

Fall 2012

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KCAA Fall 2012 Symposium

Taming the Object Nightmare: Introduction to Object Care

Kansas City Toy & Miniature Museum, October 11, 2012, 12-4 pm

KCAA's Education Committee is excited to announce the annual fall symposium will be October 11th from 1 pm to 4 pm at the Kansas City Toy & Miniature Museum with a free behind the scenes tour starting at 12:00 pm. The Toy and Miniature Museum is located at 5235 Oak Street Kansas City, MO, and boasts the largest collection of nostalgic toys, miniatures, and marbles in the Midwest. KCAA is grateful to the museum for hosting this annual event.

This year's symposium topic is "Taming the Object Nightmare: Introduction to Object Care." Whether we like it or not, we all have objects in our collections. The question is, "what do we do with them?" This year's symposium is intended to help you care for these objects to museum standards in the most efficient ways possible.

The Education Committee is excited to announce that the speakers will be Paul Goudy, discussing textiles; Whitney Baker, speaking about the best way to care for plastic objects; and Patricia Van Witt, who will focus on framed objects. A panel Q & A session will follow the individual presentations. During the Q & A attendees are encouraged to ask questions about specific objects in their collections.

RSVPs should be sent to Alexis Fekete at

a897f743@ku.edu by October 8th. If you have any specific types of textiles, plastics, or framed objects in your collection, please make sure to mention them in your RSVP.

We look forward to seeing you October 11th!

More on the Symposium Speakers

Paul Goudy, speaking on textiles, is currently the Records Manager/Archivist for the Unified Government of Wyandotte County. He has 28 years of experience as a director, curator and archivist at small and medium sized museums. Goudy's training includes an internship at the Smithsonian, adjunct employment at the British Museum, and two seminars with the National Trust.

Whitney Baker, discussing plastics, is the Head of Conservation Services for KU Libraries. She previously worked in conservation at the Library of Congress and the University of Kentucky. Baker teaches MUSE 706, Conservation Principles and Practices, for the KU Museum Studies program. On sabbatical in 2011, she conducted extensive research into the history and development of bumper stickers.

Peggy Van Witt, talking about framed objects, is a third generation paintings conservator and works in

KCAA Fall Symposium

When: Thursday, October 11th, 2012

Time: Free behind-the-scenes tour at 12:00 PM. Symposium is from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Where: Kansas City Toy & Miniature Museum (5235 Oak Street Kansas City, MO 64112)

Cost: Free for members; \$15 for non-members and \$10 for students

Archival Recertification Credits: Counts for 2 Archival Recertification Credits under section B.3.d of the Academy of Certified Archivists' petition for recertification

RSVP: to Alexis Fekete at a897f743@ku.edu

private practice in Kansas City. Through the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC), of which she is Professional Associate, she has deepened her expertise through intensive workshops like Mastering in Painting, Adhesives for Conservation, Modular Cleaning workshops and Early European Paintings at Yale University.

Event Postcards Reminder!

In order to save paper and cut costs, KCAA will no longer be sending postcards out for events. Events will be announced through the list-serv, website, and Facebook page. If you want a postcard for the upcoming Fall Symposium, please contact Kristine Schenk at kschenk@ku.edu.

Janice Lee: Scholarship Report on MAC

I was fortunate enough to be awarded a KCAA scholarship to attend the MAC spring conference in Grand Rapids, MI, in April. As the lone archivist for a multi-campus community college, I hoped to learn more about managing electronic records in an academic archives (unlike some college archives, ours contains no special collections, only institutional records). The days of accessioning paper records are vanishing, as the campuses are producing records and publications almost solely in electronic form.

The pre-conference SAA workshop I attended was “Basic Electronic Records: Introduction to Records and Information Management.” It listed the following guidelines on how to create an electronic records program:

- Determine what technical improvements you need (computing upgrades, storage expansions, media upgrades).
- Look at your staffing needs (archives staff, IT staff, management support).
- Seek out advocates to cultivate (upper management, IT professionals, legal staff, records officers).
- Make presentations and sales pitches to stakeholders about issues of interest to them (risk management, public accountability, efficiency of management).
- Develop a prioritized three-year plan, beginning with simple steps, including expected support and possible roadblocks.
- Borrow guidelines and methods from others.

- Set measurable objectives and specific timeframes.
- Involve multiple players with different viewpoints, common goals and shared commitment.

- Remember the ideal but pursue the feasible.

More gleanings from the workshop:

Appraisal:

- Be even more ruthless than when appraising paper records – electronic records cost five times more to maintain than paper records and the cost will only increase.
- Consider the format: how difficult will it be to keep the record readable long-term?

Accessioning:

- When accessioning electronic records, check for viruses, technical errors and operability, and make sure you have adequate metadata.

Arrangement:

- The electronic records version of *respect des fonds* is to not rename or otherwise alter the electronic documents.

Description:

- PREMIS, the Library of Congress preservation metadata standard, was recommended: (<http://www.loc.gov/standards/premis/understanding-premis.pdf>).

Preservation:

- Electronic preservation is the single largest challenge in an electronic records archiving. You must exercise constant vigilance given the technological dependence on hardware, software, platforms, and media, all of

which are continually mutating and evolving.

- In the case of complex electronic records (formats such as databases, for instance) and/or when the necessary metadata is captured in the paper copy and there is little or no need to maintain the record’s functionality, it may make more sense to produce and retain a paper copy.

- When acquiring text files, convert them to PDF/A. You can find out more about PDF/A on the PDF Association page: <http://www.pdfa.org/topics/?c=1988> (Based on this information I acquired Adobe Acrobat Pro, which allows me to batch-convert Word or existing PDFs to PDF/A.)

It was clear to me that in a rapidly evolving technological environment archivists will need to perpetually scramble to keep abreast of new developments in the field through reading and continuing education.

Repository Systems:

One of my motivations for attending the conference was to learn more about storing digital records. Ideally, we were told, the system should be chosen by a group consisting of archivists, IT management, administrators, and users. Both open source and proprietary options were mentioned in the workshop (DSpace, Fedora, Omeka, OCLC Digital Archives, ContentDM) but were not discussed individually.

I attended three more sessions on digital topics: “Web Site Preservation: Archival Principles and Strategies,” “Archival Content Manage-

ment Systems: the Future of Collection Management,” and “Digital Preservation Comes of Age.” Again, both proprietary and open source solutions were mentioned. It was eye-opening to learn what other institutions are doing in this respect. The presenters tended to work at large institutions with multiple archivists and had IT departments that were actively involved in creating, choosing, and supporting the content management systems. Where does that leave those of us who are one-person shops, who don’t have the skills to fully implement open-source freeware for web archiving or record storage, have minimal or no IT resources to assist with creating or using such systems, and who lack the budget for subscription services? I would like to have seen sessions addressing this scenario.

Continuing Education

It was clear to me that in a rapidly evolving technological environment archivists will need to perpetually scramble to keep abreast of new developments in the field through reading and continuing education.

The workshop I attended was one of a series of SAA workshops and webinars that comprise the [Digital Archives Specialist \(DAS\) Curriculum and Certificate Program](#). I haven’t decided yet whether to pursue this – it’s early days for this program and it looks to me like there is too much course overlap. I’m waiting to see if the program is streamlined or otherwise fine-tuned. I do want to point out that the SAA webinars can be attended by groups, which allows the tuition cost to be shared.

(continued on pg. 3)

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Perhaps some KCAA members would like to pool resources for one of the webinars?

Here are some additional online resources for continuing ed:

- Practical E-Records: Software and Tools for Archivists: <http://e-records.chrisprom.com/author/prom/>
- Digital Preservation Management: Implementing Short-term Strategies for Long-term Problems <http://www.dpworkshop.org/>

Summing Up

I came away from the conference with an increased understanding of the ways

and means of creating electronic records storage. It was enlightening to learn what other archives are doing. I have been able to attend only a handful of MAC conferences over the last 20 years or so – the last one about 12 years ago – and it was striking how much the field has changed in that time.

In the meantime, I will continue using PastPerfect as our content management system, do the best I can to seek out and capture electronic documents our campuses produce, and continue to update my knowledge and skills. I am very grateful for the opportunity that KCAA provided for me to attend this conference.

KCAA Scholarships

Remember, KCAA members are eligible for up to \$250 from KCAA to attend conferences, workshops, webinars, or other professional development activities! The MAC fall educational symposium is coming up in October, as is the NAGARA E-Records Forum, and there are always more educational opportunities out there. For more information about the application process, check out the KCAA Scholarship Committee webpage at <http://www.kcarchivists.org/kcaa/index.php/scholarships/>.

Center for the Study of the Korean War Relocated

The Center for the Study of the Korean War has relocated into its own building. After more than a decade associated with Graceland University, and housed on its Independence, Missouri campus, the Center purchased a building at 503 W. Lexington Ave just off the Independence square. Over the past year the Center's holdings, nearly 5,000 volumes and more than 190,000 documents have been moved and as the mess is cleared up we continue to be open for business. For further information see Korean-wararchives.org or call Gregg Edwards at 816-886-5371.

Visit the KCAA webpage at <http://www.kcarchivists.org>

Combined Arms Research Library (CARL) Renovation

The Combined Arms Research Library's renovation is in full implementation and the library has been open in its temporary quarters since May 25, 2012. The bulk of the library col-

lections, to include archives is in a cave in Lenexa. Daily runs are made to gather requested materials for patrons. Anticipated opening in our newly renovated area is set for late next spring.

CARL Archives Librarian Attends Train-the-Trainer Workshop

In August, Elizabeth Dubuison, Archives Librarian at the Combined Arms Research Library, was privileged to attend the 1st Midwest iteration of the Library of Congress's Digital Preservation Outreach & Education (DPOE) Train-the-Trainer workshop. The mission of the Digital Preservation Outreach & Education team at the Library of Congress is to promote outreach and education about digital preservation by assembling a network of instructors and partners to provide training to individuals and organizations seeking to preserve their digital content.

During the workshop she received training in the DPOE Baseline Digital Preservation Curriculum which consists of 6 modules: Identify the content you have; select what por-

tion will be preserved; store content for the long term; protect your content from threats and emergencies; manage and implement requirements for the long term; & provide access to the digital content.

The training was exceptionally valuable. Elizabeth worked with a great group of professionals who are all struggling with the same preservation issues she faces at the CARL. She received training from some of the experts in the field of digital preservation who helped write the standards. She and the other twenty-three attendees are now tasked with holding their own training sessions so that the information they received spreads exponentially to many places that would otherwise be unreachable.



Kenneth Spencer Research Library (KSRL) Launches Blog

Inside Spencer: the KSRL Blog

Coaching Basketball Gold: The John B. McLendon Collection

August 10th, 2012

Public Services Student Assistant Jessie Meeks explores the pioneering career of basketball coach and KU Alumnae, John B. McLendon.

John B. McLendon, Jr. was born in Hiawatha, Kansas and graduated from KU in 1936 with a degree in Physical Education. While at KU, he studied basketball under its creator, Dr. James Naismith. Though not allowed to play on the varsity team at KU due to the university's color line, he could go on to an impressive career as a basketball coach. He won eight CIAA (Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association) championships. He also invented several facets of the game, including the fast break, zone press, and four corners offense.



John B. McLendon at the time he was coaching the Cleveland Pipers; detail from a photograph "New Members of Pipers Team." Call number: RHMS P 606, Box 1, Folder 14

McLendon became the first African American to win an integrated national championship, lead the National All-Star Team, coach at a predominantly white college (Cleveland State), and coach a professional basketball team (the Cleveland Pipers in the American Basketball League). He was also the first coach to win three consecutive National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) championships (1957, 1958, and 1959).



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RSS Feed

In May, KU's Kenneth Spencer Research Library launched *Inside Spencer: the KSRL Blog* (<http://blogs.lib.ku.edu/spencer/>). *Inside Spencer* showcases the library's collections and services, highlighting interesting and unique items and providing a "behind the scenes" view of how we make materials available to the public. Updated weekly, the blog also shares news regarding recent acquisitions, exhibitions, and projects.

Among the holdings featured to date are scrapbooks belonging to the pioneering African American basketball coach John B. McLendon, travel diaries of Lady Pauline Trevelyan (with their mid-nineteenth-century

account of "pizza" in Umbria), and photographs of KU traditions past, such as the "May-pole Scrap" and May Fête. Other posts address intriguing conservation issues, such as how to house a chained book or repair tears in brittle late-nineteenth-century paper.



We invite you to subscribe to the blog's RSS feed and read along!

-Whitney Baker and Elspeth Healey

ESU Special Collections and Archives Reopens



The Emporia State University Special Collections and Archives is happy to announce that they have reopened their doors to researchers in a new location! Now under the direction of Curator Ashley Todd-Diaz,

the repository is located at Emporia State University's main campus on the north-east corner of 12th Ave and Merchant St, in the William Allen White Library, room 119. The reading room is open Monday – Friday from 11:00am – 3:00pm or by appointment. For more information, please visit us online at www.emporia.edu/libs/archives or contact Ashley Todd-Diaz at (620) 341-5034 or atodddia@emporia.edu.

Online History Day Topic Guides Available

The Robert J. Dole Institute Archive and Special Collections at the University of Kansas has released online samples of primary source documents from the Dole Collection. Topics include Civil Rights, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Social Security, NAFTA, the Vietnam War, World War II, and several others. The themes were chosen based on the 2013

History Day theme "Turning Points in History: People, Ideas, Events." These topical resources are intended to be used by students and teachers across Kansas to help students learn about primary source documents and encourage archival research for K-12 students. The guides are available on the Dole Archive website at dolearchive.ku.edu/research/historyday.

New Senior Archivist at the Dole Archive

The Dole Archive and Special Collections is excited to announce that Audrey Coleman has joined the Dole Archive as the new Senior Archivist. Audrey brings professional experience from the museum, archives, library, and visual resources fields to her position, and looks forward to furthering the development of a robust digital, physical, and interactive community presence for the Archives' collections. Along with other Institute leaders, Audrey also participates in the strategic development of Institute programming and resources.

Audrey is a KU graduate, having earned a B.A. with distinction in Spanish, 2001, and an M.A. in Museum Studies in 2004. She served as KCAA's Pub-



licity Co-Chair and Co-Chair from 2003-2005, and as Scholarship Committee Chair from 2005-2007. Currently, she is on the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2014 Midwest Archives Conference (MAC) being held in Kansas City, MO.

Commemorating Cody

Once again Leavenworth celebrated Buffalo Bill Cody Days this September 7th & 8th, in bringing back the 'god ole' days when the whole town paid tribute to Cody as its native son. 2011 was the first year marking the return of BBC Days, since back in the mid-1980s, when the festivities fizzled out, after a twenty-year run.

While many longtime residents are aware of the Cody presence in Leavenworth County way back in the day, most folks are surprised when they learn of it. While not actually born here, William F. Cody came to Leavenworth County with his family, in 1854, at the age of 8. Settling in the beautiful Salt Creek Valley, Cody's



father, Isaac provided hay for Fort Leavenworth and traded with the Indians. Isaac Cody was accepted as "sound on the goose" because he was known as the brother of slaveholding Elijah Cody, over in Missouri. However, Isaac's true stand on slavery was soon revealed when persuaded to speak before a crowd gathered at Riveley's Tavern in the Valley. The stab wound he received as a consequence would later label him as the first casualty of "Bleeding Kansas".

For the next two years the Cody family became targets for violence from the pro-slavery faction. Isaac consequently founded "Grasshopper Falls" (present day Valley Falls) and to avoid being murdered, was only able to make periodic visits to his family in the Salt Creek Valley. Mrs. Mary Cody was insistent that she would not be run off her property by what were known then as the "Kickapoo Rangers", who relentlessly tormented the family by stealing their livestock and burning their hay. When Isaac died in 1857, life became even more of a struggle for the family. Mary began renting rooms in the family home in order to bring in money. Bill's older sister, Julia milked the cows and tended the farm. Bill became an

oxen driver for a neighbor who sold hay in Leavenworth, earning a salary he then turned over to his mother. Thus began the career of William F. Cody.

Last year, in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Cody's last Wild West Show in Leavenworth, a booklet about the Cody family in Leavenworth County was offered for sale at the Carroll Mansion Museum, home of the Leavenworth County Historical Society. This has been reprinted and will again be available in the museum gift shop. A new Cody exhibit will also be installed for viewing during the month of September. So, come by the museum at 1128 Fifth Avenue and learn more about the Cody family in Leavenworth County!

Save this date: Friday, October 26!

This is one event you will not want to miss at the museum! The Leavenworth County Historical Society is partnering with the Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum in Adams, Massachusetts in celebration of the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in Kansas.

While Susan B. Anthony is widely recognized as a figure of national importance, she had a number of connections to Kansas in particular: she mounted two grueling suffrage campaigns in the state; her brother, D.R. Anthony, was a prominent leader in Leavenworth; and she worked with him in Kansas helping ex-slaves in the aftermath of the Civil War. Jeanne Gehret and Carol Crossed, representatives from the Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum, will be touring Kansas from October 22-26 with two presen-



tations that will incorporate all of this information and more. Jeanne Gehret, author of the children's book *Susan B. Anthony and Justice for All*, will be sharing her unforgettable Anthony impersonation.

Carol Crossed, activist and owner of the museum, will be presenting a travelling exhibit focused around authentic 19th Century postcards that were circulated in

promotion of Anthony's primary causes: suffrage, temperance, and abolition.

Gehret and Crossed will be in Leavenworth County Friday to make presentations at several area high schools, sponsored by the museum. During the day, the postcard exhibit will be available for viewing at the Carroll Mansion Museum, 1128 Fifth Ave. In conjunction with this exhibit, Anthony ephemera belonging to the museum will also be on exhibit. In the evening, from 5 to 7, there will be a reception, followed by a Susan B. Anthony presentation by Gehret.

With the centennial of suffrage in Kansas and getting out to vote being a crucial determining factor in the 2012 presidential election, this event could not be more timely. Tickets for the reception, exhibit, and early

evening performance are now available at the museum for a donation of \$25. Seating is limited! Phone: 913.682.7759 or email: leavenworthhistory@sbcglobal.net.



National Archives at Kansas City Hosts Two Specialized Interns

The National Archives at Kansas City hosted two specialized interns this summer. Jacob Metoxen, a participant in NARA's Summer Diversity Internship Program, recently graduated from the University of Arizona-Tucson with a Master of Library Science degree. A member of the Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin, Jacob wrote record series descriptions for the Archival Research Catalog for Bureau of Indian Affairs records from the Rosebud Agency; assisted in an arrangement and description project for the Bureau of Indian Affairs records from the Fort Berthold Agency; and performed holdings maintenance on inmate case files from the Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary.

Lauren Potter, who comes from St. Charles, MO, is a

graduate student in the photography preservation program at Ryerson University in Toronto. Lauren scanned and described photographs from the National Archives collection for the Archival Research Catalog and also for inclusion on NARA's Facebook page; evaluated preservation problems and actions needed in NARA's photograph holdings; and gave a presentation on photograph preservation to the NARA staff. Lauren also spent several days working with the photograph collections at the Truman Presidential Library and Kansas City Public Library's Missouri Valley Collection, as well as spending time with the photography curators at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art.

Both interns wrote articles for NARA's newsletter which will be published this fall. Each article features a "Treasure from the Stacks" record that held particular personal appeal to the intern.

Between the Rivers: Steamboating in Missouri and Iowa Exhibit Opens at the National Archives at Kansas City

With their roaring engines, belching smokestacks, splashing paddlewheels, and distinctive whistles, steamboats were an awesome power on the river. Come on deck and discover the history of steamboats in a new temporary exhibition, *Between the Rivers: Steamboating in Missouri and Io-*

wa, opening September 25 through April 27, 2013. To schedule a docent-led group or school tour call 816-268-8013 or email mick-ey.ebert@nara.gov. For more information see <http://www.archives.gov/central-plains/press/2012/12-36.html>.



National Archives Second Annual Fall Genealogy Symposium

Genealogy Programs

July - December 2012

National Archives at Kansas City

The National Archives at Kansas City will be offering, *What is Old is New: Rediscovering Records for Genealogy Research*, its second annual fall genealogy symposium on Saturday, October 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The symposium features five different presentations: *Introduction to Genealogy: Where to Begin* with Archives Staff Member, Jennifer Audsley Moore; *Googling Your Genealogy and Navigating Ancestry.com* with Archives Staff Member, Jessica Edgar; *Maneuvering the New Search on Fold3.com* with Certified Genealogist, Evie Bresette; and *Military Records Were Destroyed? What to do? Steps to Reconstructing Your Veteran's File* with

Professional International Genealogist and Consultant, Kathleen Brandt.

Participants are welcome to attend one or all of these free workshops held at 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64108. Seating is limited, reserve your space today by submitting your RSVP to 816.268.8000 or KansasCity.Archives@nara.gov. Free WiFi access will be available to attendees. For more information see <http://www.archives.gov/central-plains/press/2012/12-34.html>

Jim Armistead on The Discerning Tastes of Bugs

The John Brannon Papers were donated to the Harry S. Truman Library & Museum in 2011. The Brannon Papers had originally been donated to University of Texas at Dallas, where they remained unprocessed for 10 years. The donor felt that the information in the collection was important and wanted it to be made available to researchers in a timely fashion. Therefore, she purchased the collection and donated it to us. We told her that we would process and open it as soon as we could.

John Brannon was a Kansas City lawyer who had been appointed to serve as one of the defense counselors for the Japanese Generals, Admirals, and government officials who were being tried for a variety of war crimes committed during World War II. The donor had worked for Mr. Brannon in Japan for 2 ½ years during his work there. The majority of the collection concerns his work in Japan during the tribunals. Of particular interest is testimony concerning Japan's pre-war preparations, Japan's reasons for going to war, and the Japa-

nese military's Prisoner Of War (P.O.W.) policies.

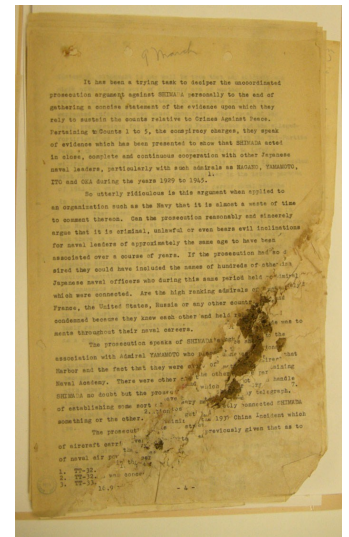
The Brannon Papers had been stored in less than ideal conditions for quite some time; therefore, there was a lot of damage to the papers. There are cigarette burns, various stains, mold and water damage, and, yes, bug damage although I actually found the remains of only one bug. But the damage had been done and we wanted to both preserve as much as we could and make it available for researchers' review.



The Truman Library's archives staff follows a certain protocol when we process collections. First, one of our

archivists appraises and arranges the collection. Then archives technicians or the archives specialist (myself) perform holdings maintenance and copies as much of the collection as is necessary. If the original documents are in good shape, we leave it as it is in its folder. But if there is anything which either might deteriorate the other documents or become further damaged by researchers, we then photocopy the original onto acid-free paper, which is then made available in our open files and store the original in an acid-free folder and box which, in turn, is then stored in what we refer to as our "parallel" files. Researchers can see the retired original upon request. However, that is not usually the case since most of our researchers only want the information that is available in the copies.

Our donor is in her nineties and reminds us every now and then that she is not getting any younger and wants to know that this collection has been made available. It has been both very interesting and chal-



lenging. Unfortunately, a portion of the collection is damaged to the point of being unreadable. We will return the badly damaged originals to the donor after copying what we can. We really are only interested in keeping that which can be both understandable and used. If she doesn't want the material back, it will be destroyed.

I am finishing the processing work on the John Brannon Papers. As I've worked on this collection, it seemed that whenever there was acidic paper versus good paper, the bugs chose to eat the good (tastier) paper!



**KANSAS CITY
AREA ARCHIVISTS**

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