

Variety within Religion Archives

by Stan Ingersol, Archivist, Church of the Nazarene

J. Franklin Jameson, highly esteemed by historians and archivists, argued that a working knowledge of the religious past was indispensable for a historical understanding of culture. The thesis of his 1907 presidential address to the American Historical Association was that religion provides “data representing all classes, all periods, and all regions” and yields “the continuous record [the historian] desires.” Jameson noted that “religious men and women in every class, every period, every subdivision [of history] . . . have left individual or collective records of their thoughts and ways and feelings.”

In the century since Jameson’s address, religious history has become an increasing part of social and intellectual history. And nearly every archive and manuscripts repository holds materials that pertain to religious belief or activity.

Still, the largest bodies of records documenting religion are maintained by religious organizations, which establish archives for their own purposes but assemble collections that include significant sources on main currents and counter-currents in history.

The scope of denominational archives, particularly, is typically underestimated; hence their collections often are underutilized. So what are some striking characteristics of denominational archives?

First, they tend to have an astonishing breadth. Denominational archives certainly document matters that concern the human spirit—religious beliefs, religious practices, and some of the most private and cherished thoughts of individuals. These can be found in diaries, sermon manuscripts, correspondence and even photographs. Franklin Jameson noted in his presidential address that while everyday human life “may be reduced to solid and instructive statistics,” this alone should not suffice for the historian, for “no view is truthful that leaves out of account the ideals which animated [humanity’s] toiling millions, the thoughts concerning the universe and man which informed their minds.” Religion archives help ensure the record upon which Jameson’s “truthful view” can be built.

But denominational archives also receive a substantial amount of materials that document institutions of primary, secondary, and higher education, including colleges, universities, and professional and graduate schools.

Similarly, they often receive records of hospitals, clinics, and other health-care providers sponsored by the host religious organization. The Community of Christ Archives, for instance, has records of the Independence Sanitarium (now Independence Regional Hospital) and its School of Nursing, while the Nazarene Archives maintains records pertaining to hospitals in India, Swaziland, Papua New Guinea, and pre-war China. It also has collections

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The Corner Chair by Mary Hawkins

Happy 25th, KCAA! It's your silver anniversary year—time to honor your past and celebrate your future!

The formation of KCAA was collectively initiated on November 3, 1978, when a small group of Kansas City area archivists gathered on a Friday afternoon at the Kansas City Missouri Public Library, hoping to improve their familiarity with other archives in the area and pursue cooperative activities. The seven who met were Dave Boutros (Kansas City Public Library), Jerry Roy (Johnson County Kansas Library), Marc Beveridge (Liberty Memorial), Beth Pessek (Kansas City Museum), Sharron Uhler (University of Missouri at Kansas City), Nancy Ehrlich (Jackson County Historical Society), and Bob Knecht (Federal Archives at Kansas City). At that first meeting, they agreed to develop a directory of local archivists and to send a questionnaire to those on the mailing list. They met again in December, and at their third meeting in February 1979 discussed gradually broadening their membership to include archives as far west as Topeka and as far east as Columbia, Missouri.



And so it began, with a constitution and bylaws later formalizing the organization's structure and objectives. With due regard to structure, KCAA's essential strength has remained much as it was at that first meeting—the desire for learning and cooperation. We salute those who took the lead that Friday afternoon in 1978, and to all who

have joined them in KCAA's cause these past twenty-five years. Among those in recent memory is my predecessor Angela Curran, whose leadership was a model for any junior co-chair. Another is Alan Perry who, together with his Education Committee, brought us KCAA's September 2003 Archives Fair. By their efforts, and those of the many institutions who participated, KCAA again demonstrated this area's wealth of archival repositories, the skilled professionals who staff them, and the cooperative spirit of its members. Join KCAA's meetings this year and help keep that spirit alive!

For KCAA's upcoming meetings and images from its history, visit the KCAA website at <http://www.umkc.edu/KCAA/>.



Calendar

February

Public Historians Alliance of Missouri Dinner Meeting
Independence, Missouri

February 10-12, 2004

2004 Missouri Digitization Pre-conference and Conference
Hilton Garden Inn
Independence, MO

April 29 - May 1, 2004

Midwest Archives Conference (MAC) Spring Meeting
Milwaukee, WI

March 11, 2004, 2:00 p.m.

KCAA Spring Meeting
Leavenworth County Historical Society
The Carroll Mansion
1128 5th Avenue, Leavenworth, Kansas

April 29-May 1, 2004

Midwest Archives Conference Spring Meeting
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

June 12, 2004

KCAA Annual Dinner Meeting
Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site & Capitol
Plaza Hotel
Topeka, Kansas



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assembled by medical missionaries, such as the extensive collection of David Hynd, a Scot who founded the Red Cross of Swaziland.

Denominational archives receive materials from related social-service institutions, such as orphanages, maternity homes, addiction centers, and inner-city agencies that assist indigent and homeless people. Since denominations also have publishing interests, their archives are likely to also acquire records of publishing firms.

Religion archives receive materials documenting the dynamics and life-cycles of local congregations. Beyond the particular purposes for which these records were created, they throw light on the ways in which voluntary societies organize within the cultural patterns of a given society.

Second, religion archives are typically repositories of a wide variety of different media. Angela Curran, archivist at Unity School of Christianity, noted that she was initially surprised to find that virtually every type of 20th century media is represented in her archive.

Religious organizations often have media production departments. Often the archive inherits the equipment discarded when the media department moves to the next generation of media. Churches and synagogues also utilize a wide variety of media, samples of which find their way into denominational archives.

Third, denominations typically have international dimensions that are reflected in their archives. The international dimension is apparent at many levels. The Nazarene Archives, for instance, receives the minutes of annual assemblies from over 320 church districts *outside* the U.S., as well as those of the 84 districts in the U.S. The Community Christ Archives, like denominational archives generally, receive collections of retired missionaries. Such collections are often generously endowed with photographs. Diaries, correspondence, and publications from outside North America are commonly received items.

The Hiram Reynolds Collection in the Nazarene Archives illustrates this variety. One of his denomination's first general superintendents (bishops), Reynolds facilitated the church's missionary expansion in other world areas and frequently traveled abroad. His trip around the world in 1914 took him to Japan, China, India, Africa, and Cape Verde. In the 1920s he visited Syria, Palestine, and the Caribbean. Reynolds took his photographs and collected many others. Many of the 2000 photographs of his collection date from his 1914 trip. As a whole, the photographs provide views of harbors, public transportation, and living conditions in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and the Caribbean. Reynolds also acquired several hundred postcards from the international cities he visited. The correspondence portion of his collection—over 25,000 pieces—include letters and reports from all over the world.

The wide variety found in a religion archives fundamentally reflects the nature of the host institutions. This, in turn, signifies that the religious spirit is not something ethereal but is typically embodied in concrete, historical forms that are deeply embedded in cultures.

KCAA Archives Fair

On September 12-14, KCAA held an Archives Fair in conjunction with the Jackson County Genealogical Society's book sale at the Blue Ridge Mall. About 18 KCAA organizations offered displays, literature, information, and advice to the public. The Fair provided for lots of conviviality among KCAA members, though we were a bit disappointed by the sometimes scanty foot traffic at the mall.



✓ Check out the KCAA webpage at www.umkc.edu/KCAA/ for photos of KCAA's younger days! More memories and history will be added periodically during the year-long celebration. If you have pictures or other items for the page contact Audrey McKanna at (785) 864-4334 or AMckanna@ku.edu.

Minutes (draft, 10/20/03)

Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics
University of Kansas, Lawrence

Welcome and Introductions (Mary Hawkins, Senior Co-Chair)

Mary Hawkins called the business meeting to order, thanked Jean Bischoff for her excellent tour of the Dole Institute, and welcomed the membership.

Secretary's Report (Ann Schultis)

Hawkins announced that minutes were being taken by Angela Curran in Ann Schultis' absence, and called for a motion for approval of the minutes of the Annual Dinner Meeting, held June 14, 2003. A motion was received, seconded, and approved.

Treasurer's Report (Jean Bischoff)

Jean Bischoff commented briefly on the quarterly report of the treasurer. A motion for approval of the treasurer's report was received, seconded, and approved.

Committee Reports

Awards & Nominations (Cynthia Laframboise)

No report in Cynthia's absence.

Education (Alan Perry)

Alan Perry briefly reported the outcome of the Archives Fair that was held at the Blue Ridge Mall, September 12-14. He indicated that there had not been as much traffic as hoped for even though it was held in conjunction with the Jackson County Genealogical Society book sale. Alan has sent a survey to participants, and from the responses received thus far, speculated that KCAA may hold another Archives Fair in 2004, but at a different location. The Education Committee will be meeting in mid-October to discuss the possibilities, which include (1) An Archives Fair; (2) An educational symposium; or (3) A combination of the two events. Members were encouraged to contact Alan with their preferences.

Alan expressed interest in knowing if KCAA members would like to have a social get-together, as some had been held in the past. The Education Committee will discuss this at their next meeting. One possibility mentioned by Alan for the baseball season would be to attend a Royals game. Another would be a midwinter party.

Hawkins thanked Alan and his committee members for their hard work and excellent planning regarding the Archives Fair. She also thanked the many institutional participants who had enabled KCAA to make such a good showing, having contributed much time, effort, and excellent displays to this event.

Membership (Marilyn Burlingame)

Marilyn reported that there are currently 128 members of KCAA. About 12 past members who have not yet renewed their membership will be sent reminders. Solicitations to institutions have resulted in eleven new institutional memberships. A number of members have included donations to KCAA. Marilyn welcomed several new members and noted that she will begin work on the membership directory soon with a goal to have it mailed by the end of October.

Newsletter (Alan Perry for Mary Burtzloff)

Alan Perry reported that the deadline for the next issue of *The Dusty Shelf* is October 21st. There has been a shortage of institutional reporting in the last several issues of the newsletter. Members are strongly encouraged to send in news.

Publicity (Judy Sweets and Audrey McKanna)

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Hawkins announced the new co-chairs for this committee, Judy Sweets and Audrey McKanna. Audrey reported that they are gathering information that was used in the past for publicity efforts as they gear up for this committee. If any member has information to publicize or that could help in this effort, please forward it to Audrey or Judy.

Publications (Vacant)

Hawkins reported that the membership of this committee is currently vacant. She invited any volunteers to contact her.

Minority Internship (Amy Williams)

Amy Williams reported that she has been updating forms and files together in order to advertise an internship for the spring semester. She reminded members that interns are placed in member institutions. Therefore, the committee will invite applications from area institutions, outlining projects that interns could complete.

Scholarship (Angela Curran)

Angela Curran reported that there has been no recent activity in the Scholarship Fund. KCAA helped to support several students who attended the Midwest Archives Conference (MAC) meeting in April. She reminded members that the Scholarship funds were established to support KCAA members or other designated groups, like students, that are pursuing archival education or training. Angela encouraged the members to contact her if they or someone they know needs assistance in attending educational meetings or workshops.

Other Business

KCAA Junior Co-Chair Vacancy and Nomination

Hawkins reported that KCAA has had a vacancy in its Junior Co-Chair position since June, no nominee having been included on the slate of nominees approved at the time of the Annual Dinner. She remarked that the Junior Co-Chair is an important two-year position, assisting in the first year, and then serving as Senior Co-Chair in the second. She announced that the Steering Committee and Nominating Committee have now endorsed a nominee for this position, Audrey McKanna, who currently serves as co-chair of the Publicity Committee. Audrey is in her third semester of the Museum Studies program at KU, works at KU's Spencer Library, and has served as a volunteer at the Watkins Community Museum of History in Lawrence. Noting that nomination for this position requires approval by the general membership, Hawkins called for a motion to approve. The motion was made, seconded, and carried. Mary congratulated Audrey on her election as Junior Co-Chair.

KCAA website updates

Noting that she had added the URL for KCAA's website to the top of the printed meeting agenda, Hawkins reminded members to check the website for information regarding upcoming meetings, where links to the websites of host institutions are included. She thanked Dave Boutros of the Western Historical Manuscript Collection, who serves as KCAA's website and listserv manager, for having incorporated many recent updates to the website. She also noted that Dave had recently added a list of KCAA's past award recipients to the website, and that KCAA's constitution and bylaws are now included at the website.

Future meeting locations

Winter 2003 quarterly meeting

The winter meeting will be held on Thursday, December 11, 2003, at the Toy & Miniature Museum of Kansas City, on the campus of the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Spring 2004 quarterly meeting

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The spring meeting will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2004, at the Leavenworth County Historical Society's Carroll Mansion at 1128 5th Avenue in Leavenworth, Kansas.

Annual Dinner, 2004

The location for the Annual Dinner is not yet determined, but has a tentative date of June 12th. More information will be issued later.

Adjournment

Hawkins called for any additional business from the membership. Hearing none, she again thanked the Dole Institute for having hosted the meeting, and declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Curran for Ann Schultis, Secretary

Archival Consulting by Jerry Motsinger

The lure of consulting is often dangled before those of us who are contemplating retirement or seeking to otherwise remove ourselves from the daily confinement of a workday schedule. On the surface it seems like an ideal solution that will allow us to set our own schedule and free us from the constant scrutiny of upper management. I know that in my case the vision of rolling over and going back to sleep on dark, rainy mornings held an irresistible lure. Unfortunately, that idyllic dream has not proven to be the case. Deadlines still need to be met and, instead of the demands of a supervisor urging me on during the regular workday, I now have an internal nagging mechanism that will keep after me around the clock whenever a deadline looms. Perhaps an obsessive-compulsive worrier is not the perfect personality for this lifestyle.

Due to the inconsistent nature of available work consulting should never be seen as a primary source of income, however there are a few things an individual can do to assure a flow of projects. If possible, align yourself with a consistent source of grant funding and learn to understand what that source is attempting to achieve with its activity. Secondly, you should develop a well-rounded resume that stresses past experience in a wide variety of archival establishments.

Personality and past experience as exhibited by your resume are prime considerations on the first visit. Generally I have made it a point to offer my services free of charge when providing the organization with cost and time estimates that they may use in preparing their grants. I also provide them with examples of past projects that I have completed. This not only assists them in preparing their grant but also provides a strong tie-in when after the grant is funded, they start the process of selecting their consultant. You will often provide these tasks without payment when the organization fails to get their grant but this is merely part of the cost of doing business.

Despite all of the potential pitfalls I have found many enjoyable facets to this new career direction. First and foremost is the wide variety of unique problems that confront you. Generally speaking, each time you are called upon it is because the client has already recognized that they have a problem. Also, invariably they have made previous attempts without success to rectify the situation and are currently ready to accept outside assistance. Due to the frustrations of this past history the consultant is initially welcomed as a potential "miracle-worker". It's too bad that our solutions usually only involve hard work and additional expense.

Another of the many pleasures of the job is the wide variety of work environments you might encounter. One project might involve a government office with all of its internal politics and turf wars, while the next will be a pleasant group of volunteers working for the local historical society, and yet a third may be a religious organization with a deep-seated love for their institution and, a strong commitment to preserving its history. I have encountered each and, while they all require a different approach, it is this very variety that keeps the job interesting. In each of these situations you will gain knowledge of how an additional organization operates, as well as respect for the people who run them. I have continued to remain in contact with many of these organizations long after the projects' completion and take a great deal of pride in their progress.

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MOLD

or

“This Sounds Like a Science Fiction Movie”

Some things in our business just don't go away, and mold is one of them. Yes, folks, while technology promises (okay, hints at) eventual solutions for such seemingly intractable problems as unstable media and easy access to records, no one is holding out any hope that much of anything short of nuclear incineration will ever be able to completely do in mold spores.

This, of course, is not news. We've known for a long time that no fumigant or any other acceptable treatment can kill this simple and stubborn form of life (although some dangerous-to-humans chemicals can kill the fungus growth produced by active spores). We can, however, control those spores and keep the little rascals from inflicting serious damage on our holdings. Controlling mold is the subject of a day-long workshop offered by the Chicora Foundation of Columbia, S. C. through the good offices of SOLINET, the Southeastern Library Network. Most of the information presented here is courtesy of the workshop they held in Kansas City last May 17, bolstered by a little personal experience at NARA's Central Plains Region and at the Territorial Archives of the Virgin Islands.

It might be best to begin by emphasizing just how tough and versatile the stuff really is. Mold spores really are ubiquitous and omnivorous. They'll thrive on paper, other wood products, and glue, even dust. Anything organic is on their menu. Impressionistic evidence (there hasn't been any systematic study) indicates that mold particularly likes buckram, leather, and vellum. They can be found in just about any environment other than a vacuum. The fact that mold spores are dormant as long as certain conditions are met is the only thing that keeps them from taking over not only your archives, but also the entire world. They are tough and small: five million spores will fit on the head of a pin. And they cannot be killed, only controlled. Chemicals don't help much; they won't do in the spores, and you'll have chemical problems to worry about in addition to the mold. Freezing will halt growth and may kill the fungus growth—but not the spores. Not even a Federal agency has produced any realistic “standards” for acceptable levels of mold spores. They are just too complex and ubiquitous for anyone to date to have come up with meaningful standards.

Effectively preventing a mold outbreak is a lot better than having to contend with active growth. The spores that are always present in your stack area remain dependably dormant while the relative humidity (RH) remains below 50%. Temperatures below 40° F and above 120° F will also stop growth. Mold can continue to grow as long as the temperature remains within that range and the RH is above 50%, though the lower the temperature the slower the growth. To complicate the matter, there are many varieties of mold. Many will cease growing when the temperature drops to 55°, but some soldier on until the temperature drops to 40°. So keep your eye on the temperature and RH. Invest in monitoring devices, such as a sling or power psychrometer, a hygrothermograph, or the newer, jazzier (and pricier) dataloggers. Ideally, someone should check your HVAC system monthly, especially the condensate drain pan, and the heating coils. Filters should be changed or cleaned monthly as well. Periodically check HVAC diffuser outlets for signs of dirt or mold problems originating with the system.

Don't put carpets in a stack or processing area. They soak up water and dirt and are murder to remove after they get wet, even if they have been vacuumed to remove water. This I know from painful personal experience.

The rule of thumb is that after records get wet you have 48 hours to dry them, freeze them, or otherwise keep dormant spores from springing to disgusting life; but an outbreak can become apparent in as little as a day and may take up to three days to appear.

If the roof leaks, a pipe breaks, or your HVAC system goes out of whack and uncontrolled moisture and/or temperature does strike, remember that moving air can be surprisingly effective in forestalling the growth of mold, a principle to which I can bear witness. Virgin Islands records soaked by Hurricane Hugo in 1989 never became moldy, despite the fact that the temperature remained in the 80s and power remained off for months, making the use of fans (let alone air conditioning) impossible. But the ever-constant trade winds wafted through the blown out windows of

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our building, and our fears of a mold infestation were mercifully not realized. You're unlikely to be caught without power as long as we were, so the lesson here is to get those fans going and keep that air moving!

Cleaning areas and records that have been afflicted with mold requires specialized equipment, specifically, a high efficiency particulate absolute (HEPA) vacuum cleaner—but only once the situation has been stabilized. Stabilizing the environment or moving the affected records from the area *must* always precede cleanup. HEPA vacuum cleaners will remove 99.97% of particles of 0.3 micron and larger that pass through them. Nothing less will do when dealing with mould. The “nothing less” warning applies to the Rainbow water canister vacuum cleaners some institutions have been using for mold and other cleanup duties; they don't meet that standard. A conventional vacuum cleaner will collect and retain less than 20% of the mold spores it encounters.

The good news (yes, there is some) is that there are cheap and just as effective alternatives to the pricey Nilfisk models that many of us thought were *the* only HEPA cleaners. *Consumer Reports* reported on HEPA vacuums within the last few years, and perfectly acceptable models can be found at big box discount stores in the \$120 price range.

No staff member who believes he or she is allergic to mold should be made to work around active mold. Anyone undergoing chemotherapy should also be excused. Gloves, respirators, and goggles help protect staff working with moldy records. Nitrile gloves work well (some people are allergic to the latex sort), and should be discarded after each use. Goggles are important, as much as anything to keep people from absentmindedly wiping their eyes. Eyes are an easy port of entry for dangerous mold infections. Lab coats are useful, and should be laundered, or at least HEPA vacuumed, after each use. As for respirators, only HEPA (yeah, that again) levels of efficiency will do. OSHA has a respirator site (www.osha-scl.gov/osh.std_data/1910_0134.html). Many people, however, have found that the training (and lots else) OSHA requires for approved respirator use is so complex as to actually discourage people from using them! OSHA bureaucracy notwithstanding, only respirators meeting HEPA standards of particulate filtration are acceptable.

Working outdoors can be an alternative to the use of respirators, depending of course on variables like weather and season!

The only chemical that you might consider for cleaning (and generally only volume bindings) is a solution of fresh chlorine bleach, 15 ounces to 10 gallons of water. Distilled water is best, but tap water will do. Other “fungicidal” chemicals used in the past to kill mold growth include ethylene oxide and thymol. Today, for all practical purposes, both are out of bounds because of their toxicity and (in the case of thymol) dubious effectiveness.

Brushing with a cheap 99¢ brush into a HEPA vacuum cleaner can clean loose documents with dormant mold. Vacuuming through plastic screening to protect the document from the vacuum suction is acceptable. Because ultraviolet light may kill mold growth, half an hour of exposure to sunlight (*only* if the RH is below 65%) can be effective in combating mold growth on exposed sheets.

And, your emergency plan should include procedures for maintaining your storage environment to ensure, as far as possible, that you will not have to contend with a mold outbreak. It should also include an action plan laying out what to do if, despite your best maintenance practices, you find yourself up against a mold attack.

Where to go for further information? The websites of the New York City Department of Health (<http://www.ci.nyc.ny.us/html/doh/html/epi/epimold.html>), and the Chicora Foundation (<http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/bytopic/mold/>) are useful. SOLINET publishes a dandy little leaflet, *Invasion of the Giant Spore*. You can reach them at www.solinet.net.

Ah, and where did I get the “this sounds like a science fiction movie” subtitle for this piece? Sherry Williams of the Kansas Collection at KU, who also attended the Chicora Foundation workshop, muttered it, as the workshop presenter was at her most graphic in describing the near immortality of mold spores. A fitting epigram for the subject, I think.

MidAmerican Archives: News of KCAA People & Repositories

National Archives-Central Plains Region

Long-time staff member Alan Perry retired in August to pursue other career avenues. Strangely, we haven't been able to persuade him to return as a preservation volunteer! Karen Thomas and Kimberlee Ried have joined the staff as contract employees. Karen works at Bannister, while Kimberlee is based at our preservation work area in the Lee's Summit facility.

Membership Committee Report by Marilyn Burlingame

Presently, KCAA has 141 members. With 24 exchanges the newsletter mailing is 165. For your information, the newsletter costs 60 cents each to mail, the directories also 60 cents each, and meeting notices 23 cents each.

Regarding the membership renewal and solicitation process, solicitations for new membership were sent to 77 historical agencies: 6 responded. Only 5 solicitations were returned because of change of address. Over all this was a good mailing. Solicitations were sent to 32 former members: 6 responded. There are 6 new members at current member institutions. Three people joined on their own accord. As I have said before, and have not accomplished in the past, I will make a concentrated effort the next solicitation drive to begin earlier. I believe we will reach more small institutions before summer inactivity begins.

A total of seven members contributed \$185.00 to the Scholarship Fund. Seven members also contributed a total of \$100.00 to the Minority Scholarship Fund, and one member generously contributed \$100.00 to the general fund. Please welcome: Meri Jansen, Nazarene Archives; Mary Vogt McIntosh, Missouri State Archives; Maggi Mueller, St. Paul School of Theology; Kathy Baker, US Combined Arms Research Library; Kathryn Bloomer, All Soul's Unitarian Church; Penelope Lonergan, University of St. Mary; Gloria Creed-Dikeogu, Ottawa University; Monica Duffield, Johnson County Library; Laurel Rogovein, Jewish Community Archives; Audrey McKanna, University of Kansas; Karen Thomas; Christine Barrett; Carlotta Munson, Sedan, KS; and Whitney Baker, University of Kansas. Welcome back to Judy Sweets.

The directory was mailed November 11th. If you find any errors in your entry, please report them to me. If necessary, I will prepare an addendum. Let me know if yours was lost or mislaid or if you need any extras.

Letter from Sedan

Early in July I received a membership from a lady in Sedan, KS that did not notate an institutional association. She wondered how this person had obtained a membership application. The *Kansas City Star*, as part of their "One-Tank Trips" series in the travel section, ran an interesting article on Sedan.

In 1998, Bill Curtis, TV producer of A & E fame, native of nearby Independence, KS, visited relatives in Sedan. After thinking about the area he bought a downtown building and renovated it into a business. Soon he was buying more, 16 in total, renovating them, getting new businesses into them, and in the process re-energized the community.

New businesses include gift shops, a quilt shop, antique shops, art gallery, a sporting goods store and a bed and breakfast. These are all along Main Street which is lined with the world's longest Yellow Brick Road of 11,000 bricks built into the sidewalk. Other attractions include the Emmett Kelly Museum, devoted to the sad Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey clown and Sedan native, the Hollow Park, and the Sugar Mining Co, a candy store (100 varieties) and animated character tour.

Curtis owns the nearby Red Buffalo Ranch (9,000 acres), with cattle and buffalo, a waterfall, four miles of hiking trails and a new visitors' center and gift shop. He has plans for the ranch to be an interacting experience for visitors with various activities. Annual events include The Yellow Brick Road Festival and a Fall Festival. New events include an annual quilt show, chuck wagon races at the Red Buffalo Ranch and a clown festival. Kansas artists Stan Herd and Judith Mackey have been artists-in-resident at the Art of the Prairie Gallery.

After reading the article, I thought of Mrs. Carlotta Munson of Sedan, copied the article and sent it to her along with a short note asking if she was involved with the revitalization of Sedan or a historical group.

The following is part of her reply.

We started a historical and genealogical society in Chautauqua County in 1999. Three years ago we opened a small library in a rented building. We are bulging at the seams and will be moving into a larger building this month. The society doesn't have very much money, so that is why I joined personally. I am the secretary-treasurer and a charter member.

We have published a number of books listing marriages, cemetery records, school census and alumni, indices to ownership atlases, funerals. The local newspaper gave us the microfilm of all the old newspapers. The courthouse gave us the original marriage books after they microfilmed them.

You asked if I am involved with revitalization of Sedan. I really am. My daughter and I opened a dress shop on the yellow brick road two years ago. We are not in a Bill Curtis building. We are ½ block off Main Street. My daughter and son-in-law are the ones remodeling the hotel for the Sedan Area Foundation. They wrote the grants and raised money and are working with the contactors. The roof is done, new windows in, and now they are working on restrooms which will be open for the public. My son-in-law says they are succeeding when other hotel project fail, because they don't care who gets the credit for it. We are California transplants.

It is fun to be in the middle of something good happening in the town where my grandparents moved 50 years ago.

Sedan sounds like a good place to visit only 200 miles from Kansas City. If you cannot access the article, *KC Star*, August 31, 2002, G1, I will send anyone who asks a photocopy. It also sounds like they are off to a good start in documenting their history. — Marilyn Burlingame

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

Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics

On July 1, 2003, the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics, which holds former Senator Robert J. Dole's papers, began its move from temporary quarters in Spencer Research Library on the University of Kansas main campus to a newly completed building on the University's west campus. In addition to a state of the art archives facility, the new 28,000 square foot building includes a 3,300-square-foot public forum, a 120-seat seminar room/media center, and KU's first satellite uplink. The building features extensive permanent exhibits, including Dole's World War II uniform, two 10-foot columns from the World Trade Center, 2 stained glass windows, and a Memory Wall of photographs of 950 Kansas World War II veterans.

Dedication ceremonies for the building, beginning on July 19 and concluding on July 22 (Dole's 80th birthday) were billed as the "Greatest Generation's Greatest Celebration." In keeping with the Institute's mission to encourage public service and civilized debate, programming honored the men and women of the "Greatest Generation" who served alongside Dole in World War II. Events kicked off Saturday, July 19, in the Memory Tent, where local heroes of Lawrence, Kansas were honored. On Sunday, TV broadcaster Bill Kurtis moderated "KU Goes to War," a public program celebrating University of Kansas faculty and staff who served in the military during World War II. Other scheduled events included an interfaith worship service, in which the last surviving military chaplain of the D-Day invasion spoke, a military vehicle display and air show; a World War II military encampment, a 1940s fashion show, a re-created USO-style performance, an evening of dancing to the Glenn Miller Orchestra, and an outdoor concert by the 312th Army Band.

In addition to former Senator Bob Dole and Senator Elizabeth Dole, dignitaries attending the events included former Presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter; former Senator George McGovern; former Representative Jack Kemp; former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani; and NBC News anchor Tom Brokaw, author of "The Greatest Generation." Sixteen Congressional Medal of Honor recipients and scores of World War II veterans, including Doolittle Raiders, Tuskegee Airmen, Comanche/Navajo Code Talkers, former prisoners of war, Holocaust and Pearl Harbor survivors, and members of the Women Army Corps and the Women Air Force Service Pilots, were present.

The Archive of the Dole Institute will house, preserve, and make available Senator Dole's House and Senate papers and the related papers of Dole staffers (over 900 individuals between 1961 and 1996) and other close associates who played an important part in Senator Dole's career and campaigns. The collections will be a unique tool with which researchers and future generations of students may study the workings of American politics in the latter half of the twentieth century. The collection reflects Senator Dole's 36 years, spanning 1961-1996, on Capitol Hill. It consists of 4,000 boxes of papers and close to 1000 square feet of artifacts. Because of Senator Dole's extensive legislative career and his majority leadership position, it is the largest collection of one politician's papers outside of presidential collections--60% larger than the Hubert Humphrey Papers at the Minnesota Historical Society and six times the size of the Tip O'Neill Collection at Boston College.

The humanitarian facets of the Dole career and character are not as well known as his "dealmaker" skills. Much of the collection that will interest future researchers and scholars concerns the relentless bipartisan vote-gathering with which Bob Dole attacked the difficulties facing the disabled and people in the midst of dire circumstances--the hungry in the United States and abroad, displaced persons, POWs and victims of natural disaster. The Archive also includes a rich cache of documentation relating to the dissemination of U.S. agricultural know-how to underdeveloped countries as a result of Dole's interest and legislative persistence.

The terms under which KU acquired the Dole gift will determine when each grouping of materials becomes open and available to researchers. Some of Senator Dole's material--press releases, speeches, broadcasts and photographs, for example, will be available as soon as they are processed. Other materials will become available in 2006, 2011, or 2016. The exception to this is post-Senate material, family papers, and correspondence and casework relating to specific individuals, which will be closed to researchers for a longer period.

State of the art environmental controls, designed to meet NARA guidelines for Presidential libraries, were incorporated into the building's mechanical systems to guarantee the continued safekeeping and availability of the collections. Security systems for intrusion detection and water, smoke, and fire protection systems were chosen and installed to meet NARA standards. The entire lower level of the Dole building houses the archival stacks and work

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areas, approximately 18,000 square feet. A walk-in refrigerated vault and a secure vault adjoin the stack area. A digital lab, a supply storage area for acid-free materials, and a holding area with separate air circulation for newly acquired material are located across a hallway from the archival workroom. Researchers will work in a public room, located on the upper level of the building.

The Institute is located at 2350 Petefish Drive in Lawrence. The public areas of the building are open every day between 9:00 and 4:30 except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Information concerning special events can be obtained at 785-864-1415. Archivists Jean Bischoff and Glenda Stevens can be reached at 785-864-1405 and 785-864-1406. Please visit our website at <http://www.ku.edu/~dole/>.

“History Detectives” Needs Stories

The PBS series, “History Detectives,” is looking for story ideas from archivists. According to a posting by Associate Producer Lucy Blackburn on the Archives & Archivists LISTSERV List, the series concentrates on the discovery, documentation, and preservation of historic American buildings and artifacts. Descriptions of stories produced last season can be found at <http://www.pbs.org/opb/historydetectives/archive/index.html>. Contact Lucy Blackburn, Associate Producer, Lion Television, at lucyb@liontv.org.

Archives Week in Missouri

Missouri Governor Bob Holden proclaimed the week of October 5-11, 2003 to be the first ever Archives Week in Missouri. Christopher Gordon of the Missouri State Archives spearheaded the effort to obtain the proclamation.

Missouri Historical Records Grant Program

The upcoming fiscal 2005 grant cycle will begin in May 2004, and end March 2005. Applications for the upcoming cycle must be received or postmarked no later than Monday, February 16, 2004. For more information, contact Dr. Shelly J. Croteau, Missouri's Assistant State Archivist, by phone at 573-751-4303, or via email: grantprogram@sosmail.state.mo.us, or by U.S. mail at: Missouri Historical Records Grant Program, Missouri State Archives, PO Box 1747, Jefferson City, MO 65102-1747.

Midwest Archives Conference

The Program Committee of the MAC is asking for session proposals for the October, 2004 meeting in Des Moines, Iowa. To submit, include the session title or topic, a brief paragraph description of the session, and the speaker or speakers presenting. Session proposals are welcome until Friday, January 23, and should be sent to co-chairs Amy Cooper (amy-l-cooper@uiowa.edu) and Kevin Proffitt (kproffitt@huc.edu). All session proposals will be considered by the full Program Committee, which will notify presenters of the status of sessions in the early spring. Have questions? Contact Amy Cooper (Co-Chair). Amy Cooper, Special Collections Librarian, University of Iowa Libraries Special Collections Department, 100 Main Library, Iowa City, IA 52242-1420. Phone: 319-335-6433 URL: <http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/spec-coll/>.

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Working on a temporary basis as a consultant provides many additional benefits not found with full time employment. You really do not need to concern yourself with the existing office politics since your continued employment is not dependent upon maintaining the status quo. There should be little hesitancy in disrupting long established office traditions because in most cases the organization is looking for change and will welcome suggestions that will break new ground. And last but not least, for some unknown reason upper management is usually much more receptive to ideas proposed by an outside consultant than those presented by its own staff. Each of these factors tends to make the job easier.

One final thought to those of you who might be contemplating this type of work; do not take your commitment too seriously. You are, after all, being well compensated for your labors so do not take offense if your meticulously prepared plan is placed on the shelf and never put into action. Frequently I wonder if my reports are even read as was evidenced by a recent work that I submitted. Much to my surprise approximately three months after completing the project I received a friendly call from the manager of the organization asking my advice on a particularly problem. What led me to believe that he had never read my report was the fact that on the very first page of the report I had recommended that this same manager be fired immediately.



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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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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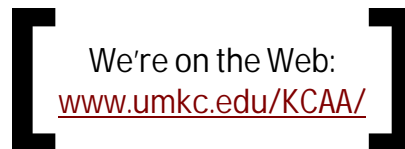
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Kansas City Area Archivists is a local non-profit organization serving archivists in Eastern Kansas and Western Missouri. Annual membership dues: \$15 individuals, \$30 institutions, \$10 students, \$50 sustaining institution, \$100 supporting institution.



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