 3 copies of each nominated book or article by January 15, 2002, to:

R. Reed Whitaker
Regional Director, National Archives-Central Plains Region
2312 E. Bannister Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64131
Attn: MCH Awards

Opportunities: Employment, Fellowships, Grants

Archives Assistant

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art is seeking an Archives Assistant to work in the Spencer Art Reference Library. Responsibilities include record management, document retrieval, database maintenance and providing reference service to visitors. B.A. degree with previous archival experience or equivalent coursework necessary. Must be able to negotiate narrow spaces to retrieve records, able to lift and carry 30-40 lbs. Additional information available at: <http://www.nelson-atkins.org>. Send resume to Human Resources, 4525 Oak Street, KCMO, 64111; or e-mail: eschnepf@nelson-atkins.org.

Cataloger

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art is seeking a Cataloger to work in the Spencer Art Reference Library. Responsibilities include cataloging and classifying library materials using RLIN in accordance with AACR2, MARC format and local practices.

Requirements include ALA accredited MLS degree, art history background desirable, one year cataloging experience w/online databases preferred, must be able to read modern European languages. Additional information available at: <http://www.nelson-atkins.org>. Send resume to Human Resources, 4525 Oak Street, KCMO, 64111; or e-mail: eschnepf@nelson-atkins.org.

Photo Archivist

The University of Kansas Libraries seek a talented individual to serve as Photo Archivist to develop and provide access to the photographic holdings (more than 2 million images) held in the Kenneth Spencer Research Library.

Responsibilities: Organizes and catalogs photographic collections; provides reference assistance and instruction to a wide variety of researchers which includes scholars, students, and members of the general public; interacts extensively with publishers and photo researchers world wide; leads and participates in photographic preservation and digitization projects; promotes active use of the collections through outreach activities, especially exhibitions; and assists with solicitation of gifts of collections and identifies potential donors of photographic collections. Works closely with other staff in Spencer Library and staff throughout the University Libraries to promote active use of these collections in teaching, research and community service.

Required qualifications: Master's degree; coursework or experience with photographic cataloging; knowledge of photographic preservation techniques; strong oral, written and interpersonal communication skills; strong service orientation, and demonstrated ability to work well with the public. *Strongly preferred qualifications:* Experience cataloging photographs in an archival setting; experience cataloging and preparing related finding aids in an automated environment; previous photographic preservation work; knowledge of and experience with digitization of images; experience conceiving and carrying out exhibitions; reference experience. *Preferred qualifications:* Prefer master's degree from a program accredited by the American Library Association; coursework or background in regional history and/or the history of higher education.

The Photo Archivist is a full-time, FLSA exempt position (not eligible for overtime). An Unclassified Professional Staff appointment is expected. However, upon request, candidates who hold a master's degree from an ALA-accredited program may be considered for a tenure-track faculty appointment in the University Libraries. Candidates who wish to be considered for this type of appointment should specify this in their application.

Annual salary and benefits: \$33,000 - \$43,000, dependent upon qualifications. Benefits include 22 days vacation and 12 days sick leave per year; several paid holidays; group health and life insurance options; choice of four retirement programs.

Information/Application procedures & review date: Review of applications will begin December 10, 2001. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

For full consideration, applicants must provide a letter indicating how their experience relates to each of the required and preferred qualifications. In addition, please provide a current resume, and the names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses of three references. Please send this material to:

Sandra K. Gilliland, Asst. to the Dean
University of Kansas Libraries - 502 Watson Library
1425 Jayhawk Boulevard

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Preservation Index (TWPI). The PI is a calculation of the approximate number of years for poor quality paper to become "noticeably deteriorated" should the *current environmental conditions* (temperature and RH) prevail at their present level indefinitely. As there is absolutely no chance of anything in this world prevailing at its present level indefinitely, the TWPI averages the effects of the environmental conditions *throughout the months or years* the PEM has been in place, and then presents a second approximation of how long it would be before the "noticeable deterioration" takes place if this average remains approximately constant.

While one can argue about details – just what is "noticeable deterioration"?—It seems to me that the sight of a PI of, say, five years would deliver a powerful shock that would spur immediate action to get that temperature and/or RH down. And long-term use of a PEM will graphically remind us of the difference a degree or two in temperature or 5% of RH can make to the life expectancy of our collections.

At regular intervals the conscientious archivist will undertake the convenient downloading of PEM data into his or her computer. Data is downloaded by means of an SRAM-memory type card inserted into the PEM without the need to move it from its station. The data on the memory card is then loaded into the Climate Notebook software through a PC card socket and adapter that, in effect, adds a new external drive to your computer. These are easily installed. After all, I managed it without destroying anything in the process.

When setting up the Climate Notebook one tells the program what media is kept in the area being monitored

(paper documents and acetate film, for example), as well as the desired temperature and RH levels. The program displays data in three "views": Collection Manager's, Engineer's, and Conservator's. Each view marshals data of particular interest to that specialist. The Collection Manager's View, for example, will display an "alert" or "OK" for each medium in your stacks; the Engineer's View will tell you how close the actual conditions are to the ideal. This and much, much, more useful information. You can also print off impressive charts, or entire "views," with which to dazzle your boss or the building engineer.

The Climate Notebook is compatible with ACR, Hobo, Rotronic, and Spectrum dataloggers, as well as with the PEMs for which it was designed. It will not, however, be supported by Macs; it is compatible with PCs only.

At this point our PEMs have been in operation only a few weeks, and I've only just installed the Climate Notebook. It is possible that my favorable opinion of the utility of the system may change over time. But right now I'm impressed. The Image Permanence Institute's website at <http://www.rit.edu/~661www1/> tells the complete PEM and Climate notebook tale. Check with it, or with this column, for updates on the field trials, including information on when (if?) PEM's and Climate notebook software appears on the market.

And now, enough said. The *Dusty Shelf* deadline is upon me and I'd better get this article wound up. I work in the same shop as the editor, so have no place to hide.

MAC coming to KC in 2003!

Kansas City has been chosen to host the Spring 2003 meeting of the Midwest Archives Conference. Amy Williams of the Truman Library and David Boutros, Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Kansas City, have been appointed by the MAC president, Cheri Thies, to co-chair the Local Arrangement Committee for the meeting.

MAC is the nation's largest regional professional association for archivists. Founded in 1972, MAC now has over 1150 individual members. MAC's 177 institutional members include a variety of corporate, government, church, and university archives, as well as historical societies and other manuscripts repositories and special collections. The MAC region is the twelve heartland states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. The spring meeting, which is also the organization's annual meeting, has previously always been held in Chicago and drew routinely 300 participants.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Kansas City and KCAA show off our stuff, and to benefit from the wealth of knowledge and experience that will gather here.

If you are interested in working on this project, please contact Amy (amy.williams@nara.gov) or Dave (BoutrosD@umkc.edu).



KANSAS CITY AREA ARCHIVISTS

...Striving to provide an atmosphere of cooperation which will enliven and support the use and availability of historical records.

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Memberships and address changes should be sent to:
Marilyn Burlingame, UMKC Archives
5100 Rockhill Road, Kansas City, MO 64110-2499
(816) 235-1539, or e-mail BurlingameM@umkc.edu

Our ability to study and understand the past rests on the availability of historical materials for examination and research. At work throughout the Kansas City region are people dedicated, either through professional responsibilities or personal interest, to making historical materials available for use by identifying, collecting, and preserving the records of our heritage. The Kansas City Area Archivists, a local professional association of archivists, manuscript curators, librarians, historians, and others, seeks to unite those individuals interested in the advancement of archival collections in the Kansas City area, and in preserving the documentation of our past.

The Dusty Shelf is published three times a year by Kansas City Area Archivists. We honor exchanges with other organizations.

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Kansas City Area Archivists is a local non-profit organization serving archivists in Eastern Kansas and Western Missouri. Annual membership dues: \$15 individuals, \$25 institutions, \$10 students, \$50 sustaining institution, \$100 supporting institution.



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