

# Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association Newsletter

Fall / Winter  
2003

## LAMA News

### Annual Meeting

Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association members are encouraged to attend the 2003 Annual Meeting, to be held on Friday, December 5, at Hill Memorial Library on the campus of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge.

All archivists and other interested parties in the area are invited to attend — and to join LAMA. The program for the annual meeting and a printable registration form are available on LAMA's Web site at <http://nutrias.org/lama/lama.htm>. Current LAMA members will receive a registration packet by regular mail.

### **Slate of Officers**

The following slate of officers will be presented on December 5.

#### **Vice President/President-Elect**

Kathie Bordelon, Archivist, McNeese State University  
**Secretary**

Irene Wainwright, Archivist, City Archives, New Orleans Public Library  
**Treasurer**

Mark Martin, Assistant Curator for Image Resources, Louisiana State University

#### **Board of Directors, 2003-2006** (Two to be elected)

Nita Cole, Curator/Archivist, Bossier Parish Library Historical Center, Bossier Parish Public Library

Robert Sherer, University Archivist, Tulane University

#### **Nomination and election of members of the board of directors and officers**

SECTION A: The nominating committee shall consider the names and qualifications of all candidates for officers or members of the Board of Directors and shall recommend a slate of persons to fill the annual vacancies. In compiling the slate of nominees, the nominating committee shall strive to achieve geographical balance among the officers and Directors. Election shall be held at

the annual meeting of the membership, or such special meeting as shall be called for that purpose. The Secretary shall inform the membership of the slate of persons nominated by the nominating committee. At the annual meeting, or such special meeting called for that purpose, additional candidates may be nominated from the floor. *(From LAMA bylaws)*

#### **Dues**

LAMA membership dues are renewed at the annual meeting. Levels of membership are:

Student	\$5
Individual	\$15
Senior citizen	\$10
Family	\$20
Organization	\$30
Sustaining	\$50
Patron	\$100
Life	\$1000

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**LAMA  
Annual Meeting  
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**LAMA Program  
Friday, December 5**

**9 a.m.** Registration at Hill Memorial Library, LSU

**10 a.m.** Welcome, Susan Tucker, President of LAMA

**10:15 a.m.** “The ‘New’ Archival Program at LSU’s School of Library and Information Science – Opportunities for Louisiana Archivists and Their Repositories,” Dr. Elizabeth Dow, Assistant Professor of Library Science, School of Library and Information Science, Louisiana State University

**11 a.m.** Business meeting

**11:45 a.m.** Box lunch in Hill Lecture Hall

**1 p.m.** “Ethics in Acquisitions: A Discussion of Case Studies,” Dr. Bruce Turner, Head, Archives and Special Collections, University of Louisiana at Lafayette; Mark Cave, The Historic New Orleans Collection; Tara Laver, Assistant Curator for Manuscripts, Special Collections, Louisiana State University

**2 p.m.** Break

**2:15 p.m.** “Identification and Preservation of Historic Photographs,” Mark Martin, Assistant Curator for Image Resources, Special Collections, Louisiana State University

**3:15 p.m.** Tours of campus museums and repositories – Hill Memorial Library, Textile and Costume Museum in the LSU Human Ecology Department, or the LSU Museum of Art. (Choose one.)

**Session Descriptions**

*The ‘New’ Archival Program* Elizabeth Dow joined the LSU faculty in January 2001 and established an archival concentration within the Library School’s curriculum. She will discuss what the program offers for continuing education, the consortium of southeastern library schools she has assembled to increase

course offerings, and how archival repositories in Louisiana can help her, and how she and her students can help us through practicums and field experiences.

*Ethics in Acquisitions* Using the same case studies that were used in a session at the recent SAA meeting, in which Bruce Turner participated, the panelists will facilitate a discussion on ethical issues in acquisitions and appraisal work. The case studies were created by archivists at several institutions and compiled by Karen Benedict for her forthcoming book. The panel and attendees will discuss case studies describing some of the ethical situations encountered in acquisitions/appraisal work, including those related to donor agreements, sensitive documents in accessioned material, third-party privacy concerns, and the impact of deaccessioning on donor relations, to name a few. To encourage audience participation, the case studies will be distributed in advance.

*Historic Photographs* Historical photographs present unique storage and description concerns, and this component of manuscript collections has traditionally been under-described – the too brief description “pictures” tacked on at the end of the inventory. In this session, attendees will receive tips on identifying specific genres of photographic materials and how to properly care for them.

*The Textile & Costume Museum* offers changing exhibitions of regional, national, and international interest. The exhibition “Preserving Heritage Through One Family’s Treasures: The Louisiana Purchase Years and Beyond” will be on display during the meeting. It features early 19<sup>th</sup> century apparel from the Butler family of The Cottage, a plantation near St. Francisville. The scope of the museum’s more than 12,000 piece collection is global. Holdings include prehistoric and ethnic textiles and costumes as well as contemporary high fashions and high-tech textiles. As a component of LSU’s School of Human Ecology, the museum promotes conservation, research, teaching, and public service.

The *LSU Museum of Art*, located in the Memorial  
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## LAMA News (Continued from Page 2)

Tower, was established in 1959 by an anonymous donor who was interested in art works representing British and American cultural exchanges from the 17th century to the present. The LSU Museum houses an extensive collection of British and American decorative and fine arts. In addition, the museum features important works from Louisiana and southern artists, including George E. Ohr, Clementine Hunter, Caroline Wogan Durieux, and Newcomb Art Pottery. The museum's collection is one of the largest university-affiliated art collections in the South.

*Hill Memorial Library* is home to the LSU Libraries Special Collections, which is comprised of the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, University Archives, the Rare Book Collection, the E.A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection, and various smaller collections. Built in 1926 as the original library on campus, Hill Memorial was renovated from 1983 to 1985 to provide an appropriate home for these significant and unique holdings. The tour will include both public areas and "behind-the-scenes" features.

## Louisiana State Archives

### Renovation near completion

Secretary of State Fox McKeithen proudly announces that the renovation of the Louisiana State Archives building is approximately 85 per cent complete. Funded through the state's capital outlay program, the \$1.4 million project began in February and was scheduled for completion by September. This is the first major refurbishment of the facility since its opening in 1987.

Visitors to State Archives will notice a remarkable transformation of the beautiful facility once the renovation project is finished. The project, overseen by Assistant Archives Director Lewis Morris, includes installation of a state-of-the-art audio/visual system in the facility's auditorium, installation of additional archival shelving for agency and archival records, landscaping of the building's courtyard and grounds, construction of mobile display cases, installation of new wall carpeting in the State Archives Art Gallery, renovation of the Louisiana Room Exhibit Gallery, construction of new staff offices, installation of new tile in all corridor floors, installation of new carpeting in all offices, reception areas, and the Research Library, replacement of the facility's HVAC system, installation of new ceiling tiles throughout the building, purchase of new office furniture, and painting of the building's interior.

### Conservation Lab

The staff of the Conservation Lab has been processing some late 19th and early 20th Century criminal

records donated to the State Archives by the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office. Also being processed are records donated by Edith Blush of Edwards, Mississippi. Mrs. Blush's husband, Richard, was a long-time employee of the Higgins Shipyard in New Orleans and worked there during the manufacture of the "Higgins boats" during World War II. Doug Harrison, Archives Conservator, is teaching Preservation of Archival and Library Materials, being offered to Louisiana State University students studying for their Master's of Library and Information Science.

### Records Management

In June, the Louisiana State Archives' Records Management section published its initial set of administrative rules entitled Records Management Policies and Practices. These rules provide governmental entities, at all levels in Louisiana, policies and procedures for managing their records in accordance with state law. The rules may be viewed by visiting <http://www.sec.state.la.us/archives/records/recmgt-index.htm>.

### New Orleans Death Indices

Thanks to the partnership efforts of the New Orleans Indices Volunteers, State Archives has recently uploaded the complete 1804 to 1907 New Orleans Death Indices for access in the Research Library or through the worldwide web at [www.rootsweb.com/usgenweb/la/orleans.htm](http://www.rootsweb.com/usgenweb/la/orleans.htm).

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## Louisiana State Archives (Continued from Page 3)

### New Fees

New fee changes have gone into effect as of March 20. These can be found on the State Archives Web site at [www.sec.state.la.us/archives](http://www.sec.state.la.us/archives) and records management.

### Newly Acquired

Recently acquired from the Department of Health & Hospitals is the Vital Records Registry, the 1952 Statewide & Orleans Parish Death records, the 1902 Orleans Parish Birth records, and the 1952 Orleans Parish Marriage records. These records are in the process of being microfilmed and should be available in the Research Library later this fall.

### Recent Visitors

Recent visitors to the State Archives were members of the Human Performance Institute, a nonprofit to prevent depression - Northshore Chapter; the Association Henri Capitant Conference, *Louisiana Bicentenary: A Fusion of Legal Cultures (1803-2003)* sponsored by the LSU Paul Hebert School of Law; and the finalists and families of the Louisiana History Bee sponsored by Louisiana Public Broadcasting. Photographs are available [www.sec.state.la.us/archives](http://www.sec.state.la.us/archives) and records management/visitors.

### State Archivist

State Archivist Florent Hardy, Jr., recently visited North Carolina State Archives in Raleigh. Secretary McKeithen had previously visited the NC Archives and highly recommended the archives as a must-see destination. The North Carolina Archives is the third

oldest archives in the United States and was established in 1903 (Louisiana's was established in 1956). Dr. Hardy also visited the United States Senate Archives and the National Archives in Washington, D.C. While at National Archives, Dr. Hardy met with Max Evans, Executive Director of the National Archives, and Richard Cameron, Director of State Programs.

### Archives Gallery Calendar

#### *September*

Highland Road Artists

#### *October*

River Road Art Show/Baton Rouge Artists Guild

#### *November, December*

Louisiana Associated Women in the Arts

### New Accessions May-July

American Italians: Secretary of State American Italians of Louisiana Exhibit, 2001

Cooper, Evan Collection: 1958 voting card and 1960's election cards (Evan Cooper Collection)

Foster, Governor Mike: Governor Mike Foster's 2001 Executive Orders and Proclamations

McKeithen, Secretary of State Fox: Color photo of Secretary of State McKeithen with Louisiana governors

Meaux, Deborah: Deborah "Penny" Meaux Edwards Quilt Collection

Rebel Archives (currently being inventoried)

St. John Parish Collection (currently being inventoried)

World War II books

## 2004 Conference Calendar

**SSA** May 27-29, *San Antonio, TX*

**SAA** Aug. 2-8, *Boston, MA*

**ARMA** Oct. 3-6, *Long Beach, CA*

### *To Preserve Cultures and Nurture Generations*

# Building a Collection of Cajun and Creole Music

By *Jean S. Kiesel*

The Special Collections Department of the Edith Garland Dupré Library, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, has begun a two-year project to start building a comprehensive collection of commercially recorded music from the Acadiana region of south Louisiana. Funded by a \$90,000 grant from the Board of Regents Support Fund, the project aims to acquire copies of all Louisiana Cajun and Creole music, make digital copies of vintage recordings for preservation purposes, and provide access to these recordings through listening stations in the department's reading room. The ultimate goal of the collection is to preserve unique local genres of music, educate and entertain the general public, foster research, and support the continued development of the music.

The Acadiana region of south Louisiana is home to a unique culture, French Acadian in its origins but evolved over time into something now known as Cajun. This culture includes influences from other ethnic groups that settled in south Louisiana, including Spanish, German, Anglo-American, Scottish, Irish, Afro-Caribbean and American Indian. The Creole (African-French) culture of southwest Louisiana shares many of the same cultural elements, with a stronger Afro-Caribbean strain. Both groups interact constantly and influence each other while retaining their own cultural identity.

Music is an integral part of these cultures, continually evolving but grounded in tradition. Elements of juré can be heard in Cajun music, while the European origins of Acadian music can be heard in Creole music. Many recordings feature collaborations between musicians from different genres. It is important to realize, however, that the music is not limited to traditional songs. Over time, periods of influence from American music like blues, bluegrass, country & western, gospel, reggae, rhythm & blues, rock & roll and hip-hop have resulted in a variety of styles that are still recognizably Cajun and Creole. Contempo-

rary musicians remain true to their cultures as they record new arrangements and versions of traditional Acadian folksongs and juré-inspired zydeco or create new works that still reflect their heritage.

Thus the recordings being acquired by this project will represent the various genres: Acadian folk songs, traditional Cajun, Cajun-blues, Cajun-country, Cajun-rock, Cajun-swing, traditional Creole, juré, la-la, swamp pop, zydeco, zydeco-blues, nouveau zydeco and zydeco styles with rock, reggae or hip-hop influences.

Despite the importance of music to the local culture, no effort has ever been made to build a comprehensive collection of commercial recordings of this indigenous music. Fragmentary collections exist in libraries and homes throughout the area, but this is the first one that aims to be all-inclusive.

Public interest in the project has been amazing. Before the grant was awarded, indeed before the project was even announced formally, word spread and several collectors donated their old 78s, 45s and LPs. The first gifts drew attention from the local media, and newspaper and television stories attracted more gifts. This seems to be an auspicious time to be collecting phonograph records, as the compact disc has replaced them commercially and few record players are available anymore to play the old format. As people migrate from albums to discs, they welcome the opportunity to find a new home for their old recordings.

During the grant period, the project investigators will consult discographies to identify recordings appropriate for the collection, everything from the first commercial recording done in 1928 through the newest releases. Two copies of each recording will be acquired: an archival copy and a copy to be used at public listening stations in the reading room. Materials will not circulate outside of the library, and copying will not be permitted, to avoid copyright infringement. Grant funds will be used to purchase in-print

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## Collections (Continued from Page 5)

recordings (and such older ones as are not received as gifts), to copy older formats into digital format, to purchase listening equipment, and to catalog the recordings for the library's online catalog. By the end of the grant period the library will have a core collection of recordings accessible on public listening stations in the reading room. The library will continue to add to the collection as other recordings become available. It is hoped that the collection will eventually include personal papers and oral histories of people who perform and produce Cajun and Creole mu-

sic, and business records of local studios.

The project director is Sandra M. Himel, Government Documents Librarian and a life-long aficionado of Cajun and Creole music. Co-principal investigators are I. Bruce Turner, Head of Archives and Special Collections, Jean S. Kiesel, Louisiana Room Librarian, Lance Chance, Library Systems Coordinator, and Barry Jean Ancelet, Professor of Modern Languages and Folklore. Steven C. Ring, former General Reference Librarian at the UL Lafayette, assisted in preparing the grant proposal and core list of recordings.

## Exhibits

### The Historic New Orleans Collection

Ten portraits of Louisiana citizens, whose stories are revealed in a taped commentary, are on view through March 2004 at The Historic New Orleans Collection. *Portraits After 1803: The Aftermath of the Louisiana Purchase*, installed in the Counting House, is part of The Collection's yearlong commemoration of the Louisiana Purchase bicentennial.

Painting subjects include Louisiana Purchase commissioner Major General James Wilkinson, President Zachary Taylor, businessman James Robb, and Samuel Stewart, who constructed the Pontalba buildings flanking Jackson Square. A portrait of a free woman of color by François Fleischbein, identified only as Betsy, is on view, as is a likeness of a young girl named Amelia Scooler. Completing the list of sitters are businessman and philanthropist Maunsel White; artist Jacques Amans, depicted in a self-portrait; Madame Furcy Verrett; and Emma and Olivia Olivier and their sister-in-law Zulme Maspero, portrayed in a monumental portrait.

The setting for the exhibition is The Collection's

Counting House, so named because of its function as a banking room during the 1830s, when the 1792 property was occupied by the Lizardi Brothers.

Also on view through March 2004, in The Collection's Williams Gallery, is *Napoleon's Eyewitness: Pierre Clement Laussat and the Louisiana Purchase*. The exhibition traces Laussat's activities in the transfer of Louisiana from Spain to France and to the United States. The Counting House and the Williams Gallery are located at 533 Royal St.

At The Williams Research Center, 410 Chartres St, is *Charting Louisiana*, an exhibition of the contemporary discussion of the Louisiana Purchase from the Federalist, Democratic-Republican, and British points of view, through newspapers, presidential messages, congressional debates, and other print media. This exhibition continues through March 2004.

Permanently on exhibit in the Second Floor Gallery, 410 Chartres St., is *Louisiana Sites and Citizens: Selections from the Permanent Collection of Paintings*.

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## Join

# Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association

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## Exhibits (Continued from Page 6)

### Amistad Research Center Art Gallery

One of the most illustrious personalities of the 1920s and 1930s in New York, during the era known as the Harlem Renaissance, was Carl Van Vechten. Born in Iowa and educated in Chicago, Van Vechten moved to New York City in 1906. Initially a writer and critic of modern dance, Van Vechten developed a keen interest in African American culture. He visited Harlem regularly and forged friendships with many African American luminaries such as Pearl Bailey, Joe Louis, Ethel Waters, Diana Sands, Claude McKay, Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes and others who were his subjects when he became a professional photographer during the early 1930s. The photographs in this exhibit are from the manuscript collections of Jimmy Daniels and Louise E. Jefferson. The exhibit titled *Celebrating Celebrities: Carl Van Vechten (1880–1964)*, showed through Sept. 30 at the Amistad Research Center Art Gallery, located at Tilton Hall – Tulane University

6823 St. Charles Avenue - Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information call 862-3222.

### Louisiana State Museum

The Louisiana State Museum unveiled in October a new exhibit to commemorate the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase. The exhibition, entitled *One Nation Under God: The Church, the State, and the Louisiana Purchase*, will provide a unique perspective on the events leading up to and following this momentous occasion in our nation's history.

This special bicentennial exhibit will be incorporated in the permanent exhibit on the Louisiana Purchase that currently graces the Cabildo's Sala Capitular. Experiencing the Sala Capitular provides the visitor with the unique adventure of being in the very space where the young United States took possession of Louisiana from France on December 20, 1803.

See <http://lsm.crt.state.la.us> for more information.

## News from LAMA Institutions

### Newcomb College Center for Research on Women

Newcomb College Center for Research on Women is very pleased to announce that Jennifer Merchant has joined the Center as a Visiting Scholar for the Fall 2003 semester.

Associate professor at the University of Paris, Jennifer Merchant is a political scientist whose research and publications have focused on reproductive public policy and comparative bioethics policy (France/USA), especially in the realm of medically assisted procreation. She is currently working on the institutionalization of bioethics from a comparative standpoint, with a pointed emphasis on how different legal and political approaches to establishing bioethics institutions have had a specific impact on women. In the years that she has been living and working in France, she has also been an observer of the evolution of women in the French society, and has witnessed the explosion of a new generation of French feminist groups.

Dr. Merchant has very generously agreed to offer a series of public talks and discussions during her residency, culminating in a formal presentation of her current work in comparative feminist bioethics.

The Newcomb College Center for Research on Women invites the public to these talks and to participate in discussion. There is no charge for admission.

Dr. Merchant gave talks in September and October, and on Monday, November 10, she will present "Crossed Paths and Missed Opportunities — Feminist Bioethics and the French Bioethics Laws." This presentation proposes to examine the 1994 French bioethics laws (FBL) through the prism of feminist bioethics analyses. The latter will, in fact, serve as a theoretical springboard from which to evaluate the comprehensive bioethics legal framework in France. It will be argued that despite the importance of feminist perspectives in the realm of bioethics, feminist bioethicists nevertheless face a dilemma in their re-

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## News from LAMA Institutions (Continued from Page 7)

jection of comprehensive bioethics laws in general, and the FBL in particular. Indeed, despite its weaknesses, the FBL represents a sound attempt to protect all citizens from the negative consequences of applied biomedical practices, and seems to have integrated — without even knowing it — some of the more important feminist bioethics aspirations.

Each talk begins at 4:30 p.m in the Anna E. Many Lounge, 2nd floor, Newcomb College Center for Research on Women, Caroline Richardson Hall, Newcomb College, Tulane. Light refreshments will be served.

### Northwestern State University of Louisiana

Assistant Archivist Dale Sauter attended LOUIS Users Conference in Baton Rouge in September, specifically to investigate the possibility of participation in the LOUIS digital library project.

Head Archivist Mary Linn Wernet's article entitled "A Call to Order: Women's Organizational Records of the Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University of Louisiana" was published in the Spring-Summer 2003 journal of *North Louisiana History*.

Library Specialist Madeline Meziere completed entry of two Natchitoches Parish ledgers of educable children from 1899 and 1903 into a searchable database. These records are particularly important considering the lack of 1890 federal census records. Use of this database by patrons promotes the preservation of the original ledgers housed in the Center, and can be accessed at the Center's Web site, [http://www.nsula.edu/watson\\_library/wards/default.htm](http://www.nsula.edu/watson_library/wards/default.htm)

### University of New Orleans

Marie Windell presented a paper, " 'Burn this letter,' Jefferson to His French Agent, Du Pont de Nemours, in the Negotiations for the Louisiana Purchase," Gulf South History and Humanities Conference, Pensacola Beach, Fla., Oct. 16-18; and "Civil and Public Rights for Louisiana Creoles of Color, 1803-1893," 2003 Creole Studies Conference, New Orleans, Oct. 24-25. Her review of the biography by

Professor Michael Ross of Samuel Freeman Miller, United States Supreme Court Justice, famous for his restrictive opinion on the Fourteenth Amendment, will be published in a forthcoming issue of *Louisiana History*.

### New Orleans Public Library

This fall, New Orleans Public Library will begin construction of a climate-controlled space in the storage area at the Main Library which houses the original records of the City Archives and Louisiana Division Special Collections. The project will require approximately six to nine months to complete. During that time, it is possible that certain collections may need to be closed to the public. Researchers anticipating projects involving the use of original material from the City Archives or the Louisiana Division should contact the Library prior to their visit to ensure that the material they require will be available. (Call the Louisiana Division at 504-596-2610 or contact one of the archivists by email at [weverard@gno.lib.la.us](mailto:weverard@gno.lib.la.us) or [iwainwri@gno.lib.la.us](mailto:iwainwri@gno.lib.la.us).) More specific information about the project and its impact on the normal operations of the Louisiana Division/City Archives will be posted on the NOPL web page (<http://nutrias.org>) when the information becomes available.

The Louisiana Division has embarked on a joint project with members of the New Orleans Volunteer Association (NOVA) to create a database of the Division's *Index to Orleans Parish Justices of the Peace Marriage Records, 1846-1880*. This index, originally created by Louisiana Division staff and volunteers, is a card file cross-referenced by both bride and groom indexing applications for marriage licenses issued by the justices of the peace and marriage certificates for marriages performed by the justices of the peace. These records comprise the only record of marriages kept by civil authorities during the time period.

NOVA is a group of genealogists from across the United States (and beyond) who work to make Orleans Parish genealogical records accessible online.

Parish Web page of the USGenWeb Project (at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/la/orleans.htm>). The index cards are being scanned in-house by NOVA and the images distributed to NOVA's far-flung volunteers for transcription. As the entries for each letter of the alphabet are completed, they will be added to NOPL's Web page at <http://nutrias.org/inv/jpmarrindex/jpmarrindex.htm>.

### Amistad Research Center

Amistad Research Center, Inc., has a new Web site at [www.amistadresearchcenter.org](http://www.amistadresearchcenter.org). It will be online as of October 1.

### The Historic New Orleans Collection

The Historic New Orleans Collection (The Collection) and the Louisiana Historical Association announce the winners of the 2001 and 2002 Kemper and Leila Williams Prize in Louisiana History. The annual award is given for the best book-length work published in the field of Louisiana history.

Winner of the 2001 award is *Reconstruction in the Cane Fields: From Slavery to Free Labor in Louisiana's Sugar Parishes, 1862-1880*, by John C. Rodrigue, (Louisiana State University Press). The 2002 recipient is Karl J. Ekberg's *François Vallé and His World: Upper Louisiana Before Lewis and Clark*, (University of Missouri Press). Ekberg is a two-time winner of the Williams Prize. His publication *French Roots in the Illinois Country: The Mississippi Frontier in Colonial Times* (University of Illinois Press) received the award in 1998.

Dr. John C. Rodrigue is Assistant Professor of history at Louisiana State University. His winning entry examines the relationship between Louisiana planters and former slaves as the end of slavery destroyed one labor system and created another. Rodrigue looks at the special needs of sugar planting that caused a wage labor system to develop, differing markedly from a sharecropper or tenancy system that was often the model for cotton agriculture in the post-Civil War South. In the end, this work offers an interpretation of freedom as defined by former slaves in the years im-

mediately following emancipation.

Dr. Karl J. Ekberg is Professor Emeritus of History at Illinois State University. His prize-winning book examines in detail the life of François Vallé and his immediate family, including slaves. Though illiterate, Vallé became the wealthiest person in the upper Mississippi River valley, and a trusted friend of the Spanish monarchy. With the exclusive use of primary source documents, this study places Vallé in the context of his time, and enlarges the 18<sup>th</sup> century colonial world of Upper Louisiana under control of both France and Spain.

The Kemper and Leila Williams Prize is named for the couple who founded The Historic New Orleans Collection, and who maintained lifelong interest in Louisiana's history. The prize, consisting of a cash award and a commemorative plaque, is funded and administered by The Collection. Works nominated for the Prize are submitted to a panel of three historians who evaluate the books and recommend the awards. Members of the panel serve staggered three year terms and are selected by the president of the Louisiana Historical Association. The Williams Prize in Louisiana History is presented at the annual meeting of the Louisiana Historical Association. The award honors a work published in the calendar year prior to the Association's meeting each spring.

Two prizes were awarded in 2003. In addition to the regular entries for 2002, the competition for the 2001 prize was extended due to disruption in the U.S. postal system that occurred in the fall of 2001, and affected receipt of prize applications and entry forms.

Entries for the Williams Prize in Louisiana History are accepted through January 15 of the year following their publication. For details on submitting entries, contact Williams Prize Chair, The Historic New Orleans Collection, 533 Royal Street, New Orleans, LA, 70130 or visit [www.hnoc.org](http://www.hnoc.org) and select Williams Prize from the menu.

### N.O. Notarial Archives

Sally K. Reeves retired at the end of July after 15 years as archivist of the N.O. Notarial Archives. Custodian of Notarial Records William L. Pratt an-

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## News from LAMA Institutions (Continued from Page 9)

nounced the following staff promotions: Charles W. Johnson, reference manager; Howard Margot, research manager; Ann Wakefield, archivist; and Monique Leon, notarial administrator.

Caroline Richard, history student at Loyola University, and Kara Brockman, historic preservation student at Mary Washington College, interned at the N.O. Notarial Archives Research Center earlier this year.

Howard Margot presented a lecture to the National Association of Handwriting Experts in May at its annual meeting, in New Orleans.

Recent visitors to the N.O. Notarial Archives Research Center included school teachers in Christina Vella's summer seminar sponsored by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, and Carol Reese's Tulane School of Architecture class.

The following staff members will attend a Solinet workshop on "Care and Cataloging of Map Collections" at the Historic New Orleans Collection on October 27: Maureen Detweiler, Steve Hoerner, Charles Johnson, Alicia Rosemond, and Ann Wakefield.

## New Acquisitions

### Amistad Research Center

**The Reverse Freedom Bus Rides of 1962 Collection. 0.4 ln. ft.** The "Reverse Freedom Bus Rides" of 1962 was a reaction to the Freedom Rides of the previous year to desegregate bus facilities in the South, by segregationists Leander Perez and George Singleman members of the Louisiana White Citizen's Council. They also intended the rides to win a rhetorical battle of the question of "which region of the country can really best take care of African Americans?" The collection consists of photocopies of newspaper articles from the New York Times, the New York Herald-Tribune, the Amsterdam News, the Chicago Tribune, the Times-Picayune, the Louisiana Weekly and others gathered by historian and author Mr. Garry Boulard during the course of his research into the events of the summer of 1962

### **Sammy Davis Jr. Research Collection, 1956-1996.**

**0.4 ln. ft.** Sammy Davis Jr. was born on December 8<sup>th</sup> 1925 in New York City and began his career in entertainment at the age of three in 1928 vaudeville with the Will Mastin Trio. He was part of the Rat Pack in Hollywood along with actors and singers Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin, a renowned singer and dancer who made numerous television appearances and movies such as 1959s "Porgy & Bess" and "Ocean's Eleven" in 1960. This collection consists of photocopies of news clippings covering Sammy

Davis Jr.'s career throughout the 1950s to the 1990s, collected by Mr. Boulard, a writer and historian from New Orleans.

### **Moses Hogan Papers, ca 1958-2003. 35 ln. ft.**

Moses Hogan was a native of New Orleans and a well-known classical pianist, composer and internationally renowned arranger of American Spirituals. He was a member of the first class of the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts. He studied with jazz pianist Ellis Marsalis and won a scholarship to Oberlin College and later studied at Julliard. In 1980, Mr. Hogan started the New World Ensemble choir, which he composed for. During the 1990s he formed the Moses Hogan Chorale and later the Moses Hogan Singers who performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, the Sydney Opera House, and other prestigious venues. He was a sought-after arranger and composer. In 1995 he was commissioned to arrange and perform several compositions for the PBS documentary "The American Promise." In 1999 he became the editor for the *Oxford Book of Spirituals*. At the time of his death he was the artist-in-residence at both Dillard University and Loyola University and recently received the Tribute to the Classical Arts Outstanding Contribution Award. This outstanding collection consists of personal correspondence, numerous LPs and CDs, programs,

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## New Acquisitions (Continued from Page 10)

awards, music scores, plaques, film and audio reels from the Conservatory of Music at Oberlin College. Also included are music books, hymnals and three master audio reels from the Moses Hogan Chorale.

**George A. Rhodes Sr. papers, 1947-1978. 17 ln. ft.** George Rhodes was a pianist, music director, composer and arranger. He studied piano at the Julliard School and went to work for Apollo Records in 1950-1952. He also worked for RCA Victor 1954-1955, King Records 1955-1956 and Ammco Records as a music arranger from 1958-1959. He was the first black conductor for Golden Boy in 1965, and the first black orchestra leader at the Coconut Grove in 1971. Between 1975-1976 he was the first and only black music conductor at the Tropic Hotel in Las Vegas. He conducted the George Rhodes Orchestra for Sammy Davis Jr. and was the TV music conductor for the NBC Follies, Sammy & Co. TV series 1977-1978, and other Sammy Davis Specials. He was the music director for the Broadway

show *Stop the World* in 1978. He won an Emmy Award for 1964-1965 for Outstanding Music Arranger-Conductor. He was the longtime music director for Sammy Davis Enterprise in Beverly Hills, California. The collection consists of music scores, conductor piano scores, original arrangements and compositions by George Rhodes for the George Rhodes Orchestra and Sammy Davis & Co. TV series. Also included are the conductor books for *Stop the World*, 1978 and piano conductor scores for the various orchestral instruments. A small number of photographs has also been included with the donation, consisting of portraits of George Rhodes.

**The Edgar H. Steedle Papers, 1852-1970. 10 items.** This small collection consists of the personal correspondence of Mrs. Mary A. E. Harrison (née Gregg) of Hedgesville, West Virginia, in Berkeley County. Included are receipts for building services regarding her house and the arrest of two Negroes in 1859.

## Newly Processed

### Amistad Research Center

**The Dunn-Landry Family Papers, 1872-2003. 10 ln. ft.** The Dunn-Landry Family Papers are comprised of correspondence, biographical information, newspaper articles, financial records, organizational minute books and ledgers, programs, scrapbooks, speeches, organizational reports, memorabilia and photographs created and collected by the members of the Dunn-Landry family spanning the years 1872 to 2003. These materials reflect and document the leadership of a prominent Louisiana Creole family involved in local and national civil rights and community issues. The main bulk of the collection was created by, Reverend Henderson H. Dunn, Lillian B. Landry and their daughter Elise Dunn Cain.

**Chester B. Himes Papers addendum, 1954-2001. 4 ln. ft.** An American-born expatriate, Chester Himes (1909-1984) was a novelist, short story

writer, autobiographer and essayist. Himes is best known for his Harlem detective stories, which established him as the inventor of the first African American detective genre in literature. This addition to the Chester Bomar Himes Papers contains the correspondence of his wife Lesley Parkard Himes, manuscripts by and about Chester B. Himes, memorabilia, book and film reviews, photographs and news clippings.

**Save Our Schools Collection, 1957-1962. 1.6 ln. ft.** Save Our Schools was a non-profit organization incorporated on April 26, 1960. The organization was established by, concerned parents and citizens of New Orleans who wanted to maintain free public education during the integration era. These citizens wanted proper and legitimate means for the continuation of statewide public education in Louisiana. The collection spans the years 1957 to 1962 and in-

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## Newly Processed (Continued from Page 11)

includes correspondence, articles of incorporation, minutes, newsletters, reports and publications. The bulk of the collection consists of photocopies of newspaper articles from 1960 to 1962.

**Louise E. Jefferson Papers, ca 1940-2000. 27 ln. ft.** Louise E. Jefferson (1905-2002) is considered a female Leonardo da Vinci of her time. She was an artist, engraver, book illustrator, cartographer, calligrapher, photographer and writer. She worked as the Art Director at Friendship Press in New York. She made several trips to Africa, researching decorative arts. The collection consists of correspondence, photographs, original designs for book jackets and drawings. An exhibit of her work entitled *The Decorative Arts of Africa, Original Drawings by Louise Jefferson* was presented at the Amistad Research Center in 2002.

**Camilla Williams Papers addendum, 1897-2000. 17 ln. ft.** Lyric soprano and first black female to hold a regular position with a leading United States opera company, the New York City Opera Company. She was a two-time winner of the Marian Anderson award and prominent exponent of the title role in Puccini's *Madam Butterfly* and was the protégé of the creator of the role Geraldine Farrar. She was "Bess" in the first complete phonograph recording of Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*. She was a recitalist, cultural ambassador for the United States and college teacher of voice. This addition to the collection is comprised of correspondence, photographs, albums, scrapbooks, news clippings, programs, press releases and memorabilia pertaining to William's professional and personal activities. The bulk of the collection focuses on Williams's career as an opera singer and classical music recitalist.

## Call for Papers

### Society of Southwest Archivists

The program theme for the 2004 meeting of the Society of Southwest Archivists is *Changing Times – Changing Formats*. A call-for-papers on the theme invites archivists to submit proposals for sessions and papers to be presented at SSA's 2004 meeting, to be held in San Antonio, Texas.

Possible session topics may include going digital, preserving information, electronic records; computer forensics; preserving electronic records; scanning projects at your institution – photos and documents to CD/DVD; the paperless office; changing formats of the past (surely the digital age is not the first major format change archivists have faced); projects migrating paper indexes to electronic finding aids to web based guides.

The program committee is looking for sessions and papers that are informational and educational. Debates will also be considered. Full session proposals are encouraged, although individual papers will also be accepted. Sessions last approximately 90 minutes and typically include three papers.

Deadline is Friday, December 5, 2003.

Send your proposal to any of the program committee members listed below. Include title of proposal, brief description, name of organizer, affiliation, address, e-mail address, phone number, name and affiliation of each presenter, title and brief description of each paper.

Program committee members are:

Shelly Henley Kelly, chair, University of Houston – Clear Lake, 281-283-3936, kellysh@cl.uh.edu;

Cindy Smolovik, NARA – SW Region, 817-334-5525 Ext. 246, cindy.smolovik@nara.gov;

Michael McColgin, Arizona State Archives, 602-542-4159, mimccol@lib.az.us;

Gerianne Schaad, University of Texas San Antonio, 210-458-2385, gschaad@utsa.edu;

Debbie Carter, George Bush Presidential Library, 979-260-9552 Ext. 268, Debbie.carter@nara.gov;

and

Lesley Brunet, UT-MD Anderson Cancer Center, 713-792-8220, lwbrunet@mdanderson.org.

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## Call for Papers (Continued from Page 12)

### Collections: A Journal for Museum and Archive Professionals

*Collections: A Journal for Museum and Archive Professionals* welcomes manuscript submissions for its first issue, to be published in July 2004. This new journal will be published by AltaMira Press, a leading publisher of books and journals on museological topics. An interdisciplinary journal for museums and archives, *Collections* will provide information on handling, preserving, researching, and organizing collections. Both collection practices and theoretical debates are welcome. All papers appearing in this journal will receive peer review.

Curators, archivists, collections managers, preparators, registrars, educators, students, and others are encouraged to submit their work. We accept articles of 15-25 manuscript pages, along with 3-6 page opinion pieces, book reviews, and technical columns. For further questions, or to submit manuscripts, please contact Hugh Genoways, editor, at hgenoways1@unl.edu.

Potential contents for *Collections*:

#### Philosophy of collecting

- Why we collect?
- What we collect?
- Why we collect what we collect?
- How we collect
- Philosophical differences among organizations
- Collecting and museum mission
- Philosophy of the care of collections
- Ethics of collecting and collections care

#### Collection practices

- Best practices
- Methods in collection care
- Preventive conservation
- Conservation
- Historic Preservation
- New Techniques
- New Technology
- Data management/Informatics
- Access to collections
- Uses of collections (including research and preparation for exhibition)

- Accessioning
- Deaccessioning
- Historic practices
- Taxidermy for museums
- Cost control
- Loans
- Project management
- Policy development and maintenance
- IPM
- Emergency preparedness
- Object identification
- Legal issues

#### Collecting practices

- Acceptable methods
- Legal issues
- Conflict of interest
- Unique historical methods

#### Digitizing

- Objects
- Records
- Uses of images
- Copyright
- Watermarking

#### Special collections

- Over- and under-sized objects
- Odd-shaped objects
- Unusually fragile objects
- Heavy objects
- Dangerous objects (munitions, drugs, poisons)

#### History of collections

- Historically unique collections
- Nationally or regionally significant collections
- Biographical discussion of important collectors
- Historic Architecture

#### Collection surveys

- Surveys of national significance
- Surveys of disciplinary significance

#### Reviews

- Books
- Websites
- Online databases
- Digitizing projects