

# Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2006

## LAMA News

### Land Records Find Temporary Home

By Ann Wakefield

On Labor Day weekend, the Notarial Archives moved Orleans Parish land records into their third temporary site since Hurricane Katrina flooded their home of 50-plus years: the basement of the Orleans Parish Civil District Courthouse. Property records are vital to residents, who arrive in large numbers every day to obtain replacement copies of personal documents destroyed by the floods. Refinancing mortgages and other real-estate transactions, including the new staple in Crescent City home ownership—SBA loan applications—require pieces of paper that hurricanes Katrina and Rita threatened with destruction.

Nearly two linear miles of those pieces of paper suddenly became home-

less after being rescued from the basement. Of 60,000 volumes of original sale and mortgage records, 5,000 were wet and driven to Chicago for salvage treatment. The other 55,000 stayed in 18 climate-controlled 18-wheelers parked for three weeks in downtown New Orleans, even during Rita.

On October 1, 2005, worker brigades unloaded the records from the trucks into a ballroom of the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, where thousands of people only weeks before had sought shelter under dehumanizing conditions. The ballroom was a less-than-adequate records office, having no indoor bathroom or running water and with a family of mice in residence. But it had some positives: it was dry, cool,

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### Student Chapter Updates Directory

By Neil Guilbeau

The LSU SAA student chapter has recently volunteered to undertake the task of updating the LAMA directory. Forming in the fall semester of 2005, the student chapter recently acquired official status from the SAA with a charter on July 22, 2006, and has grown to 16 members. These LSU stu-

dents occasionally seek out projects that assist archives and manuscript repositories throughout the state in order to involve themselves in the practical aspects of archival work, and get acquainted with professionals in the field. The student organization will begin contacting institutions represented in the LAMA

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# LAMA News (continued from page 1)

## Annual Meeting November 17, 2006

LAMA invites you to attend its annual meeting on Friday, November 17, 2006. This year's meeting will be hosted at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux. The event will be held in the Bollinger Student Union which is located on Leighton Drive directly across the street from the Ellender memorial Library. Parking will be available in the lots next to the Union and across from the library. A regional and campus map are included in the registration packet. Information is also available at [www.nicholls.edu/about/direction.html](http://www.nicholls.edu/about/direction.html) and [www.thibodauxchamber.com/community/mapthibodaux.pdf](http://www.thibodauxchamber.com/community/mapthibodaux.pdf). For anyone wanting to stay overnight in Thibodaux, there are two hotels located just north of campus, the Ramada Inn (985-446-0561) and Howard Johnson (985-448-4621) or by email at [clifton.theriot@nicholls.edu](mailto:clifton.theriot@nicholls.edu).

Send registration and payment to:

Clifton Theriot  
Archives & Special Collections  
Nicholls State University  
Ellender Memorial Library  
P. O. Box 2028  
Thibodaux, LA 70310

**REGISTRATION** (includes lunch)  
\$25.00 (checks payable to LAMA)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

LAMA member  Yes  No

## Program for LAMA Annual Meeting

Registration for the LAMA annual meeting and a continental breakfast will begin at 8:30 on Friday morning, November 17, 2006. Nita Cole, President of LAMA, will welcome everyone from 9:30 until 9:45.

Four presentations will be given throughout the day. From 9:45 until 11:00, four speakers from around the state will present ***Documenting Natural Disasters***. The speakers will include Jennifer M. Abraham, director, T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History; Greg Lambousy, director of Collections, Louisiana State Museum; Michael Mizell-Nelson, Assistant Professor of History, University of New Orleans; and Pati Threatt, Archives and special Collections Department, McNeese State University. They will discuss ideas and

their experiences in documenting Hurricanes Katrina and Rita as well as other natural disasters.

The presentation at 1:00 will be ***Making Life a Bit Easier: Building a Function-based Taxonomy for Institutional Archives and Records Management Systems***. Russell James, School of Library Science student, Louisiana State University, will introduce an alternative to structural-based classification of records by using the functions-based approach. He will explain the strategies and theories behind using a different classification system for records management.

***The Ruin and Recovery of Jackson Barracks***

(continued on p. 3)

## LAMA News (continued from page 2)

*Program (continued from p. 2)*

will be presented at 2:30 by Sherrie S. Pugh, Director of Jackson Barracks Military Museum and Library. The Jackson Barracks Military Museum and Library are located on the Orleans and St. Bernard Parish line. Both the Library and Museum were inundated with between 5-13 feet of floodwater from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Pugh will give a brief history of the Barracks and then discuss the ruin of the holdings of both the Library and Museum. She will also discuss the ordeal of trying to salvage and recover as many items as possible.

At 3:15 participants will travel to the Laurel Valley Store and Museum located across Bayou Lafourche from the Nicholls campus. There J. Paul Leslie, Profes-

or of History, Nicholls State University, will give a presentation and tour of *Laurel Valley Plantation*. It is the largest surviving 19th and 20th century sugar plantation complex left in the United States. The plantation contains over sixty structures, some of which have been restored. The plantation store now houses a museum and gift shop. Laurel Valley has been used as the setting in numerous movies including *Interview with a Vampire*, *A Lesson Before Dying* and *A Gathering of Old Men*.

For additional information, contact Clifton Theriot at 985-448-4621 or by email at [clifton.theriot@nicholls.edu](mailto:clifton.theriot@nicholls.edu).

## Bruce Turner, Interim Treasurer

Bruce Turner, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, is now the Interim Treasurer of LAMA. He is the person to contact to join LAMA or renew your membership.

Membership in LAMA entitles you to receive the *LAMA Newsletter* and invitations to the Association's annual meetings. LAMA members also automatically become members of the Southern Archives Conference (SAC), an umbrella organization of southeastern state archival organizations, encompassing the state organizations of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee. SAC meets every other year in one of the membership states.

LAMA membership categories and dues include student (\$5.00), senior citizen (\$10.00), Individual (\$15.00), family (\$20.00 for two people plus \$5.00 for

each additional member), organization (\$30.00 plus \$10.00 for each additional representative), sustaining (\$50.00), patron (\$100.00) and life (\$1000.00).

Please join today or renew your membership by sending a check or money order payable to **Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association** to

Bruce Turner  
University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
P. O. Box 40199  
Lafayette, LA 70504

A printable membership form can be found at <http://www.nutrias.org/lama/form.htm>.

**LAMA's web address**  
**<http://www.louisianaarchivists.org>**

## LAMA News (continued from page 3)

### Scholarship Recipient Attends SOLINET Workshops

*By Russell D. James*

In May and June, I attended two live online workshops offered by SOLINET, graciously paid for through the continuing education scholarship at LAMA. My course work and independent study concerns metadata and metadata description. The scholarship was to cover two metadata courses offered, but at the last minute SOLINET had to cancel one of them for lack of registration. So I opted to take a live online course on the salvage and preservation of audio-visual materials.

The metadata course was an introduction to the needs for metadata and the uses of metadata by archivists and other information professionals. We learned a bit on the history of metadata and its uses before the age of the computer. Much of the course centered on metadata standards and the similarities and differences between them. My favorite part of the course was discussing metadata's application to archival description, in particular EAD. I had just taken a course in library school learning EAD and saw examples of websites that used EAD in marking up finding aids in some pretty creative ways. We also talked about the need for the development of search engines and web browsers that can handle metadata elements as displayed in XML format through such protocols as EAD and TEI/MEP.

Having gone through two hurricanes and numerous tropical storms while living in the Florida pan-

handle, and then coming to hurricane-damaged Louisiana, I felt the audio-visual salvage class would be worthwhile. And I was right! I knew very little about audio-visual materials, in general, and certainly nothing about preservation and salvage. What struck me most was the quasi-scientific aspects to this work that archivists have to undertake. I was (and still am) fascinated by wet-storage of damaged films and tapes. As a former practicing archivist, I had some audio-visual materials in the collections I oversaw and learned through this course that the storage my predecessors used and that I maintained were incorrect, especially in regard to reel-to-reel films and filmstrips. Now, if given the opportunity to work with such collections again, I will have some education in the area.

The best part about taking SOLINET courses is the extended bibliographies and website listings they provide to participants. Though they gave me a recording of each course to review at my leisure, the bibliographies will always be invaluable.

SOLINET offers these live online courses at various times during the year and they have many different courses from which to choose. Students pay only \$50.00 per course. The LAMA scholarship helped me have the money to pay for the courses. Thank you, LAMA!

## News from LAMA Institutions

### Outbreak of Mold at McNeese

*By Kathie Bordelon*

An outbreak of mold was detected on the third floor of the McNeese library in July. Unbelievable as it may seem, the mold was in no way connected to Hurricane Rita but was caused by a faulty air conditioning

system. A project to clean the mold from the book collection was undertaken and completed on September 11. Over 300 shelves of books were cleaned by library faculty, staff, graduate assistants and student workers. Special thanks to Pati Threatt, Assistant Archivist, for her supervision of the project.

# Join LAMA today!!

## News from LAMA Institutions (continued from page 4)

### McNeese Archives Department Works on Two Projects

By Kathie Bordelon

The McNeese Archives Department works very closely with the Southwest Louisiana Historical Association. McNeese was recently involved in two projects of significance to the area. One was the securing and placement of an historical marker in DeQuincy, Louisiana, on the site of the former Newport Industries. The text of the marker reads: “Between 1890 and 1930, large lumber companies moved into southwest Louisiana to harvest Longleaf Pine. After 1930 most of the companies ended logging operations, leaving thousands of acres of pine stumps. In 1919 W. Burns Logan, Sr., a chemical engineer, arrived in DeQuincy to explore the possibility of processing the pine stumps into pine oil, turpentine, and rosin. Logan found the area rife with high quality pine stumps and established the Acme Products Company. The Acme plant stood on 26 acres at the southeast intersection of Highways 12 and 27. Purchased by Newport Industries in 1928, the plant soon employed as many as 450 men. Independent contractors, known as “stumpers,” provided the raw materials. Stumpers dynamited the stumps from the ground and transported them to the plant for processing. Stumping was a dangerous pursuit. Premature explosions or flying debris killed several area men. Yet the plant had a tremendous economic impact on the area. Soon area residents began referring to DeQuincy as “Stumptown” and DeQuincy High School named its yearbook “The Pine Stump.” By 1957 the supply of stumps had dwindled and Newport Industries closed the DeQuincy plant.

The second project involved the production of a new book, *More Stories from Imperial Calcasieu*, a compilation of historical articles written by Mike Jones, of the Lake Charles *American Press*, from 1990 to 2004. This book is an update of a previous project where Jones’s articles since 1979 were printed in three volumes, *Citizen Soldiers: Southwest Louisianians Defend the Nation, Southwest Louisiana in the War Between the States*, and *Adventures*

*in Old Calcasieu*. The sale of these volumes was a successful fund raiser for the Historical Association and the Friends of the Library. The current book, *More Stories from Imperial Calcasieu*, contains approximately 300 historical articles covering a wide range of topics.

### McNeese Archives Puts Local History Publications Online

By Kathie Bordelon

The McNeese Archives has recently developed a project to put local history publications online. The first title available as a full-text electronic resource is Stewart Alfred Ferguson’s *History of Lake Charles, Louisiana* which is now accessible through the institutions website at <http://library.mcneese.edu/depts/archive/ferguson.htm>.

The goal of the project is to do the same for several other historically valuable publications, such as R. Brantley Cagle’s *The Political Development of the City of Lake Charles, 1890-1930*, Theodore John Ratliff’s *The Life and Services to Public Education of John McNeese*, and Dr. Donald J. Millet’s *The Economic Development of Southwest Louisiana, 1865-1900*. These publications will also be full-text electronic resources. As such they will be cataloged and accessible through the library’s online catalog in addition to being accessible through the Archives website. The text will be keyword searchable—a very useful feature since these books are not indexed.

Other titles likely to be added in the future include:

- Grace Ulmer’s *Economic and Social Developments of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, 1840-1912*
- Leila Aline Scarlett’s *The History of Education in Lake Charles Prior to 1907*
- Inez Agnes Schindler’s *The History of Education in Lake Charles from 1907-1937*

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## Exhibitions/Events

### Exhibitions and Events at The Historic New Orleans Collection

By Mary Mees

On July 18, The Historic New Orleans Collection unveiled *City of Hope: New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina*, an exhibition exploring the events of August 29, 2005, and beyond, while also placing Katrina in a historical context. Originally slated for a four-month run ending on November 4, *City of Hope* was extended due to popular demand and now remains on view through Saturday, January 6, 2007. Historic photographs, prints, maps, and books trace New Orleans's perseverance through 300 years of periodic flooding and natural disasters, while contemporary photographs, oral histories, video footage, and ephemera explore Hurricane Katrina's impact and the city's will to survive and rebuild against all odds.

In conjunction with the exhibition, The Collection launched the **Artists' Response Series**—presentations on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. throughout the fall by artists who have created works in response to Hurricane Katrina. To date, videographer John Menszer, painter Phil Sandusky, and photographer Jonathan Traviesa have discussed and presented aspects of their work influenced, even inspired, by the hurricane's might. Two more presentations were scheduled for October—videographers/photographers Chris Roberts and John Keller presented *"I Have 45 Reasons Why You Can't Have This Boat"* on October 4 and musician Paul Soniat presented *Below the Water Line* on October 11. The series runs through November 15. Please visit [www.hnoc.org](http://www.hnoc.org) for updated information.

Later in October, The Collection will present the first **Dianne Woest Fellowship Lecture**. The Collection established the annual Dianne Woest Fel-

lowship in the Arts in Humanities in 2006. Two fellows were selected in the inaugural year—Greg O'Brien, associate professor of history, University of Southern Mississippi, and Jessica Lepler, doctoral candidate, Brandeis University. Greg O'Brien will present a lecture on his research topic, "The Man Who Saved New Orleans: George Towers Dunbar and the New Orleans Flood on 1849," on Wednesday, October 25, at 6:30 p.m. at the Williams Research Center. Three Woest Fellows were selected for 2007—Nathalie Des-sens, professor, University of Toulouse-Le Mirail, France; Vanessa Mongey, doctoral candidate, University of Pennsylvania; and Guatham Rao, doctoral candidate, University of Chicago. For more information on the Woest Fellowship, visit [www.hnoc.org](http://www.hnoc.org).

In the winter, The Collection will present two major exhibitions and the 12th annual Williams Research Center Symposium. The city's culinary history will be the subject of *What's Cooking in New Orleans?: Culinary Traditions of the Crescent City*, on view at 533 Royal Street from January 16 through July 7, 2007, and the symposium, *Food For Thought: Culinary Tradition of New Orleans*, on Saturday, January 20, 2007 at the Wyndham Hotel at Canal Place. On March 3, *Four Hundred Years of French Presence in Louisiana: Treasures from the National Library of France* will open in the History Galleries at 533 Royal Street. The first exhibition to focus exclusively on the National Library's extensive collections relating to Louisiana, *Four Hundred Years of French Presence in Louisiana* is presented by the French Minister of Culture, the president of the National Library of France, and the French Consul General to New Orleans as an affirmation of France's commitment to the preservation of New Orleans culture in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

## LAMA Annual Meeting at Thibodaux November 17, 2006

## Exhibitions and Events (continued from page 6)

### Exhibit to Celebrate Centennial Of Louisiana State Fair

By Laura McLemore

LSUS Archives and Louisiana State Exhibit Museum in Shreveport are collaborating this fall on an exhibit observing the hundredth anniversary of the Louisiana State Fair, 1906-2006. The exhibit will feature photographs and artifacts contributed by the LSUS Noel Library Archives and special Collections and the Louisiana State Fair Association. The exhibit will feature posters, postcards, photographs, and tickets dating back to the 1906 State Fair.

An autumn institution perhaps too much taken for granted in recent years, the Fair harkens to 1877, when it was known as the Louisiana State Fair and Shreveport Agriculture and Mechanical Exposition. The Louisiana State Fair has endured many ups and downs since. It was held sporadically in the 1880s and early 1890s. When the boll weevil decimated southern cotton crops after 1892, the obvious need for agricultural diversification prompted the search for a means to show large groups of farmers the methods by which their lands could be utilized for profit. The State Fair was held in locations around the state for a few years, including Baton Rouge and New Orleans. In 1905, the State Fair of Louisiana, as it now exists, was organized in Shreveport by stock subscription, and the first Fair was held from November 17 to 25, 1906, in the present location on U. S. Highway 80 in Shreveport. Although the Fair was not financially successful the first few years, the Shreveport electorate in 1909 agreed to "adopt" the fair, pay off its indebtedness, and expand

the property. The flu epidemic of 1918 forced cancellation of the fair that year. A damage suit, filed by a workman injured on the Fairgrounds in 1934, sent the Fair into receivership in 1935. Nevertheless, the Fair Association managed to hold a fair each year, expanding its service to the agricultural community and at the same time expanding its portrayal of the obvious changes that were taking place in the 20th century. It was the scene of much excitement every October with horse races, care races, and dare devils in the air as well as on the ground. Alongside the livestock awards were the Better Baby contests in which babies were weighed and measured to determine which would be the prize baby. This contest has since been discontinued but was hugely popular in the early 20th century. By 1978, Louisiana State Fair ranked 18th among United States and Canadian expositions and third among the United States fairs running ten days or less.

The exhibit, which opened with a reception for the public on October 8, 2006, features articles and pictures depicting the agricultural and scientific basis of the State Fair of Louisiana and also the contributions of former state fair presidents, including W. R. Hirsch, who served as president of the state fair from 1916 until 1954 and founded the Hirsch Memorial Coliseum, which became a refuge for many south Louisianians in the months following Hurricane Katrina. The display will run through December 7, 2006.

The Louisiana State Exhibit Museum is operated and managed by the Louisiana Secretary of State's Office. Museum hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, noon until 4 p.m.

## LAMA News (continued from page 1)

Directory (*continued from page 1*)

Directory by email and phone in October to confirm contact information. Updating the LAMA directory, which contains over 200 institutions throughout the state of Louisiana, will be an ongoing process, and will require some time and effort on the parts of both inter-

viewer and interviewee. They will greatly appreciate your time in providing the information to help make a current directory available. Contact: [saalsu@lsu.edu](mailto:saalsu@lsu.edu).

## LAMA News (continued from page 1)

Land Records (*continued from page 1*)

and the public could get to the records. The principal source of revenue for the Notarial Archives, fees paid by title companies, began to flow in once again.

The public, the records, and Notarial Archives staff endured these conditions until the recent Labor Day weekend, when movers transported the shelving, the 60,000 volumes of original records, the plat cabinets and large plan copier, all the office equipment and computers to the fifth floor (above flood levels!) and part of the fourth floor of a commercial office building on Poydras Street. Despite the fact that the space is surrounded by windows, this facility is the best the records have had in 50 years.

It is uncertain, however, how long the records will stay there, due to the Archives' governmental structure and recent legislative developments. The Notarial Archives is an odd government animal in a state full of oddities. It is an independent state agency supported by self-generated fees and subject to state appropriations. It is master of its own fate in some ways, which helped the agency act quickly and decisively to salvage its records after Katrina. In other ways, it is dependent on a wounded City of New Orleans, most notably in providing a physical space of operations. According to state law, the City of New Orleans must provide adequate courthouse space for original records housed by Notarial Archives. The courthouse space previously

provided flooded, and FEMA has said that it would be illegal to move the important records back to the Courthouse basement. FEMA has agreed to fund the City's lease of the temporary housing on Poydras Street for a limited time. At this moment, that time could range from eight months to three years or more. Details are still being worked out on those arrangements.

Other uncertainties abound. For one, the state Legislature in its most recent regular session abolished the Notarial Archives, effective January 1, 2009. At that time, the Notarial Archives will merge with local courthouse functions into the by-then-to-be-created 41st Judicial District. The care of the records—land records as well as court records—will then be the responsibility of the by-then-created office of the Clerk of Court of the 41st Judicial District. Unlike other parishes, the City of New Orleans government is also the parish government. Whether the City will have the funds to construct a new courthouse any time soon remains a question.

At this point in Post-Katrina life, the Notarial Archives has grown accustomed to continuing operations in the face of uncertainty. Everyone in New Orleans has. It is incumbent on those of us who have weathered this wrenching experience to warn archivists everywhere who take seriously their responsibility for the care of their collections. Disaster can strike. What would you do if your records were suddenly homeless?

## News from LAMA Institutions (continued from page 5)

*Publications Online (continued from page 5)*

- W. O. Boston's *Growth and Development of the Lake Charles School System, 1920-1940*
- Ralph Clifton Reynaud's *An Historical Study of the Negro Schools of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, 1888-1939*
- Irman D. Bayne's *The History of Education in Calcasieu Parish*

After the initial phase McNeese Archives plans to expand the project to include more titles representing different aspects of the history of the area, such as in-

dustrial, agricultural, biographical, and religious topics. The institution also plans to include histories of the other parishes in Southwest Louisiana (Allen, Beauregard, Cameron, and Jefferson Davis).

**Join LAMA today!!**  
**(see page 3)**



## Reviews

*AASLH Basic of Archives CD: Distant Learning Workshop.*

Produced by American Association for State and Local History and Council of State Historic Records Coordinators, et al., 2005. CD.

The workshop is an excellent source for the use, planning, acquisition, emergency management, and funding of archives and special collections. The AASLH received a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to fund the publication. Online Computer Library Center, Inc. and Fusion Productions edited, provided text, and designed the CD based workshop. This reviewer had no problem loading the CD into Windows 98 and XP, although no other OS was attempted. The designers shaped the workshop around Microsoft Internet Explorer (IE); they provided instruction for utilization and how to obtain (free) IE.

The interface works well with few navigation problems. The workshop is not designed to produce archivists; however, the developers suggested that, "Everyone should consider using the courses to conduct thorough self-study and assessment to help plan and take appropriate actions to strengthen your historical records program." In addition, curators may need archival skills, librarians with special collections may require supplementary training, and volunteers and work-study students should have knowledge of historical records programs.

The planners divided the workshop into five courses with a varying number of lessons with in each course. One word of caution, the time period given for each lesson is deceptive. This reviewer utilized the workshop with prior knowledge of some archival method; therefore, he studied the whole workshop in two separate sessions, one as a student or self-assessor and the other an in-depth look at all the CD's points and links. There are links to glossaries and CD based information. Furthermore, one should have their computer connected to the internet, as there are many links to internet sources. These gems of information are worth the extra time.

Meanwhile, the five courses have a logical progression. First, the developers provide course navigation lessons, which aid the learning experience. The first course involves an introduction to "archives and archivists." This section explains the use of archives, archival material, and the handling of materials. The second course demonstrates the process of acquiring of collections. Following in logical progression, the developers provide a third course designed to acclimate one to processing archival material. Consequently after the materials are processed, one will need to house the collections, which is the focus of the fourth course. In addition, this section introduces one to emergency management. The fifth course has excellent suggestions for "access and outreach." Finally, the workshop ends with "optional materials," which has additional source information.

This reviewer first thought that the workshop CD would be an excellent aid for university and college professors throughout the academic community. Many of their protégées require training in the use of archives and archival materials. Why not provide a visual aid for training? Aspects of the workshop could be 'cut and pasted' into a paper form for reading. In conclusion the workshop is good source for training. It provides guidance in acquiring and processing collections; in addition, the workshop can help save many historic items from the ravages of the elements and misuse with its excellent instructions.

This reviewer is currently earning a MA in Heritage Resources at Northwestern State University of Louisiana. He worked as a graduate assistant in the Cammie E. Henry Research Center, the archives and special collections at NSU. Both the graduate professors and the archivist at NSU requested the reviewer to evaluate the CD for implementation into the Heritage Resources Program.

*J. C. Rivers, BA History, Candidate Master of Arts Heritage Resources.*

**LAMA Annual Meeting**  
**Join us on Friday, November 17, 2006**  
**In Thibodeaux, LA**

## Papers and Publications

*My Brazilian Years* by Morris Raphael

*My Brazilian Years* is Morris Raphael's thirteenth book. He says, "Number 13 is apparently not an unlucky number for me because this particular book is making quite a splash in the USA, Brazil and even in far away Lebanon. Damon Veach, syndicated columnist for *The Advocate* gave my book a rave review wherein he stated 'Raphael is one of the finest historical writers to come out of Louisiana, and is one of the most underrated. My library contains all of his books.' In view of that flattering statement, I'm almost tempted to quit writing while I'm still ahead."

Morris Raphael is a native of Natchez, Mississippi and a long time resident of New Iberia. He retired as a project engineer from the Port of New Iberia. Raphael is a past president of the Attakapas Historical Association, the Iberia Cultural Resources Association, served three terms on the board of the Shadows-On-the-Teche, and was at one time City Editor of the Franklin Banner Tribune.

Twelve of his books are Louisiana oriented, and his first book *The Battle of the Bayou Country* is now in its 5th printing. Raphael says he is fascinated with the bayou country of Louisiana and intends to continue writing about its colorful history.

## LAMA News (continued from page 8)

### Nominees for the LAMA Board

By *Cliff Theriot*

A slate of nominees for the LAMA Board has been compiled and will be presented on the ballot at the LAMA Annual Meeting in Thibodeaux, LA on November 17, 2006.

The offices and nominees include the following:

**Vice-President/President Elect**—Rose Tarbell, Manuscripts Processing Archivist, LSU

**Treasurer**—Bruce Turner, Head of Archives and Special Collections, ULL

#### **Board of Directors (2 to be elected)**

Elizabeth Dow, Associate Professor, LSU school of Library and Information Science

Howard Margot, Research Manager, New Orleans Notarial Archives

**SSA Annual Meeting**  
**May 30-June 2, 2007**  
**Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**  
*Please join us there!*

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## LAMA Officers

*President*

**Nita Cole**

Louisiana State Exhibit Museum

*Interim Treasurer*

**Bruce Turner**

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

*Vice-President/President-elect*

**Clifton Theriot**

Allen J. Ellender Archives

Ellender Memorial Library

*Past President (ex-officio member)*

**Kathie Bordelon**

McNeese State University

*Secretary*

**Irene Wainwright**

City Archives/Louisiana Division

New Orleans Public Library

## Newsletter Editor

**Phyllis Kinnison**

Special Collections

Louisiana State University Libraries

## LAMA Board of Directors

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- Bruce Turner        University of Louisiana at Lafayette

**Louisiana Archives and  
Manuscripts Association**

P. O. Box 17203  
Baton Rouge, LA 7083-7203

[http://nutrias.org/  
lama/lama.htm](http://nutrias.org/lama/lama.htm)

## **LAMA Newsletter**

It is never too early to send in news items for the next LAMA newsletter. Deadlines are March 15 for the Spring/Summer issue and September 15 for the Fall/Winter issue. Please send items to Phyllis Kinnison, Louisiana State University, Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. E-mail: [pcasti1@lsu.edu](mailto:pcasti1@lsu.edu).