News from the Midwest

Midwest Archives Conference
News from the Midwest

Assistant Editors: Alexandra Bisio, Jesuit Archives, and Alison Stankrauff, Indiana University South Bend. Please submit News from the Midwest items for Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Ohio to Alexandra at abisio@jesuits.org and items from Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota, and Wisconsin to Alison at astankra@iusb.edu. Submissions must be 150 words or less. Images are welcome!

ILLINOIS

Chicago Public Library

The Chicago Public Library Harold Washington Library Center Special Collections announced the opening of the collection, Chicago Park District Records: Photographs. Comprised of approximately 61,000 photographic prints dating from 1863 through the early 2000s, the photographs document site development, park facilities, features (such as gardens, fountains, playgrounds, and sculptures), park staff, programmatic activities, special events, the lakeshore and shore protection efforts, road construction and redevelopment, and citywide events, such as Special Olympics and cross-park tournaments. Periods of notable development in the history of the Chicago Park District are also well represented, including WPA construction projects, landscapes, and park features. The collection is rich in evidentiary value for studying the growth and evolution of the Chicago Park District’s properties and services, as well as for telling Chicago’s story, particularly with regard to how the demographics and populations served by the city’s parks have changed over time. Visit www.chipublib.org/fa-chicago-park-district-records-photographs/.

INDIANA

Riley Hospital Historic Preservation Committee

The Riley Hospital Historic Preservation Committee (RHPC) is launching a second historical photo display for 2017 in July that will be up for the remainder of the year in the hospital’s Ruth Lilly Learning Center lobby in Indianapolis. The photo display features images of the 21 leaders who were incorporators of the James Whitcomb Riley Memorial Association on April 9, 1921. The display introduces hospital staff, families, and visitors to these leaders and how they began the dream for the James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children that opened on November 19, 1924.

IOWA

Iowa State University

The Iowa State University Library Digital Initiatives Program has launched a new online exhibition, For Married Students: Building a Community in Pammel Court, 1946–1978 (exhibits.lib.iastate.edu/pammel-court-digital-exhibit). In addition to content from the original Pammel Court exhibit that opened last January, the online version features an interactive timeline of Pammel Court’s history, links to related online materials, and tools to compare and contrast aerial views of campus and some of the Pammel floor plans. The online Pammel Court exhibit joins the library’s 24 other online exhibits (exhibits.lib.iastate.edu).

Iowa State University Special Collections and University Archives (SCUA) opened its latest exhibition, “This movement for a more beautiful Iowa: The Early Years of Iowa’s State Park System,” on May 17. Its online counterpart will open later this summer. As a complement to the SCUA exhibition, Heidi H. Hohmann, associate professor of landscape architecture, gave a presentation June 6 at the Ames Public Library.

University of Iowa

Renowned broadcast journalist Tom Brokaw has announced the donation of his papers and memorabilia to the Department of Special Collections, University of Iowa Libraries. Brokaw attended UI during his freshman year in 1958–1959. The collection documents his 50 years with NBC, first as a field reporter and later as anchor of the NBC Nightly News. Find more information at now.uiowa.edu/2016/11/brokaw-donates-papers-to-ui-libraries.

Iowa City has been a hotbed of protest and a hotbed of printing. Power to the Printers: The Alternative Press in Iowa City, 1965–1985 is a physical exhibit open May 15–August 25 in the University of Iowa Main Library. Publications and other materials from the Iowa Women’s Archives and the University Archives will be featured. Visit www.lib.uiowa.edu/gallery/exhibit/power-to-the-printers-the-alternative-press-in-iowa-city-1965-1985.

KANSAS

Kansas State University

This spring, the K-State Libraries joined organizations across the region in celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Chisholm Trail. Chisholm Trail: History and Legacy features artifacts, books, maps, and photos that give visitors a glimpse into Kansas’s Wild West era and its turbulent relationship with the Texas cattle trade. From 1867 to 1885, the Chisholm...
Trail, which ran from southern Texas through Oklahoma and Kansas, was the primary route for southern ranchers to drive their herds north to the railways that shipped their longhorns to eastern markets.

Additionally, in the fall, students enrolled in Translating the Freedom Papers: Charles de Gaulle and WWII Correspondence conducted extensive research using correspondence from the Richard L. D. and Marjorie H. Morse Department of Special Collections. Students’ work appears in an exhibit, Très Secret: Translating the Freedom Papers.

**KENTUCKY**

**Filson Historical Society**

The Filson Historical Society announces the opening of two new exhibits honoring the centennial of the United States’ entry into the First World War, Called to Arms: Kentuckians in the First World War and Selling the War: Posters from WWI. These exhibits are open to the public and coincide with WWI lectures happening throughout the spring and summer months. For more information about the exhibits and lectures, visit filsonhistorical.org/exhibits. In addition to in-house galleries, WWI-related image galleries are also available and can be viewed at filsonhistorical.org/gallery/world-war-i-posters and filsonhistorical.org/gallery/music-of-the-great-war. For more information or inquiries regarding tours, contact Johna Ebling, exhibits manager, at jpicco@filsonhistorical.org.

**Lexington Public Library**

County directories, local histories, and postcard images of Kentucky are now available through the Lexington Public Library’s new Kentucky Room Digital Archives at lexpublib.org/digital-archives. Among the inaugural documents in the Digital Archives are:

- The 1940 Rural Directory of Fayette County
- 55 historic postcard images of central Kentucky
- The 1896 illustrated program of the Woodland Park Kentucky Chautauqua Assembly
- A published transcript of Maude Ward Lafferty’s 1917 local history speech, The Town Branch
- The 1923 songbook, Mountain Ballads for Social Singing
- The 1892 and 1896 Annual Catalogue of Hamilton Female College

The items digitized are housed in the Central Library’s Kentucky Room. Like all the items in the Kentucky Room’s closed stacks, they are available for viewing in the Kentucky Room by request. However, librarians expect digitization to make these rare items more widely available while still safely preserved.

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Northern Kentucky University

The Special Collections and University Archives Department provides professional assistance to regional archival and cultural heritage organizations. Thanks to a National Endowment for the Humanities grant, Steely Library and the department were able to present a free security workshop. Last fall, the library hosted a two-day DAS workshop. Several years ago NKU was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections grant to assess the environmental climate of its collections storage room. The department has recently donated extra PEM monitors from the grant to four local museums, libraries, and historical societies in support of their work.

MICHIGAN

Central Michigan University

The DigMichNewsContest 2017 received 6,839 postcards (2,761 of which were handmade) and 25,136 tweets. The L’Anse won and will have 12 reels of its microfilmed newspapers digitized by the Clarke.

Three EIAIC half-inch, black-and-white, sound videotapes of major African American poets reciting their poetry at CMU on February 14, 1974, were digitized in January 2017 by Scene Savers. Herbert Woodward Martin, Etheridge Knight, Raymond R. Patterson, Mari Evans, and Dudley Randall (who founded the Broadside Press in Detroit) all played important roles in the Black Arts Movement. Topics include life in prison; love; African American women housekeepers; slavery; Dafuskie Island, South Carolina (Gullah); Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Patrice Lumumba, and Frederick Douglass.

Michigan State University

The Michigan State University Archives continues to work on transcribing, scanning, and posting materials from its Civil War–related collections. There are now 85 collections online comprised of over 1,800 objects and nearly 7,300 pages. The Civil War collections can be found at civilwar.archives.msu.edu.

As part of a campuswide Science Festival, the MSU Archives hosted an open house featuring significant scientific archival collections, including those of Barnett Rosenberg, Margaret Zee Jones, and G. Malcolm Trout. Through demonstrations and activities, visitors learned about the scientific aspects of archival work, such as types of paper, humidifying photos, deodorizing pamphlets, and de-acidifying newspapers.

The MSU Records Management program recently announced the completion of a major revision of MSU’s Human Resources retention schedules. Part of a larger project to revise all of the university’s retention schedules, the new Human Resources records retention schedule includes more records series; uses a consistent, easy-to-use format; and better aligns with institutional, federal, and state policies and regulations.

Wayne State University

On April 27, the Walter P. Reuther Library opened its exhibition, 12th Street, Detroit, 1967: Employment, Housing, Policing, and Race Relations in Evidence. Few topics in Michigan’s history are as divisive as Detroit’s 1967 Civil Unrest (frequently known as the Detroit riot, rebellion, or uprising). Decades later, the aftereffects of those five days of physical damage and emotional trauma linger on through a profound disconnect between southeastern Michigan’s people and communities. The exhibit empowers visitors to create independent insights based on the evidence contained in the Reuther Library’s numerous archival collections documenting not only the events of 1967, but also the social, economic, and political landscape before and after the violence. The Reuther Library joins several area cultural institutions in a partnership to mark the inauspicious 50th anniversary of the events of 1967, including the Detroit Historical Society, the Detroit Institute of Art, the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, the Michigan Science Center, and MOCAD. The physical exhibit, funded with a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council, will be open through January 2018. It is also available online at projects.lib.wayne.edu/12thstreetdetroit
Attendees at the Reuther Library’s 12th Street, Detroit, 1967 exhibit opening on April 27 discuss their memories of the uprising.

MISSOURI

State Historical Society of Missouri

The State Historical Society of Missouri broke ground April 19, 2017, for the Center for Missouri Studies, a new facility located at 6th and Elm Streets in downtown Columbia. The groundbreaking ceremony was held to celebrate this milestone in the society’s effort to build a larger, more modern, and more accessible headquarters. The 76,000-square-foot building, designed by nationally recognized design and planning firm Gould Evans, will provide the society with a state-of-the-art facility to carry out its mission to collect, preserve, and disseminate Missouri’s history and heritage. The Center for Missouri Studies was made possible with a $35 million state construction bond and is expected to be completed in the spring of 2019. The new building will give greater visibility to Missouri’s history and heritage while improving public access to the society’s programs, services, and resources.

University of Missouri

The University of Missouri will be offering two archives courses in 2017–2018, taught by Professor Sarah Buchanan. In fall 2017, ISLT 9410 Archival Practice will introduce students to the practice and theory of archival work, focusing on the key processes of records creation, appraisal, preservation, and outreach. In spring 2018, ISLT 9410 Archival Systems and Records Management will orient students to archival arrangement and description using archival metadata and access tools such as ArchivesSpace, applying principles to organizational contexts of managing records.

The School of Information Science and Learning Technologies is also pleased to have partnered with the Black Archives of Mid-America in offering ISLT 9410 Archives in Context as a spring break in-service learning opportunity. Students engaged in an archives workshop led by Professor Buchanan and collections work with archivist Geri Sanders. Students and faculty have also formed a new Society of American Archivists Student Chapter at the University of Missouri.

OHIO

Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board

OHRAB awarded Ohio Archives Grants to eight institutions: the City of Alliance; Dawes Arboretum, Newark; the Historical Society of Mt. Pleasant, Ohio, Inc.; New Straitsville History Group, Shawnee State University; Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati (Mount Saint Joseph, OH), Wilmington College Peace Resource Center; and Worthington Historical Society. The Ohio Archives Grants are funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, an arm of the National Archives and Records Administration, through its State and National Archival Partnership Grants program.

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota State Historical Society

The South Dakota State Historical Society’s Deadwood Fund grant program has awarded grants to five historical sites. Funding for the program comes from Deadwood gaming revenue earmarked by state law for historic preservation projects throughout the state. The society’s State Historic Preservation Office at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre administers the program. These were the most recent sites to receive grants to supplement their work:

Arlington: Arlington Community Museum, also known as the Arlington Masonic Temple, built 1907–1908.

Delmont: Thomas Lenehan House, or the Onion House, built 1902.

Faulkton: Pickler Mansion, built 1882–1894.

Madison: Herschell-Spillman Steam Riding Gallery, also known as the Prairie Village Carousel, built sometime between 1901 and 1920.

St. Onge: Anderson-Ridley Barn, built 1902.

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WISCONSIN

University of Wisconsin—Superior Special Collections and Archives

More than 9,000 engineering drawings for over 200 vessels are now available for research in the Fraser Shipyards Collection at the UW—Superior Special Collections and Archives. A searchable online index for the drawings is available at fra-shipyardscollection.omeka.net.

The new index will allow researchers to access information about drawings for many famous Great Lakes vessels, including the Fraser Class and Maritimer vessels, the Edmund Fitzgerald, and the William A. Irvin. Many of these drawings are not available elsewhere and are accessible to the public for the first time through this collection. In addition to thousands of engineering drawings, the Fraser Shipyards Collection contains correspondence, photographs, and more.

This collection is of interest to model builders, maritime history researchers, maritime archaeologists, and naval architects and engineers. A guide to the complete collection can be found at library.uwsuper.edu/fraser. Contact the archives to learn more: 715-395-8359, or archives@uwsuper.edu.

NEWS FROM THE MIDWEST—Continued
Alexandra Bisio and Alison Stankrauff, Assistant Editors

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