

Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2004

LAMA News

LAMA members head to Lake Charles

LAMA Annual Meeting

The Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association encourages all its members to attend the 2004 Annual Meeting, scheduled for October 15 in Lake Charles. 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 at the Annual Meeting on October 15.

Vice President/President-Elect (Elect one): **Nita Cole**, Archivist, Shreveport

Treasurer (Elect one): **Mark Martin**, Assistant Curator for Image Resources, Louisiana State University

Board of Directors, 2005-2007 (Elect two): **Melanie Counce**, Archivist, Louisiana State Archives; **Cliff Theriot**, Interim Archivist, Ellender Memorial Library, Nicholls State University

McNeese is the site

McNeese State University's Frazar Memorial Library is pleased to host the 2004 LAMA Annual Meeting on October 15. The meeting will be held in the William Gray Stream Memorial Alumni Center on the McNeese campus. The Alumni Center is located on the southeast corner of Common and West McNeese Streets in Lake Charles. A map and driving directions will be included in the registration packet or they may be viewed at <http://www.mcneese.edu/parents/maps.htm>. For more information, contact Kathie Bordelon at 337-475-5734 or Pati Threatt at 337-475-5731. You may also email

Kathie at bordelon@mcneese.edu or Pati at pthreatt@mcneese.edu.

Program

9 a.m. -10 a.m.

Registration at the William Gray Stream Memorial Alumni Center, McNeese State University (Continental breakfast provided courtesy of Frazar Memorial Library)

10 a.m. -10:15 a.m.

Welcome, **Tara Laver**, President of LAMA

10:15 a.m. -11 a.m.

"Outreach: University Archives Working with Local Historical Groups." Five university archivists will discuss their department's approach to outreach opportunities in their regions in this panel discussion.

Peggy Carter, Special Collections, Manuscripts, and Archives Department, Louisiana Tech University

Glenn Jordan, Special Collections and Archives,

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University of Louisiana at Monroe

Cliff Theriot, Archives and Special Collections,
Nicholls State University

Pati Threatt, Archives and Special Collections De-
partment, McNeese State University

Mary Linn Wernet, Cammie G. Henry Research
Center, Northwestern State University

11 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Business Meeting

11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. Lunch in the Alumni Center
(Buffet)

1 p.m.-2 p.m. “The Rebel Archives.” This discussion centers on the history of the Rebel Archives Collection at the Louisiana State Archives. This collection contains the official records of Louisiana’s Confederate government from 1861-1865. The discussion will also focus on the archival theory of original order and its role in the arrangement of this collection. **Lewis Morris**, Archives Division, Louisiana State Archives.

2 p.m.-2:15 p.m. Break (provided courtesy of Frazier Memorial Library)

2:15 p.m.-3 p.m. “Serious Enough for Us? Identity, Archivists and Genealogical Researchers.” This paper is a study of genealogical researchers written for the International Council on Archives Committee on Outreach and User Services. Paper by **Susan Tucker**, Newcomb Center for Research on Women, Tulane University, presented by **Pati Threatt**.

3:15 p.m.-5 p.m. Tour of downtown Lake Charles historic district (transportation and guide provided by McNeese State University and Calcasieu Preservation Society). **A.C. Bourdier**, president of the Calcasieu Preservation Society, will lead a tour of restored homes in the Charpentier District.

Board Meeting Minutes

Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association
Minutes of the Board Meeting

May 28, 2004

La Mansión del Rio Hotel, San Antonio, Texas

Present: Tara Laver, Kathie Bordelon, Rob Sherer,
Mark Martin, Cliff Theriot, Irene Wainwright

The LAMA board meeting was held during the Society of Southwest Archivists conference in San Antonio, Texas, a quorum being present.

President Tara Laver called the meeting to order. The minutes of the last board meeting (February 27, 2004) were approved as written.

President’s Report/Old Business:

1. Tara reported that LAMA realized a “profit” of \$414.09 over and above the \$500 state obligation contributed to the meeting.
2. Work on a membership brochure for LAMA has not progressed, but Tara will continue to work toward its completion.
3. Title 44: Carrie Fager, records manager for the State Archives, has held several training sessions throughout the state for those involved in implementing mandated records management programs. Cliff reported that these brief, two-hour sessions are not particularly helpful. Tara will investigate the possibility of developing a workshop for LAMA members, perhaps drawing on LSU expertise. Irene suggested that we might ask Charles Nolan (archivist and CRM, Archdiocese of New Orleans Archives) to participate. Mark suggested that we send email to members in order to determine interest in such a program, which would be aimed at university records management but open to anyone.
4. LAMA Scholarship: Kathie reported that LAMA received two applications for the scholarship. One was from a student who sent in dues at the same time as her application. Since the application was received at the deadline and dues had not yet been processed, she was not a member in good standing, and it was necessary to eliminate her. The scholarship was awarded to Carol Bartels, Historic New

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**Join LAMA
See Page 15**

LAMA Takes a Stand

by *TARA LAVER*

In early June, the LAMA board became aware of Senate Bill 709, a bill pending before the legislature that dealt with electronic storage and filing of records with the clerks of court. This bill was the product of a legislative study committee created in the 2003 sessions charged with the examining this issue.

The study committee (SCR 21 2003 Session) was created at the request of several Clerks of Court and the Lafayette Consolidated government to study the subject and make recommendations (including drafting legislation). The Committee included representatives from the following organizations: the Clerks of Court for Lafayette, Jefferson, East Baton Rouge, and St. Helena Parishes; the Police Jury Association; the Louisiana State Bar Association (and the Attorney General's Office); the Louisiana State Law Institute; the Louisiana Land Title Association; the Louisiana Banker's Association; the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association; the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government; the Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors; and the State Archivist or his designee.

The LAMA board feared that the provisions of the bill, as it was written and described below, threatened the maintenance, preservation, and access to local records of enduring value. In response, the board decided a letter expressing its concerns was in order, and President Tara Laver drafted the following letter, which the board approved sending to the bill's sponsor, Representative Mike Michot of Lafayette.

June 14, 2004

Hon. Mike Michot
State Capitol
P.O. Box 44486
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4486

Dear Senator Michot,
The Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association, the state organization of archival professionals, is highly concerned about the preservation of and access to public records held by the clerks of court as affected by Senate Bill 709, which you introduced.

As we understand through our discussions with staff at the State Archives about how the bill will be implemented, clerks of court will be allowed to scan permanent records in their care, creating a digital file. If they choose to scan these materials, they must also microfilm them, then offer the original to the State Archives. Once the original is in the possession of the archives, those who wish to access or reproduce the records must contact the respective clerk of court.

These practices, enabled by the bill, cause us concern for several reasons. First, within the archival profession, scans or digital images are not considered a preservation medium, and maintaining useable images over time requires a commitment of both technical support, funding, and storage space for the digital files that the clerks likely do not have. Microfilming that has been performed in compliance with archival standards is considered a preservation medium, and it is correct preservation practice that clerks should be required to film something they have scanned. However, microfilming is not fool-proof. Despite following these guidelines, film can often be illegible and access is dependent on having functioning microfilm readers and printers. It is a good fall back measure that the State Archives will take these originals if warranted by established retention schedules. However, these records are local records and should be available locally; since most users of these records will be within the clerk of court's parish, if the original needed to be consulted because of the failure of microfilm or scans, obtaining the record from the State Archives presents a barrier to public access. Conversely, the requirement that the State Archives can not provide access to or a reproduction of the record but must refer all such requests to the responsible clerk of court also poses an unacceptable barrier to public access.

Senator Michot, the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association urges you to reconsider this legislation. No group of individuals understands better than we the challenges that custodians of the permanent public record and other records of enduring

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LAMA Takes a Stand (Continued from Page 3)

historical, administrative, and legal value face. These challenges include inadequate storage space and staff to properly care for the records, and I suspect these were driving factors in writing Senate Bill 709.

Nevertheless, we feel some of the provisions of the legislation are ill-advised. As archivists we are professionally bound to be advocates for public records, wherever they reside. This is a tenet of our profession. The members of the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association would be remiss if we did not express our concerns to you.

Sincerely,

Tara Z. Laver, President

Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association

LAMA received no response from Rep. Michot, the bill passed the legislature, and Governor Blanco signed it. However, State Archives intends on proposing additional administrative rules relative to this process to ensure that the records are protected in the spirit of the legislation and meet the archival needs of

the State. Additionally, clerks may only divest themselves of paper records provided that they:

- Reproduce the records in compliance with 44:137 A;
- The state archives either receives the paper original or certifies that the record is not required to be transferred to the State Archives pursuant to 44:406 and 44:427;
- The records are not of a graphical nature (related to land surveyor records).
- Comply with all rules adopted by the Department of State relative to the retention and storage of records (See LAC 4: XVII Records Management Policies and Practices).
- Records received by the clerk of court can only be returned to the filer AFTER the State Archives has certified it is not needed pursuant to 44:406 and 44:427 AND the records have been reproduced in accordance with 44:137 and the State Archives' Records Management administrative Rules related to retention and records storage.

LAMA News (Continued from Page 2)

Orleans Collection, whose membership was current. She will use it to attend the SAA EAD Workshop to be held in New Orleans in June.

5. Revision of LAMA Directory: Volunteers are still needed to handle revision of entries for northeastern parishes (Union, Lincoln, Jackson, Ouachita, Morehouse, Richland, East Carroll, and West Carroll) and east central parishes (Madison, Tensas, Concordia, Franklin, Caldwell, LaSalle, Catahoula and Avoyelles). Tara and Mark will try to find someone willing to volunteer. We reiterated that the directory should include repositories that hold records, photographs, etc. of research value (not simply artifacts) and that are open to the public, even if only by appointment. We discussed the possibility of creating an online form to reside on LSU's server for volunteers to use for entering the revisions. The form could then be used to generate web content. Mark will take charge of developing this form.

6. Southern Archives Conference 2006: A motion

was made and approved to hold SAC 2006 in Lafayette.

7. LAMA Fall Meeting: The tentative date for the Fall Meeting to be held in Lake Charles is October 15.

Treasurer's Report:

Mark Martin gave the Treasurer's Report. The organization has received \$125.00 in membership dues since May. The \$500.00 seed money for SAC was returned, along with a profit from the meeting of \$419.09. The printing and mailing of the newsletter cost \$283.74, leaving LAMA with a bank balance of \$5,183.22. The report was approved (with the provision that the \$914.09 SAC dividend be modified to show that \$500 of the dividend was not "new money").

Secretary's Report:

Secretary Irene Wainwright had nothing to report,

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LAMA News (Continued from Page 3)

other than that dues submissions are no longer appearing in the LAMA P.O. Box in New Orleans, indicating that dues are now going directly to the Treasurer, as we hoped they would.

New Business:

Tara proposed that LAMA purchase a core collection of materials on archival management to be placed at the State Library for Interlibrary Loan to members who do not have ready access to professional literature. The proposal was received favorably, and Kathie agreed to check into the State Library's current holdings. After this preliminary investigation, it may be necessary to form a committee to pursue this proposal.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Irene Wainwright, LAMA Secretary

LAMA Workshop on Records Management

Often at institutions that do not have an established records management program, the responsibility for records management falls to the archivist. LAMA offered an opportunity for archivists to develop their skills and knowledge in this area with an all-day workshop held on September 20 at the Louisiana State Archives Building in Baton Rouge. Thirty-three participants attended.

The workshop discussed records management in light of pertinent Louisiana laws, but much of the program would be applicable in any state or situation. Topics covered included: an overview of records management, life cycle vs. continuum model, elements of a records management program, Louisiana Revised Statute 44 (with emphasis on Public Records Access and Louisiana State Archives Requirements); retention schedule development, traditional vs. functional models, business process analysis (DIRS methodology), and sample retention schedules (specific to academic environments). The workshop discussed records management in light of pertinent Louisiana laws, but much of the program would be applicable in any state or situation.

Presenters of the workshop were Wendy McLain and Jennifer Greer. As Records Manager for the

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), Ms. McLain develops and implements procedures for the efficient management of the Agency's technical and business documents. In addition, she manages LDEQ's Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) project. As an adjunct faculty member, she teaches an introductory course in Records and Information Management for the LSU School of Library and Information Science and is a regular guest speaker in several other classes. Ms. McLain holds a B.A. from the University of Nevada-Reno and Master of Library and Information Science degree from Louisiana State University. She also earned the Certified Records Manager credential from the Institute of Certified Records Managers. Currently, she is pursuing a Ph.D. in Information Science at Nova Southeastern University. She is an active member of the Association of Records Managers and Administrators (ARMA) and presently serves as the Education Development Committee Chair for ARMA International.

As the Retention Analyst, under contract to LDEQ, Ms. Greer has helped shape and reorganize the direction of the retention aspect function of Records Management at LDEQ. She has also formulated a plan of action by which it will be possible to apply retention values to all records in the Electronic Document Management System (EDMS). She is currently responsible for the management and operation of the Topic File Room, which serves as the agency archive. During her service to LDEQ, she also has managed the Public Records staff in filling requests, responding to subpoenas and handling special data requests. Ms. Greer holds a bachelor's degree in art history and religious studies, as well as a master's of arts degree in art history from LSU. She has been an active member of ARMA and SAA since 2002 and is currently a member of ARMA's ISO ISO 15489 Task Force and President of the Baton Rouge-Lafayette ARMA Chapter.

2005 MEETINGS

SSA *May 26-28, Baton Rouge, LA*
SAA *Aug. 15-21, New Orleans, LA*

Taking the EAD Workshop

by CAROL BARTELS

This past June the Society of American Archivists (SAA), with co-sponsor Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, offered the continuing education workshop, "Encoded Archival Description" in New Orleans. It was a two-day workshop instructed by Kris Kiesling from the University of Texas at Austin and Michael Fox of the Minnesota Historical Society, two people who have been involved with EAD since its inception. Kiesling and Fox have been teaching the SAA's EAD workshop for over seven years. Finding more knowledgeable teachers for the workshop than this pair would be difficult.

The main goals of the workshop were to provide an overview of Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML) and Extensible Markup Language (XML), to impart an understanding of the EAD structure, and familiarize participants with the EAD tags and how they are applied. Along with the EAD structure and tags, there was discussion on standards and issues for implementation, creation, conversion and publication of finding aids. The workshop's goals were met through teacher instruction, class discussion, and hands-on exercises. Without a doubt, the hands-on exercises were the most important part of the workshop. Nothing teaches an understanding of encoding better than having to actually markup a document.

In preparation for the workshop, participants were asked to read three articles. Janice E. Ruth's "Encoded Archival Description: A Structural Overview," Michael J. Fox's "Implementing Encoded Archival Description: An Overview of Administrative and Technical Considerations" and Dennis Meissner's "First Things First: Reengineering Finding Aids for Implementation of EAD" which were published in *The American Archivist*, Vol. 60 Nos. 3 and 4. Participants were also asked to bring a finding aid and a floppy disk to save their work.

Following the introductions of the instructors and participants, the workshop jumped right into the review of SGML/XML, the standards for electronic encoding of text. Discussion moved right along into

the classes of documents, the types of markup, and document type definitions/schemas. Finding aids are a class of documents and EAD is the document type definition for finding aids.

The EAD document type definition defines the content of the finding aids as data elements. What are the data elements of a finding aid? A few basic elements are the title, the scope and content note, and physical description. Short alphanumeric tags were created for each data element. Markup is done using the EAD tag set. These tags are defined in the *Encoded Archival Description Tag Library*. Workshop participants were given a copy of the published tag library but it is available on-line at <http://www.loc.gov/ead/tglib/>.

In this workshop, emphasis was placed on learning the basic EAD tag set and structure. Markup consists of placing tags around the individual elements or pieces of data that make up the finding aid. The tags tell computers what information is enclosed within them. Standardized tagging of finding aids allows for the exchange of data, data migration, the structured display, navigation and searching of finding aids on line and the repurposing of data. For these reasons it is important that encoding is carried out in a consistent manner. The instructors carefully reviewed the tags within the basic tag set making sure it was clearly understood what data belongs inside the tags. They also touched on the use of attributes and entities. Attributes are used to modify elements by further defining the data within the tag. Entities are items that are embedded in the finding aid such as logos, images or sound files.

There is a specific structure that must be followed when encoding. Certain tags can only occur inside of other tags. Understanding the tag structure is important. Like finding aids themselves the tag structure is hierarchical. The descriptive overview of the whole is followed by detailed views of the parts. Individual institutions determine the level to which the hierarchical structure extends. It can extend down from the collection level to the series, sub-series, or individual item levels.

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Louisiana State Archives

Louisiana State Archives News

Secretary of State Fox McKeithen hosted an opening ceremony for the Multimedia Archives on Tuesday, September 14, at State Archives. Numerous guests viewed an overview of the television collections, oral histories, and political collections housed at State Archives. For further information about the Secretary of State's Multimedia Archives, visit the website at www.sos.louisiana.gov/multimedia.

Visitors to State Archives will notice work on Essen Lane is progressing at a steady pace. The project is expected to be concluded later this year and will allow the public easier access and departure from the State Archives building. Part of the project includes the construction of a plaza in the front of the building. The decorative wall which surrounds the front of the facility is partially completed, and landscaping of this area will begin in the near future. Eight additional flagpoles have been erected in the

plaza area to fly the various flags that have flown over Louisiana.

Assistant Director Lewis Morris will speak on October 15 at the LAMA meeting in Lake Charles regarding the cataloguing of the State Archives' "Rebel Archives" Collection. State Archivist Florent Hardy, Jr. is scheduled as a presenter during the Annual Clerical Association of Louisiana Conference in Monroe in late October.

The Louisiana Historical Records Advisory Board is tentatively scheduled to meet on Tuesday, October 5, at State Archives.

The State Archives staff is working closely with the Society of American Archivists (SAA) in planning its annual meeting next summer in New Orleans. The State Archivist has also been asked to present essays on Louisiana Proud, and Louisiana: A Sportsman's Paradise to be included in the SSA Program. In addition, staff members are also assisting

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LAMA Scholarship Winner (Continued from Page 6)

Markup exercises were an integral part of the workshop. The first exercise, an introduction to encoding, was the markup of a recipe. It was done on paper and reviewed with the instructors. Later exercises used archival finding aids and the markup was done on paper and then on computer using Xmetal software. Each person was set up with his or her own computer that made for an excellent learning experience. Although the workshop used Xmetal software, Xmetal is not the only means available for encoding finding aids.

The final exercise of the workshop was to properly encode a finding aid from the attendee's own institution. This was an exercise to prove that a sufficient understanding of the structure, tags, and principles of EAD had been gained. After completion, and armed with an encoded finding aid, one was ready to go back to the office and start encoding the institution's other finding aids. However, some decisions must be made first. With respect to implementing EAD, the instructors advised documenting what the institution's encoding practices would be and to cre-

ate a template to enforce consistency in encoding.

For those who really wish to implement EAD, this workshop is one of two offered by the SAA on EAD. The second workshop entitled "Style Sheets for EAD — Delivering your Finding Aids on the Web" concentrates on the creation of style sheets. Style sheets are required to display or present marked-up finding aids. They are used to transform encoded documents into other formats.

Traditionally the EAD workshop is offered prior to the SAA's annual meeting. With the 2005 annual meeting being held in New Orleans, there is a good chance that the workshop will be offered once again in New Orleans. LAMA's continuing education scholarship can help pay the registration fee for this or another workshop. Make sure to apply for the 2005 LAMA continuing education scholarship — you just may be the lucky winner.

(Carol Bartels is the recipient of the 2004 LAMA scholarship.)

LAMA scholarship information
will be mailed to members in February.
Deadline for applications is March 10.

with the planning of the Society of Southwest Archivists' (SSA) annual meeting scheduled for next May in Baton Rouge.

Recent Acquisitions

Archives Foundation, Louisiana records (1988-1992); Carles, Francis and Sharron collection - 1 cannonball; Community College, Baton Rouge - newsletters; Congor, Logan "Tex" Collection; Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Louisiana Department of - Office of Historic Preservation; Dardeau, Jr., E. A. "Tony" Collection; Fisher, Ola Mae Collection - early school text books; Governor, Office of - Tourism Development Commission records; Governor, Office of - Office on Women's Policy; Iberville, Parish of - Registrar of Voters miscellaneous records; Insurance, Louisiana Department of - Louisiana Health Care Commission Report to the Legislature (7/2002 - 12/2003); Legislature, Louisiana - Act Ledgers (1970-2002); Legislature, Louisiana - House and Senate Interim Emergency Board meetings records; McKeithen, Fox - John J. McKeithen suit Melancon, Doris Collection - 1 bound volume; Times Picayune (October 1-15, 1925); Natural Resources, Louisiana Department of - office files (1997-2000); State, Louisiana Department of - Archives building renovation drawings; State, Louisiana Department of - Elections Miscellaneous files (1997-2003); Tourism, Louisiana Office of - Louisiana Journal; vols. 1-62 [videos]; Wildlife and Fisheries, Louisiana Department of - federal grant fund records (1997-99).

Conservation Laboratory

In addition to the above collections, the Conservation Laboratory has been working on the rehousing of oversize portions of the "Rebel Archives" as well as the rehousing of a photographic collection of former East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff Bryan Clemmons which was donated by Ms. Sandra Smith.

Archives Visitors

Recent additions to the Archives Visitors Page:

Baton Rouge descendants of Andrew Jackson Grayson, the late and former resident of Grayson,

Louisiana, known as the Audubon of the West, visited the "Beyond Audubon: Rediscovering; Andrew Jackson Grayson, Louisiana's Forgotten Artist" exhibit.

William Thompson, retired Archivist of the Special Collections at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and originally from Rayville, Louisiana

Rev. Dr. Mark C. Gasquet, son of John B. Gasquet (1892-1981), longtime photographer for several newspapers as well as for the Louisiana Departments of Agriculture and Commerce. Following his death, the Gasquet family donated some 4,500 negatives and several prints to State Archives. The Gasquet Collection is perhaps the largest group of images chronicling the life of Louisiana during the 20th Century. His photographs are a valuable resource for persons conducting research on Louisiana during the past century. The importance of his images transcends the "famous" and "important" as they capture the various nuances of everyday life in Louisiana during the 1900's.

HGTV

The production unit of the internationally-aired HGTV Designer's Challenge program taped a segment of its show at the Louisiana State Archives. The show will be aired later on this year featuring a New Orleans home and a Lafayette-based interior designer. HGTV, one of the fastest-growing networks in cable television history, is headquartered in Knoxville, Tennessee, and has offices in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Detroit, and Atlanta. The program is distributed in 80 million U.S. households. Internationally, HGTV can be seen in Canada, Japan, Australia, Thailand, the Philippines, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and the Slovak Republic.

Retreat Day

East Baton Rouge Parish's University Terrace Elementary School Faculty held "Retreat Day" at State Archives.

French Connection

Claude Teboul, President of Société France Lou-

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Newly Acquired/Processed

Louisiana State University

The Louisiana State University Libraries' Special Collections is pleased to announce the acquisition of the papers of retiring Louisiana Senator John Breaux later this fall.

Born in Crowley, Louisiana, Senator Breaux was elected to the House of Representatives in 1972 at the age of 28. At the time of his election, he was the youngest member in the U.S. Congress. He represented the 7th District of Louisiana for 14 years before being elected to fill Senator Russell Long's seat

in 1986. Senator Breaux is a graduate of the University of Southwestern Louisiana (now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette) and the Louisiana State University School of Law in Baton Rouge.

The collection is expected to number approximately 1,000 boxes.

Southeastern Louisiana University

The Center for Southeast Louisiana Studies and Archives at Southeastern Louisiana University re-

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Louisiana State Archives (Continued from Page 8)

isiane, and Philippe Gustin, Director, Le Centre International de Lafayette, presented a planned exhibit for State Archives promoting an American/French historical experience.

U.S. Tour

Jean-Luc Malherbe, First Vice President of Richelieu International, Ottawa, Canada, and Armand E. Devoe, Vice President of the United States District of Richelieu International, Beverly, Massachusetts visited State Archives during their tour of the United States to promote the international organization.

Records Management

The Records Management Section of the Louisiana State Archives is continuing its education outreach program to state and local governmental agencies by providing free workshops once a month on records management and records retention schedule development. These workshops are identical to the 21 workshops the section conducted in April and May 2004 to over 750 governmental employees throughout Louisiana. For more information on future dates and classes offered, visit our web site.

Archives Week

Plans are being made to celebrate Archives Week the week of October 3-9. More information to follow.

Collection Building

During the recent months, the State Archives

Research Library has received numerous items from private donors, Le Comité des Archives de Louisiane, the Governor Jimmie Davis Collection, and the Joseph Edward Noble, Jr. Collection.

Exhibits

"Beyond Audubon: Rediscovering; Andrew Jackson Grayson, Louisiana's Forgotten Artist" exhibit is presented by the Archives. Grayson (1818-1869), "the Audubon of the West" was born in Grayson, Louisiana, in what is now known as Caldwell Parish. There are 38 Grayson prints exhibited until December 31. In January there will be over one hundred on exhibit. The colorful prints are on loan from the Schepis Museum in Columbia, Louisiana, via the Bancroft Library of the University of California at Berkeley.

Also on exhibit at Archives is the Highland Road Artists Exhibits presented until September 28. The Associated Women in the Arts will be featured through October 30 and the River Road Artists from November 1 through December 31.

Plans are being made to exhibit three quilts in the Archives Lobby commemorating the Louisiana Purchase, the 1976 Bicentennial, and the 1984 World's Exposition.

Factoid

Louisiana State Archives is the ONLY State Archives which is open seven days a week. Come check us out.

Publications

David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library

This spring the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library published *Membership in the Louisiana House of Representatives, 1880-2008*. The work lists House membership by parish with an alphabetical index by name. Also included are listings of the Speakers, Speaker Pro Tempore, and Clerks of the House. The publication is available online at: <http://www.legis.state.la.us/members/h1880-2008.pdf>. The library updates the publication as vacancies occur and are filled throughout the term.

The Poynter Library is researching previous years, with the intention of working back in time to

the first session of the Legislature in 1812. The primary sources consulted are the *Journals* of the House, but the information contained therein is incomplete. If you have information on people who served in the House prior to 1880 with their dates in office from other sources, please contact Frances Thomas at (225) 342-5129 or thomasf@legis.state.la.us.

Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane

Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane has also recently published a new book, *Shreveport Civil Birth Records, 1875-1911*.

Exhibits and Events

LSU Special Collections Offers "In the Midst of War"

The LSU Libraries presents the exhibition, "In the Midst of War" in Hill Memorial Library on the LSU campus. The exhibit, which opened August 17 and runs through the Fall semester, features over 100 publications, maps, photographs, and newspapers published during and shortly after the American Civil War. Many of the items were published by Confederate presses from 1861-1865, and are categorized as "Confederate Imprints." The collection includes publications on a variety of topics including biography, military matters, politics, children's education, music and literature.

The collection is representative of materials published during the Civil War that were distributed

widely and had significant impact on their audiences. Produced and consumed in the midst of a turbulent era, contemporary publications provide a window into the mind of Civil War-era citizens.

Most of the items on display are part of a large private collection belonging to New Orleans attorney and developer Robert J. Bruno.

Exhibit hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call (225) 578-6544.

Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane

Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane held a Used Book Sale in July at the Louisiana State Archives.

Proceeds will be used to purchase new books for the
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Newly Acquired/Processed (Continued from Page 9)

cently acquired three large collections. The Congressman John R. Rarick Collection includes all of the former congressman's congressional papers as well as reports and artifacts from his World War II experience as a prisoner of war. The Judge Leon Ford Collection includes a large photographic

collection primarily centered on regional railroads and sites of historical interest as well as historical and cultural notes collected by Judge Ford.

The SLU Dairy and Agricultural Festival collection includes photographs and artifacts compiled by the former coordinating staff of the festival.

Exhibits and Events (Continued from Page 10)

Louisiana State Archives Research Room. Membership in this organization is \$18.50 per year. The address is Le Comité, P.O. Box 1547, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. For more information, visit the society's web page at <http://www.sos.louisiana.gov/archives/archives/archives-comite.htm>.

2004 Creole Heritage Day Celebration

Events of the 11th annual Creole Heritage Day, scheduled for Oct. 7-10, take place in Natchitoches, on the campus of Northwestern State University, and in the Cane River community. Scheduled are panel discussions, St. Augustine Church Fair, Natchitoches Tour of Homes, and awards banquet and dance. For information, call NSU Creole Heritage Center at (318) 357-6685.

The Historic New Orleans Collection

Light T. Cummins, the Guy M. Bryan Professor of American History at Austin College, will present a lecture surveying the family lives and personal interests of Spanish colonial public figures, including Antonio de Ulloa, Alejandro O'Reilly, Bernardo de Galvez, and Francisco Bouligny. "We Were Human Too: The Private Lives of Public Figures in Spanish Colonial Louisiana" is the title of the Francisco Bouligny Lecture, scheduled for 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 19, Williams Research Center, 410 Chartres St., New Orleans. Call (504) 598-7171 for fees and reservations.

Dr. Cummins specializes in the history of Spanish Louisiana. His books include *Spanish Observers and the American Revolution* and *Spanish History* (forthcoming from Texas A&M University Press).

The Francisco Bouligny lecture was established at The Collection by the Bouligny Foundation to provide information about Louisiana under Spanish rule and related subjects. Francisco Bouligny was an important military and political figure in Spanish Louisiana.

Drawn together in worship, drawing strength from adversity, a group of local Protestants adopted the name Christ Church in the spring of 1805, heralding a new era of religious tolerance in Louisiana. A

Heritage of Faith: Christ Church Cathedral and Episcopal Louisiana, 1805-2005 celebrates the bicentennial of the church by exploring its rich past. The exhibition, free and open to the public, is on view at The Historic New Orleans Collection, 533 Royal Street, from October 19, 2004 to May 7, 2005. While Louisiana's French and Spanish colonial regimes outlawed the public practice of any religion other than Roman Catholicism, the purchase of Louisiana by the United States opened the door for religious freedom. Christ Church, the first Protestant church in the Louisiana territory, thrived despite the lack of a permanent home. In the congregation's early years, services were held at various public buildings throughout the city. Notable designers and — including Henry Boneval Latrobe, James Gallier, Sr., James Dakin, T. K. Wharton, Lawrence B. Valk, and Benjamin Harrod — conceived and built a succession of four church structures between 1816 and 1887. Drawings, plans, and photographs on exhibit in *A Heritage of Faith* memorialize these architectural gems.

Also on display is memorabilia linked to leading figures in church history: correspondence of Philander Chase, who delivered the first sermon at Christ Church in 1805, and the throne of Leonidas Polk, who was named the first bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Louisiana in 1841. Christ Church became the diocesan cathedral in 1892 during a resurgence of Anglo-Catholic traditions. Memorable objects exhibited include communion vessels — chalice, paten, and ciborium — fashioned of gold and silver and inlaid with diamonds, sapphires, rubies, and amethysts donated to the cathedral by the parishioners.

A Heritage of Faith: Christ Church Cathedral and Episcopal Louisiana, 1805-2005 chronicles the history of the church from its inception to the present day. The exhibition brings together architectural plans, priceless artifacts, documents and illustrations to highlight past events, and to tell the fascinating story of the notable personalities who shaped the history of the church, city, and state.

(Continued on Page 13)

News from LAMA Institutions

New Orleans Public Library

Collin B. Hamer, Jr. retired in July after 36 years as head of New Orleans Public Library's Louisiana Division/City Archives (and more than 41 years of service to the library system). Under his leadership, the Louisiana Division has grown from a typical public library local history collection into one of the most respected and heavily used research facilities in the state. He is the author of various articles on the Louisiana Division's collections and co-author of the *Guide to Genealogical Materials in New Orleans Public Library's Louisiana Division and City Archives*, which won the 1999 ALA/RUSA Gale Group Award for Excellence in Reference and Adult Library Services. In 1987 he received the Louisiana Library Association's Lucy B. Foote Award, and in 1999 he was honored with the Louisiana Civil Service League's Charles E. Dunbar, Jr. Career Service Award.

Succeeding Collin is Alan H. Stein, who was a Junior Fellow at the Library of Congress in the Manuscript Division in 1994, and a USIA Research Fellow in 1995, the year he completed his Certificate in Archival Administration at Wayne State University's Walter P. Reuther Library. Stein has organized sessions and presented academic papers at the annual Oral History Association conferences, and at the Midwest Archives Conference, Society of American Archivists, and Society of California Archivists.

Southeastern Louisiana University

The Center for Southeast Louisiana Studies-produced film "Reluctant Americans: The West Florida Revolt, Completing the Louisiana Purchase" has been selected to appear in the prestigious New York International Film Festival.

The Center was also recently awarded a \$60,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to produce a publication and docu-drama film highlighting the Manchac Swamp ecosystem.

Louisiana State University at Shreveport

Laura McLemore succeeded Laura (Street) Conerly as Archivist at LSU-Shreveport beginning July 1. Laura, a Shreveport native, returned to northwest Louisiana from Austin College in Sherman, Texas.

She is a past president of the Society of Southwest Archivists and currently serves as Regent for Outreach of the Academy of Certified Archivists. Laura brings to LSUS Archives and Special Collections a special interest in local and regional history, an abiding love for Louisiana, its people, its culture, and its history, and an endless supply of enthusiasm for archival enterprise. "I've been homesick for several years now," she says. "If Louisiana is the 'dream state,' this job is my dream come true. It's great to be home."

Archives assistant Glenda Sharbono passed the ACA certification exam in Baton Rouge on August 4. Earlier this year Glenda completed LSUS's first contribution to the LOUIS Digital Library project. Eighty-nine photographs from the Strand Theatre Collection document the original construction in 1924, interior and exterior design, performances, disintegration, reconstruction, and the grand re-opening in 1984 of one of Louisiana's few surviving theatres from the "Movie Palace Era." Today the Strand, in all its glory, hosts touring Broadway productions, dance performances, Shreveport Symphony concerts, and special attractions. The project was completed in July and can be viewed at <http://louisdl.louislibraries.org>.

N.O. Notarial Archives

Governor Kathleen Blanco appointed New Orleans attorney Stephen P. Bruno to the position of Custodian of Notarial Records for Orleans Parish. Jerry Mouton is Deputy Custodian. When Maureen R. Detweiler retires in October, Alicia Rosemond will assume conservator duties. Trish Nugent, archival assistant, passed the Academy of Certified Archivists exam in 2004.

The N.O. Notarial Archives Research Center participated in two exhibits recently: "Conveying History: Following the Ancestor's Slave Trail" at the Louisiana Museum of African American History, and "Currents of Change: Art and Life Along the Mississippi River 1850-1861" at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Howard Margot appeared on a panel in connection with "Conveying History."

Of Note

Academy of Certified Archivists

Lee Miller received the Academy of Certified Archivists Distinguished Service Award at the organization's annual meeting and luncheon held in Boston, Massachusetts, in August. In presenting the award, Academy President Jim Byers cited Lee's numerous ways of providing service to ACA, including the following:

- Serving as President and Regent for Outreach;
- Outstanding leadership in his role as ACA's first webmaster;
- Suggesting and then implementing the pick-your-site option for the certification examination;
- Actively dispelling false notions about the Academy and how it operates; and
- Meeting challenges with a "can-do" attitude.

Society of Southwest Archivists

Baton Rouge will play host to the 2005 annual meeting of the Society of Southwest Archivists, May 26-28, 2005. With the meeting being held in Louisiana, Louisiana archivists, members and non-members of SSA alike, will have a unique opportunity for professional development, as well as the chance to take in some of the sights of the capital city.

The theme for the meeting is "Today's Archivists: Building Bridges to the Future," and the program

committee, chaired by Brenda Gunn of UT-Austin's Center for American History, invites papers on possible topics to include, but not limited to the following:

- ◇ State Historical Records Advisory Boards
- ◇ Cultural heritage and the archivists' role in documenting
- ◇ Collaborative and cooperative projects: local, intrastate, interstate
- ◇ Politics (a good Louisiana topic) and archives
- ◇ Back to basics
- ◇ Planning for the future

Tara Laver and **Mark Martin** are co-chairs of the 2005 SSA local arrangements committee.

Society of American Archivists

The Society of American Archivists' 2005 annual meeting will be held in New Orleans, August 15-21. **Alfred Lemmon** is Chair and **Lee Miller** is Co-Chair of the local arrangements committee.

Carol Bartels is a member of the 2005 program committee.

In addition, **Mark Cave** is the head of SAA's Acquisitions and Appraisal Section, and **Mark Martin** is Visual Materials Section Chair.

Tara Laver is key contact for SAA membership in Louisiana.

Exhibits and Events (Continued from Page 10)

The Historic New Orleans Collection held **Family Day** at The Collection in August. The event celebrated the exhibition "From Louis XIV to Louis Armstrong: A Cultural Tapestry." Participants were invited to explore the Mississippi River with riverboat Captain Clarke Hawley and to learn about Mardi Gras Indian Culture with Chief Alfred Doucette of the Flaming Arrows. *Cajun Comiques: Historic Louisiana An Illustrated History for Kids of All Ages*, by Guy N. Faucheux and Wallace P. Faucheux, was featured in a book signing. Hands-on activities for children, refreshments, and door prizes were part of the fun.

Also in August, genealogical expert Sherry Irvine led a **full-day workshop** at The Collection on researching English, Irish, and Scottish ancestry. Featuring separate sessions on each country's genealogical resources, the workshop ended with a final talk entitled "British Isles Research: Setting the Record Straight."

Speaking before the event, John Lawrence, director of museum programs, said, "Sherry Irvine's workshop presents a rare opportunity for genealogists to learn from a world expert. The Collection is extremely proud to sponsor a person of her caliber in the genealogic community."

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Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association Membership Registration Form

Date: _____

Note: LAMA's membership year runs from December 1 through November 30.

Initial membership Renewal

Name and address:

Telephone number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Please check the level of membership:

| | | |
|--|---|------------------|
| | Student | \$5.00 |
| | Individual | \$15.00 |
| | Senior Citizen | \$10.00 |
| | Family (2 members; plus \$5.00 for each additional adult member) Please give name and contact information for each member | \$20.00 |
| | Organizational (2 members; plus \$10.00 for each additional staff member) Please give name and contact information for each member | \$30.00 |
| | Sustaining | \$50.00 |
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| | Life | \$1000.00 |

Mail form along with a check or money order payable to LAMA, to the following address:

Mark Martin
LAMA Treasurer
LSU Libraries, Special Collections
Hill Memorial Library
Baton Rouge, LA 75803-3300

Revised 3/9/2004