A TRIBUTE: JAMES V. MINK

The James V. Mink Scholarship may be familiar to many, but the person for whom it is named will be familiar to only a few current SCA members. Jim Mink was instrumental in the founding of both the Southwest Oral History Association and the Society of California Archivists. He served as the first president of SCA and was involved in the development of the organization for many years after completing his term.

November 11 will mark the second anniversary of his passing. His legacy at SCA will continue for years to come with the scholarship program. Jim, who served as University Archivist at UCLA for over twenty years was a strong believer in archival education and the strength of the archival community in California.

In his early years as University Archivist, much of the archival profession and the professional organizations seemed to be east of the Mississippi and nearly all of the professional meetings and workshops took place there. Jim felt there was a sufficiently strong archival group within California and the adjacent states to support a regional organization and develop our own educational programs.

He worked with a small group of like minded archival professionals to establish the Society of California Archivists and SCA’s workshop programs stemmed from his convictions, as did the development of the Western Archives Institute. His known emphasis on local professionals having the opportunity to participate in archival organizations formed the basis for SCA establishing the James V. Mink Scholarship over two decades ago.

Every year since 1987 someone has been announced as the winner of the James V. Mink Scholarship which provides funding for attendance at the SCA Annual General Meeting and related workshops. Occasionally there have been two recipients. James Eason, the current SCA president was a recipient in 1994 and past SCA president Jennifer Martinez Wormser was awarded the scholarship in 1997.

Chuck Wilson
University Archivist
University of California, Riverside

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President's Message

Have you renewed your membership? Membership is the key to serving on or chairing committees, receiving the Archives Month poster, and registering at the lowest rate for our fall workshops. Membership is also essential to eligibility for the Walter P. Gray III Education Endowment Fund Scholarship, which provides financial assistance for workshops coordinated by our Education Committee. Believe it or not, this scholarship sometimes goes unclaimed, so keep it in mind when workshops are announced.

The “Summit of Regional Organizations and SAA Leaders” was one of many preconference events during the Society of American Archivists 2012 annual meeting in San Diego last August. As you may recall from the last SCA Newsletter, SCA co-hosted the summit with SAA. Representatives of more than fifteen regional, state and local archival organizations participated, while others observed on the sidelines. Former president Julie Graham and I participated for SCA. Peter Gottlieb and Donna McCrea participated on behalf of SAA, and Gregor Trinkaus-Randall, who sparked the event as SAA president, served as scribe.

Facilitating the session was George Soete, a consultant and former librarian. He led us through a five-hour interactive exercise involving flip charts, markers, and self-sticking dots. As the afternoon wore on the ranks of observers thinned. This was understandable given the nature of the proceedings-watching a half-dozen small groups talking among themselves must be akin to observing paint dry.

After brief introductions, our facilitator got things rolling by asking each of us to jot down our vision of the summit’s outcomes, which might be programs, products, or events. We shared those ideas with everyone and Gregor recorded them on a flip chart. Then we narrowed the list of outcomes to those we thought of greatest benefit. We next broke into small groups to think of actions that might achieve the beneficial outcomes. Coming back together, each group shared its list of actions with everyone. Finally, we placed each action on a matrix involving degree of impact and ease of implementation.

Having analyzed the ease and impact of all the possible actions, George brought the summit to a close by directing us to focus our efforts on those that had the greatest impact while being easiest to implement. The group expanded on this to also pursue some outcomes that were more difficult to achieve but were also of great value.

My very unofficial list of these actions includes: (1) Forming an official SAA group to facilitate communication and a variety of efforts among the regionals (“regionals” is my shorthand for all the regional, state and local archival organizations); (2) Developing a listserv and other shared space for communication among regionals; and (3) Creating an advocacy toolkit through joint work by SAA and advocacy officers designated by the regionals.

You’ll note the emphasis on inter-regional communication. Many participants thought sharing of activities and ideas would be beneficial to their organization. While we all wished to learn from what others were doing, it was especially sobering to hear about the struggles of some. One group at the state level had around forty members, only half of which could travel to a meeting or workshop; it had a paucity of workshop instructors and could not fall back on support from its state historical records advisory board because that SHRAB was essentially defunct. This representative was excited to discuss joint meetings with organizations in neighboring states, somewhat like our Western Roundup (which is next scheduled for Denver in 2015). While SCA is doing well in comparison, I marveled at the robust city organization in New York, which boasts significantly more members than SCA.

(continued on p. 17)
A TRIBUTE: JAMES V. MINK

James V. Mink, Pioneer in the Oral History, Archival and Library Worlds 1923-2010

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of James V. Mink. Jim received his archival education at UC Berkeley and the American University, Washington, D.C. He served on the ad hoc committee to form the Society of California Archivists (1971-72) and was its first president. In 1985, SCA established the James V. Mink Scholarship to provide support for a student to attend the annual meeting.

Jim was a true giant and pioneer in oral history. It was he who, in 1966, convened oral historians from across the nation at the First National Colloquium on Oral History at Lake Arrowhead, a meeting that led to the founding of the Oral History Association. He was equally instrumental in the founding of the Southwest Oral History Association. On an airline flight returning from the OHA conference in Durango, Colorado, Jim, Art Hansen, Larry de Graaf and Shirley Stephenson discussed the need for a regional oral history organization. SOHA was founded in 1981 to serve practitioners of oral history in Arizona, Southern California, Nevada, New Mexico and contiguous areas. Since 1984 the Southwest Oral History Association has awarded the James V. Mink Award for outstanding achievements in the field of oral history.

Jim Mink: A Legacy of Service to California Archivists

Jim Mink’s death diminishes our archival world and occasions in me deep feelings and strong memories of his efforts in behalf of SCA as its founding president in 1972. I was new to the Society and Jim was a leader who encouraged participation from all members. “Come on, kid” I remember him urging, “just say yes and serve on the committee. That was it. You didn’t run or duck and cover or “aw-shucks-it,” you did your duty.

Jim was UCLA’s university archivist from 1952 to 1983, one of the founders and then director of the Oral History Program from 1965 to 1972, and head of the Department of Special Collections from 1972 to his retirement in 1983. During his years in the UCLA Library he was active in the Librarians Association of the University of California (LAUC) in various capacities. Jim’s University service included numerous committee assignments throughout the library and the campus. He also served on numerous boards and committees of the American Library Association, California Heritage Preservation Commission, Historical Society of Southern California, Los Angeles City Historical Society and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Those of us who knew Jim as a mentor, teacher, colleague and, most importantly, a friend, will truly miss him.

Alva Moore Stevenson
Program Coordinator
UCLA Library Special Collections
& Center for Oral History Research

& President, Southwest Oral History Association

Jim was my kind of leader: he knew when to advocate and when to listen. He embraced all who wished to commit to being archivists. He never took himself too seriously, but he took his presidential duties seriously. He loathed meetings that focused on minutiae. He enjoyed good conversation, often accompanied by a glass of charged water. His loyalty to SCA continued during his distinguished career. Because of his national stature as a founder of the Oral History

(continued on p. 5)
Association, his distinguished work with the American Library Association and the Society of American Archivists, and his role as a founder of the Society of California Archivists, he was the perfect choice to be the first president.

Believe it or not, one of the major issues in 1972 was about archival identity. SAA had encouraged regional “chapters,” then having begot them, had some of its leadership wondering if the errant children were a good thing. On the other hand, a number of national voices supported complete independence and believed the regionals would strengthen SAA. We’ve come far since then, yet issues of professional traction, education, and influence still remain.

Jim Mink took a strong stand for making SCA relevant to its members, but also to the public at large. He and his founding cohorts encouraged a broad gauged diverse membership. I still remember when joining in 1972 and receiving a dues paid receipt from JRK Kantor, SCA’s treasurer. With it came a hand written note stating “Welcome aboard.” That’s the kind of organizational spirit that Jim fostered for the fledgling archival group.

So when in early 1974 Jim took me aside at an SCA workshop and said I was to be the next president, I looked at him as if he said I had a minute to live. But you didn’t say no to Jim. I gulped and replied, “Why of course, yes, sir....of course.” Following the election, he sent me his files, noting that he preferred to have me come down to UCLA to pick them up so “we might enjoy lunch and have a good visit.” The only regret he expressed to me about his presidency not helping mine was over the November 1972 Bakersfield meeting. It seems the planning committee had neglected to read the small print in the hotel contract that provided for an open bar at the evening dinner and reception. Well, a number of us drank the treasury up, and more! “Sorry, Larry but that ongoing debt is going to have to be paid under your watch!” As one of the guilty consumers, I took up the responsibility and we finally paid off the Bakersfield debt.

The one debt I’ll never be able to pay back is the substantive and effective bedrock of purpose and service that Jim Mink left for SCA. It still works for us. Even though the scholarship properly and deservedly honors his career and his memory, I hope all present SCA members will take a minute to reflect on Jim’s legacy to us and seriously consider his admonition, “Just say yes and do the work!”

Dr. Larry E. Burgess
Library Director
A.K. Smiley Public Library

Journal of Western Archives

The Journal of Western Archives is a peer-reviewed, open access journal sponsored by Western regional archival organizations. The journal focuses on contemporary issues and developments in the archival and curatorial fields, particularly as they affect Western archives and manuscript repositories.

Journal Contents

- Important Western regional issues in archives and manuscript repositories;
- Unique archival developments in the western United States;
- Technological innovations and their effect on archival theory and practice;
- The history and development of the archival and curatorial professions in the American West;
- Collaborative efforts and projects between various cultural institutions.

Contributing to the Journal

If you are interested in contributing to the journal or serving as a peer reviewer for journal content, please contact the managing editor, John Murphy (john_m_murphy@byu.edu). Article submissions may also be made online at the journal website.

http://digitalcommons.usu.edu/westernarchives/
The Department of Archives and Special Collections, William H. Hannon Library, Loyola Marymount University, has opened to researchers an extensive collection documenting Mexican immigrant and Mexican-American life in Los Angeles. This is the Venegas Family Papers, which consist of correspondence, photographs, immigration records, Roman Catholic realia and devotional literature, and business records, principally related to Miguel (1897-1994) and Dolores (1900-1991) Venegas. The collection guide is on-line at the Online Archive of California: http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8vq31nk/.

Themselves Cristeros, the Venegases came to Los Angeles from the Mexican state of Jalisco in 1927 as refugees from the troubles of the Cristero Rebellion (1926-1929), the revolt of Mexican Roman Catholics against the relentlessly anticlerical policies of Mexican President Plutarco Elías Calles. In a remarkable run of correspondence with relatives in Jalisco from the first five years of their life in Los Angeles (1927-1932), Miguel and Dolores Venegas wrote extensively of their life in Los Angeles as immigrants, covering such matters as working conditions and economic opportunities, family life, recreation, religious practices, continued ties to Mexico, diet, health, and education. Examples of the kind of detail found in the correspondence include the effects of the Great Depression on the Mexican-American community in Los Angeles and the United States immigration law of 1929.

Almost all the correspondence is in Spanish, and often colloquial, with irregular orthography, which in itself is evidence for Spanish linguistics and levels of literacy in Mexico and Los Angeles in Spanish. Striking in the correspondence is the use of the word “chicano” by Miguel Venegas to describe his United States-born children (the couple had ten). His use of the word here may constitute some of the earlier written instances of the word.

Rich in family sentiment, the letters from the late 1920s and the 1930s of first-born child José Miguel Venegas (1920-) offer rare written insights from a Mexican immigrant youth into life in Los Angeles. Miguel (“Mike”) Venegas writes, through the eyes of a young boy, on such matters as learning English, his daily routine, family finances, Roman Catholic piety, and work and play. In one of his letters he even provides the verses to that famous song, “La Cucaracha.”

Numerous photographs in the collection record the social activities and work of this LA family. Noteworthy are those of Venegas family outings to Lincoln Park and the beach in the late 1920s, which provide photographic documentation of the social life of Mexican immigrants in Los Angeles at that time.

Because the Venegases corresponded with relatives in Jalisco, the collection also concerns history there. This correspondence contains extensive information on commerce, agriculture, health and medicine, family life, and religious practices from the 1920s through the 1940s in Jalisco. Comments by relatives in Guadalajara on the political situation in Jalisco, both before and after the Cristero Rebellion, are especially valuable. Valuable for understanding Cristero ideology are the Cristero “corridos” (ballads), recording the sentiments and attitudes driving the armed rebellion against the Mexican government.

Besides this correspondence related to Jalisco, the Venegas Family Papers also hold a strong run of photographs of Guadalajara and Zapotlanejo (both in Jalisco), which record work, family life and religious culture, e.g. vacations, masses, and work on a hacienda. One photograph album contains a photograph of the funeral procession of Archbishop José Francisco Orozco y Jiménez of Guadalajara in 1936, an advocate for the Cristeros.

Miguel Venegas was the first cousin once removed of María de Jesús Sacramento Venegas (1868-1959), the first female Mexican saint (canonized in 2000). In the individual series dedicated to the materials on her beatification and canonization, researchers can even find a relic of this saint.

The daughter of Dolores and Miguel Venegas, Dr. María Teresa Venegas, with the assistance of her brother Carlos, donated the materials to Loyola Marymount University in 2011. The collection adds to strengths in the Department of Archives and Special Collections at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles and Southern California history, especially early Los Angeles families, and urban developers active in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. In addition,
the Department has collections on the entertainment industry, e.g., the Samuel Z. Arkoff Papers and the Jack and Bonita Granville Wrather Papers. Recent political history in Los Angeles is also a strength, with such collections as that of LEARN (Los Angeles Educational Alliance for Restructuring Now) and the personal papers of such Los Angeles politicians as David Roberti and Joel Wachs. For more information about the departmental holdings, please contact us at (310) 338-5710 or spec.coll@lmu.edu, or view our website: http://library.lmu.edu/collections/archivesandspecialcollections/.

Clay Stalls
Loyola Marymount University

GOING PUBLIC

Most archivists I know have had the pleasure of moving into a space to take over a collection and make it available for use. However, what happens when the collection evolves from a hobby and becomes a premier source for research and publication? Such is the case with the Mount Lowe Preservation Society collection.

Being a third generation native of Southern California, my wife and I have always had a love of local history. We loved antique stores and looking for cool old objects. Among our early trips was hiking in the local San Gabriel Mountains and learning of the Mount Lowe Railway, formerly known as “Earth’s Grandest Mountain Ride.” This local funicular (1893-1936) was not known to us and our curiosity had been tickled. There had been four hotels, a dance hall, a zoo, the world’s largest searchlight, and premier dining, all in the mountains west of Mount Wilson, above Altadena and Pasadena; serving nearly four million guests.

By 1902 Henry Huntington and the Pacific Electric Railway had taken over and made it part of the 1,100 miles of track which covered most of Southern California’s four counties, including Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside. The “Big Red Cars” ran up until the early 1960’s and had always been of interest to rail fans and historians, but now has taken on new meaning for younger generations with the implementation of the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) light rail lines that generate out of downtown Los Angeles; some of which are on former PE right-of-way land.

By 2000, the non-profit 501(c)3 Mount Lowe Preservation Society, Inc. was formed with a modest collection of images and artifacts. In 2007 we were donated the archives of the Pacific Electric Railway Historical Society. In 2011, we became members of the Society of California Archivists and purchased a 14,000 square foot building in Pasadena to house our nearly 40,000 images and nearly 4,000 three dimensional artifacts. While we renovate and prepare the building, we have begun moving some of the artifacts into their new home and while the collection is still small by comparison to other collections, we are constantly on the lookout to obtain more materials within the realm of Southern California transportation.

Van Nuys Line At North Hollywood Station

Having spent a day with the SCA in Ventura earlier this year, we made a few good contacts and learned a thing or two about caring for our collections. The materials have been the primary source material for four books by Donald Duke on the Pacific Electric Railway and four books by myself, Michael Patris; two of them co-authored with our Curator of Photography, Steve Crise. One of the books we did, Pacific Electric Railway, Then and Now (Arcadia Publishing, December 2011) is in its fifth printing and has been the inspiration for a show which opened last month at the Pasadena Museum of History, titled the same as our book, Pacific Electric Railway, Then and Now, which runs through January 13, 2013. We look forward to meeting more of SCA’s members and being able to ask advice in caring for and curating our collections.

Nearly 3,000 of the Pacific Electric Railway Historical Society images have been digitized and can be seen at www.peryhs.org and the Mount Lowe Preservation Society collection can be viewed at www.mountlowe.org. The information on the show of our images at the Pasadena Museum of History can be found at www.pasadenahistory.org/thingstosee/PacificElectric.html

If anyone out there knows about a collection needing a home or have some images not suited to their collections, please contact us.

Michael Patris
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—Collection Spotlight—

California Adult Education Archives at the Sacramento County Office of Education

A widely known adult educator, Paul Jurmo, recently posted this observation on the Adult Literacy Professional Development listserv: “I think we need to pay more attention to valuable resources – research, evaluation reports, curricula, assessment tools – that thoughtful adult educators have created in past years, so that current and future discussions of how to improve our field don’t unnecessarily re-create the wheel, waste valuable time and resources, and repeat past mistakes. In practical terms, existing resource centers which already have staff in place could be given resources to expand what they are now doing and create electronically-accessible archives of selected resources from the past.”

California Adult Education celebrated its sesquicentennial year in 2005. For about twenty years, the Outreach and Technical Assistance Network (OTAN), a federally funded adult education leadership project of the California Department of Education, has taken responsibility for the development and maintenance of the California Adult Education Archives.

The Archives is housed at the Sacramento County Office of Education and contains over 2,000 cataloged items and eleven special collections, dating from the 1940s to the present. Resources include history, research, evaluation reports, curricula, staff development and assessment materials, CDE handbooks, working notebooks of adult education leaders, sample products from local education agencies, newsletters, and much more. These materials are a record of adult education in California and are a valuable resource for staff development at both the state and national level.

The electronic catalog is available on the OTAN Web site <http://www.otan.us/browse/index.cfm?fuseaction=view&catid=2677>.

The finding aids for the special collections were recently posted on the Online Archive of California (OAC) Web site <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/institutions/Sacramento+County+Office+of+Education>.

OTAN maintains a Web site devoted to California Adult Education History <http://www.caadultedhistory.org/>. It contains a database of the start dates of California adult schools, a video history, a print history published by the CA...
ANDREW SMITH HALLIDIE

Hallidie, who was a trained mechanical engineer, emigrated from Britain to California in 1852 to work in the state’s gold country. He worked variously as a blacksmith, surveyor, bridge builder and inventor (Kahn, 2). While working at a mine along the American River in 1856, he produced the state’s first wire rope pulley system, replacing the traditional fabric rope system, which wore out quickly. Seeing a commercial opportunity, Hallidie began manufacturing wire rope from a workshop in San Francisco, and during the 1850s and 1860s became well known for building wire suspension bridges over many of the rivers throughout gold country (Kahn, 3).

In the late 1860s, Hallidie began experimenting with a new “elevated traveling wire rope” capable of bending around a turn and straightening out without fracturing (Kahn, 6). He soon considered the possible commercial applications of this so-called “Hallidie Ropeway (Hallidie, 1),” particularly in the field of transportation. By the early 1870s, Hallide, along with several business associates, formed the Clay Street Railway Company and constructed the first underground cable railway along Clay Street. The cable ran from Portsmouth Square in today’s Chinatown up to the top of Nob Hill. In the early morning of August 1, 1873, Hallidie and his associates boarded a test car at the top of Nob Hill and slowly went down Clay Street to the end of the line at Kearny Street. At the bottom of the hill, they turned the car around and went back up marking the first successful test of cable traction technology in California (Kahn, 8).

There was immediately a rush on cable car franchises in the city. New lines soon opened on Sutter, California, Geary, and Union streets. The cable car succeeded in opening up San Francisco’s inaccessible hilltops, once considered “waste areas,” to urban development and real estate opportunities. The city’s wealthy population migrated away from neighborhoods in the South of Market area to the newly accessible hilltops in the Western Addition, Russian Hill, and Nob Hill where they built mansions, luxury apartments, and hotels (Kahn, Cable Car Days, 42).

In addition to his technological and commercial achievements, Hallidie was involved in the city’s civic life (continued on p. 10)
as a supporter of public libraries and public education. He served as President and Secretary of the Mechanics’ Institute, a private library to support the mechanical arts, as one of the original regents of the University of California, serving from 1868-1900, and as a member of the board of the San Francisco Public Library system when it opened in the late 1870s.

**THE HISTORY OF A BOOK**

Using the Online Archive of California, I eventually tracked down a collection containing a document signed by Hallidie. The James L. Warren Papers, 1846-1889, held at UC Berkeley, contains documents related to Warren’s activities as editor of the California Farmer, including an 1864 correspondence from the Mechanics’ Institute, penned and signed by “A. S. Hallidie, Secy, Lecture Committee.” I was able to obtain a copy of the original letter from our wonderful colleagues at the Bancroft and you can see that the signature from the letter appears to match the signature in our book.

The book’s backstory is I think one of the most fascinating things about this bibliographic investigation. It’s not a stretch to say the book was very likely part of Hallidie’s personal library. He was no doubt a book lover and the subject matter is certainly within his area of expertise. We can see from the preface page that the book was originally acquired by Berkeley in about 1935 and was probably transferred to UCLA as a duplicate copy. But where the book was between Hallidie’s death in 1900 and its acquisition in 1935 is unknown. The book contains no significant marginalia, only some circled page numbers and pencil markings highlighting certain paragraphs.

It’s also fascinating to think about when he owned the book. Was Hallidie using it before he developed the cable car as a sort of professional reference material? Perhaps we can imagine the “mechanical genius” consulting it in the early 1870s, struggling to figure out how to modify a road surface so he could install and operate a continuously running cable underground. I guess we’ll never know.

The book, which has been in UCLA’s collection since 1936, was removed from the circulating stacks and transferred to Library Special Collections where it was fully cataloged including more information on its provenance. The book now includes the copy of the signature which validates the Hallidie signature.

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Hallidie, Andrew S. *The invention of the cable railway system*. [San Francisco, 1885].


Kahn, Edgar Myron. *Cable car days in San Francisco*. Stanford University, Calif.: Stanford University Press, [c1940].


San Francisco Board of Supervisors. *San Francisco Municipal Reports*. San Francisco: Board of Supervisors, 1878/1879.

**ECCLESIASTICAL PROVINCES**

A collection entitled *Ecclesiastical Provinces* has recently been processed at the Archives of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The material records many of the diverse connections between the Catholic hierarchy based in Los Angeles and a multitude of archdiocesan and diocesan representatives nationally and abroad. Covering a period that generally spans from the 1960s into the 1990s, the collection highlights the prominent roles the successive Archbishops of Los Angeles were engaged in as their leadership skills were called upon to manage a wide array of assistance in response to religious,
social and other concerns outside of their own districts. Besides the correspondence, newsclippings, and other items contained in the collection, a supplemental compilation of published material has also been recently updated and reorganized.

Archdiocese of Los Angeles - Historical Apostolate
Archival Center - San Fernando Mission
(818) 365-1501 (Archival Center)

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RARELY-SEEN HISTORIC TREASURES ON SPECIAL DISPLAY FOR 2ND ANNUAL “SACRAMENTO ARCHIVES CRAWL” ON OCTOBER 6

In celebration of National Archives Month, archives and special collections libraries from throughout the region will showcase their rarely-seen holdings during the 2nd Annual “Sacramento Archives Crawl” on Saturday, October 6. Free and open to the public, the theme for the event this year is Building Sacramento, Building Communities and crawl participants can expect to see a wide range of historic materials documenting the growth of the region. Showcasing historic treasures from twenty Northern California institutions, special artifacts will be on display at four host locations including the California State Archives, the California State Library, the Center for Sacramento History, and the Sacramento Public Library. Due to the popularity of the first-year effort in 2011, “Sacramento Archives Crawl” event hours are expanded this year to run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Participants will “crawl” between four host locations, all located within downtown Sacramento. At the four locations, the public can view archival collections on display and take behind-the-scenes tours. Crawl participants may start the Archives Crawl at any of the four host locations.

Following is a list of the four host locations for the 2012 Sacramento Archives Crawl and the repositories that will be set up at each.

California State Archives (1020 O Street)
• California Department of Transportation Library and History Center

California State Library (900 N Street)
• California State Parks
• California State University, Chico
• University of California, Davis

Center for Sacramento History (551 Sequoia Pacific Blvd.)
• Little People of America
• Natomas Historical Society
• Placer County Museums Archives & Research Center
• Sacramento History Foundation
• Temple/Congregation B’nai Israel Archives
• Yolo County Archives

Sacramento Public Library, Sacramento Room (828 I Street)
• California State Railroad Museum Library
• California State University, Sacramento

Free Archives Crawl passports will be given to guests as they visit the first host institution of their choice. The passport provides a map of the event and information about the participating archives and special collection libraries.

Event attendees who get their passport stamped at three of the four host sites will be given a set of limited-edition commemorative coasters that celebrate the theme of Building Sacramento, Building Communities with images of four Sacramento landmarks: Tower Bridge, the State Capitol, Sutter’s Fort and Memorial Auditorium. In addition, all crawl participants will also receive free commemorative bookmarks (while supplies last) which feature an image of the Capital National Bank building construction crew pictured August 19, 1915.

This event was made possible by financial support from the Sacramento History Foundation, the California State Library Foundation, and the Gordon-Goldstein Foundation. For more information about the Crawl, visit www.sacarchivescrawl.blogspot.com.

The Sacramento Archives Crawl is part of Archives Month, a nationwide celebration held each October to raise awareness of the value of archives and to recognize the archivists who bring the past to the present.

For information about other events in California, visit www.calarchivesmonth.org.

Pat Johnson
Traci Rockefeller Cusack
NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

STANFORD UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES ANNOUNCES NEW ACQUISITIONS, NEW DIGITAL CONTENT

Summer is rarely a time for relaxation in the Stanford University Archives; it’s the high season for faculty and departmental office moves, which means a steady stream of new accessions for the archives. This year we’ve strengthened our holdings through the acquisition of several notable faculty papers collections. Highlights include:

- Papers of Max V. Mathews, late Professor Emeritus of Music and pioneer in the field of electronic music.
- Papers of David M. Kennedy, the Donald J. McLachlan Professor of History, Emeritus, known for his works on U.S. history such as _Freedom from Fear: The American People in Depression and War, 1929-1945_, as well as his co-authorship of the widely-adopted textbook _The American Pageant_ from its 6th through 14th edition.
- Papers of Thomas M. Cover, late information theorist who held joint appointments in the Departments of Electrical Engineering and Statistics.

A significant addition to the papers of the John McCarthy, late Professor Emeritus of Computer Science, known for his contributions to the field of artificial intelligence and for the creation of Lisp, a programming language.

Also, thanks to the hard work of several student assistants this summer, we’re pleased to announce that digital content from over 80 of our collections is now available via the Online Archive of California. See [http://www.oac.cdlib.org/institutions/Stanford+University::University+Archives?limit=online](http://www.oac.cdlib.org/institutions/Stanford+University::University+Archives?limit=online) for a complete list.

Some of the items about which we are particularly excited include photographer Ira Nowinski’s images from the 2006 Stanford Powwow; audio recordings from 1950s musical productions by student dramatic group Ram’s Head; and the entirety of the Stanford Family Photograph Collection.

Aimee Morgan, Assistant University Archivist
Stanford University Archives
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WICKENBURG: IMAGES OF AMERICA


Wickenburg, Arizona is a historic town about an hour northwest of Phoenix. Lynn first went there in 2003 to track down the history of a pair of vintage Levi’s® jeans in the company’s Archives which had been purchased there in 1917. Since then she has cultivated a relationship with the Desert Caballeros Western Museum, has given a number of lectures in town, and will be returning there early next year to lead a book club discussion.

*Wickenburg: Images of America* was named an Arizona Centennial Legacy Project by the Arizona Historical Advisory Commission in late 2011. The book was launched at an event and signing at the Desert Caballeros Western Museum in February 2012, during the state’s many Centennial celebrations. The DCWM’s photo archives provided the majority of the images for the book.

Desert Caballeros Western Museum: [http://www.westernmuseum.org](http://www.westernmuseum.org)
Arcadia Publishing: [http://www.arcadiapublishing.com/9780738585048/Wickenburg](http://www.arcadiapublishing.com/9780738585048/Wickenburg)

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**Forecast: CLOUDY**

Prepare for the future of electronic records management in the cloud by earning a Master’s Degree in Archives and Records Administration (MARA) from the San José State University School of Library and Information Science.

Our convenient and flexible fully online program connects you to a global community of scholars, researchers, and information professionals. You’ll learn to use sophisticated technologies to organize, preserve, and access a growing volume of digital and analog assets. And you’ll be well-prepared to pursue a wide range of exciting career opportunities in the fields of information governance and corporate archives. *Join us today!*

Let the learning begin: [slisweb.sjsu.edu/sca](slisweb.sjsu.edu/sca)
NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN MEMORIUM:
SISTER KATHLEEN GRIFFIN, 1924-2012


Sister Kathleen was born in San Francisco on July 2, 1924, and became a vowed religious with the Sisters of the Presentation on July 15, 1942. She dedicated over 30 years of her ministry to elementary teaching and school administration, and taught and served as principal at schools throughout California.

In 1977, Sister Kathleen became the Archivist for the Sisters of the Presentation. During her tenure as Archivist, she formally established the archives program, and promoted numerous outreach efforts to preserve her community’s heritage. Among her accomplishments was the implementation of a mobile shelving system, and establishing an oral history program.

Sister Kathleen was among the “First Wave” of Catholic Sisters being called to the work of preserving their community’s historical records. The Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) held an Archives Program in 1978, which Sister Kathleen attended. This was the precursor of what would eventually become the present-day Archivists of Catholic Women Religious (ACWR).

Sister Kathleen’s goal was that no Sister would be forgotten in Presentation history, and she was instrumental in establishing the Biography Project, which resulted in Presentation Women, a Legacy of Vision, Faith and Service, a publication containing a biography of each Presentation Sister from 1854 to 2004 to mark the Sisters’ 150th anniversary of their foundation in San Francisco.

Sister Kathleen was an early member of Society of California Archivists, and served as the organization’s Treasurer from 1984 to 1986 and Secretary in 1985. She attended her first SAA meeting in 1981, demonstrating her commitment to professionalism in the archives field early on. She was instrumental in forming the Catholic Church Archives in Northern California affinity group in 1983 which lasted until 1987.

The care and passion she invested in preserving her community history is something for which her fellow sisters, colleagues, and researchers will forever be in a debt of gratitude.

Chris Doan, CA
Archivist, Presentation Archives
Sisters of the Presentation, San Francisco (PBVM)

JACL REDRESS VIDEO COLLECTION
IS NOW DIGITIZED

We’re happy, excited, and relieved to announce that we’ve nearly finished a project that’s consumed a lot of our time this summer. Over the past two months, we digitized the Japanese American Citizens’ League (JACL) Redress Video Collection. This collection consists of over 60 ¾” U-matic tapes of oral histories and testimonies from activists, politicians, and community members involved in the Redress and reparations process leading up to the passage of The Civil Liberties Act of 1988 (HR 442, was aptly named after the WWII’s Japanese-American 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team, the most decorated unit in American history).

U-matic tapes are particularly in danger of deterioration, and preserving the material in these tapes is a significant priority of ours. Before digitizing, we cleaned each tape several times (as well as the tape deck) to ensure that we would digitize the best possible picture quality. Digitizing requires “watching” the tapes in real time, which can be a tedious process, especially with the number of tapes in the collection. During digitization, we check the quality of the video, color,
sound, and make notes of the content itself- descriptive metadata- the who, where, when, and why of the videos.

The work doesn’t end after the digitization process is completed. We created access DVD copies so that the originals don’t incur damage after repeated viewing by patrons; the newly digitized “originals” are kept in two separate locations. And don’t forget the cataloging of all the new materials.

Visual Communications Archives
Los Angeles, California

THE REEL THING

The Reel Thing Technical Symposium took place at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences’ Linwood Dunn Theatre at the Mary Pickford Center in Hollywood from August 23-25.

Organized by Grover Crisp and Michael Friend of Sony Pictures Entertainment, and closely associated with AMIA (Association of Moving Image Archivists), The Reel Thing has evolved over three decades into an eagerly anticipated summer event for individuals from the academic, commercial and nonprofit sectors of the moving image archive field. The symposium also draws independent scholars, researchers and consultants, students in training to become moving image archivists, and film preservationists from across the United States and around the world.

Every year, The Reel Thing strives for a stimulating mix of topics to satisfy its diverse audience. From the technical side, representatives from national vendors like HP and Eastman Kodak presented updates on their archival wares and technical solutions, while skilled preservationists from LA’s film laboratories, including Audio Mechanics, Deluxe, Film Technology, Technicolor Creative Services and Triage/Eque, Inc. mainly focused on case studies of specific restoration projects.

Over two days of formal presentations, commercial clients (from Criterion Collection to Paramount Studios) and archivists from academic and nonprofit organizations like the USC Hugh M. Hefner Moving Image Archive and L’Immagine Ritrovata of the Cineteca di Bologna joined them at the podium.

All had a story to tell of the challenge of rescuing a once-vivid, now endangered film from oblivion, and the collaborations and creative means they used to do the job.

Clips from restored classics including the three-part French version of “Les Miserables” (1934) and “Invisible Man” (1933, shown in its entirety) and more recent work like “Heaven’s Gate” (1980) and the deliriously animated “Yellow Submarine” (1968) reinforced an emerging theme of the symposium: Photochemical elements and output still have a critical place, even in the digital world.

Access professionals were given a peek at the online SCI-Arc Media Archive, which launches in late September 2012 with its collection of taped lectures given by the world’s leading architects at this innovative Los Angeles school. This presentation spoke to the practical needs of the many smaller institutions that want to share their own specialized media collections with a wider constituency.

Watch for AMIA’s Digital Asset Symposium (www.digitalassetsymposium.org) at the Pickford Center on October 19—and AMIA’s 2012 Conference in Seattle (www.amiaconference.com) from December 4-7 later this year.

Cornelia Emerson, Ph.D.
Arts/Collections/Education

CHANGE IS IN THE AIR AT THE NEVADA STATE ARCHIVES

The Nevada State Archives has been in transition throughout 2012. In February, Cynthia Laframboise took the position of Archives Manager after fifteen years as State Records Manager for the Kansas State Historical Society.

(continued on p. 16)
CALEIFORNIA STATE ARCHIVES LAUNCHES ATHENA

The California State Archives is pleased to announce the release of “Athena,” a new online database of California state agency records retention schedules.

Athena, located online at www.sos.ca.gov/archives/athena, provides researchers, records managers, and any member of the public access to records retention schedules created by California state agencies since 1990.

The impetus for the development of Athena by the State Archives was three-fold. First, Athena allows greater transparency to the state records management process by providing the public access to information regarding how long agency records will be retained and what record series will eventually be transferred to the Archives. Second, the database allows the Archives’ State Records Appraisal Program (SRAP) staff to monitor and track “flagged” records series as part of the initial appraisal process. Third, the retention schedule images, downloadable in PDF format, allow state agency record managers access to their legacy schedules. In addition, agency record managers can use the online database to find examples of retention schedules created by other state agencies.

Athena’s search feature provides three entry gateways: by state agency name, by Department of General Services’ Records and Information Management Program (CalRIM) assigned schedule approval number, and by the agency’s own schedule number. Once search results are obtained, users can utilize the available sort functions to locate the desired schedule. Each search result provides a corresponding link to a PDF copy of that agency’s retention schedule.

For more information about Athena, please contact the State Records Appraisal Program staff at SRAP@sos.ca.gov. And for information about the California State Archives and its collections, go to www.sos.ca.gov/archives/.
ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (continued from p. 16) provide a wealth of material that encourages understanding of the design aesthetic of the era and supports the increasing research interest in educational buildings, multi-unit residences, midcentury design, and regional modernism. When the structures no longer exist, these records are all that remain to provide this knowledge about the history and context of the built environment.

This project will process, provide access to, and preserve these significant underutilized collections, support related research, and encourage and promote their use.

CALIFORNIA RARE BOOK SCHOOL BAY AREA OFFERINGS

The California Rare Book School will be offering three courses in the San Francisco Bay Area this fall. The courses, all of which meet between November 5th and 9th, include Books of the Far West, with an Emphasis on California; Donors and Libraries; and Rare Book Cataloging. For details visit the CRBS website at http://www.calrbs.org.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE (continued from p. 2) and schedules a wealth of well-attended programs in its tightly focused area.

While our facilitated process may have yielded results of unquestionable validity, it allowed no time to discuss an action plan and assign tasks to individuals. This was very disappointing. However, the participants will be compiling the summit’s recommendations and documenting how they were determined. That write-up is due October 1. Hopefully when it circulates to all the attendees, it will lead to a discussion of next steps and firm plans.

Lisa Miller
Hoover Institution Library and Archives
Stanford University
**SCA NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**STRATEGIC PLANNING TASK FORCE TO ASSESS SOCIETY IMPACT, NEEDS, AND GOALS**

A Strategic Planning Task Force charged with examining the state of SCA and its membership, as well as developments in the archival profession and broader environment, commenced in July following the announcement of the initiative at the 2012 Annual General Meeting in Ventura. Comprised of 12 SCA members of varying professional backgrounds and years of experience, it will recommend a specific plan of action that will ensure that SCA remains effective in its mission of supporting professional development for its membership and advocating on behalf of archival programs in the region.

Through biweekly conference calls and a group Wiki, the Task Force is identifying data collection needs and discussing strategies for surveying internal and external stakeholders. Survey instruments will be developed for current SCA members, former society members, and allied communities who work with, or stand to benefit from, cultural heritage materials. Questionnaires, focus groups, and other methods are presently under consideration. SCA members will be notified of upcoming surveys through e-mails and the west_arch listserv.

The Task Force will strive to present its final report to the Board and membership at the 2013 Annual General Meeting, which will complete its term of service. Task Force members are Brad Bauer, Anne Hall (Co-Chair), Polina Ilieva, Ellen Jarosz, Nancy Lenoil, Anna Lucas Mayer, Genevieve Preston, Sara Seltzer, Monique Sugimoto, Mattie Taormina, Chuck Wilson (Co-Chair), and Jennifer Martinez Wormser.

**2012 ARCHIVES MONTH**

It’s October, and that means only one thing: Archives Month!

Archives Month will kick off with an October 6th open house during the 2nd Annual Sacramento Archives Crawl. This all day event will be a celebration of “Building Sacramento, Building Communities.” The State Archives and three other local repositories (California State Library, Center for Sacramento History, and the Sacramento Public Library) will be hosting the event. Participants will be able to go on behind-the-scenes-tours, view special exhibits, talk with archivists, and learn about other Northern California archives and related institutions, and more. Event is free. For more information, visit: [www.sacarchivescrawl.blogspot.com](http://www.sacarchivescrawl.blogspot.com).

Family History Day on October 13th will feature over twenty free classes for members of the public interested in learning how to begin researching their family tree. Event is free. For more information, visit: [www.fhdnews.blogspot.com](http://www.fhdnews.blogspot.com).

A free one-day Preservation Workshop will be held on October 24th. Basic preservation techniques for repairing paper-based materials will be taught to individuals who work in an archives-related field by State Archives staff. Workshop is by application only. For more information, visit: [www.sos.ca.gov/archives/preservation](http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/preservation).

The 2012 California Archives Month poster Building Bridges to the Past features historic images of some of California’s most iconic bridges. The poster is annually sponsored by the California State Archives, California Historical Records Advisory Board, National Archives and Records Administration, and Society of California Archivists. Designed by Alison Wannamaker on behalf of the California Archives Month Statewide Coordinating Committee, the poster can be downloaded from [www.calarchivesmonth.org](http://www.calarchivesmonth.org).

Archives, libraries, museums and historical societies are encouraged to plan special events or exhibits that highlight their collections of valuable documents and artifacts.

To inform us about future Archives Month events that you would like included on the California Archives Month website, email your event details to info@calarchivesmonth.org. Website is sponsored by the Friends of California Archives. Please include the following information in your email:

- Event Title
- Name of Repository
- Location of Event (including complete address and county)
- Dates
- Contact Person/Email/Phone Number
- Website (if available)

Come celebrate Archives Month in October!

Stephanie L. Hamashin
Archivist II
California State Archives
Office of the Secretary of State

**SAVE THE DATE!**

The 2013 Annual General Meeting of the Society of California Archivists will take place April 11-13 in historic Berkeley, California. The conference will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel ([http://www.berkeleymarina.doubletree.com](http://www.berkeleymarina.doubletree.com)). Situated at the Berkeley Marina, the hotel provides breathtaking views of the Bay Area, San Francisco skyline and Golden Gate Bridge. More information will be posted on the SCA website in coming months!

AGM Local Arrangements Committee
CALL FOR SESSION PROPOSALS FOR 2013
SCA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A call for session proposals has been made for the SCA Annual General meeting, to be held in Berkeley April 11-13.

Archival institutions have been digitizing materials for more than fifteen years now. We’ve built our own websites, contributed to statewide resource like the Online Archive of California and to national efforts like the American Memory project, and we’ve partnered with private companies in digitization and licensing. In this time the world of online information has expanded beyond what we could imagine in the 1990s. Not only are user expectations high, but strategies for research and teaching have changed dramatically.

This essential shift provides countless topics for analysis and discussion, and the SCA Program Committee hopes that you will share your perspective and experience through a presentation at the AGM! Whether you can offer a new look at traditional archival challenges, or an update on innovative initiatives in the digital realm, your proposals and your insights are needed.

A proposal form is available on the SCA website: http://www.calarchivists.org/AGM_2013. The deadline for submitting session proposals is Friday, October 19, 2012.

If you have questions or ideas to discuss, please don’t hesitate to contact Program Chair James Eason: jeason@library.berkeley.edu.

2012 WESTERN ARCHIVES INSTITUTE: A REPORT

The Western Archives Institute (WAI) marked its 26th successful program at the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona this past summer, thus initiating a three-year stint in Southern California. A total of 23 students traveled from all over California, as well as Arizona, Wyoming, New Mexico, and North Carolina to participate in the program. The participants represented a number of repositories and organizations such as the Arizona State Museum, Duke University, Pixar Animation Studios, Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum, Rio Hondo College Library, Arcadia Public Library, Sisters of Social Service of Los Angeles, the Palm Springs Art Museum, and many others. This year’s scholarship winners were Julie Swierczek of Salve Regina University and Joanna Chen of the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust.

WAI is the only program of its kind offered annually in the Western United States. The Institute is designed to offer a balance of basic archives theory and practice to individuals whose jobs require an understanding of basic archival skills but who have little or no archival education or training. This year’s curriculum included sessions on starting and managing an archives, records management, appraisal, arrangement and description, preservation, administration of personal and family collections, reference, electronic records, legal and ethical issues, photographs, outreach and public relations, and grant funding.

The principal faculty member for this year’s Institute was Tom Wilsted. Wilsted has been an archivist for more than forty years, working at the Illinois State Historical Library, the National Library of New Zealand, The Salvation Army Archives and Research Center, and the American Heritage Center at the University of Wyoming before retiring from the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center at the University of Connecticut in 2008. He is currently the principal at Wilsted Consulting, and is the author of Managing Archival and Manuscript Repositories (SAA, 1991), Planning New and Remodeled Archival Facilities (SAA, 2007) and co-editor of Archival and Special Collections Facilities: Guidelines for Archivists, Librarians, Architects, and Engineers (SAA, 2010). He taught archives administration at the University of Wyoming and the University of Connecticut as well as numerous workshops for the Society of American Archivists. Additionally, this year’s adjunct faculty, including Teri Marks, Jennifer Goldman, Kathy Orlenko, Claude Zachary, Rebecca Wendt, and Leigh Gleason greatly enhanced the students experience with insights into numerous topics in our field.

Site visits interspersed with scheduled sessions featured behind the scenes looks at the day-to-day operations of different types of archival repositories. Susan Douglass Yates, archivist at the City of Hope Archives, offered a look into the workings of a medical and corporate archives. Ira Pemstein, from the Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, offered a glimpse into the workings of a presidential library which is part of the National Archives and Records Administration. Participants also visited Jennifer Goldman, Institutional Archivist and Curator of Manuscripts, at the Huntington Library in San Marino.

Many other Society of California Archivists members contributed to the success of this year’s program. Julie Graham served as Onsite Coordinator during the two week program and (as always) kept things running smoothly. Lisa Crane served as Local Arrangements Coordinator, and did an outstanding job of planning and preparing for our first year at Cal Poly, Pomona. Sydney Bailey, WAI Administrator, and Ellen Jarosz, Assistant Administrator, worked on the program year round, seeing to all the details that make the Institute a success. The WAI Management Team is already planning for its return to Southern California in July of 2013.

Ellen Jarosz
WAI Assistant Administrator
Special Collections & Archives Librarian
California State University, Northridge
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## Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 19</td>
<td>AMIA’s Digital Asset Symposium at the Pickford Center (<a href="http://www.digitalassetsymposium.org">www.digitalassetsymposium.org</a>)</td>
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<td>November 5-9</td>
<td>California Rare Book School - San Francisco Bay Area classes: (<a href="http://www.calrbs.org">http://www.calrbs.org</a>)</td>
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<td>“Books of the Far West, with an Emphasis on California” at the California Historical Society</td>
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<td>“Donors and Libraries” at The Book Club of California</td>
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<td>“Rare Book Cataloging” at The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 4-7</td>
<td>AMIA’s 2012 Conference in Seattle (<a href="http://www.amiaconference.com">www.amiaconference.com</a>)</td>
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<td>January-March 2013</td>
<td>Exhibit at the Claremont College Libraries: Book Club of California traveling centennial exhibit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The conference will be held at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel (<a href="http://www.berkeleymarina.doubletree.com">http://www.berkeleymarina.doubletree.com</a>)</td>
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