



THE DUSTY SHELF



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

Eastern Kansas & Kansas City Area Archivists & Western Missouri

Midwest Archives Conference Looks to the Future

Submitted by Paul Eisloeffel, Nebraska State Historical Society (current MAC Vice President and former KCAA Co-Chair)

We all know how important our local and regional archival organizations are to us, both professionally and personally. While we toil in our respective stacks, saving history for another day, these organizations are out there offering support, encouragement and illumination. Groups like KCAA and the Midwest Archives Conference (MAC) are really bigger than the sum of us, and through the giving and taking of their individual members they help to make us stronger as professionals and as a profession. We have only to hook up with them to take advantage of the benefits.

At the very heart of these organizations are its meetings. Goodness knows we need them, especially in these times of diminishing resources. These gatherings blend archival continuing education with the camaraderie and accessibility we all crave. MAC has traditionally offered two meetings per year, based on the notion that the face-to-face experience with colleagues and mentors is important to our professional well-being.

Lately, MAC has realized that shrinking travel budgets and increased demands on our time have set its Spring and Fall meetings in competition with one another. While MAC wants to continue its commitment to offering educational and collegial opportunities to its members, it feels the need to better respond to the realities of its members' everyday professional lives.

With that in mind, MAC is gearing up for a change in 2006: What was formerly known as the Spring Meeting (currently slated for Bloomington-Normal, Illinois, April 27-29) will become MAC's Annual Meeting, with all the events, tours and broad-reaching content we've all come to expect from a MAC gathering. The Fall offering will be a slightly shorter, more content-focused symposium, feeding many of our members' needs for continuing education. For each of these Fall symposia, MAC will seek partnerships with local groups, like KCAA. And as always, MAC's offerings will be bargains!

So, keep watching for news of MAC's meetings. You can find this and other information (like how to join, if you are not already a member) on MAC's website, www.midwestarchives.org. And especially mark you calendars for MAC's 2005 meetings: Chicago, Illinois (April 28-30) and Bloomington, Indiana (October 13-15).

If you have any questions about MAC's meetings or would like to help in any way, feel free to contact Paul Eisloeffel at (402) 471-4750 or pje@nebraskahistory.org.

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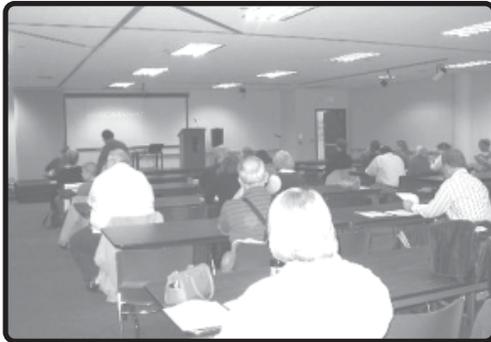
Corner Chair

Greetings, KCAA members! My name is Audrey McKanna Coleman, and it is an honor and a pleasure for me to address you as Senior Co-Chair in this, my first Corner Chair column. I am a recent graduate of the Museum Studies program at the University of Kansas, and am now beginning the initial weeks of my first professional archives position at the Spencer Research Library at KU. I have enjoyed getting to know so many of you during the past year and appreciate how welcoming you all as a community have been.



The introduction, I'm afraid, must stop there! There is so much going on in KCAA this season, and so many hard-working KCAA members to thank. Our membership year kicked off with a September meeting at American Micro Co., hosted by Karen and Mark Zecy, where almost 35 members enjoyed a facilities tour and an engaging presentation on some of the newest trends in digital records management. Thanks again to Karen and Mark!

Less than two weeks later, KCAA offered the return of the Fall Symposium tradition with "Make New Friends, But Keep the Old: Preservation Strategies for Electronic and Paper Records," served exceptionally by our host site institution, the Kansas State Historical Society. Thanks to the hard work of our Education and Publicity Committees, over 70 attendees from throughout the Midwest took advantage of the opportunity to hear keynote speaker, David Gracy, of UT-Austin, along with presentations by Brian Baird, of Heckman Bindery, and KCAA members Matt Veatch, Scott Leonard, and Whitney Baker. Other generous sponsors of the event included the NARA Central Plains Region, American Micro Co., Kansas Correctional Industries, and Computer Information Concepts, Inc. The event was a smash success and sets a great precedent for future Education Committee-sponsored events.



2004 KCAA Fall Symposium
"Make New Friends, But Keep the Old:
Preservation Strategies for Electronic and
Paper Records"

Our Steering Committee is now nearly at full capacity with enthusiastic Officers and Committee Chairs! Ann Schultis and Jean Bischoff continue in their posts as, respectively, Secretary and Treasurer. Newly-confirmed Junior Co-Chair Trish Schurkamp, of the Wyandotte County Historical Museum, as well as Membership Chair Marilyn Burlingame, Publicity Chair Judy Sweets, Education Chair Gloria Creed-Dikeogu, Newsletter Chair Kara Kelly, Awards and Nominations Chair Kim Glover, Minority Internship Chair Letha Johnson, and Scholarship Chair Mary

Hawkins all bring to us their creativity, talent, and personal commitment. Thanks go to them and the members of their dedicated committees for their work thus far.

The year continued with another successful quarterly meeting, attended by over 35 members, at Kansas City Public Library – Missouri Valley Special Collections in December. Special thanks to Mary Beveridge and the Special Collections staff for accommodating us with a beautiful meeting space, as well as building tours; it was an experience attendees are sure not to forget!

We look for your participation in manning a KCAA table at the 2005 History Expo, sponsored by the Kansas History Teachers Association Conference, April 21-23, at the Overland Park Doubletree Hotel. This is an excellent opportunity to get the word out about your institution, and requires little time investment. Watch the listserv for sign-up details. Send your institution's promotional material to Marilyn Finke at NARA Central Plains Region, 2312 E. Bannister Rd, Kansas City, MO 64131-3011.

If you would like to get involved in all of this KCAA action, consult your membership directory and contact the appropriate committee chair! We are always looking for more volunteers.

Newsletter Chair Kara Kelly has been hard at work compiling articles and revising the production procedures of our newsletter, *The Dusty Shelf*, with commitment to quality content and timely publication. Take advantage of the newsletter as our regional professional mouthpiece and send in your news!

Best Wishes to all, and see you in Manhattan in March!

Quarterly Meeting Minutes

KANSAS CITY AREA ARCHIVISTS

Winter Quarterly Meeting - Thursday, December 9, 2004, 2:00 pm

Kansas City Public Library, Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City, Missouri

1. Welcome (Audrey McKanna Coleman, Senior Co-Chair)
Audrey welcomed the members to the meeting and thanked the Kansas City Public Library's Missouri Valley Special Collections for hosting the meeting.

The first item of business was the reports of the officers.

2. Report of the Secretary (Ann Schultis)
2.1. Ann was unable to attend the meeting.
2.2. The unofficial minutes from the fall meeting will be posted to the listserv.

3. Report of the Treasurer (Jean Bischoff)
3.1. A report showing the quarterly activity was handed out, and Jean explained the quarterly activities of the KCAA accounts.
3.2. The symposium only cost KCAA \$92.

The next item of business was the reports of the committee chairs.

4. Reports of Committee Chairs

Awards and Nominations—Kim Glover
Kim introduced herself to the membership and asked for anyone interested in serving on the committee to contact her.

Membership—Marilyn Burlingame
Marilyn was unable to attend the meeting, but Audrey described the report that Marilyn produced for the meeting.

1. There are currently 152 members and 24 newsletter exchanges.
2. The exchanges are when we give a copy of our newsletter to an organization in return for a copy of their newsletters.

Publicity—Judy Sweets

1. Handled the mailing, nametags, and photographs for the symposium.
2. Working on posting the photos to the website looking at developing a new page just for event photographs.
3. Will be posting messages on the University of Missouri, KU, K-State, Emporia State, Kansas Museums Association (KMA), and Kansas Library Association (KLA) websites regarding the spring meeting in Manhattan.

Minority Internship—Letha Johnson

1. Letha announced that Kim Glover and Dan Coleman volunteered to serve on the committee with her.
2. The committee is planning to update the mailing lists, poster, and website.
3. The committee will be working with the Publicity chair to get the word out regarding the internship.

Education—Gloria Creed-Dikeogu

1. KCAA would have a table at the Kansas History Teachers Association Conference, which is being held in conjunction with the History Expo, for member institutions to leave promotional information.

A. A posting will be made to the sent to the listserv to recruit volunteers to staff the table.

2. The committee is planning to hold symposiums and history fairs on alternating years.
3. The next history fair will focus on History Day. The purpose will be to let teachers and students know what resources are available at member institutions. The Education Committee will try to meet with the state and district/regional coordinators in Kansas and Missouri.

Newsletter—Kara Kelly

1. The next issue of the newsletter will be completed by the first of the year.
2. The new deadlines for the newsletter will be the date of the quarterly meetings, with publication being two to three weeks later.
3. A copy and layout editor is going to be hired to streamline the process.
4. The question of whether or not to put unofficial versions of the quarterly meeting minutes in the newsletter was put before the membership. A motion was made and seconded to put the unofficial minutes in the newsletter. The motion was approved by the membership.
5. Kara asked the members to submit information for the newsletter: new accessions, current projects, etc. The newsletter should be a forum for the membership to share information and to learn new things.

Publications—vacant

Scholarship—Mary Hawkins

Mary was unable to attend the meeting, but Audrey gave the report in her absence.

1. One scholarship was approved during the previous quarter.
2. Audrey reminded the membership that the scholarship fund to help cover the costs of attending conferences and training that are not covered by their institution.

5. Other Business

Junior Co-Chair vacancy and nomination

1. The nomination of Trisha Schurkamp, the executive director of the Wyandotte County (Kansas) Museum, for Junior Co-chair was put before the membership.
2. A motion was made and seconded to vote on the nomination. The nomination was approved.

6. Upcoming Events:

Spring Quarterly Meeting: Thursday, March 3, 2005
Special Collections, Hale Library, Kansas State University, Manhattan

History EXPO 2005: Kansas History Teachers Association Conference
April 21-23, 2005 Doubletree Hotel in Overland Park, Kansas

Annual Dinner: June 2005 Details to be determined.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Letha E. Johnson
(For Ann Schultis)

Committee Chair Reports

Membership Report

Presently, KCAA has 152 members. Newsletter exchange remains the same at 24.

The membership drive and renewal began with the annual dinner June 12. Renewal forms and solicitation for new memberships were mailed in mid-May. 108 solicitations to various entities were sent (5 returned). The membership renewal forms were sent out at the end of May with notice there would be two reminders. A reminder was sent out the end of July. An email reminder went out to those who had not renewed in late August, with another email two weeks later. Membership at the time was 143.

We received 23 new memberships of which approximately one third were registrants for the fall symposium. Unfortunately, 14 KCAA members did not renew. 13 members donated a total of \$175.00 to the scholarship funds and one member donated \$100.00 to the general fund.

The membership directory was sent out the end of October. Please make the following corrections to your directory. The address for Carol Witthar should be 1013 SW 21st St., Blue Springs, MO., 64015-4723. The contact numbers for Rebecca Phipps, Watkins Community Museum are (785) 841-4109 and FAX (785) 841-9547. The contact numbers for Marilyn Finke is (816) 268-8014 and FAX (816) 268-8037. The telephone number for Kara Kelly is (816) 460-2054.

Scholarship Committee

On November 17, two new members were added to the Scholarship Committee: Marilyn Finke of the National Archives Central Plains Region and Shelly Croteau of the Missouri State Archives. Much thanks to Marilyn and Shelly for sharing in the work of this committee.

The committee received its first application of the year for scholarship funds on November 15, a KCAA member request for \$129.70 in partial reimbursement of expenses for attending the October meeting of the Midwest Archives Conference at Des Moines. The request was approved by the full committee on November 18.

KCAA members are encouraged to consult the "Scholarships" link at KCAA's web page www.umkc.edu/KCAA/Scholarships/SCHOLAR.HTM for information regarding eligibility and distribution criteria for monies from the scholarship fund. A link to the application form is included on the "Scholarships" page.

The Awards and Nominations Committee

Committee members are needed for the Awards and Nominations Committee. The Committee will consist of coordinating and reviewing nominations of chairs/officers for committees and recipients for KCAA awards. The majority of the work will be done by e-mail or phone. If you would be interested in serving on the Awards and Nominations Committee please contact Kim Glover at gloverki@emporia.edu or leave a message at (620) 343-9969. No experience needed:) The chair for publications is still vacant if anyone is interested in volunteering or nominating one of your fellow members.

KCAA Minority Internship

KCAA is pleased to announce that the Minority Internship Committee is now developing a list of institutions interested in hosting the 2005 minority intern this summer. The application announcement will be sent out in February and the intern will be selected in April or early May. The intern will then choose among the institutions that have expressed an interest in serving as host.

The minimum requirements for internship applicants are current enrollment in a two or four year college program and an interest in the field of history. The internship offers a stipend of \$2,000 for 10 weeks, 20 hours per week. The Procedural Guidelines outline the requirements for the host institution and for the intern.

If your institution is interested in serving as the host for the internship please contact Letha E. Johnson at the Kansas State Historical Society, (785) 272-8681 ext. 306 or Ljohnson@kshs.org, to receive a copy of the Procedural Guidelines outlines the requirements for the host institution and for the intern or in you have any questions regarding the internship.



2004 KCAA Fall Dinner in Topeka, Kansas

Calendar

Mark Your Calendars!

KCAA Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, March 3, 2005
Special Collections, Hale Library, Kansas State
University
Manhattan, Kansas
www.umkc.edu/KCAA

National Council on Public History Annual Conference

April 14-17, 2005
Muehlebach Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri
www.ncph.org

Kansas History Teachers Association Conference

April 21-23, 2005
Doubletree Hotel in Overland Park, Kansas

Midwest Archives Conference Spring Meeting

April 28-30, 2005
Chicago, Illinois
www.midwestarchives.org

American Association of Museums Annual Meeting and MuseumExpo

May 1-5, 2005
Indianapolis, Indiana
www.aam-us.org

KCAA Annual Dinner

June, 2005
More details to follow

Society of American Archivist Annual Meeting

August 15-21, 2005
New Orleans, Louisiana
www.archivist.org

Note From Newsletter Chair

Well I have to admit...my knees are knocking a little bit. This is the first issue of the Dusty Self I have served as Committee Chair for and I hope you find it engaging. You'll notice a change in the layout, which is thanks to our new editor, Jennifer Toelle who also edits the newsletter and website for the Kansas Museums Association. Jennifer has been a great help and I believe that with her continued involvement the newsletter can only get better. Thanks also go to our fearless leader, Audrey McKanna Coleman, who has provided advice and support, Trish Schurkamp who helped call members to gather information, Bob Knecht and Paul Eisloeffel for their wonderful articles and to the staff of Western Historical Manuscript Collection, who help print and mail the newsletter.

I believe this issue is a great start and also have high expectations for the next issues. I would like to include more institutional information. Of course we want to hear about your exhibits but this exchange is also a great opportunity to share struggles and triumphs by contributing information about current projects. The newsletter is also a forum for us to share information on new accessions, so everyone will gain a greater understanding of the collecting scope of fellow archives. So please send in any information you can for the next newsletter and a big thanks to those organizations that contributed to this issue. The deadline for each issue is the date of KCAA's quarterly meetings, with the next deadline being March 3, 2005 and remember, you don't have to be a member institution to submit information.

Materials for publication should be sent to:

Kara Kelly
Union Station Kansas City
30 W Pershing Rd
Kansas City, MO 64108-2422
(816) 460-2054, FAX: (816) 460-2260
or e-mail: KKelly@unionstation.org

Regional News

Share your information on accessions and current projects.
Contact Kara Kelly at 816-460-2054 or email kkelly@unionstation.org

Eastern Kansas
Kansan
Kansas City Area Archivists
Kansan
Western Missouri

Johnson County Museum

United States Senator Pat Roberts announced that the Johnson County Museum will receive a \$90,745 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, through a competitive federal grant program called *Museums for America*. Only 186 of the 829 museums that applied for funding received awards.

[this project] *“will bring out systematic, lasting change in the museum and in the cultural life of the community.”*

-peer reviewer noted

The grant will allow the museum to develop, in collaboration with the Johnson County Library, an interactive, fully-searchable database of the museum’s collection of 10,000 historic images of Johnson County. The grant will also allow for the creation of www.jocohistory.net, a comprehensive web site devoted to the history of Johnson County. Both the museum and library envision the web site to be a complete resource of information and resources of the county history’s from all the various county, city and community historical societies and agencies. As one peer reviewer noted, this project “will bring about systematic, lasting change in the museum and in the cultural life of the community.”

The grant will be matched by \$148,000 provided by both the museum and the library in the form of staff salaries and marketing expenses to promote the completed project. The matching funds are part of both institutions’ regular operating budgets. The project will take place over a two-year period and is expected to be unveiled at public events in October of 2006.

Jackson County (Mo.) Historical Society

Since 1940, the Jackson County Historical Society has been collecting primarily through donation, an infinite variety of historical materials relating Jackson County, Missouri history. Last week the blueprints for Blue Ridge Mall were donated, and we’re hopeful that photographs will follow to complement this collection. A couple of months ago, an 1849 Gold Rush letter from a Jackson County family was donated for proper preservation in our collections. New donations are posted annually on the Society’s website www.jchs.org under its Archives and Research Library division, which services nearly 4,500 reference and research contacts annually.

We are vigorously pursuing the acquisition and processing of collections that pertain to local women and women’s organizations, a record group that is also listed at www.jchs.org/archives.html. A grant from the Missouri Historical Records Grant Program is providing for the processing of several of these important collections. A grant from our friends group, Citizens for the Archives, is providing for expanded storage options and additional archival supplies. And, through collaboration with other organizations such as American’s Remembered, Inc., the Raytown Historical Society, the Raytown Shepherd’s Center, and several individuals, we have successfully collected over 600 interviews of local veterans and civilians for the Veterans History Project, an initiative of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

Currently, more than 20 volunteers donate their time and talents every week to the Society’s archival functions. Numerous educational programs, including a speaker’s bureau and the scholarly periodical: “The Jackson County Historical Society JOURNAL,” help to fulfill our mission dedicated to the preservation and understanding of our heritage and to promote the study, appreciation, and interpretation of local and regional history.

McPherson County Old Mill Museum

The McPherson County Old Mill Museum recently opened their new exhibit, *School Days! A Celebration of Our One-Room Schools*. This exhibit features photographs, facts, school work and souvenirs from the 123 one-room schools of McPherson County, Kansas.

The project was a large one, taking about one year to complete. "We had some things in our collection," said Lorna Nelson, Director, "but the heart of this exhibit comes from the many, many individuals who have shared their photos and memories with us over the past year."

Museum staff put out the word that they were looking for photos of the schools and help came pouring in. The one-room school house collection is quite extensive; in addition to the museum's existing collection, nearly 1,000 photographs have been copied for the exhibit and there is an individual panel up in the gallery on each of the 123 schools. More photos are housed in notebooks for visitors to enjoy, along with lists of teachers and written histories of many of the schools. Cases in the gallery have photos organized by topics such as recess, music, sports, transportation and last day of school activities.

Former teachers and students alike opened their scrapbooks and albums to contribute to the exhibit. Archivist Lenora Lynam reproduced and created copies of the photographs, school work and souvenirs on display. Sometimes people brought photographs to the museum and other times Lynam took her camera to community museums or peoples homes. "Everyone has been so generous," she said. "I have so enjoyed visiting with people and listening to the stories about their school days."



Photo Courtesy of McPherson County Old Mill Museum
Alpha One Room School District No. 39
First Grade Student holding McGuffey Readers

"...the heart of this exhibit comes from the many, many individuals who have shared their photos and memories with us over the past year."

-Lorna Nelson, Director



Photo Courtesy of McPherson County Old Mill Museum
Wolf Creek One Room School District No. 26, 1902-1903

Included in the exhibit are portions of interviews given by former teachers. Many point to the important role one room schools played in their communities. "I still have a little nostalgia, and once in a while I drive by the country school," states Dorothy (Henkle) Pounds. "I wouldn't want to go back to building fires and carrying water, but there was a lot of enjoyment. There was something there that you don't get anymore."

This exhibit will be on display through 2005.

Missouri State Archives

In 1909, Missouri's General Assembly provided for immediate and prompt registration of vital records statewide. Pursuant to this law, all Missouri births and deaths are reported to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. In the interest of further openness, House Bill 1634, which became effective in August 2004, made some changes to the vital records law. The legal

and physical custody of death records created according to Missouri law and over fifty years old were transferred to the Missouri State Archives. Archives staff immediately began work on making these records more readily available to the public. Currently there are over two million individual certificates of death in this collection, but more will be added each year. Copies of the records may be requested according to the Archives research guidelines. A scanning project has begun, which will begin with the 1910 death records and proceed chronologically. Beginning in Spring 2005, these scanned records will be available online as each year is completed, joining the pre-1910 birth and death records already available at www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/birthdeath/.

www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/birthdeath

Beginning in Spring 2005, these scanned records will be available online as each year is completed, joining the pre-1910 birth and death records already available at www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/birthdeath/.

The conservators at the Missouri State Archives recently completed a five-year long treatment of the 200-year old *Registre d' Arpentage*, one of the most important items in the Archives' collection. The *Registre* is a collection of more than 800 beautifully detailed maps that Antoine Soulard and his assistants drew between 1796 and 1804. The term *arpent* refers to a French unit of measure that is slightly smaller than one acre. These maps document surveys of individual land grants given to citizens living in Upper Louisiana by French and Spanish governments.

The Missouri State Archives has more certified archivists on staff than any single repository in the country except the National Archives. (The National Archives has seventeen and the Missouri State Archives has sixteen.) Those Missouri archivists are: Rebekah Bowen, Becky Carlson, Jelain Chubb, Mary Kay Coker, Carolyn Collings, Shelly J. Croteau, Christyn Edwards, Michael Everman, Joan Feezor, Sandra File, Sandy Hempe, Gerald Hirsch, Laura Jolley, Patsy Luebbert, Linda Myers, and Mary Vogt McIntosh.

Truman Presidential Museum & Library

For years now, the Truman Presidential Museum & Library has had a very successful college internship program. Earlier this year, the college program was modified and a new summer high school internship program was created. Students were given a choice of working in the archives and/or serving as interpreters in the Museum's new permanent exhibit, Harry S. Truman: His Life and Times. The program was overwhelmingly successful, drawing four students, two of which drove, round trip, 1 1/2 hours to the Library. These students committed to providing a minimum of 50 hours each and at the end of the summer, the students combined to provide a total of 357 hours! Their comments about the program at the end of their stay will serve to enhance the program even more as it continues to grow year after year." For more information please call Donna Denslow at (816)268-8239.

Currently open is the exhibit "Every Four Years: Electing a President" which examines Presidential elections, with a particular emphasis on elections in the last 80 years when radio and television brought these campaigns into the living rooms of homes across America. Text, photographs, graphic images, original artifacts and campaign memorabilia, as well as audio and video stations are featured in the exhibition. In addition, a series of activity areas invite visitors to participate in election activities such as mock voting and campaigning. The exhibition opened Sunday, September 26, 2004 and runs through February 21, 2005. This exhibition is made possible by the generous support of AFL-CIO.

Nazarene Archives

In September, the Nazarene Archives received the William J. Prince Collection (11 c.f.), consisting of his correspondence during his tenure as a general superintendent (or bishop) of the Church of the Nazarene (1989-2001). It has also received a portion of the John Allan Knight Collection (2 c.f.), with the promise that the rest will follow. Knight was a general superintendent from 1985-2001. These collections help document the general and international administration of the denomination at the end of the 20th century and include correspondence from district superintendents, presidents of universities and theological seminaries, and other key church leaders around the world.

Other interesting accessions include the photograph albums and diaries of Leon and Emma Osborn, missionaries to China in the early and mid-20th century; minutes from the 1920s and '30s of the Woman's Missionary Society of the William Howard Hoople Church of the Nazarene in Brooklyn, N.Y.; and letters of theologian and philosopher Delbert Gish. Significant accessions from other departments of the Nazarene Headquarters include an accretion of over 20 c.f. of documents from the church's International Board of Education, and the inactive files of the Child Sponsorship office of Nazarene Compassionate Ministries International.

The archives current exhibit is titled "A Hymnal of Faith," consisting of photographic panels organized around eight themes, including "Remember Your Baptism," "Sisters of Spirit," and "Founders." The exhibit was prepared originally for the church's quadrennial General Assembly in 2001 and was on exhibit for eight days. This autumn it was unpacked and hung in the Archives' main exhibit area.

The Liberty Memorial Museum of World War I

Two and a half years after reopening in May, 2002, The Liberty Memorial Museum of World War I is currently in the planning stages of constructing a researcher use and collections storage space. The Research Center, scheduled to open within two years, will be located on the ground level of the Liberty Memorial complex, below the new lobby facilities and future museum space. The Center will include curatorial staff offices, workspace for volunteers and docents, workspace for exhibit technicians, two dimensional and three dimensional collections storage space and as the centerpiece, a researcher/reading room.

Over the last half year, the educational and meeting facilities have been completed below the Memorial Courtyard deck and museum buildings of the complex, that include a 230 seat auditorium, auditorium lobby and an education/conference center that are constantly used for all kinds of events. A museum store and museum café are also planned and will open in conjunction with the new museum space.

Even though the Research Center will be physically separated from the new museum, both spaces will work symbiotically with each other to provide a first class resource for information and learning about World War I.

Besides being brand new, several thousand square feet will be devoted to research and collections storage areas. The new space will have plenty of elbow room. Researchers will be able to browse most of the museum library's holdings in the reading room, or research using the museum archives' map and poster collection which is stored just off the reading room. The curatorial staff and interns will have dedicated workspaces within the collections storage area.

Anyone with suggestions in regard to furniture and equipment or researcher use policies for the new public space is encouraged to contact Jonathan Casey at jcasey@lmakc.org. It will be appreciated.

National Archives and Records

Administration - Central Plains Region

NARA announces the following staff changes:

Steve Spence, formerly an intern, was hired as an Archives Technician in May.

Emily Dominick has joined us as a preservation contractor, hired in July.

Kimberlee Ried, formerly with the Kansas City Kansas Public Library, was hired as an Archives Specialist in May.

Lori Cox-Paul, formerly with the Wornall House Museum, was hired as an Archives Specialist in June.

The Community of Christ Archives

The Community of Christ Archives and headquarters staff is saddened to note the resignation of **W. Grant McMurray** as president of the Community of Christ, effective 29 November 2004. Grant has been a long-time friend of the Archives.

Grant graduated from Graceland College, obtained a Master of Divinity degree from the Methodist-sponsored Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, Missouri, and served in a variety of church administrative positions throughout his career. He is no stranger to the Church Archives. During the 1970s, he served in the Church's History Commission filling the function of Church Archivist. He helped institute modern archival and record keeping practices for this institution

Jackson County (Mo.) Historical Society

The Society recently welcomed two new staff members: **Mr. Steve Noll**, Executive Director, and **Mr. Lindsey Gaston**, Development Director

Combined Arms Research Library at Ft. Leavenworth

Christine Barrett has been hired as a Digital Information Specialist contractor for the Combined Arms Research Library at Ft. Leavenworth. Christine received her MLS with a specialization in Information Management from Emporia State University in August, 2004. Her new work number is (913)758-3025; e-mail is christine.barrett3@us.army.mil.

Chautauqua County Historical and Genealogical Society

A drawing was held December 15, 2004 to give away a set of Chautauqua County History books as a fund-raiser. Tickets were \$2 or \$3 for \$5, raising approximately \$600, which will be used toward the purchase price of the building at 115 W. Main St., in Sedan, Kansas that is currently being used for a museum and library for the Society. The winner of the drawing was Barbara Sullivan, a five year member of the Chautauqua County Historical and Genealogical Society. Thanks to everyone who contributed.

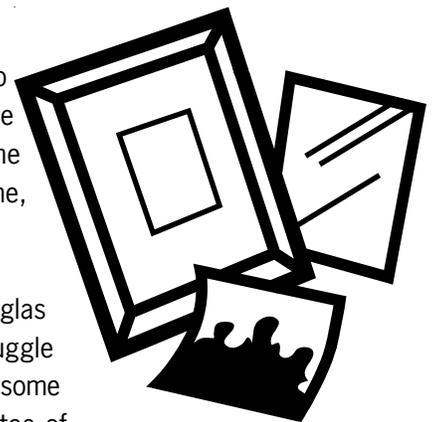
Watkins Community Museum of History

The Watkins Community Museum of History archives in Lawrence, Kansas, has received numerous new documents that will benefit researchers now and in the future. In February 2004, the museum received a collection from the Scottish Rite of Free Masonry after the doors closed at the Masonic Temple located at 1000 Massachusetts Street in downtown Lawrence. The collection includes membership ledgers, bank statements, music books—even a letter written and signed by F.W. Woolworth.

Another great collection came from Mr. Jim Arnold, Jr. of Austin, Texas. Arnold donated his Grandmother, Maud (Maude) Cies Jackson's body of literary works. Maude was a graduate of University of Kansas and lived in Lawrence. Some of the documents are published pieces, while others in the collection are unpublished works. The museum is extremely grateful that Mr. Arnold thought of them when looking for a home for this noteworthy collection.

The museum staff is also in the process of digitizing the photo collection and entering them onto the new database system. There are well over 7,000 photos in the collection, so as you might imagine, this is a long-term project.

The new early settlement of Douglas County exhibit, *Prairie Gold: Struggle and 1820-1861*, has incorporated some of the early documents and photos of the period. Early land grant documents and a tourist guide, including a map of steamboat routes are on exhibit along with many 3-D artifacts from the period.



Humor Column

Submitted by Bob Knecht, Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, Kansas

Outsourcing

Like it or not, outsourcing is now "in." Whether you call it *outsourcing*, *privatization*, *contracting out*, or any of a number of other names, this practice of hiring an outside firm to do work that used to be done by you or your employees is now standard practice in both government as well as private industry. In archival work, this means that private firms may be able to do work for less than staff archivists are paid (despite the fact you thought *nobody* could make less than what staff archivists are paid).

To assist you in choosing outside contractors wisely, we present informational materials by the businesses below specializing in archival work. The firms on this list are provided for informational purposes only; no endorsement of their work or services is intended or implied.

SMILEY SNAILS PERSONA SERVICE:

Not a personnel service, but a *persona* service. Smiley Snails will place *our* employees out front in your office to cheerfully meet and greet the public. This allows *your* employees to stay in the back room to nurse a hangover, get over that messy divorce, discover their Inner Curmudgeon, or actually get work done. Our Snails don't profess to actually know anything about the workings of your business, but we provide perky people to placate your patrons. Our cheerful, unknowing employees successfully staff customer service phone banks the world over. Just think what a good an impression our happy, smiling Snails will make with your researchers, potential donors, executives from the Home Office, lost "street people," or whomever. Remember our motto: "Let us pop out of our shells when you want to crawl back into yours." Call (800) BE-HAPPY for a free consultation!

FRED'S NOTES:

Named for famed descriptive archivist C. Frederick W. Coker, Fred's Notes will be delighted to write your archival finding aids for you. At the present time, 2 versions are available: personal papers and business records. (Additional versions for governmental records and non-profits coming soon.) At Fred's Notes, we've boiled down archival description to its bare essence, and along the way we've developed finding aids that are so generic, they'll work for *any* record group or collection. With Fred's Notes, you can make copies to your heart's content, changing only the collection or corporate name at the top. Who would ever realize that the descriptions of Wilma Wombat's diaries and Norman Nobody's laundry receipts are actually identical? (Be honest now: Have you ever seen anyone in your research room actually *reading* these things?) For a modest additional charge, Fred's Notes will **customize** your finding aids and insert the *actual name* of the collection at strategic points in the finding aid. Or you can select our **premium** service where we will add *real*

dates and *places* relevant to the records! Price quotes freely given. MARC and EAD records coming soon! Just E-mail us at www.writeitup.com.

MOVEZILLA GORILLAS:

Are your muscles aching from shelving the thousands of boxes of Congressman Grump's papers? Do you feel you're about to have a heart attack every time you have to pull and refile all those records of your CEO or staff attorneys for "60 Minutes" or federal investigators? Got archival aches and pains that even Extra Strength Aleve won't relieve? Then Movezilla Gorillas are just the thing for you! Movezilla Gorillas are actual apes especially trained to lift, load, unload, and shelve boxes of records weighing up to 500 pounds. These gorillas have been "office trained" for maximum cleanliness. Best of all, they don't take breaks, ask for wage increases (they really *do* work for bananas!), or eat the fruit danishes in your break room like human employees do. Let Movezilla Gorillas do those awful physical jobs that have left you too tired to go dancing after work. Just call 1-888-GET-STRONG and you, too, can get back that youthful energy you've been missing without harmful drugs or stimulants!

REPORTS 'R' US:

Faced with personnel, operations, financial, weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annual reports and impossible deadlines that you can't even *begin* to meet? Well, Reports 'R' Us is just what you need to stay on top of the situation and look good to your CEO, CFO, CIO, or other C-something-O of your choosing. Reports 'R' Us is a subscription service that will take whatever gibberish you fax to them and fax back to you a lively, interesting report that your superiors will be *clamoring* to get their hands on and read again and again. No quantity of facts, figures, guesses, or outright lies too large or too small! Prices vary with frequency, immediacy, size, and amount of creative writing required. Write for additional details: Reports 'R' Us, 1657 Enron Blvd., Houston, TX 77002.



KANSAS CITY AREA ARCHIVISTS

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

Materials for publication should be sent to:
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Membership & address changes should be sent to:
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(816) 235-1539, FAX: (816) 235-5500
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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 a quarterly publication by the 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, \$30 institutions, \$10 students, \$50 sustaining institutions, \$100 supporting institutions.

We're on the Web
www.umkc.edu/KCAA

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