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Thank You, MAC

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Thank You, MAC

By Carrie Phillips, 2012 recipient of the Emeritus Scholarship for First-Time MAC Meeting Attendees

The 2012 MAC Annual Meeting was my first professional archives-themed conference since taking my current position as archives and special collections librarian for Bluffton University in Ohio in the summer of 2005. I'm so grateful to the Committee for choosing me as one of two recipients of the Emeritus Scholarship for First-Time MAC Meeting Attendees. Your choice was a good investment; I plan to make MAC a professional priority from this point forward in my career. Thank you!

Grand Rapids was a wonderful place to visit, and the Gerald Ford Presidential Center was a great venue for the opening reception. I enjoyed meeting a number of veteran and new MAC members as we toured the Center's exhibits. The city itself was a fun place to explore, though the meeting kept me pretty busy—I need to plan a return trip! Also, I learned a new term in “lone arranger,” but, because of MAC, I'm proud to say that I belong to a great group of solo archivists. I enjoyed the Lone Arranger social—it was great to be able to connect with others who are tasked to run their own shows.

The program organizers created a very diverse slate of panels and presentations. On more than one occasion I wished for a clone to send to an alternate session—so many sounded so interesting! I found the “New Grantsmanship” panel very educational; I haven't attempted any grant writing endeavors as yet, but I'm glad to know more about what's available. I run a small shop of sorts, and so

I was able to relate to much of the “Small Shop” panel's presentation (and I grew up not far from Airstream, Inc.). I'm an avid technology advocate and social media user, and so I found the “Archivist 2.0” session on Friday to be really interesting (Historypin—wow!). I do not currently use a content management system in my archives, so I was also grateful for the chance to learn more about Archon and Archivists' Toolkit at the session on Friday afternoon. Bluffton University is home to more than one religious archival collection, so I felt at home at the “Future of Religious Archives” session on Saturday morning and was happy to be able to support my “sister” archivist of Mennonite materials, Colleen McFarland!



I have opportunities to connect with a number of other lone arrangers in Ohio through consortia and other professional organizations. I'm hoping that I can help recruit more of those colleagues to the MAC organization. What struck me most about the Annual Meeting was how friendly the members of the organization are. Thanks for making my first MAC Annual Meeting a great experience!

Seeking Nominations for MAC Presidents' Award

The MAC Presidents' Award was established in 1986 as a means for MAC to recognize significant contributions to the archival profession by individuals, institutions, and organizations not directly involved in archival work but knowledgeable about its purpose and value. Recipients are chosen by a committee comprising the three most recent past presidents of MAC from nominations submitted by committees in each of the 13 states in the MAC region. Each state committee may put forward only one nomination per year. As many as three awards may be presented each year. Recipients are invited to attend the Members' Meeting held at MAC's Annual Meeting to receive their awards.

To nominate someone, please complete the nomination form on the MAC Web site, and address it to the appropriate state chair no later than **January 15, 2013**. Full contact information for the state chairs can be found on the MAC Web site under “MAC Presidents' Award,” along with a list of the Award's past recipients. For additional information about the award and guidelines, please contact Elisabeth Wittman at Elisabeth.Wittman@cityofchicago.org.