

1-1-2013

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Menzi L. Behrnd-Klodt

Midwest Archives Conference, menzi@xyte.com

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Recommended Citation

Behrnd-Klodt, Menzi L. (2013) "Vice President's Column: More on MAC Meetings and Symposia," *MAC Newsletter*: Vol. 40 : No. 3 , Article 6.

Available at: <https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/macnewsletter/vol40/iss3/6>

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Vice President's Column: More on MAC Meetings and Symposia

Menzi L. Behrnd-Klodt, Vice President, Midwest Archives Conference

It's been a busy fall! MACers are caught up in the fall semester, back in school, teaching, writing, planning, and just working! Halloween has passed, as have the Presidential election, football games, and for some of us, the first (but surely not the last) snowflakes. MAC's fall Council meeting was a great experience in camaraderie and hard work, as talented minds came together to review MAC's progress and plan for the future. Many thanks to the Program and Local Arrangements Committees cochairs who reported to Council on upcoming meetings, especially to those who were able to do so in person.

This is a great opportunity to recognize and thank the Program and Local Arrangements Committees cochairs and members who spend countless hours behind-the-scenes planning meeting programs, events, and activities; contacting and visiting hotels and sites for receptions and tours; and much more, so that we can all enjoy educational, rewarding, and uplifting meetings and symposia. New challenges this year are establishing work flows and processes with DMN (MAC's outside meeting logistics service that began work October 1) and MAC's development coordinator. I can't say enough about the teams MAC has working right now! Great job, everyone!

Below is an update on upcoming MAC meetings:

Cincinnati, Ohio, October 18–20, 2012

Ninety-seven archivists and educators who attended the Fall Symposium investigated the topic "Engaging with Students and Teachers: Integrating Primary Sources in K-16 Curricula" and reported that the discussions were rewarding and positive. Thanks to Planning Committee Chairs Lisa Sjöberg (Program) and Anne Ryckbost (Local Arrangements) and their Committees for a great meeting.

Indianapolis, Indiana, April 17–20, 2013

Plans for MAC's Annual Meeting are right on track. The Program Committee is selecting from many exciting and well-thought-out proposals, as of this writing. The Local Arrangements Committee continues its work on planning the reception and tours, contacting potential donors, and the myriad of other details that go into a great meeting experience. They look forward to logistical support from DMN and the development coordinator. To date, tours are planned of the Indiana Historical Society, Conner

Prairie Interactive History Park, and several other local archives. Attendees will also have an opportunity to attend Conner Prairie's "Follow the North Star" program, where participants can experience being a fugitive slave on the Underground Railroad.

Green Bay, Wisconsin, September 25–27, 2013

Plans for this symposium are well underway, and it sounds like an exciting meeting and location! The Local Arrangements Committee is tempting us with the possibility of a Green Bay Packer-themed reception, A.K.A. "tailgate party," as we visit the home of the NFL's smallest city and one of the most popular teams! They won't know whether plans for "all things Packers" will be possible until the NFL releases its 2013 schedule, but with or without the football experience, this meeting promises to be a great chance to learn more about cutting-edge topics and enjoy the hospitality of a terrific small city.

Kansas City, Kansas, April 24–26, 2014

Council was delighted to return to Kansas City for the 2014 Annual Meeting, and we hope you will be, too. The contract for the Westin Kansas City at Crown Center is signed and the Program and Local Arrangements Committees are moving into action with meeting planning and logistics.

Fall Symposium, 2014

Council was pleased to accept a proposal by a Champaign–Urbana area archival group to host the 2014 Fall Symposium. Two topics are under consideration and dates are still to be settled. But mark your calendars for a return to Illinois in two years!

Future Meetings

As always, MAC seeks ideas for future meetings and sites! If your area hasn't hosted a MAC meeting recently, why not gather your nearby colleagues, draft a proposal, and invite us to share what your locale has to offer? Please contact me at Menzi@xyte.com, and I will be happy to discuss your ideas or questions.