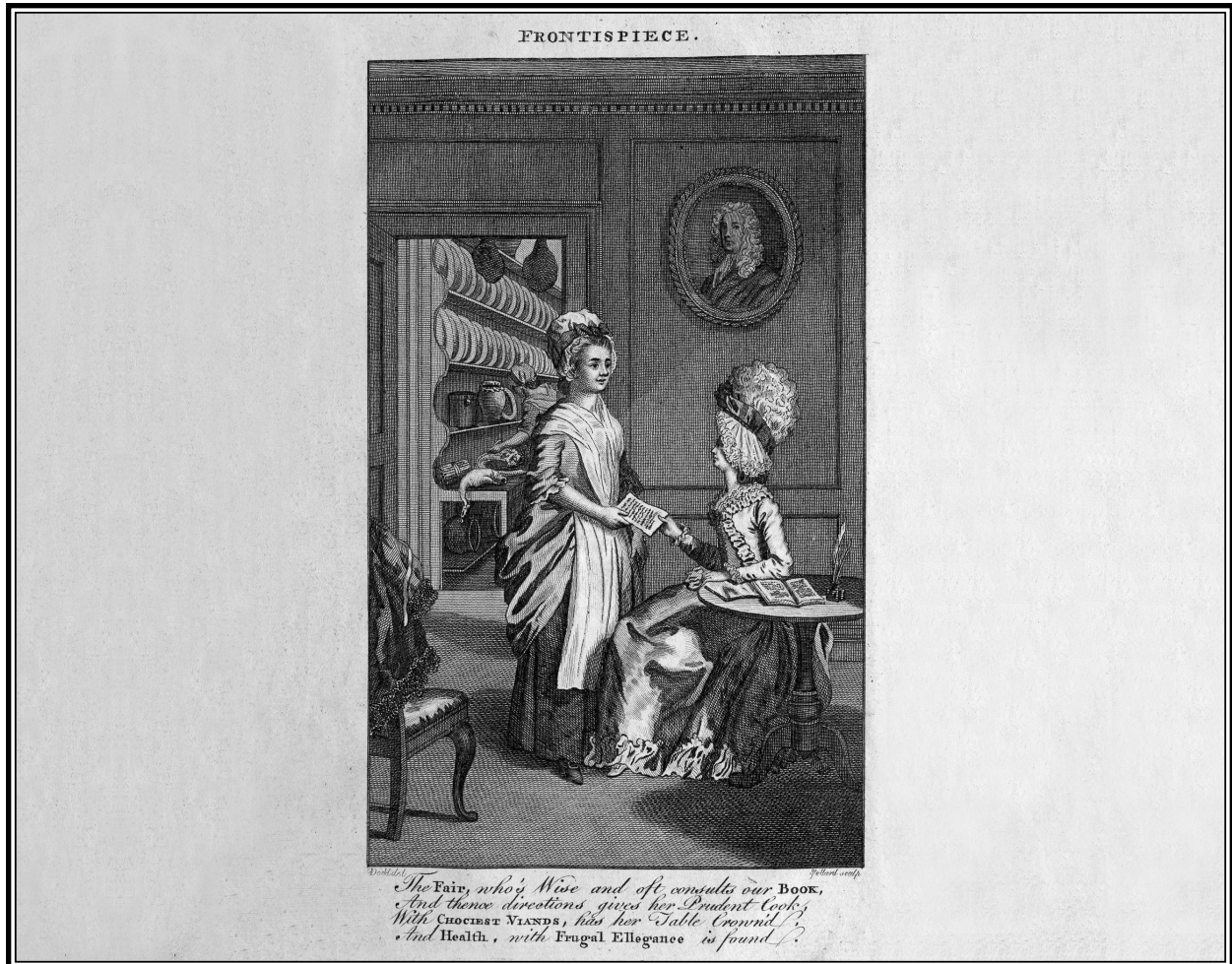


NEA NEWSLETTER

Volume 34, Number 3 • July 2007



C O V E R — Frontispiece from Hannah Glasse's *Art of Cookery Made Plain and Easy* ... London, circa 1790. Courtesy of the Schlesinger Library. See related article by culinary historian, Barbara Ketcham Wheaton (*Archival Insight*, page 4).

I N S I D E — Beth Bower and Laura Muller's "Oral History Projects" (*Around and About*, page 24); NEA Spring Meeting 2007 Session Reports, page 12).

N E A

New England Archivists

TAKING THE PAST INTO THE FUTURE

WPI Archives and Special Collections
Gordon Library
100 Institute Road • Worcester, MA 01609
<www.newenglandarchivists.org>

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|---------------------------|---|
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Membership in *New England Archivists, Inc.* is open to all.

Dues of \$30/year (\$40 for institutions) should be sent to: Rodney Obien, WPI Archives and Special Collections, Gordon Library, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609.

Notices of archival events should be sent to: NEA c/o WPI Archives and Special Collections, Gordon Library, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609, or electronically to <michael.forstrom@yale.edu>.

The *NEA Newsletter* is published quarterly in January, April, July and October. The contents of the *Newsletter* may be reproduced in whole or in part provided that credit is given.

Articles and **News** of interest to archivists, historical society members, historians, and other NEA members should be sent to: *NEA Newsletter* Editors, c/o WPI Archives and Special Collections, Gordon Library, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609, or <newsletter@newenglandarchivists.org>.

Contributions to the NEA Web site should be sent to: <webcoordinator@newenglandarchivists.org>.

Deadlines for submitting materials are:

November 15 for January issue
February 10 for April issue
May 15 for July issue
August 15 for October issue

Advertising Policy:

There will be no fee to list position openings. Advertisements for archival products will be accepted as space permits. Advertising should be submitted to Jane Ward, (978) 459-2129 or <jane.ward@comcast.net>.

Rates: Full page: \$125; half page: \$75; quarter page: \$40. Payment is requested at the time the ad is submitted. All checks should be made payable to *New England Archivists*.



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From the Editors

- Maryalice Perrin-Mohr

Summer is upon us once again. The signs are all there – the days are long, temperatures are high, beaches are crowded, baseball season is in full swing and of course, the July issue of *NEA Newsletter* has arrived in your mailbox. Whether you are interested in cooking, politics, history, or simply keeping up with what is happening in the New England archival community, this issue has something for everyone!

The two feature articles detail current projects that will become great resources for researchers in their respective fields for years to come. The idea for *Archival Insight*, which features Barbara K. Wheaton's article "Culinary Historian's Structured Look at Some Unruly Sources: The Cook's Oracle," came about as a result of Wheaton's presentation, "Food in the Archives" at the Spring NEA Meeting. Wheaton has been researching the history of cooking and eating in Western Europe for many years. She describes in her article how cookbooks have not only served as repositories for recipes, but have also fulfilled many additional purposes for their owners. Also, she discusses how cookbooks, and indeed individual recipes, have evolved and have been edited, paraphrased and passed on over centuries and between coun-

tries. Her research is leading to the creation of a database that will allow researchers different and in-depth ways of analyzing cookbooks and their contents.

In *Around & About*, Beth Bower and Laura Muller discuss an oral history project taking place at Suffolk University that will be an invaluable source of information, particularly for those interested in twentieth century Boston history and politics. The Moakley Archive Oral History Project documents the life and career of Massachusetts Congressman John Joseph 'Joe' Moakley, as well as significant historical events during his tenure. This article includes a fascinating excerpt from the transcription of an oral history interview with Moakley, a detailed description of the entire project, and some information regarding oral history methodology.

This issue also includes a message from the new NEA President, Chris Burns, describing his own experiences being involved with NEA and encouraging others to participate in the organization. There are two reviews in this issue. Susan Martin reviews the new online interdisciplinary journal, *Archives and Social Studies in Internet Tidbits*; and Jill Thomas reviews the book *Digital Images and Art Libraries in the Twenty-First Century* (Susan Wyngaard, ed.). Finally, rounding out this issue are the session reports from the NEA meeting which took place this past spring. ☺

☺ NEW ENGLAND ARCHIVISTS ☺

Announcing the New England Archivists Fall 2007 Meeting

Dialogues: New Directions for College, University and School Archives

October 12-13, 2007

Dodd Center, University of Connecticut

The Fall 2007 New England Archivists Meeting will explore the new and old challenges facing college, university and school archivists in the rapidly changing world of higher and secondary education. Come and join colleagues in discussions about new directions in our archives, how these directions affect us, how we are handling current struggles, and what shape our archives will take in the future.

For further information, please contact Elizabeth Slomba, Program Chair <eslomba@cisunix.unh.edu>

Archival Insight

A Culinary Historian's Structured Look at Some Unruly Sources: The Cook's Oracle

Barbara Ketcham Wheaton, Honorary Curator of the Cookbook Collection, Schlesinger Library

Recently someone asked me if I was a lumper or a splitter. I answered, evasively, that I was both. Like all food historians, cookbooks, from pen or print, are one of many sources I use. "Cookbook" may be used to mean a rigid formulary, but the kind of cookbook used for preparing food is an extremely variable creature. They do contain recipes, if one is willing to define "recipe" as "an idea about what to do with some foodstuffs," but some recipes are so simple that they may be expressed in a single sentence. In the fifteenth century when cooks knew the basic rules, this might be: Serve roast swan with a yellow pepper sauce. In the twentieth century when many people knew very little about cookery in general, or French cookery in particular, they could run much longer. Julia Child's cassoulet recipe unfolds over nearly six pages and includes "a note on the order of battle." Recipes, like all ideas, move about quite independently of the books or manuscripts they first appear in. There are several recipes first appearing in a French manuscript of the late fourteenth century that live on into the early seventeenth century, by which time they are so out of date one wonders why the compiler bothered to repeat them. A cookbook can appear in a single edition, or may be edited, pirated, paraphrased, and translated over the course of a century.

In addition to recipes, cookbooks may include advice to servants and to the men or women who employ them; there may be chapters on etiquette, table setting, carving, and in one case

an illustrated account of a trip to the Alps by a group of chefs. Occasionally one finds legal advice (posthumous editions of Mrs. Beeton), advice on fancy napkin folding (from the seventeenth through the nineteenth centuries all over Europe), the care of the sick, and how to make ornamental screens using cut-out figures from engravings (Hannah Wooley in the late seventeenth century). To add to the confusion, the majority of pre-nineteenth century European cooks, male or female, were illiterate. Those who could read were not necessarily writers. Thus, early cookbooks were most likely written by supervisors in large households who often were giving rather faulty instructions for exercising a craft they knew little of. Thus, it is not surprising that what they produced were often quite imperfect documents.

Despite such faults, these books provide some of the best information we have about food-related activities, skills, and practices. To read a single early cookbook is entertaining and baffling; to read two is exciting, but by the time one has read a little way into a third, everything begins to blur. This was my experience more than forty years ago when I began to research the history of cooking and eating in Western Europe. No one had yet invented ways of analyzing cookbooks and their contents, so there was no one to consult. The then-existing histories of cookery were written largely by people who appeared to have read the cookbooks only to laugh at their odd ideas and strange spellings. Plunging into

the medieval sources, I found similar recipes in France, England, Germany, and Italy. To take a single example, blanchmange was a dish which, in the fourteenth century, was made with rice, almonds, sugar, and chicken or fish in many parts of Europe. By the nineteenth century it had evolved into a quivering gelatinous molded sweet preparation which lacked almonds, fish or chicken. The *OED* gives 1386 as the earliest mention of blanchmange, and includes more than twenty variant spellings over the following centuries. It is now largely referred to as a comic anachronism, although a quick glance at <www.epicurios.com> yields three entries from *Gourmet*: Blanchmanges with raspberry sauce (November 1995), Pistachio blanchmanges (September 2003), and as recently as November 2005, Almond blanchmange once again, this time embellished with caramel glaze and sage sherbet.

None of this would matter in the least if there was no need to establish relationships among the sources, to sort out sequences in time, locations in space, priority in invention, or unacknowledged indebtedness. To give but a single example, in the mid-1960s, I was trying to sort out the blanchmanges, in addition to many other lines of ingredient use and technical skills using pen and paper. It seemed a hopeless task.

At that time I was still taking notes, page by weary page, with a ballpoint pen in the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris. Returning to the

United States with more information than I could handle, I found that photocopying machines had arrived. They could replicate whole pages accurately and expeditiously. Making sense of what the sources contained, however, required a different and more powerful tool. A friend introduced me to the McBee card – a five by eight inch paperboard card with a double row of round holes all around; it had a slanted cut across the upper right-hand corner. These holes could be notched with a clipper much like the railroad conductor's ticket punch. The placing and depth of the notches allowed the obsessed data-enthusiast to create codes, keyword-like, for each position. The user could then, by inserting long wires (typically knitting needles) through the batch of cards and, then lifting them, cause the notched cards to fall from the mass of unwanted cards. It is a hopelessly cumbersome, limited, and impractical system. However, I spent several years in the enchanting task of imagining a variety of coding systems to allow me to search for information. Although the cards never actually supplied any information I wanted, the outlines of a structured way of recording the contents of cookbooks had begun to take form.

In the early 1980s, when personal computers with reasonable software became available, I got one, and soon began to make the database. Until recently I have worked largely alone, and it is still very imperfect. At present its contents include information about a modest selection of French, English, and American cookery books dating between ca. 1300 and 1900. Eventually, with the assistance of other specialists, we will add sources in other Western European languages.

With a computer, lumping and splitting could go forward in earnest, although at first the limitations of those early machines were a real problem. A 160K floppy disk holds only a little data; a computer with 64K of RAM is not swift. Fortunately, early on, a wise database specialist told me that space constraints were temporary, and that intelligibility was more important than highly condensed codes. After considering a variety of schemes, I developed a plan for a relational database which allows me to look at single or multiple cookbooks (manuscript or print) in many ways.

This is a database intended to assist the researcher in locating and analyzing materials, not in replicating the excellent high-level cataloging information that professional librarians and archivists know how to do (and I do not). It will not contain texts, because they are increasingly available online, and often in text-searchable form. It will allow the user to find information that is implicit rather than specifically stated. For example, a recipe that calls for chopping onions will require a knife, even if "knife" does not appear in the text; vague references to "a cool dry place" is a part of the cook's workspace.

The database consists basically of a group of four linked sections which lead from the most general to the most specific information. The first section deals with the authors: what (if anything) is known about their lives, when and where they lived, or at least when they were active, whether they were male or female, nationality, language and what our sources are for the facts that we do have. The time range is from antiquity to the present; a few thousand writers are entered. The sec-

ond section consists of simple bibliographical information about their writings (titles, dates of publication, editors, and so forth). The source document is identified, and there are fields for information about the history of the volume after it left the printer: bookplates, manuscript notes, and similar information. The third section deals with the different parts of the individual book, allowing the researcher to locate illustrations, glossaries, and chapter headings, as well as the titles (but not the contents) of individual recipes. Thus far, this is the largest part of the database; there are about 100,000 records, of which about 80,000 are to recipes.

The final part of the database details the contents of these parts, inventorying the objects depicted in illustrations, and the contents of recipes. It is where lumps are split most finely and new, surprising lumps are formed. It is also at present the least complete, because the amount of information in a single cookbook is daunting. Three small American cookbooks produced some 12,000 records. However, it is also the most rewarding. With it one can extract a list of the equipment and ingredients used by a particular author. Patterns of work through the work day and through the year, systems of measurement, and value judgments are among the easy-to-overlook clusters of information that emerge from such detailed analysis.

I am no programmer. Over the years a number of people have attempted, with varying degrees of success, to assist me. Having learned early on that information is more valuable than the program it is put into, I have avoided programs that would not

allow me to migrate my data. More than twenty years ago, when this project began, I worked with a long-gone program called dBaseII, subsequently with Paradox, and most recently with Microsoft Access. The contents have now outgrown Access, and will be moved to an open-source SQL program. Last year I had the great good fortune to meet Lezlie Lee-French who is both a culinary historian and adept at dealing with database programs. She has been moving the project to the point at which it can be shared with other researchers.

What kind of question can it help with? The Schlesinger Library has an eighteenth-century French culinary manuscript from the collection of Samuel and Narcissa Chamberlain which is extracted from the great *Cuisinier moderne* of Vincent La Chapelle, chef to the Earl of Chesterfield and subsequently to the Prince of Orange. First published in 1733 in

England as *The Modern Cook*, it appeared twice in French (though published in The Hague) - first in 1736 and again in 1742, when it was expanded from three volumes to five. A final English edition appeared in 1744. La Chapelle drew heavily on the earlier writings of François Massialot, who was publishing books on cookery and confectionery from 1691 until well into the eighteenth century. Their running battle, carried out in the later editions of Massialot's books and the 1742 *Cuisinier moderne*, has been ably described by Philip and Mary Hyman in *Petits Propos Culinaires*. The questions now to be asked are: which of the French editions did the compiler of the manuscript draw on, and which of these, if any, came from Massialot? Were some of these recipes already out of date when they were copied?

The Cook's Oracle (named after Dr. William Kitchiner's *Apicius Redivivus: The Cook's Oracle* (London,

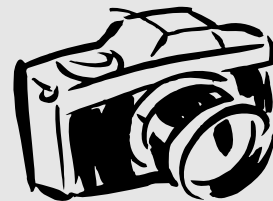
1817) will be available at the Schlesinger Library Web site later this year, if all goes well. I hope that it will lure others into a field that I have found endlessly interesting for many years. The ambiguous relationship between print and pen is perfectly illustrated by the frontispiece to an undated edition of Hannah Glasse's *Art of Cookery* (another deeply indebted cookbook), published in the later half of the eighteenth century. A lady sits in her parlor, a table at her side, and on the table are an open book, a quill pen, and an ink bottle. Through a door at the back of the room one sees a kitchen. Before the lady stands her maid, hand outstretched to receive a sheet of paper from her employer. A verse below reads: "The Fair who's Wise and oft consults our Book / And thence directions gives her Prudent Cook / With Choicest Viands has her Table Crown'd / And Health with Frugal Elegance is found." ♡

Announcing New England Archivists Fall 2007 Educational Workshops

The Education Committee will be offering a series of regional workshops to complement the Fall 2007 NEA conference. Topics, instructors, and locations to be announced in the coming months.

For further information, inquiries, or if you are interested in instructing an educational workshop, please contact Jaimie Quaglino, Chair, NEA Education Committee at <jaimie.quaglino@nara.gov> or 617.514.1577 or Chris Burns at <Chris.Burns@uvm.edu>.

Attention Amateur Photographers!



The Public Relations Committee seeks to compile a list of photographers to be made available to all NEA committees. Individuals with high quality digital cameras can help document the NEA organization by taking photographs of members, keynote speakers, leadership and committees at bi-annual meetings, special events, etc. To join the list of photographers, contact Tracy Messer at: <tracy.messer@crotchedmountain.org>.

Inside NEA

From the President

- Chris Burns



A few years ago, still relatively new to the profession, I attended a gathering of New England State Historical Records Advisory Boards. As Gregory Sanford, Vermont's State Archivist, and I drove back to Vermont, I asked him what impression he thought I had made.

Gregory said something to the effect of my coming across as "another cranky northern New England Archivist." At last, I had formed my Archivist identity. Apparently, word had not traveled far across the region by last year's election.

Identities can be pretty hard to shake and they can put us into either/or situations that in reality are false dichotomies. For much of my life, I have considered myself to be more Lennon than McCartney. But over the last few years I've really come around to McCartney. It's not that I no longer enjoy Lennon's work; it's just that I now have more appreciation for McCartney's accomplishments. I think Sir Paul sums up my feelings when he sings, "Some people want to fill the words with silly love songs, what's wrong with that?"

Identifying ourselves as this or that can be helpful, but it can also be limiting. For example, I have never considered myself to be a joiner, but over the last several years I have volunteered my time to NEA in multiple capacities, and now somehow as the incoming president of the organization. It's been extremely rewarding. I have come into contact with a number of talented people and projects and feel I have made a small contribution in helping this organization conduct the business of professional education and advocacy.

NEA relies on the enormous contributions of its members. The board has eighteen voting and non-voting members. Standing committees hover around sixty members. The *Newsletter* runs eight feature articles a year and a much larger number of smaller news contributions. Around sixty people a year give talks or conduct workshops at our two conferences. And then there are all of us who attend the meetings and hold formal and informal discussions, sharing news and ideas of both a personal and professional nature. That's a pretty high percentage of the membership that's

actively engaged in the organization at any point in time. And there is continual turnover in positions. It's remarkable that we are able to function, and it's a testament to all of us as members and to the continuing relevance of the organization that so many keep volunteering.

There are always opportunities to get involved with NEA. I encourage you to contact me or anyone on the board to find out more. And I encourage you to think about what you would like to do. Think about your experience and skills and let us know how you think you could contribute best. But also don't be afraid to push yourself. Try something new. For those of you who have already given, thank you. Don't be too wary about getting involved again.

Think too, about new directions for NEA. For example, this fall we are trying a new approach for our meeting and workshops. On October 12-13, we will be holding a two-day conference at the University of Connecticut for university, college, and school archivists. To balance this focused event, we will also hold a number of workshops on different topics around the region. Already in the works are workshops on Arrangement and Description, the Archivists' Toolkit and DACS, and Film Preservation Basics. For further details, check the NEA Web site.

We hope this format proves to be a successful experiment, which provides a concentrated experience for a significant portion of our membership and intensive learning opportunities for others. I look forward to hearing your feedback on the fall format as well as any other ideas you might have for making NEA an even stronger organization. ☺

Executive Board Meeting Report

- Elizabeth Slomba



The business handled at the March 30, 2007 meeting of the Executive Board is summarized below. All **VOTING** is in bold. Complete minutes are available on the NEA Web site or from the secretary.

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 p.m. by Nora Murphy. Minutes from the January 22, 2007 Board Meeting were presented. **All members voted to accept the January 22, 2007 Board Meeting Minutes as amended.**

Officers' Reports

President's Report

Nora requested suggestions for appointments to the 2008 Nominating Committee and nominees for the Distinguished Service Award and the Archival Advocacy Award. She formally thanked Paul Carnahan, Lois Hamill, Tom Hyry, and Brenda Lawson for their service on the board.

Vice-President's Report

Maria Bernier at Salve Regina University offered to host the Spring 2008 Meeting and the date for the conference has been set for March 29, 2008.

Immediate Past President's Report

Paul Carnahan announced the results of the 2007 elections and thanked the 2007 Nominating Committee for their work.

Treasurer's Report

Lois Hamill discussed moving Hale Award donations into the savings account, sending information on NEA's taxes to the accountant, transferring treasurer's records to the Archives, and settling the bulk mail account. She also discovered since the January Board Meeting that a security certificate had not been bought for the Web site.

Editors Wanted!

Do you have keen literary skills and an eye for detail? If so, join us on the NEA Editorial Team. Four editors serve for three year terms to produce the quarterly *NEA Newsletter*.

Layout is done by a professional – we want your eyes, ideas and energy. We are currently looking for two editors to serve from April 2008 – April 2011, covering Inside NEA/This Season in New England History and Session Reports. Email Michael Forstrom <Michael.forstrom@yale.edu> for details and visit the NEA Web site for the job description.

Meetings

Spring 2007 Program and Local Arrangements Committees

The Spring 2007 Meeting had 155 people registered to attend, including seven vendors; one workshop was completely registered. There was brief discussion about how accommodating the hotel was and the committee meetings being held in the middle of the meeting. Nora thanked the Program Committee and the Local Arrangements Committee for their hard work.

Fall 2007 Program and Local Arrangements Committees

There was a brief discussion about the progress being made on developing the fall 2007 program. It was confirmed that there would not be any workshops at the meeting.

The proposed budget for fall 2007 was presented. Attendees discussed the set and flexible costs in the budget, hotels, honoraria, catering concerns, and the food to be offered during the Friday registration time, the Friday reception, and printing the registration packet. Registration cost for the conference was discussed as well as the need to limit conference registration to 185 attendees due to the limited capacity of the rooms being used. There was a lengthy discussion about promoting the conference beyond the NEA membership and how to fund promotional items.

Committee Reports to the Board

Development Coordinator

There was \$3100 in vendor revenue for the Spring 2007 Meeting, a little more than half budgeted for this year. There will be no place suitable for vendors at the fall meeting so the Fall 2007 Local Arrangements Committee proposed sponsorships for parts of the fall meeting. There was discussion about the proposal, whether it would work, and the increased difficulty of getting vendors to come to meetings.

Outreach Committee

The committee proposed that Archives Week be moved from the first week of November to the first week of October. This change would align the New England region celebrations with national celebrations for national Archives Week. Attendees discussed at length the benefits of the change, effects on state archives celebrations, NEA book-

marks, use of SAA publications and planning kits to publicize Archives Week, and standardized dates for the week in October. It was proposed that the week be changed starting in October 2008. Attendees discussed increased publicity for Archives Week, effects on state archives week mailings, whether NAGARA observes Archives Week in October, and participation of the State Historical Records Advisory Boards. **All members voted that New England Archivists starting in 2008 will celebrate Archives Week during the first week of October.**

Changes in committee membership were announced. **All members voted that Molly Wheeler be reappointed to a term to run from 2007 to 2010 and be chair of the Outreach Committee and that April Hagins, Elizabeth Scott, and Susan von Salis be reappointed to terms to run from Spring 2007 to Spring 2009.** Nora thanked outgoing members Amy Braitsch, Mary Caldera, Nova Seals, Jill Snyder, and Rick Stattler for their services on the Outreach Committee.

Public Relations Coordinator

It was announced that Tracy Messer was stepping down as Public Relations Co-Coordinator. Tara Hurt mentioned how much the coordinators were able to accomplish over the past three years, their work on the Branding Committee and on the NEA graphic identity, and possible future directions in publicity. She suggested using the Web site to archive press releases, to recruit additional members and to track new members. There was a brief discussion about creating a new committee for public relations, a need for a charge for the coordinator and committee, and differences between outreach (promoting archives) and PR (promoting NEA). There was additional discussion of publicity for the fall meeting and other NEA events.

Nora thanked Tracy for his work on the committee. **All members voted to reappoint Tara Hurt to a three year term as Public Relations Coordinator to run Spring 2007 to Spring 2010.**

Membership Committee

A timeline and guidelines for finishing up the remaining

work to be done on the membership directory have been set. If the timeline is followed, the membership directory should be finished by the end of the summer. Kelcy Shepherd described creating the directory, cleaning up the NEA membership database, and how the committee worked with Skybuilders for a year to create a unique membership directory for NEA. She touched on the communication issues involved in creating the membership directory and how it was not clear in the contract with Skybuilders that NEA needed the creation of a unique membership directory to offer functionality beyond the default membership directory offered by Skybuilders. There was some additional discussion about the membership directory, the current membership database, what the default membership directory lacked, and what NEA needed to have added to the default membership directory. She also said that it was great working with Skybuilders.

Changes in the committee membership were announced; the committee will be deciding on co-chairs soon. Nora thanked Kelcy and Rodney Gorme Obien for their work on the membership directory.

Membership Secretary

Rodney discussed creating new categories in the database to track membership numbers for institutional affiliation, state residency, and other desired demographic information. There was a discussion of the new information about the numbers of non-renewals and other membership information in the supplied report. **All members voted to reappoint Rodney Gorme Obien to a three year term as Membership Secretary to run Spring 2007 to Spring 2010.**

Haas Award

Despite the increased publicity for the Haas Award, the committee did not receive additional applications this year. Attendees discussed the history of the award, how the award is a joint venture between ARMA and NEA, and how the money for the award is handled by ARMA. There was a lengthy discussion about how to improve communications with ARMA about the award, the relationship of ARMA and NEA, the lack of NEA members also active in ARMA, reshaping the award to generate more applications, and whether sustained increased publicity would make a difference in applications. The sense of the board was that the presidents of NEA and ARMA need to meet and discuss the future of the award and that communication

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www.newenglandarchivists.org

between ARMA and NEA is a central part of resolving the issue.

Policy Review Task Force

A preliminary version of the policy manual was presented and discussed. The final version is expected to be in a format that could be brought to board meetings as well as being available on the Web. There was a discussion about how to make the manual useful for finding relevant policies, how the manual would look and function as a Web document, and ways of reducing the size of the manual through refining what is included. Attendees discussed the role of the NEA Secretary in updating and maintaining the manual and the amount of work the secretary would need to do. It was proposed that a representative-at-large do the work of updating the policy manual and attendees discussed how this would work. There was additional discussion of planning for NEA electronic records. The sense of the board was for the committee to bring recommendations about ways to maintain, update, and make available the policy manual and present mock-ups of the policy manual for the board to review.

Education Committee

There was a brief discussion about registration numbers for the Spring 2007 Workshops, the possibility of offering the Arrangement and Description Workshop in June 2007, and vacancies on the Education Committee. Planning for Fall 2007 Workshops and ideas for them, such as offering an Archivists' Toolkit/DACS workshop at Simmons or working with Northeast Historic Film to offer a workshop on film preservation, were mentioned. **All members voted to reappoint Jaimie Quaglin to a second term on the Education Committee to run from Spring 2007 to Spring 2010.**

New Business

Nora thanked Tom Hyry for his work on the Hale Award.

Next Meeting Date

The next Quarterly Board meeting will take place at the Northeast Document Conservation Center, June 11, 2007, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. ☺

New Member/Change of Address/Directory Information

Name _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Home _____ Business _____

Fax number: _____ E-mail: _____

Please mail to New England Archivists: **Rodney Obien**
 WPI Archives & Special Collections
 Gordon Library
 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609
 <robien@WPI.EDU>

New Members*- Rodney Obien*

Please visit us online at www.newenglandarchivists.org for more information about becoming a member of NEA

Individual Members**Susan Anderson**

Walpole Historical Society

Victoria Andrienas

Northeast Museum Services, NPS

Michael Austin

Harvard University Archives

Joelle L. Burdette

Simmons College

Karen Canary

Westfield State College

Judy Carlson

Westfield State College

Hanna Clutterbuck

Northeastern University

Jo-anne Cobban

Historical Society of Cheshire County

Lisa Conathan

Yale University

Heather Dean

Yale University

Kurt W. Eichner

Simmons College

Leslie Fields

Smith College Archives

Stacey Flatt**Lisa Fortin**

Gale Library

Beverly K. Goodale

West Boylston Historical Commission

Sharon Gray**Verne Green**

Historical Society of Cheshire County

Cyndi Harberson

Connecticut Historical Society Museum

Patricia Jaysane

Lawrence History Center

Brian Knight

Hildene

Becky Knowles

Madison Historical Society

Milli Knudson

NH State Archives

Jerry Leclerc

St. Joseph Hospital

Sarah Lefebvre

Peabody Museum

Valerie Low

UConn Storrs

Howard P. Lowell

National Archives

Jennifer Meehan

Yale University

Sophia Mendoza**Barbara Perkel**

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Peg Pinkey

Situata Town Hall

Travis Puller

University of Vermont

Kristine Reinhard

UMass Medical School

Andrew Richmond

Nichols Memorial Library

Cynthia Rufo**Anthony Sampas****Kristy Sharpe**

JFK Library & Museum

Amanda Schmidt

Simmons College

Marcela Smith-Hogan

NH Aviation Historical Society

Miriam B. Spectre**Paul Spring**

American Antiquarian Society

Villu Tari

Chelmsford Telemedia

Deborah Terry

Parish Historians Society

Keith Vezeau

Massachusetts Military Museum & Archives

Molly Wheeler

Yale University

Rachel Woody

Simmons College

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The *NEA Newsletter* always needs news from your archives and other archives in New England, about NEA members, and about upcoming events. We also need people to write reviews, long articles, and session reports for NEA meetings. The editors have prepared information for contributors to help potential writers. If you have any ideas for articles, etc., please contact an editor.

NEA Spring Meeting 2007 Session Reports

The Challenges of Audio-Visual Materials in Collections: Two Case Studies

- *Veronica Martzahl*

“Small is Good” was the theme with which Brandeis University’s Karen Abramson opened her presentation. Illustrating how even small archives with limited resources can take on audio-visual reformatting projects, Ms. Abramson walked the audience through her experiences with the Morse Communication Research Center Collection. Consisting of 16 mm films, 2 inch quad tapes, and reel to reel tapes, this collection represents unique political ads and programming from the early days of television. By taking advantage of a grant opportunity with the National Television and Video Preservation Foundation, Ms. Abramson was partnered with a vendor who provided reformatting for ten of her most at-risk 2 inch quad tapes into BetaSp for analog preservation, DigiBeta for a master digital access copy, and DVD for an access and use copy. Early in the process, copyright appeared to be a barrier to the completion of this process. However, further research indicated that given the age and nature of the materials and the fact that they were intended for scholarly use, they were likely either to be no longer under copyright or they would fall into the category of fair use. Ms. Abramson stressed that archivists should not automatically assume that they are not able to proceed with a reformatting project due to copyright restraints. Additionally, she spoke to the importance of partnering either with legal counsel or with a seasoned grant writer to review grant proposals and final agreements to ensure that your institution is covered from unforeseen liabilities. Finally, Ms. Abramson stressed that small incremental projects can lead to big successes.

Exemplifying a big success was Tim Hawkins and his work with the Poetics Audio Archives at Naropa University. Currently, over 2,000 hours of audio tape from the Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics have been converted to preservation master and digital access copies. Over thirty years worth of class lectures and poetry readings by the leading American poets are included in this collection, with a special emphasis on the Beat Generation. Mr. Hawkins

detailed how smaller grants adding up over time were used to fund this project, and he stressed the need for building collaborative relationships with funders, vendors, technicians, and your audience. As an example of one such collaboration, Hawkins cultivated his relationship with the Internet Archives which is hosting over 550 hours of materials on its site for free, in large part because Hawkins and his team were able to demonstrate the importance of their material. Mr. Hawkins stated that copyright issues have been minimal with this project due to the positive relationship the university still holds with many of the writers who were willing to release their work for this project.

In summary, two points were strongly highlighted. First, copyright issues are not insurmountable. Second, collaborations and partnerships are the archivist’s best tool for taking on technologically daunting collections.

For further information on these projects, visit these Web sites:

<<http://its.brandeis.edu/research/archives-speccoll/collections/archives/ntvpfgrant.html>>

<www.archive.org/details/naropa>

For some best practices guidelines, check out
<www.naropa.edu/archive/resources.cfm>

Blogging for Archivists

- *Cyndi Harbeson*

In her presentation “Blogging for Archivists,” Karen Mellor, a library program specialist at the Rhode Island Office of Library & Information Services, adeptly brought us along into what she termed the current “information revolution.” From the benefits of blogs for archivists to examples of archival blogs and from the steps of setting up a blog to guidelines and etiquette, she explained it all.

Archives and blogs may seem antithetical to one another and yet blogs are an underutilized tool for archivists. Blogs provide many benefits ranging from a content management system to the democratization of the publishing process so that anyone, even those with limited technological skills, can develop a presence on the Web. Blogs occur

in real time, are available 24/7 (as a kind of virtual library), are interactive, and are an excellent marketing and public relations tool. They also create community between archivists and their patrons, as readers can respond to postings. In this way, blogs promote discussion between archivists and the very people they serve. Blogs are also a great way of maintaining a Web presence in this digital world, especially for smaller archival institutions with few staff. Best of all, blogs are free!

Establishing a blog requires a blog hosting service. Some of the features of a blog hosting service include a simple interface, RSS feeds, the potential for multiple authors, a variety of customizable templates, and the ability to add graphics. **Blogger** and **Wordpress** were two hosting services that Ms. Mellor discussed. According to Ms. Mellor, Blogger is the simplest hosting service with basic feeds. Labels can also be added to the different entries as a sorting measure; however, Blogger cannot feed out (through an RSS feed) different information categories. Alternatively, Wordpress has more flexibility in feeds, enabling the content to be broadcasted in many ways. Wordpress also offers statistics, anti-spam tools, spell-check, and the ability to embed video, audio, and photographs.

When developing a blog, first define its purpose, mission and scope, focus, and intended audience. Then, establish guidelines for content, writing, and comments. Ms. Mellor also suggested branding your service with a catchy name. The blog for her institution, for instance, is called the Rhodarian <www.olis.ri.gov/rhodarian/>. Determining the editorial process (especially for group blogs) and frequency of posts are also important considerations. Finally, all blogs should have an "about" page, a link to the institutional Web site where applicable, contact information, and a disclaimer.

Blogs are a low cost and easy way to publish information online and can be used as a way to expand access to resources in archival institutions. They are also an excellent way to create community while adding a dynamic element to Web sites. As Ms. Mellor said, "If you build it and promote it, they will come. If you keep it fresh, they will stay." So, archivists, blog on!

Collection Management Software Choices

-Susanne Belovari

Who among us hasn't struggled with collection management databases – especially when dealing with digital records and surrogates – trying to get them to do what you, your material, and your institution need? This particular NEA panel offered insights into four proprietary and open archival software programs to help archivists evaluate which one might best meet individual requirements.

Margaret Jessup (Smith College) spoke about InMagic DBTextworks <www.inmagic.com> for reference, electronic description, and collection management. Designed by librarians, the database offers unlimited, customizable text fields/length and templates for donor information, accessions, digital images, and audiovisual material. Easy to set up and design, it exports files (EAD, MARC), runs reports, sends e-mail attachments, prints, sorts, and searches multiple entries within a field, and also supports prioritizing. However, DBTextworks is not a true relational database (one way linking) and is proprietary: in 1996, it cost \$2,500+ for five user licenses.

Jennifer Gunter-King (Mount Holyoke College) described the Archivists' Toolkit, the first open source archival database. Since its January release, it has been downloaded by over 600 institutions <www.archiviststoolkit.org/>. The free MYSQL standards based software supports desktop or network installations (online sandbox is available). Simple to set up, it allows for easy import of EAD 2002, MARC XML, and tab delimited data. It offers different levels of user access, over thirty types of administrative and descriptive inputs, and print screen/report options. Finding aids can be exported in XML, EAD, MARC, MEDS, MODS, MARCXML, and Dublin Core. Its Web site offers a good bug issue navigator, a user group e-mail list, and a manual. A second Andrew W. Mellon grant will fund further development until 2009.

Kat Stefko (Bates College) discussed Re:discovery <www.rediscoverysoftware.com>. Originally a museum software, Re:discovery is used by the National Park Service and sixteen archives; start up costs were \$38,000 + \$4,500 annual fees. Its descriptive module offers good item level but unsatisfactory hierarchical level descriptions. Implementation has been slow partly because Re:discovery is not

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intuitive. While it supports basic accessioning, description, and authority control, as well as ingest/export of MARC, it does not support tracking donors, use/reference statistics, description of digital objects or their export into MEDS. Running reports is difficult, print options are very limited, it does not support referential integrity (e.g. updating of authority headings), and simple tasks take multiple steps. The new version, available soon, can attach images and hopefully export EAD files. Bates College is currently developing a template for exporting its data into the Archivists' Toolkit.

Barbara Rimkunas (Exeter Historical Society) introduced PastPerfect <www.museumsoftware.com>, which is particularly suited to small museums, archives, and libraries (about \$700/year). Developed by a museum curator, it is easy (forty-five minute training!), can handle mixed collections (e.g., containing museum artifacts), manages membership/donor data, and runs lists, mailing labels, and reports. It offers few levels of descriptions suited to the needs of smaller institutions. It includes a lexicon, can capture several copies of digital images, and allows you to attach/display video, audio, digital images, MS-Word/Excel documents, and url links.

Different Spaces, Different Views: Archives, Museums, and Libraries

-Amber Cushing

Although archives, libraries, and museums are often lumped together as cultural institutions, archival and library work in museums can present unique challenges for professionals in the archives field. While an archivist and a curator may have similar goals for collections, conflicting methods can inhibit progress. Susan von Salis of the Harvard University Art Museum Archives, Kristin Parker of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and Susan Steinway of the Boston Children's Museum all shared their experiences as archivists and librarian at museums. From these experiences they developed insight into how archivists and librarians can work cooperatively with other museum professionals to learn from each other and best achieve each other's goals for the institution.

According to Susan von Salis, the lack of an art background can serve as a deficit when trying to comprehend the culture of work at an art museum. By sharing her experiences,

von Salis was able to recommend approaches to traditional museum archival work in the areas of appraisal and acquisitions, working with curators, reference, exhibits, and museum culture. Overall, von Salis emphasized that curators can learn that the archives, not just the art work, is a collection and that archivists are information professionals to be utilized, especially concerning reference and access. Alternately, archivists can seek the knowledge of curators when deciding what to keep and how it relates to the art.

Kristin Parker seconded many of von Salis's statements and provided the discussion with a new angle as a registrar-turned-archivist. Additionally, Parker works with a unique challenge: a museum where stipulations set forth in a will decades old create modern environmental problems. Parker stressed the importance of working with other museum staff amidst these strict stipulations to achieve the best environment for the archival collections and to assist the development office in their endeavors to court donors. Finally, Parker urged archivists, registrars, curators, and librarians working in museum environments to "keep the lines of communication open" and to "recognize our shared mission as museum professionals."

Susan Steinway was able to offer an alternate view as the librarian at a museum where the audience, not the collection, is the primary concern. Steinway addressed the challenge of working in an environment where museum professionals are hesitant to relinquish their material to the library/archives. Therefore, gaining the trust of museum staff members is essential in this situation. To encourage trust, librarians can demonstrate their reference skills when museum staff members require fast answers to information requests. In addition, Steinway advocated the need for an archival collection as a way to organize past information for modern museum educators as they create exhibits to best fulfill the changing needs of the audience.

Group Discussion: Researchers' and Archivists' Visions of the Ideal: Commentary on "My Dream Archive"

-Rachel Wise

Historian Christopher Phelps published an article in the January 5, 2007 issue of the *Chronicle of Higher Education* describing his dream archive. He addressed physical

aspects such as lighting and seating, as well as hours, photocopying policies, and wifi access. This article was used as a starting off point for a lively discussion about researchers' perceptions of archives and archivists' perceptions of researchers.

The discussion was led by Kim Nusco, Manuscript Librarian at the John Carter Brown Library, Brown University. Previously Nusco was the Reference Librarian at the Massachusetts Historical Society and she used her previous experience in this busy reading room to tie together themes and direct the discussion.

The first topic of discussion was the use of digital cameras in the reading room. A rough show of hands indicated that a third of the participants allow digital cameras in their reading rooms. Some questions were raised such as "how do you keep track of who took photos of what in your collections?" and "how do you maintain copyright and control?"

This led to a discussion of researchers' expectations of access to materials. Some participants stressed a more demanding public that puts strain on resources and time. Other participants pointed out the positive aspects of a demanding public, such as increased use of collections and more researchers finding their way to repositories.

Another topic of conversation was the changing nature of "primary research." A concern was expressed about research "short cuts" and a loss of research skills. A counterpoint was brought up that today students are better researchers and that we need to act as educators and not gatekeepers to our material. We also need to keep in mind that very soon, "digital will be the real thing."

Even though the thrust of our discussion was on technology and digital issues, the article by Christopher Phelps does not specifically discuss technology. When the discussion wound back to the topic of the reading room, many participants emphasized that reading room policies need to make sense. Researchers need to understand the particular reasons behind the policies that are in place. Also, one cannot assume that researchers remember your policies; researchers are in many repositories throughout the year and therefore are exposed to various reading room rules and policies.

The following are citations for the "My Dream Archive"

article, as well as another article frequently referenced during the discussion.

Katie Hafner, "History, Digitized (and Abridged)," *New York Times*. March 11, 2007, Late Edition - Final, Section 3, Page 1.

Christopher Phelps, "My Dream Archive," *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Vol 53 Issue 18, Page C1.

Eat My Words: Reading Women's Lives through the Cookbooks They Wrote

-Maryalice Perrin-Mohr

The first of two sessions relating to the topic of food was a discussion of folklorist Janet Theophano's book, *Eat My Words: Reading Women's Lives through the Cookbooks They Wrote*. The discussion was led by Jeannette Bastian, Professor of GLIS, Simmons College. Bastian offered a brief description of the book for the attendees who had not yet had a chance to read it. She surmised that the goal of the book was to introduce the cookbook as an unconventional source for women's history, a window into the lives of women who would otherwise not be known to us. The book consists of a series of vignettes, each focused on a particular cookbook. The cookbook examples are of English or American origin and date from the seventeenth century to the mid-twentieth century. Some were discovered by Theophano in antiquarian bookstores or archives. Several of the examples are of cookbooks that the owner used more like scrapbooks, including clippings, handwritten notes, favorite poems, and biblical verses.

The discussion mainly centered on the idea of cookbooks as primary source material. Theophano's book demonstrates that a cookbook can be much more than a collection of recipes; it can, for example, be a source of collective memory, autobiography, household instruction, or social commentary. One interesting issue that was raised was the question of provenance, because cookbooks sometimes have shared histories. Another point was brought up that individual recipes themselves can have their own provenance, appearing in different cookbooks from varying locations over a long period of time. Another interesting issue that came up in discussion was the problem of providing the best access to these cookbooks, given their multiple uses.

This was a fascinating discussion of an unconventional resource for women's history. This particular discussion took on an additional layer of interest, with the attendees relating their own experiences with cookbooks to the practices of women from earlier generations.

The Great Outdoors in New England

-Molly Wheeler

This session closed out the day on Saturday, giving attendees an overview of three collections in Vermont and New Hampshire that document wilderness exploration, sports, and recreation in the area. Session presenters were Jeff Leich, Executive Director and Curator of the New England Ski Museum (located at the base of Cannon Mountain, next to the Cannon Mountain Tram) in Franconia,

New Hampshire; Peter Carini, College Archivist of Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire; and Chris Burns, Curator of Manuscripts at the Nailey-Howe Library at the University of Vermont in Burlington. In addition to providing overviews of the collections, presenters shared photographs from their respective collections throughout their presentations, described the general use of their collections, and answered questions from the audience. For most people in the room, it was the first time they had heard of the New England Ski Museum and their first opportunity to learn about the extensive holdings at UVM and Dartmouth College.

Please visit these Web sites for information on the collections: <www.skimuseum.org>, <www.dartmouth.edu/~speccoll/index.shtml>, <<http://library.uvm.edu/about/specialcollections/index.html>>☺

Reviews

Digital Images and Art Libraries in the Twenty-First Century, Susan Wyngaard ed. Binghamton, NY: The Haworth Information Press, 2004. 183pp. Soft cover. ISBN: 0-7890-2348-2.

-Jill G. Thomas, *Jesuitana Catalogue Librarian*, John J. Burns Library, Boston College

The latest volume in the Monographic "Separates" series from the *Journal of Library Administration*, *Digital Images and Art Libraries* is an excellent survey for everyone involved with digital imaging. The first four of the book's eleven chapters discuss types of art materials that might be ripe for digital access and preservation, such as photographs, architectural archives, slide collections, and artists' files. The next two chapters share insights gained by our colleagues involved with large cooperative digitization ventures such as the development of ArtSTOR and a consortial effort that created the OhioLINK Digital Media Center. The next four chapters are devoted to issues that we must resolve before we can build a digital global museum. And, finally, the last chapter does a fine job of noting the changing nature of art librarianship.

Wyngaard has done a thorough job of assessing the pros and cons of creating digital image collections. This book is not only for art librarians and visual resources curators but

also for the administrators, deans, and directors of institutions where these collections will be formed. The topics not only contain practical "how-to" advice, but also offer thought provoking essays on the effect of digitization on our libraries, and the use of digital images in classroom instruction and research. From acquisition and storage to delivery, the book looks at current projects and problems and sees future solutions. The strength of the book is that it not only covers visionary and cutting-edge projects such as ArtSTOR and the Madison Digital Image Database, but also explores vital issues of access, Web censorship, copyright, and free speech.

The last chapter, "Evolution of a Profession: the Changing Nature of Art Librarianship" by Amy Lucker, helps the book end on a high note. Ms. Lucker presents a brief overview of the history of art librarianship up to the present and then offers thoughts about where the field may be headed in the future as we look at what is new and what is not in the world of art librarianship. She gives practical advice and reminds us that our future is what we want to make of it; a reassuring idea in a profession of constant change.

This book would be helpful to any librarian, curator, or administrator who wants a thought-provoking overview and a thorough investigation into the cutting-edge world of digital art librarianship.☺

Internet Tidbits

- Susan Martin

The online journal *Archives & Social Studies: A Journal of Interdisciplinary Research*, a recent addition to the professional archival literature, continues the tradition of creative collaboration between archivists, librarians, and other information professionals. Published biannually at <<http://socialstudies.cartagena.es/>>, this free refereed journal boasts an impressive international editorial board: Richard J. Cox, Luciana Duranti, Jonathan Furner, Francisco Javier Garcia Marco, Anne J. Gilliland, Jose Augusto Chaves Guimaraes, Eric Ketelaar, Joaquim Llanso Sanjuan, Michael Moss, Michael Piggott, Maria Manuela Gomes de Azevedo Pinto, Joan M. Schwartz, Ciaran B. Trace, Frank Upward, and Marjo Rita Valtonen.

Archives & Social Studies is an interdisciplinary journal that aims to integrate the study of archival science with other disciplines in two ways: by applying archival theories and practices to other disciplines and by exploring how other disciplines can inform archival science. These other disciplines may include fields as diverse as law, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, the arts, and mathematics. As editor Alejandro Delgado Gomez explains in his Editor's Note, "Societies are generating information objects in a variety of ways—some of them new, some of them quite old, but subject to new perspectives; and societies are being influenced in diverse ways by these objects. Information, document, record, archive, archives: these are not solid concepts any longer...No single discipline can properly address this permanent vortex, and no single tradition can account for it." He promises that *Archives & Social Studies* will act as a "bridge," bringing together not only different disciplines but also different archival traditions.

The scope of the journal is broad and fluid. In addition to case studies and book reviews, the journal will publish articles on archival theory and practice, methodology, cur-

riculum, cultural issues, non-standard records, the impact of technology and the Internet on recordkeeping, the philosophy and history of archives, and many other subjects. Articles are published in pdf format and arranged into sections entitled: "Classics," consisting so far of articles by Frank Upward, Terry Cook, and Luciana Duranti; "Intersections" for cross-disciplinary analyses; "Notes" for shorter pieces; "Book Reviews;" and "Archives on the Internet," listing Web sites of interest. Among the many intriguing contributions to the first issue are: "Human Behavior and the Making of Records and Archives" by Michael Piggott, "Toward a Theory of Interactive Fiction" by Nick Montfort, and "'Having New Eyes:' Spaces of Archives, Landscapes of Power" by Joan M. Schwartz. Not to be outdone by print journals, *Archives & Social Studies* even includes cover art.

The Web site is attractive and easy to navigate and contains several helpful features, including "last updated" information, hit counters, and breadcrumbs at the top of every page. The basic text layout could use some polishing, and some brief exposition introducing each of the sections would be helpful, but it's hard to quibble with the quality of the contributions. The site's greatest strengths are its international scope and its potential for a broad readership, which give the journal enormous potential, especially for the discussion of cross-cultural issues. ☺

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News and Notes

CONNECTICUT

News from the State Archives

The State Archives has recently completed processing of three noteworthy collections: New London County Court Files, Preston Town Records, and Montville-Mohegan Records.

The New London County Court Files, 1691-1855, consisting of records of more than 100,000 court cases (housed in 435 boxes), contains documentation on a myriad of subjects, although most involve lawsuits over unpaid debts. Civil cases cover such subjects as covenants broken, trade and maritime affairs, and trespassing. Criminal cases cover arson, assault, election fraud, forgery, fornication, malicious mischief, prostitution, and theft. Cases also include lawsuits concerning the poor and mentally incompetent, defamation and slander, disputes over fishing rights and land ownership, fraudulent contracts, illegal sale of alcoholic beverages, lotteries, probate and inheritance, regulation of merchant seamen and violence on the high seas, riot, and tumultuous carriage. Researchers interested in the French and Indian Wars, the American Revolution, and religious minorities can also find scattered but valuable information not previously seen by scholars.

The collection contains a great deal of material documenting transients, women before the bar, and minorities. Over 1,400 cases involve people of color. Due to the great research interest in the history of African Americans and Native Americans, materials have all been photocopied and two separate artificial collections created to house these papers.

Parts of the collection are currently being utilized by persons studying the bench and bar in New London County, Native American communities, people of color, and the trade of colonial Connecticut. This project was supported with funding from the Connecticut Historic Documents Preservation Fund and grants from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

The Preston Town Records, 1750-1938, is comprised of twenty-three boxes and fifty-five volumes divided into ten series. The largest quantity of material consists of admin-

istrative records, primarily records of the town treasurer, particularly useful for those interested in town expenses on administration, care of the poor, education, and roads and highways. Treasurer bills and poor relief correspondence are especially valuable for those interested in documenting the elderly, orphans, and people of color. The collection also contains a substantial body of court, land, poor relief, school, and tax records.

The Montville-Mohegan Records, 1976-1994, a recent donation from the Town of Montville, holds copies of documents submitted by the Mohegan Tribe of Indians to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, in the tribe's successful effort to gain federal acknowledgment. The bulk of the material consists of copies of primary and secondary source documents gathered by the Mohegan Tribe and its major opponent, the State of Connecticut, designed to demonstrate whether the tribe met federal guidelines for acknowledgment.

MAINE

Maine Historical Society Library Undergoing Centennial Renovation

Maine Historical Society is currently in a major renovation and expansion of its Research Library. The library, located behind the Longfellow House at 485 Congress Street, was built in 1907 and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

MHS announced the renovation and expansion earlier this year. The eight million dollar project will transform the library building into a state-of-the-art facility, addressing collections care and storage issues, correcting structural problems, upgrading technology, and improving patron services and amenities. Nichols Hall, a collections storage wing built in the 1950s, will be replaced by a larger, environmentally controlled addition.

The library closed to the public between May 12 and June 8, 2007, and then reopened at a temporary location at 510 Congress Street. Construction is expected to begin in August and take up to sixteen months. The renovated library is expected to re-open in early 2009. During renovation, MHS library staff will provide full services and access to collections at 510 Congress Street.

The popular Longfellow Garden, adjacent to the MHS Research Library, will be closed throughout the renovation. The garden will re-open in Spring 2009 along with the renovated and expanded library. MHS has worked closely with the Longfellow Garden Club, landscape and preservation architects, and the City of Portland's Historic Review Committee to create a restoration plan for the garden that will preserve the character of the existing garden, restore important historical features, and accommodate new construction.

The library renovation will not affect visitation to the Longfellow House, home of nineteenth century poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, which will remain open to the public according to its regular schedule. The MHS Museum, Shop, and administrative offices will also remain unaffected by the library project.

Architects for the project are Schwartz/Silver Architects of Boston, noted for their renovations of the Abbe Museum in Bar Harbor, the Lewiston Public Library, and the Boston Athenaeum. Consigli Construction Company of Portland and Massachusetts will provide construction management. Their recent work includes the Walker Art Museum at Bowdoin College and projects at Portland's City Hall and the Victoria Mansion.

Old Orchard Beach Historical Society Receives Grant

Old Orchard Beach Historical Society has received \$540 to preserve and provide better access to its aviation collection. The Maine Historical Records Advisory Board provided the grant with funds from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Old Orchard Beach, a resort community, relies on its creative economy to bring in tourism and support its local residents. Grants for cultural resources like the Old Orchard Beach Historical Society, the Harmon Museum, and Old Orchard Beach Public Library sustain the basic infrastructure of this key sector of our economy.

Anastasia S. Weigle (project archivist), together with Evelyn Cooper (historian) and Joyce Rorabaugh (collection coordinator), will survey, process, preserve, and provide access to the collection. The collection, which consists of artifacts, photographs, postcards, and scrapbooks, includes

the Harry M. Jones Collection. Harry M. Jones, one of Maine's great pioneers in aviation history, began his career as an operator of an airplane hangar at Old Orchard Beach in 1919.

For more information about the Harmon Museum or the aviation collection, contact Anastasia Weigle at (207)423-0443 or <inabind.studio@verizon.net>.

Bowdoin College Receives Grant

The George J. Mitchell Department of Special Collections & Archives at the Bowdoin College Library has received a grant to help preserve and provide better access to its historical collections. The Historical Collections Grant Program, administered by the Maine Historical Records Advisory Board with funds from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission and Maine's New Century Community Program, has awarded the library \$1,913.48 to support the microfilming of vital college records, including early minutes of the governing boards and faculty and nineteenth century student transcripts, in order to preserve the documents and make them more widely available for research.

MASSACHUSETTS

Baseball at Harvard

The Harvard University Archives has completed the organization of the early records of baseball at Harvard. The earliest records date from 1858. The three major collections that relate to baseball are: Records of the Lawrence Base Ball Club (<nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:HUL.ARCH:hua06007>), the records of a club formed at the Lawrence Scientific School and the earliest baseball records in the Harvard University Archives; the Records of Organized Baseball at Harvard (<nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:HUL.ARCH:hua02006>), the early college baseball records; and The Baseball Collection (<nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:HUL.ARCH:hua01006>), which includes clothing and equipment, and consists chiefly of ephemera (tickets, programs, scorecards) and articles about baseball.

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<www.newenglandarchivists.org>

Children's Hospital Boston Archives Receives Grant from the National Film Preservation Foundation

The Children's Hospital Boston Archives has been awarded a Basic Preservation grant of \$6,330.00 by the NFPF. The grant will cover the cost of restoring three black and white orphan films documenting the development of the field of pediatrics in the context of the story of Children's Hospital.

The first film, *Children's Hospital Follies*, is a three minute silent production, circa 1933, that shows the original campus of Children's, including the old pavilion wards, affectionately known as "chicken coops." The wards were connected to the main hospital building via covered walkways. They were designed according to Florence Nightingale's hygiene philosophy to maximize air and light in order to minimize the spread of infectious diseases.

The second film, *That Your Children May Live*, is a 14 minute sound production, created in 1949 for a major fundraising campaign at Children's. The film features hospital scenes of the facility pre major developments. It contains rare footage of three infamous people in the field of medical science – Louis Diamond, Sidney Farber, and Robert Gross.

The third film, *The Children's Hospital*, is a 15 minute silent film produced in 1945 by the Children's Hospital Welfare Committee. It has captions and features more scenes of the campus not pictured in *That Your Child Might Live*.

Children's Archives will contract with the film lab Cineric, Inc. for the preservation work.

Recently Opened Collections at the Center for the History of Medicine

The Center for the History of Medicine at the Countway Library at Harvard Medical School is pleased to announce the opening of several manuscript and institutional records collections. As part of a series of processing projects focusing on reproductive health, recently completed projects include the papers of John Rock, one of the developers of the birth control pill, and two of Rock's contemporaries, Abraham Stone, and Alan Guttmacher. The

Loretta McLaughlin Papers, a corollary collection containing McLaughlin's interviews conducted for her biography of Rock, is also open for research. Newly processed collections from the Archives for Women in Medicine consist of several women from the Harvard Medical School community including Anne Pappenheimer Forbes, Lydia Dawes, Ethel Dunham, and Myrtelle Canavan. The papers of dermatologist Irvin Blank and allergist Theron Randolph were recently processed with support from Johnson and Johnson, Consumer & Personal Products Worldwide, and the Randolph Archival Fund, organized by the Human Ecology Study Group, respectively. Recently processed institutional collections include the records of Brigham and Women's Hospital and Boston Lying-In Hospital. Please contact Reference Librarian Jack Eckert, <jeckert@hms.harvard.edu> for usage of these collections. Finding aids are available online on OASIS, Harvard's online finding aid database at <oasis.harvard.edu>.

Schlesinger Library Collections

The papers of Jane Barton (1918-2005), a journalist, public relations agent, and officer in the Navy WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service), are newly processed and open for research at the Schlesinger Library. Barton's papers document her years as a WAVES officer during World War II, her role in organizing later reunions of the WAVES, and her service in the U.S. Naval Reserve from 1948 to 1968. Over 2.29 linear feet of press releases, photographs, clippings, correspondence, and scrapbooks show women's active involvement in the U.S. Navy and the kinds of press and publicity sought by Navy public relations officers. Other material relates to her civilian life as a publicity agent for radio performers in the 1940s and as a program director for the New York State Radio-Television-Motion Picture Bureau. The collection was processed by Jenny Gotwals with funds provided by the Radcliffe College Class of 1950 and the Radcliffe College Class of 1956. The finding aid can be found at <nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:sch00371>.

The records of the Women's Economic Round Table, Inc., a New York City-based educational and networking forum founded in 1978, are also newly processed and open for research. These records document over twenty-five years of public programs featuring speakers prominent in the business, financial, economic, and journalism professions.

Although both men and women served as panelists, only women were featured as moderators and questioners. Program topics included business journalism, fashion marketing and trends, micro-finance, investment strategies, national and international economic news and forecasts, and the effects of national and global economic policies. Material found in the 5.84 linear feet of the records includes correspondence, audiotapes, videotapes, transcripts, photographs, minutes, and background material on program participants and topics. The collection was processed by Jenny Gotwals with funds provided by the Women's Economic Round Table, the Radcliffe College Class of 1950, and the Radcliffe College Class of 1956. The finding aid can be found at <nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:sch00375>.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Exhibition Compares New Hampshire Past & Present

Nineteenth-century stagecoaches and twenty-first century Segways come together in the New Hampshire Historical Society's exhibition *New Hampshire Then & Now*, on view at the Historical Society of Cheshire County from April 23 through September 8, 2007.

The exhibition features forty pairs of photographs of unique places, people, and events that depict the character and culture of New Hampshire, past and present. Based on the book of the same title by photographer, author, and publisher Peter E. Randall, the exhibition provides visitors with a diverse visual overview of New Hampshire, comparing sites and people across the state, between the late nineteenth century and today.

Randall started this project by searching through the photograph collections of the New Hampshire Historical Society and those of other organizations, choosing images that were most interesting to him. He then set out to find the modern sites.

The exhibition, like the book, uses the medium of photography to help visitors explore changes that have occurred in New Hampshire over the past century. For example, a huge boulder was lodged between the narrow walls of the Flume in Franconia Notch until 1883, when it was washed away by flood waters in a heavy storm. A circa 1880 view of

the Flume with the boulder is paired with a photo of the Flume today.

Other "then and now" images include the town common in Hampton Falls circa 1905 and in 2003; Cornish town meetings in 1947 and 2004; New Castle's Hotel Wentworth in 1880 and the Wentworth by the Sea Hotel in 2005; Haverhill Corner in the 1890s and in 2004; Post Office Square in North Sutton around 1900 and in 2003; the view from Mill No. 2 in Keene in 1927 and in 2005; and tourists looking at the Old Man of the Mountain in 1978 contrasted with today's faceless Cannon Mountain.

The exhibition will travel to museums and galleries around New Hampshire, including the Mt. Washington Hotel and Resort, Bretton Woods (October 2007 – May 2008) and the New Hampshire Technical College Library, Berlin (February 2009 – July 2009). This satellite exhibition is made possible by grants from Lincoln Financial Foundation and Northeast Delta Dental. For additional information see <www.nhhistory.org/satelliteexhibits/thenandnow/nhthenandnowsat.htm>.

RHODE ISLAND

Naval Historical Collection, Newport, Rhode Island

The Naval Historical Collection recently received two collections of correspondence of naval officers. The Ralph M. Griswold collection contains letters to his wife Ethel from 1923 to 1928. Griswold served on the USS Bridge, USS Dallas, and USS Seattle during the 1920s and early 1930s. He died in 1933 after falling off the USS Seattle. His letters reveal the separations, hardships, and frustrations of navy life. The Russell Von Oesen collection consists of correspondence between Von Oesen and his wife Katherine from 1944 to 1945. Von Oesen was a pharmacist's mate aboard the hospital ship USS Consolation. He later became a medical doctor. His letters describe life aboard ship and the repatriation of American POWs in Japan at the war's end.

The Douglas Country Historical Research Center in Castle Rock, Colorado donated ship's newspapers from the USS Ramapo (AO-12), dating from February to June 1932, when the oiler was on the Asiatic Station. The Ramapo was at Pearl Harbor during the Japanese attack and, four days

later, filed an after action report which is included with this deposit. A large collection of photographs of nineteenth and twentieth century U.S. Navy ships, including battleships, destroyers, frigates, cruisers, gunboats, and sloops, was donated by Harry Anderson of Newport, Rhode Island.

Salve Regina University Archives Receives Grant for Photo Collection

The Salve Regina University Archives, Newport, RI, was one of seventeen organizations to receive a grant in 2007 from the Rhode Island Historical Records Advisory Board. The grant will support an intern to help with the processing of approximately 1300 photographs that document historic structures and land owned by the university.

This group of property images will also serve as a test case for the creation of a management manual for photographic material and collections in the archives. The manual will address procedures for accessioning, storage of various formats, patron access, reproduction, removal and transfer of photographs in manuscript files, and indexing.

The Rhode Island Historical Records Advisory Board is a statewide body whose mission is to serve the people of the state by advocating, developing, and supporting programs that defend and provide access to Rhode Island's documentary heritage. The awards announced by RIHRAB in March form the second disbursement of funds under a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the grant funding arm of the National Archives.

VERMONT

News from Vermont

The Vermont General Assembly appropriated \$1.7 million to begin site preparation for a new archives and research facility. This is in addition to the \$650,000 for facility design appropriated by the 2006 legislature. The site is just off the Montpelier exit of Inter-state 89. While the projected building will physically separate the archives from the Secretary of State's Office, the archives will remain under the Secretary's office. The new facility will address the current overcrowded vault and researcher space.

The Vermont Senate Government Operations Committee voted out a committee bill for the consolidation of archival and records management under the State Archives within the Office of Secretary of State. Records management is currently within the Department of Buildings and General Services. Voted too late in the session for action by the full senate, the bill will be taken up in January and, if approved, move to the House for testimony and vote. The proposal is supported by both records management and the archives and builds on the improved coordination between the programs following a 2003 law requiring better communication between the programs.

Representatives of the Department of Information and Innovation (DII), the archives, and the Department of Buildings and General Services (BGS) have formed an enterprise content management group to develop record and information management guidelines for state agencies participating in DII's enterprise initiatives. To help develop record and information management tools, Assistant State Archivist Tanya Marshall has been working with several agencies, as well as the Office of Professional Regulation within the Secretary of State's Office. In addition, Ms. Marshall has been developing an online resource for records and information management that can be found at <www.vermont-archives.org/records/>. The ultimate goal is to provide online, interactive tools to assist agencies in inventorying and scheduling their records.

The Vermont State Archives has funded a series of disaster preparedness and response workshops being conducted by the Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance. The workshops are directed to Vermont's municipal offices, which are the repositories of records affecting the marketability of title and other essential documentation. For more on the workshops go to <www.vmgga.org/aboutVMGA/disaster_flyer.pdf>.

The Vermont State Archives continues to expand its online database to archival record series. The database provides, for the first time, ready access to information on the state's archival records. Assistant State Archivist Christie Carter is the project leader in populating the database and has been employing streamlined processing practices in order to provide core information on all archival series. The database can be found at <<http://vermont-archives.org/research/database/series.asp>>.☺

People

The Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University is pleased to announce the addition of six archivists to its Manuscript Unit. These new positions were created as part of an ongoing commitment to process the Library's backlog and provide fuller description to newly acquired collections, and they coincide with the opening of a new, off-site archival processing workspace.

Susan Brady, Processing Archivist, returns to Beinecke after working as Project Archivist in the Yale Arts Library and Head of the Reference Library and Photograph Archive at the Yale Center for British Art. Susan held previous positions at Beinecke as Assistant Head of Public Services and Catalog Librarian in the Manuscript Unit. She received an MA in Theatre History and an MLIS from the University of Texas at Austin.

Lisa Conathan, Processing Archivist for Slavic Collections, earned a Ph.D. in linguistics from the University of California, Berkeley, and an MLS with a concentration in archives from the University of Maryland at College Park. Before coming to Beinecke, she held a joint postdoctoral appointment at the Smithsonian Institution and U.C. Berkeley. Her research focuses on the ecology and documentation of endangered languages of Native North America. She is also interested in the intersection of cultural and intellectual property and relationships between archives and records creators.

Heather Dean, Processing Archivist, is a recent graduate of the Joint Master in Archival Studies and Master in Library

and Information Studies program at the University of British Columbia. She also holds an MA in English Literature from the University of Victoria. Before working at Beinecke, Heather worked for Rare Books and Special Collections at the University of British Columbia and for the International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems (InterPARES) Project.

Processing Archivist **Sandra Markham** was most recently Project Archivist at the Library Company of Philadelphia. She has also held the positions of Collections Manager and Project Archivist at the New-York Historical Society, Chief Librarian at the Albany Institute of History and Art, and Project Archivist at Beinecke. Sandra received an MS with a concentration in archives, rare books, and manuscripts from Columbia University.

Jennifer Meehan, Accessioning Archivist, has previously held positions at the Archives of American Art, the Smithsonian Institution, and the University Libraries at Virginia Tech. She received her Master's in Archival Studies from the University of British Columbia, and her B.A. in Film and English from the University of California, Berkeley.

Molly Wheeler, Processing Archivist, was Archivist at The Josef and Anni Albers Foundation in Bethany, Connecticut from 2003-2007. Prior to 2003, she worked at the Harry Ransom Center in Austin. Molly received an MSIS with a focus on archives from the University of Texas at Austin. She is especially interested in advocacy, outreach, and audiovisual preservation. Last summer, Molly organized Connecticut's first Home Movie Day. 🍿

NEA Presents Hale Award

At the spring meeting, NEA presented the 2007 Richard W. Hale Jr. Professional Development Award to **Susanne Belovari**. Currently, Belovari is Archivist for Reference and Collections for Tufts University's Digital Collections and Archives. She previously held the position of Archivist and Historian for the Holocaust Victims' Information and Support Center at the Jewish Community of Vienna, Austria. Belovari will use the Hale award to help finance archival research at the Central Archives of the History of the Jewish People in Jerusalem. Her findings will be incorporated into an article she is working on for the journal *Libraries and the Cultural Record*. The subject of this article is the history of the Jewish Community of Vienna Archives and its archival practices since 1816. Belovari plans to share the results of her research at a future NEA meeting session, as well as in an article for the *NEA Newsletter*.

Around and About

Oral History Projects: The Moakley Archive Involves Students, Faculty and the Community

*Beth Bower, University Archivist and Moakley Institute Director and
Laura Muller, Moakley Institute Assistant and Oral History Coordinator, Suffolk University, Boston, MA*

In 2001 Congressman John Joseph Moakley donated his papers to his alma mater, Suffolk University Law School, which established the John Joseph Moakley Archive & Institute. The following excerpt from an oral history interview with Congressman Moakley sheds some light on a tumultuous period in Boston's history leading up to Judge Arthur Garrity's 1974 ruling (*Morgan v. Hennigan*) that de facto segregation existed in the Boston Public Schools. The proposed solution, which was to bus some students to schools in other neighborhoods in order to create racial balance within the school system, was met with intense opposition in South Boston, Moakley's hometown and district, as well as some other neighborhoods in Boston.

Q: Would you say that busing really was—if not the issue, was really the driving force underneath that election?

MOAKLEY: Well, yeah. Busing—but, yeah, I was against busing too, but I just couldn't march in the streets and scream and holler like some of the people were doing it, and that cost me, but hey.

Q: Did it gain you anything with other people in the district?

MOAKLEY: I don't think so. On a Monday, I was picketed by six hundred whites. On a Tuesday, I was picketed by six hundred blacks, you know, I'm saying,

"Where am I going here?" What happened was I lost—not that year—I lost South Boston one year, after I was in the Congress during busing, because a fellow running against me was, "You got to absolutely stop busing."

Q: What would you say about that whole era? What did that do to South Boston?

MOAKLEY: Oh, it split people up and many well-intentioned people, some of them are really not able to articulate properly, you know, were labeled as bigots, and then there were other people who wanted to do the right thing, and they were almost thrown out of their homes. It was the worst political time that I have ever gone through in my life. Some days, I just didn't want to get up in the morning and put my shoes on. It was terrible, getting calls all during the night. I had one young lady I went to the prom with—there were four of us. She just spat as I walked by one day. You know, those things are hard to take for me. You know? Most people in this business want to be liked, and just to have people that you had a great friendship with and because of this—they're so involved and they can't see anything but their point, it's tough.

*- Congressman John Joseph Moakley,
April 2, 2001*

Immediately upon receiving the Moakley Collection, Archivist Beth Bower and two professors, History Professor Robert Allison and Law Professor Joseph McEttrick, were interested in collecting additional oral histories. With the help of two grants, the Moakley Oral History Project (OHP) was initiated in April of 2003. The OHP seeks to document and preserve valuable information and observations that may not be a part of the paper, photographic, and audio/video portions of the Moakley Papers; and to identify or solicit observations and opinions regarding key events and issues in Congressman Moakley's life and career. To date, the Moakley Archive has recorded seventy-one oral history interviews with Congressman Moakley's family, friends, staff, colleagues, and constituents, as well as participants in two key historical events: the 1974 Garrity decision and the 1989 Jesuit murders in El Salvador.

The majority of the Moakley Papers date to his congressional career from 1972-2001. Interviews with Joe Moakley's family and friends, such as his brothers and his law school classmates, offer information and insight into Moakley's formative years and his early political career that are missing from the papers. Nineteen interviews are of Mr. Moakley's staff starting from his days as a state senator. They give the reader a sense of Moakley's personality, mentoring, political acumen, and leadership. The staff oral histories also give context and historical information that fill in years or topics where the

written record did not survive. Moakley's local, state, and congressional colleagues have so far contributed nine oral histories about his legislative career and his legacy. Many of these were videotaped and used to create a legislative training DVD, *Joe Moakley: A Legacy of Public Service*. Constituent narrators tell of the impact Joe Moakley's representation had on individuals and groups.

The collection's largest series is the legislative files about Moakley's work related to the civil war in El Salvador from 1980-1992. As the Archives prepared for a 2003 symposium and exhibition, *El Congresista: Joe Moakley en El Salvador*, we decided to interview the constituents who brought the plight of the Salvadoran refugees to Moakley's attention. Many were members of the Jamaica Plain Committee on Central America (JPCO-CA) and their stories document the American political process at the grass roots level. It was our first collaboration with oral historian Susan Goganian and her college oral history class, which recorded six interviews on El Salvador. Since 2003 we have added several interviews with Salvadorans.

Among the smaller subject files in Moakley's congressional district papers series are those about busing. In 2003 as the City of Boston Archives launched the "The Boston Schools Desegregation Archives Project" to process the Boston School Department Papers, Deputy Archivist John McColgan reached out to other area archives with similar collections and organized a panel discussion, "Busing Recollections and Archival Collections: Historical Perspectives and Documentary Sources of the Desegregation Era," on the thirtieth anniversary

of the Garrity Decision in 2004. The combination of these factors identified a pool of potential narrators who could speak to the events surrounding the decision and its impact on their lives. We continued our collaboration with Professor Goganian and students from Suffolk's Oral History class. They have recorded twenty-four oral histories with Boston teachers, administrators, community activists, parents and students, representing a broad spectrum of stances and experiences regarding the Garrity decision.

Moakley Institute Assistant Laura Muller's involvement with the OHP began as an undergraduate history student enrolled in Suffolk's oral history class in the spring of 2005. The next year she used materials at the Moakley Archive to write her senior honors thesis on Congressman Moakley's contributions to historic preservation in Boston. Laura supplemented her archival research by conducting interviews with narrators who experienced Moakley's efforts firsthand, including his district director and two members of Boston's historic preservation community.

Laura is the second Suffolk graduate to coordinate the oral history program. The coordinators worked with the archivists to create the process and procedures required to maintain an on-going oral history program. That appears, in theory, very simple: contact a narrator, schedule an interview, and conduct the interview. There are, however, archival, legal and ethical issues that must be addressed to assure that the interviews are collected appropriately. We adhere to the principles and standards of the Oral History Association. Suffolk University and its archives are committed to having a staff person responsible for managing the collection, transcription, editing, and description of the oral histories.

Guided by the program's mission statement, which serves as a collection development policy, selecting and contacting potential narrators is the first step in the process. Once a narrator has been confirmed, the coordinator and/or interviewer does background research on the person and the issues and prepares a list of interview questions. These are sent to the narrator,



Moakley Oral History Project participants: Tom Moakley (l) and Bob Moakley (r) pictured with archive interns Zenelky Ortiz and Steve Kalarites (center). *Courtesy of the Moakley Archive and Institute at Suffolk University.*

along with a biographical information form and our standard release, which allows the narrator to prepare for the interview. Some narrators bring materials (photos, newspaper clippings, etc.) to supplement the interview. One narrator provided nearly twenty newspaper articles and other documents related to Salvadoran civil rights issues that the archive did not have in its collections.

While the most important part of an oral history project is documenting a narrator's memories and experiences, there are also nitty-gritty details that are essential to an efficient project. Both narrator and interviewer must sign a release form that gives ownership of the interview recording and transcript to the institution. (Sample OHP release forms are available online at <www.joemoakley.org>.) The majority of interviews are audio recorded; although through grant funding we were able to videotape twelve interviews. The Archive has transitioned from audio cassette recording equipment to a Marantz digital recorder that records on CompactFlash memory cards. All of the OHP's interviews, no matter what their original format, are copied to audio CDs. Every interview has a master copy and two CD access copies that are used on-site for research purposes. All of the video interviews have accompanying audio-only files on CD, as well as VHS and/or DVD access copies.

Transcripts are an essential part of the OHP because they provide alternate access and a more stable paper record of the interview. The archive has at least a draft transcription of all but the most recent interviews collected. The transcribing process can be time-consuming and difficult, depending on the quality of the recording and the number of people speaking. When funding is available we use a professional transcription service; but more recently archive staff, a talented work study student, or oral history class students have transcribed interviews. Using Baylor University Institute for Oral History's "Style Guide: A Quick Guide for Editing Oral Memoirs" as a basis, our staff developed style standards to make the transcription process consistent. (<www.baylor.edu/oral%5Fhistory>.) Once a transcript is completed, it becomes part of the Moakley Archives Oral History Collection (OH-XXX), a MARC record is created, and it is available to the public. One way that we are increasing availability is by posting selected transcripts in PDF form to our Web site, as well as a list of all interviews. We hope that doing this will encourage researchers to visit the Archive to listen to the interviews and to use the Moakley papers.

The success of the Moakley Oral History Project has led us to expand our oral history collection activities to include the Suffolk University

Archives. The Suffolk University Oral History project encompasses three areas: conserving and digitizing interviews about Suffolk's history collected from the 1960s-1980s; recording oral histories with emeritus and senior faculty and staff; and collecting oral histories of faculty and staff whose papers we collect. We have found that interviewing donors about the content of their collection, how it related to their academic research and teaching, and its context within their discipline is a valuable tool as we arrange and describe the collection. The interview is then available to future researchers as they use the collection.

The oral history project has added a rich and fascinating dimension to the Moakley Archive and now the Suffolk University Archives. For more information about our oral history projects contact Laura Muller, Moakley Institute Assistant and Oral History Coordinator at 617-305-6295 or email to <lmuller@suffolk.edu>.

The John Joseph Moakley Archive and Suffolk University Archive are located at Suffolk University Law School, 120 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02108 in the Moakley Law Library. Research hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Contact Assistant Archivist Nicole DeAngelo at 617-305-6277 or email <ndeangel@suffolk.edu> to schedule an appointment. ☺

Promote your photograph collections by sharing an image of an historic event, place, or person with the NEA community.

The *NEA Newsletter* is seeking submissions from repositories in New England for back cover pictorial features in *This Season in New England History*. Send submissions in JPG or TIFF format, along with a caption detailing the subject of the photograph, to: <sheila.spalding@childrens.harvard.edu>. Photographs must be scanned at 600 dpi or better.

Calendar



Press releases and other announcements of upcoming activities to be published in the *Newsletter* should be sent to NEA, c/o WPI Archives and Special Collections, Gordon Library, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609, or sent via e-mail to <Michael.forstrom@yale.edu>. Please provide the date, time, place and a brief description of the event and the name, address and telephone number of the person to be contacted for information.

July 11 – 15, 2007. Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP) Annual Conference, “Open the Book, Open the Mind.” Minneapolis, MN. Co-sponsored by the University of Minnesota. For details see <www.cce.umn.edu/conferences/sharp/>.

Aug 6 – 10, 2007. Electronic Records Summer Camp. La Jolla, CA. Sponsored by the Society of American Archivists, the San Diego Supercomputer Center (SDSC), the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Electronic Records Archives (ERA) Program, and the University of Maryland. For details and registration information see <www.archivists.org/prof-education/summercamp.asp>.

Aug 27 - Sep 2, 2007. Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. For details and registration information see <www.archivists.org/conference/index.asp>.

Sep 15, 2007. Submissions due for the Brenda McCallum Prize, presented by the American Folklore Society’s Archives and Libraries Section for an exceptional work dealing with folklife archives or the collection, organization, and management of ethnographic materials. Contact: Marcia K. Segal, American Folklife Center, The Library of Congress, <mseg@loc.gov>, (202) 707-2076 (fax). For a list of past recipients and their research topics, go to <www.afsnet.org/sections/archives/prize.cfm>.

Sep 26 – 29, 2007. Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) annual conference. Rochester, NY. For details and registration information see <www.amiaconference.com/2007/>.

Sep 27 – 29, 2007. I-CHORA 3. The Third International Conference on the History of Records and Archives. Boston, MA. Hosted by the Massachusetts Historical Society. For details and registration information see <www3.fis.utoronto.ca/research/i-chora/home.html>.

Oct 1, 2007. National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) deadline (for May 2008 meeting). Guidelines and application forms may be downloaded from the guidelines page or may be requested from the NHPRC, National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 111, Washington, DC 20408-0001, phone: 202-501-5610, fax: 202-501-5601. For further information see <www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/>.

NEA is always looking for ideas for sessions at the fall and spring meetings. Your suggestions are invited!

Please complete and send this form to: Nora Murphy
Reference Archivist, Institute Archives
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139-4307

Proposed by: _____

Institution: _____

Mailing address _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Please provide a brief description of the session you'd like to see offered at an NEA meeting. If possible, include the overall purpose and a general description of the session, and its intended audience (including skill level and topic category). If you have ideas for potential speakers for this session, please include their names and institutional affiliations.

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This Season in New England History



Fourth of July Parade, circa 1910.

In the early days of Children's Hospital Boston a sanitarium was established in the country to care for convalescents. "It was thought that much advantage would result to patients giving them change of scene and air, and that diseases which had failed to respond to medical treatment and good regime alone, would be hastened to a cure by these agencies." *Children's Hospital Annual Report*, 1874. As the hospital grew, the need for non-acute long-term care for the patients increased. Responding to this need, the hospital's Ladies' Aid Association rented a small house in Weston, Massachusetts and opened it as a convalescent home for children in 1874. The children in this image were patients at the home, participating in Independence Day festivities. *Image courtesy of Children's Hospital Boston Archives.*