In Case You Missed It…

From April 24 through 26, 375 MAC Annual Meeting attendees braved capricious midwestern weather and descended on Kansas City, Missouri, for “The Syncopations of History.” April showers didn’t keep MACers from enjoying three excellent tours of Kansas City repositories. Highlights included stops at the National World War I Museum, Missouri Valley Special Collections at the Kansas City Public Library, and the Marr Sound Archives at the University of Missouri–Kansas City. Despite being a tad wet from the morning shower turned afternoon storm, members were treated to a delightful plenary session with speaker Chuck Haddix of the Marr Sound Archives. Haddix detailed how he used archival collections to correct accepted errors in existing scholarship on jazz legend and KC native, Charlie Parker. Archival sound recordings complemented his talk and rounded out a truly enjoyable session. Attendees had the opportunity to purchase copies of Haddix’s books at the end of his talk before dispersing to attend the first sessions of the conference.

In a continuation of the mood set by the afternoon plenary, members left the Westin for a festive evening reception at the American Jazz Museum in the heart of Kansas City. Plenary speaker Chuck Haddix reveals little-known facts about legendary jazz saxophonist Charlie Parker.

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Fall Symposium—Oral History, Archives, and Innovation

When the Federal Writers’ Project of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) completed its program to collect interviews in 1940, the more than 10,000 oral histories it had captured within the span of four years preserved a glimpse into the compelling and complex history of the United States. The interviews filled the pages of approximately 2,900 documents reconstructed from notes and memory and included the recollections of a diverse array of men and women who had lived through the Civil War, were surviving the Great Depression, had recently immigrated to the United States, lived in urban and rural settings, and represented a myriad of social, economic, and political viewpoints and experiences. Since the WPA, oral history interviews have been recorded on analog media, including acetate discs, wire recordings, and magnetic tapes. As oral history collection and capture transitioned to digital audio and video, archivists, historians, digital preservation librarians, and other stakeholders had to reconsider new ways to curate and create access to recorded life stories and experiences in an online environment.

Format obsolescence and differing budgets, staff, and resources make transcription, preservation, description, and dissemination more challenging within an archival environment.
Dear MAC Members,

Fresh from the MAC Annual Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, I’m returning to work energized and engaged! Let me congratulate once more all the members of the Local Arrangements Committee (Audrey McKanna Coleman and Jennifer Audsley Moore, cochairs) and all the members of the Program Committee (Michelle Sweetser and Jeremy Brett, cochairs) for the work they did to make this meeting a rousing success!

I also want to thank our outgoing leaders who made such a difference this year. Vice President Menzi Behrnd-Klodt not only organized the meetings and chaired the Documentation Working Group, but did yeoman’s service to help revise our contract with AMC. Daardi Sizemore provided excellent service as treasurer, and Janet Olson and Erik Nordberg were valued members of Council. Several members of Ex Officio Council are transitioning from their positions, including Archival Issues (AI) Chair Barbara Floyd, MAC Newsletter Editor Jennie Thomas (who will be joining Council this year), Public Information Officer (PIO) Adriana Cuervo, and Webmaster Stephanie Giordano. Committee chairs Lydia Lucas (Emeritus Scholarship for First-Time MAC Attendees), Helen Conger (Bowen Memorial Graduate Scholarship), and Josh Ranger (Nominating Committee) are also moving out of their positions. All deserve hearty thanks and recognition for their important contributions to MAC.

I’d also like to welcome incoming leadership: David McCartney (vice president), Joel Thoreson (treasurer), Jennie Thomas and Anne Thomason (Council), John Fleckner (AI Editorial Board chair), Paul Eisloeffel (newsletter editor), Daria Labinsky (PIO), Brad Houston (webmaster), Daardi Sizemore (Nominating Committee chair), Cheri Thies (Emeritus Scholarship chair), and Elizabeth Wilkinson (Bowen Scholarship chair). I look forward to working with all of you!

As is traditional, let me offer my State of MAC address, delivered at the Members’ Meeting, in this issue of the newsletter.

State of MAC

During this first year of my presidency, MAC has been all about infrastructure. From the work of the Council, to the work of task forces, to the work of our committees, as a group we have been grappling with two realities: first, that we are an organization with ambitious goals for the opportunities we provide our members; second, that in many areas we have grown beyond the boundaries of a purely volunteer organization.

The good news, which you will read in the Treasurer’s Report elsewhere in this newsletter, is that through streamlining some of our operations and improving our processes for meetings and publications, we have significantly decreased our deficit and improved the overall financial standing of MAC.

To continue to position ourselves to serve our members in the next three to five years, this year’s work has focused on a few key areas. Most time consuming, yet most “invisible” to you, has been the work of adjusting our contract with AMC, which provides us with both meeting and administrative services. In the past six months, Council members Menzi Behrnd-Klodt, Michael Doyleen, Daardi Sizemore, and I have worked with AMC to draft a contract that will mesh our service contracts, provide additional support to key areas of our organization (such as web management and meeting services), and clarify and redefine several key roles to improve communications.

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We have already seen several improvements to our communications and publications this year: The Documentation Working Group has completed a review and revision of all leadership and committee manuals. MAC is now more completely documented than it ever has been, and the working group will continue to address the needs of MAC in the coming year. New manuals are being posted to the website even as I write this.

We implemented a new pricing structure for Archival Issues, instituting a subscription-only option in December 2013. Subscription pricing is of most benefit to our institutions, which will no longer need to purchase an institutional membership to obtain the journal. While this has significantly decreased our institutional memberships this year, it will save us money overall, as we will no longer provide printed newsletters to these institutional subscribers. We are also offering members the opportunity to “go green” and opt out of paper publications, instead subscribing online. This has also saved us money. The goal for the coming year is to continue to find ways to increase accessibility and market our publications.

The Online Publications Working Group continues to act on recommendations that it made at the fall Council meeting. As a result, we all are using Sched.org, which replaces our pocket program at this meeting. Early indications are that this is a valuable offering, and we will continue to test its viability in the coming year.

The Archival Issues Editorial Board adopted a new copyright agreement, which was revised to allow authors to contribute their articles to institutional repositories, personal or institutional websites, and noncommercial research or educational publications. This encourages the sharing of quality scholarship while giving authors incentive to submit their articles to AI. We continue to look for high-quality submissions, so please contact a member of the Editorial Board if you are interested.

The Speakers Bureau begins its two-year pilot project this year, after a solid two years of planning and preparation. Cochairs Tanya Zanish-Belcher and Ellen Swain and committee members have worked hard to institute a program designed to bring low- or no-cost educational workshops to archivists throughout the MAC region. Over the next year, the project will support four workshops and will develop a resource list of workshop speakers and topics. The first workshop, “Moving Images: An Introduction for Archivists,” was presented by Paul Eisloeffel, media archivist at the University of Nebraska. The free workshop was held at the Missouri State Archives in Jefferson City in partnership with the Missouri Historical Records Advisory Board and State Archives on May 30. If you have questions about the Speakers Bureau or would like to be included as a speaker on its resource list, please contact Ellen Swain (eswain@illinois.edu) or Tanya Zanish-Belcher (zanisht@wfu.edu).

Finally, I want to mention that during the summer and fall of 2013, on behalf of MAC, I participated in the SAA effort to establish the Regional Archival Associations Consortium (www2.archivists.org/groups/regional-archival-associations-consortium-raac), which provides a forum for collaboration between archival organizations at the regional, state, and local levels. As the consortium begins its work, I anticipate increased opportunities for MAC to partner with other organizations within this framework.

There are always ways members can assist, and I want to mention a couple of things in closing. First, we saw a very low submission rate for our MAC scholarship opportunities this year. These scholarships are tremendously important, as they fund opportunities for archives students and new professionals. You will see MAC e-mail announcements calling for submissions—please take it upon yourselves to share these widely!

I would also like to encourage you to share the value of MAC membership beyond these walls! MAC provides a membership that encompasses all archivists in the region, from first-year archives students and emerging professionals to retirees and emeritus members. MAC is your organization, and, as it grows, we maintain our commitment to offering high-quality educational and professional development and networking opportunities. So many of you have invested your time and talents in this organization, and I thank you for that. Though we use support services for some aspects of our work, MAC’s vitality and capacity for growth come from its membership. As MAC’s leadership works to set up a strong infrastructure for the growth of the organization, I encourage you all to share MAC’s goals and participate in its future.

If you have questions, concerns, or ideas that can benefit the organization, please feel free to contact me or any other Council member. I look forward to serving as your president in the coming year. And thank you all for your ongoing commitment to MAC.

My best wishes,

Amy Cooper Cary
President, Midwest Archives Conference
Annual Meeting
(Continued from page 1)

the historic 18th and Vine District. Attendees were treated to a one-of-a-kind Kansas City welcome in song as they arrived by bus and were ushered inside to enjoy a delicious KC barbecue dinner of pulled pork sandwiches, potato salad, beans, and buttered corn. Exhibits at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum and American Jazz Museum were open and available for viewing. An after-reception gathering was held in the Blue Room Jazz Club, adjacent to the museum, where members mingled and enjoyed live KC jazz long into the evening hours.

Thankfully, MAC attendees were not too tired from the fun and camaraderie of the previous evening’s jazz extravaganza to take advantage of the excellent and informative workshops and sessions offered Friday morning and afternoon. Participants had a wide variety of topics to choose from, ranging from sessions on increasing access to oral history and exploring digital humanities, to the efforts of information science students working with tribal governments to create libraries and archives that better serve the unique needs of their communities. Panels addressing digital preservation, student training, and a lightning round on archival administration and management completed the morning. Truly something for everyone! MAC members had the option of lunch out or indulging in brown-bag sessions on social media, outreach and marketing, and MPLP for audiovisual materials. Sessions resumed in the afternoon and included the first-ever MAC debate. Two teams squared off in a modified Oxford-style debate on two charged issues within the archival profession: political action and volunteers. The votes declared the winners to be “no” as to whether archivists have a professional responsibility to be politically active, and “yes” as to whether the cost of using volunteers outweighs the benefits—both sides presenting good points and well-researched arguments. Perhaps this will become an annual event! Closing out the afternoon was the annual Member’s Meeting. President Amy Cooper Cary updated membership on the status and direction of MAC and, thanks to the generous sponsorship of UMB Bank, three students were awarded monetary prizes in the graduate student poster contest.

Friday evening, members had a plethora of after-hours activities to keep them busy. Lone arrangers gathered at Pierpont’s Restaurant inside of Kansas City’s gorgeous Union Station, which celebrates its centennial this year. SAA’s Women Archivists Roundtable hosted a gathering, and many others met with old acquaintances and colleagues to enjoy an evening out on the town. The Local Arrangements Committee hosted three restaurant tours to favorites featuring the cuisines of Austria, Thailand, and, of course, Kansas City barbecue!

Finishing the conference on a high note, Saturday packed quite a bit of variety into a half-day of sessions. Panels included preserving the LGBT history of Missouri, applying MPLP to electronic records, and bridging the gap between students, alumni, and archival collections at universities. After a midmorning break that provided time

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context; yet digital technologies and tools also present us with innovative ways to curate oral histories.

The digital environment in which we all live continues to reshape and reorder nearly every human endeavor. Every memory institution is stretched to reimagine itself and reevaluate what resources should be allocated to what levels of work. A dynamic discussion about the nature and role of archives, libraries, and historical societies brings the concept of “participatory archives” front and center. In this context, we must ask what the best ways are to collect, curate, and disseminate oral histories, and what role they should, or should not, play in shaping the record of today’s modern culture. Given the vast numbers of institutions and practitioners conducting oral histories and the degree of freedom offered the “citizen historian” by personal technology devices, how do we promote and standardize best practices? How can standards meet the varying needs of the content creators, the content curators, and the future users of the content?

For a variety of reasons, oral history interviews are of interest to many individuals and organizations, including archivists, librarians, historians, teachers, corporate entities, community members, community centers, historical societies, digital preservationists, teachers, genealogists, academic researchers, and students. With such an array of individuals and organizations taking an interest or participating in the creation of oral histories, clearly defining what oral history is becomes a challenge. Without a doubt, oral history is defined by place, actor, and time—different standards, practitioners, and reasons for documenting some life stories over others means that our approaches to capturing and making oral history content available needs to be dynamic and flexible enough to be easily modified for specific situations.

MAC’s Fall Symposium at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will collaboratively explore models for processing, preserving, and enhancing access to oral histories, drawing heavily from the Oral History in the Digital Age initiative (ohda.matrix.msu.edu), which examines innovative approaches to curating and disseminating oral histories. The symposium will also introduce participants to oral history models created by Doug Boyd, PhD, director of the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky Libraries (libraries.uky.edu/nunncenter).

Boyd is a world-renowned expert in oral history, archives, and digital technologies. Among his innovative research initiatives, he recently developed and implemented the OHMS (Oral History Metadata Synchronizer), which connects textual searches to the corresponding moment in audio and video recordings, and he currently directs the IMLS-funded project OHMS: Enhancing Access and Discovery of Oral History Online to develop OHMS functionality for compatibility with such content management systems as Omeka and CONTENTdm. Boyd’s recent publications include *Crawfish Bottom: Recovering a Lost Kentucky Community* (University of Kentucky Press, 2011) and “Achieving the Promise of Oral History in a Digital Age” in *The Oxford Handbook to Oral History* (2012). He also authors the blog *Digital Omnium* (www.digitalomnium.com), which provides tutorials and practical advice on recording, preserving, and providing access to oral histories online.

Specific topics Boyd will cover include
- Methods for transcribing and indexing interviews
- Collection management strategies for oral histories
- Digital preservation in an oral history context
- Digital audio and video
- Ethical and legal issues
- Metadata
- Digital tools for enhancing access to oral history online

Taking place on the campus of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign on September 12 and 13, the Fall Symposium will present participants with practical information that can be used to support curation efforts for oral history interviews. Participants will also learn how to create better access to oral history interviews and consider ideas about the future role oral history interviews may play in the documentation practices of archival organizations. On day one, Boyd will lead symposium participants through discussions of
- Techniques for transcribing oral history interviews
- Collection management considerations when working with oral histories
- The use of metadata and other descriptive methods with oral histories
- Automatic speech recognition tools
- Disseminating oral histories
- The OHMS (Oral History Metadata Synchronizer)
- The use of oral history interviews in digital exhibits
- Legal and ethical issues related to oral history
On day two, Boyd will discuss digitization, digital curation, and preservation strategies as they apply to oral history interviews. In addition, he will moderate a panel consisting of individuals from local oral history projects, which will provide participants the opportunity to discuss the use of oral histories, shifting the way they think about documentation strategies and how they respond to curation and access issues. The panel is still in the early stages of organization, but our current speakers include Noah Lenstra, Joanne Kaczmarek, Ellen Swain, and Jack Brighton. Lenstra, a graduate student in the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science, will discuss how digital technologies can be used to aggregate digitized oral histories across institutions, remix digital audio for public programming, and involve new actors in the collection of oral histories. He will describe how the eBlack Champaign-Urbana project (eBlackCU.net) connects university and high school students with institutional archives to build a website and public programs focused on oral histories of African American history and culture in Champaign-Urbana. Lenstra will discuss how this type of work can be done utilizing a low budget and existing technological infrastructures.

Joanne Kaczmarek, archivist for electronic records, and Ellen Swain, archivist for student life and culture at the University of Illinois Archives, will describe the impetus behind the Evolving Archives Initiative (EvA) and the trials and tribulations of working within the boundaries of the University of Illinois to get the project underway (archives.library.illinois.edu/about-us/initiatives/eva-initiative). They will describe the inspiration behind EvA, the early stages of planning, the technology pitfalls that have plagued their efforts, lessons learned, and future directions for the initiative.

Jack Brighton, director of new media and innovation at WILL (Illinois Public Media), will discuss managing digital workflows for curating oral history interviews and the specific ways in which public radio initiatives can attend to issues surrounding digital preservation of interviews stored on analog and digital media. In particular, Brighton will highlight such projects as Central Illinois World War II stories (will.illinois.edu/WWII) and Pop Up Archive (www.popuparchive.com).

The Fall Symposium will be held at the historic Illini Union (union.illinois.edu) on the University of Illinois campus. Located in central Illinois at the intersection of three interstate highways (I-57, I-74, I-72), Champaign-Urbana is not only home to a preeminent and pioneering public research university, but it is also a vibrant micro-urban community with a lively nightlife and arts and cultural scene, a strong emphasis on technology and innovation, and a dedication to environmental sustainability. Amtrak, Greyhound and Super Shuttle bus lines, and American Airlines via the University of Illinois Willard Airport all serve the university. Lodging will be available at the Illini Union. Located in the heart of the campus, the colonial-style Illini Union is near many restaurants, shops, and major campus attractions. Its amenities include complimentary onsite parking, continental breakfast, wireless Internet, and a workout facility. Additional lodging will be provided by the Hampton Inn (tinyurl.com/ay7octq), which is a 10- to 15-minute walk from the Union.

Complimentary breakfast will be provided on both days, as well as a buffet lunch on the first day. Participants will enjoy a catered reception on Friday night at the Spurlock Museum, also on the University of Illinois campus. A 10-minute walk from the Illini Union, the Spurlock’s five galleries capture the history and cultural heritage of the ancient Near East and Mediterranean, Africa, Oceania, East and Southeast Asia, Europe, and the Americas. Its vast collection of artifacts and ethnographic materials includes Babylonian and Sumerian clay tablets and cylinder seals, an Ottoman coin collection, household items excavated from Pompeii, and South American pottery.

A more detailed schedule and registration are forthcoming. Please visit the Fall Symposium blog (macsymposium2014.wordpress.com) and the MAC website for more information. Please contact Organizing Committee Cochairs Bethany Anderson of the University of Illinois Archives (bgandrsn@illinois.edu) or Anke Voss at the Urbana Free Library (avoss@ufl.info) with any questions. We look forward to seeing you at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign this September!

Notes


Annual Meeting

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to give the graduate student posters another look, the last sessions gave advice on incorporating local popular music collections into archives, improving the use of social media, and learning how to operate effectively as a contract archivist.

The conference would never have been possible without the hard work of the Program, Education, and Local Arrangements Committees. A myriad of donors sponsored all aspects of the conference, from tours and sessions to the plenary and reception. Additional thanks are owed to Debra Nolan and the staff of AMC for their dedication and guidance during the planning process, as well as to the staff of the Westin Crown Center Hotel for the excellent service and accommodations provided. Special thanks go to our generous donors: Bridgeport National Bindery, Bryan Cave LLP, Dole Institute of Politics, Kansas City Area Archivists, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas Historical Society, Kansas State Historical Records Advisory Board, Kansas State University Libraries, Klodt and Associates, Missouri State Archives, National Archives at Kansas City, National World War I Museum, Pony Express National Museum, Spencer Fane Britt and Browne LLP, State Historical Society of Missouri, UMB Bank, University of Kansas Libraries, University of Missouri–Columbia University Archives, University of Missouri–Kansas City Libraries, and University Products.

And, of course, thank you to all those who attended and made this year’s Annual Meeting a great success!
Presidents’ Award

The MAC Presidents’ Award Committee, consisting of Ellen Swain, Tanya Zanish-Belcher, and Dennis Meissner, presented the following two awards for 2014 at the MAC Members’ Meeting.

President Amy Cooper Cary and former president Dennis Meissner, right, pose with Jack Pitzer, one of the winners of the Presidents’ Award.

Jack Pitzer of the National FFA Organization (Indianapolis, Indiana) was nominated jointly by Brenda Burk of Indiana University–Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI) and Bill Maher of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The nominators emphasized Pitzer’s tireless advocacy for the preservation of, and especially access to, the records of the National Future Farmers of America Organization (FFA). He has been a key player in ensuring that FFA records made their way into the collections of IUPUI and the University of Illinois, has promoted their use by students and scholars, and has raised and donated funds to facilitate digitizing important segments of the records.

John M. Preis of the YMCA Retirement Fund was nominated by Lara Friedman-Shedlov and Ryan Bean of the Kautz Family YMCA Archives, University of Minnesota. Preis has played a critical role in ensuring the preservation of, and access to, the voluminous archives of the National YMCA Organization in the Special Collections of the University of Minnesota. He also secured crucial funding to digitize significant portions of the records and then facilitated a study resulting in a framework for the preservation of local YMCA chapter records around the United States.

2014 Recipient of the Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship for Graduate Students in Archival Administration

The 2014 recipient of the Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship is Andria Hoy. Hoy is pursuing her MLIS degree with a concentration in archival administration at Kent State University. She received her bachelor of music in performance from Louisiana State University and a master of music from the Cleveland Institute of Music.

She is currently an archives assistant at the Cleveland Orchestra. Other work experience includes the Robinson Music Library at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Hoy is a member of the Society of Ohio Archivists. In addition to her archival studies, Hoy maintains an active performance career as an oboist.

The award is named in honor of Louisa Bowen, archivist and active MAC member, who died of cancer in 1996. Award recipients receive a $750 scholarship and a one-year membership to MAC. The winner is also asked to write an essay for the October issue of the MAC Newsletter on which academic activities the scholarship assisted. Thanks to committee members Helen Conger (chair), Adam Groves, Frederick Lautzenheiser, and Elizabeth Wilkinson.

Call for Nominations

Are you interested in serving with MAC? The Nominating Committee is gathering names for next year’s election slate for president, secretary, and three Council members. If you know someone who would be a good candidate, please forward his or her name to Nominating Committee Chair Daardi Sizemore at daardi.sizemore@mnsu.edu. Other committee members are Jackie Shalberg and Meg Miner.
MAC NEWS—Continued
Daria Labinsky, Assistant Editor

Winners of the Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship for Minority Students

The MAC Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship Committee unanimously—and happily—agreed to award Raquel Flores-Clemons and Lorena Ramirez-Lopez this year’s Motley Scholarships.

Flores-Clemons received her BA in art history from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) and is pursuing her MLIS degree with special collections specialization at the University of Illinois (U of I). She has experience in several information settings, including currently working with oral histories at the U of I art gallery, the Sousa Archives, and the Champaign Public Library. Flores-Clemons is a founding member of the Midwest Hip-Hop Archives, where she is a volunteer. Additionally, she has worked at the U of I Krannert Art Museum and the University Career Center. Flores-Clemons is a current fellow in the Association of Research Libraries Career Enhancement Program and has been selected twice in recent years as a LIS Access Midwest Program (LAMP) scholar. She has been the recipient of the Summer Pre-Doctoral Institute Fellowship and also the Champaign Public Library Employee GSLIS Scholarship. Flores-Clemons serves as the LAMP liaison for both UIUC and the university’s Society of American Archivists student chapter. She has presented at the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color, Inclusive Illinois Day, and at the Illinois Summer Research Symposium.

Lorena Ramirez-Lopez received her BA in Spanish and cinema studies from New York University (NYU) and is pursuing her master of arts in moving image archiving and preservation (MIAP) at NYU. Ramirez-Lopez has done concentrated course work on Latino media, movie marketing, Spanish-language theater, and other cinema studies-specific courses. She studied through NYU in Madrid, concentrating on work in the Prado Museum. She has made the dean’s list at NYU. She is active on campus, serving as the president of the American Moving Image Association student chapter and is active in MIAP’s Audiovisual Preservation Exchange (APEX). She is a recipient of the Tisch School of the Arts Graduate Scholarship, a Cantor scholarship, and a Dean’s Undergraduate Research Fund grant for her graduate work. Ramirez-Lopez is currently working in NYU’s preservation and conservation lab, as well as volunteering at WITNESS, a human rights advocacy video project.

Congratulations to Raquel and Lorena!

Julie Hatfield Awarded Emeritus Scholarship

The 2014 winner of the Emeritus Scholarship for First-Time MAC Meeting Attendees is Julie Hatfield of the University of Wisconsin (UW)–Eau Claire. Hatfield is a recent MLIS graduate with an archival studies concentration from the UW–Milwaukee School of Information Studies. While in graduate school, she assisted in the creation of a web-based tool that searches and provides access to finding aids for archival collections at UW–Eau Claire. She currently holds a part-time position at the university, working as an assistant on projects to digitize portions of the university’s archival collections, to implement its first digital collections tool, and to help publicize the tool to potential users—all preliminary to carrying out digital humanities projects in collaboration with university faculty.

Lydia Lucas (chair), Roland Baumann, Emily Gainer, and Karen Koka served on the 2014 Emeritus Scholarship Committee. The scholarship provides financial assistance for MAC Annual Meeting travel and conference expenses to individuals who have never before attended a MAC meeting. Information about the scholarship and the application form are available on the MAC website.
Your New MAC Leadership

At the Members’ Meeting on April 20, the following elected individuals took office:

Vice President David McCartney
Treasurer Joel Thoreson
Council members Jennie Thomas, Anne Thomason

In addition to the new MAC Council members listed above, we have several new committee chairs to welcome as well: Archival Issues Editorial Board Chair John Fleckner; MAC Newsletter Editor Paul Eisloeffel; Public Information Officer Daria Labinsky; Webmaster Brad Houston; Nominating Committee Chair Daardi Sizemore; Emeritus Scholarship Chair Cheri Thies; and Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship Chair Elizabeth Wilkinson.

MAC Thanks

Thanks to outgoing committee chairs Lydia Lucas, Emeritus Scholarship for First-Time MAC Meeting Attendees; Helen Conger, Louisa Bowen Memorial Graduate Scholarship; and Josh Ranger, Nominating Committee. Thanks to outgoing Council ex officio members Barbara Floyd, Archival Issues Editorial Board chair; Jennie Thomas, MAC Newsletter editor; Adriana Cuervo, public information officer; and Stephanie Giordano, webmaster. And, last but not least, thanks to outgoing Council officers Menzi Behrnd-Klodt, vice president; Daardi Sizemore, treasurer; and Erik Nordberg and Janet Olson, Council.

Between-Meeting Council Actions

On May 1, 2014, Council unanimously passed with all members voting the motion to approve the MAC AMC Source Agreement, as revised on April 26, 2014, and the expenditure of an additional $250/month for the new services delineated therein.

MAC Archives Reminder

Outgoing MAC officers, appointees, and committee chairs are reminded to donate their papers to the MAC Archives, held at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. For further information, please contact MAC Archivist Michael Doylen at doylenm@uwm.edu.
Draft Minutes of the MAC Council Meeting  
Westin Crown Center, Kansas City, Missouri, April 24, 2014

Due to the short time between the Council meeting and the newsletter publication deadline, these minutes have not yet been approved by Council. Please contact Michael Doylen at doylenm@uwm.edu for copies of reports submitted by leadership.

President Amy Cooper Cary called the regular meeting of the Council of the Midwest Archives Conference to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 24, at the Westin Crown Center in Kansas City, Missouri.

Council members in attendance: President Cooper Cary, Vice President Menzi Behrnd-Klodt, Secretary Michael Doylen, Mary Ellen Ducey, Jennifer Johnson, Erik Moore, Janet Olson, and Treasurer Daardi Sizemore. A quorum was present.

Guests present: Bethany Anderson, Jennifer Audsley Moore, Alexis Braun Marks, Jeremy Brett, Paul Eisloeffel, Heather Fox, Brad Houston, Daria Labinsky, David McCartney, Audrey McKanna Coleman, Joshua Ranger, Deirdre Scaggs, Lisa Sjoberg, Michelle Sweetser, Jennie Thomas, Joel Thoreson, Portia Vescio, and Anke Voss.

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

Vice President’s Report
Behrnd-Klodt invited questions concerning her written report submitted prior to the meeting. Council discussed a 2015 symposium proposal submitted by Bertram Lyons. Council deferred further consideration pending submission of a budget, site proposal, names of instructors, and roster of committee members. Cooper Cary indicated that a proposal for the 2016 Annual Meeting is forthcoming.

Behrnd-Klodt introduced the topic of charging a guest fee for receptions. Council discussed possible rates based on MAC’s costs, ease of administration, and other factors. It also discussed the benefit of extending the current “no refund after registration date” policy to guests. It was moved and seconded that MAC pilot a $20 guest fee for receptions for two years (at the 2015 and 2016 Annual Meetings and Fall Symposia), that current refund policies apply to guest fees, and that vendors who have a “plus-one” also pay the guest registration fee for receptions. Council unanimously passed the motion with all members voting.

Joshua Ranger, cochair of the 2013 Fall Symposium (Green Bay, Wisconsin), presented his final report to Council.

Council agreed to depart from the order of the agenda to permit Ranger to report on activities of the Online Publications Working Group. He provided an overview of completed and ongoing projects and recommended that Council dissolve the working group with the understanding that he will work to survey the membership regarding its preferences on the delivery of Annual Meeting program information. Discussion followed regarding the use of Sched.org at this year’s Annual Meeting, the logistical and financial benefits of discontinuing a printed pocket program, future uses of Sched.org, and the postmeeting survey. Council deferred action on Ranger’s recommendation to dissolve the working group until the survey is completed.

Council returned to the order of items on the agenda and welcomed Jeremy Brett and Michelle Sweetser, cochairs of the 2014 Program Committee, and Audrey McKanna Coleman and Jennifer Audsley Moore, cochairs of the 2014 Local Arrangements Committee. Cochairs summarized their written reports and provided updates on tours, poster sessions, program sessions, and other topics.

Council welcomed Bethany Anderson and Anke Voss, cochair of the 2014 Symposium Organizing Committee (Urbana-Champaign, Illinois). Cochairs summarized their written reports and provided updates concerning the venue, reception, and fund-raising efforts.

Council welcomed Lisa Sjoberg, Deirdre Scaggs, and Heather Fox, cochairs of the 2015 Annual Meeting (Lexington, Kentucky). Cochairs summarized their written reports and provided updates concerning workshops, the plenary, sessions, and other topics.

President’s Report
It was moved and seconded to approve Elizabeth Wilkinson as chair of the Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship Committee. Council unanimously passed the motion with all members voting.

It was moved and seconded to approve Paul Eisloeffel as chair of the MAC Newsletter Editorial Board. Council unanimously passed the motion with all members voting.

President Cooper Cary then reviewed leadership appointments previously approved by Council and reminded Council that (Continued on page 12)
the membership will vote on two proposed changes to the bylaws at the Annual Members’ Meeting.

President Cooper Cary introduced the topic of MAC’s revised contract with AMC, which combines the current administrative services and meeting contracts into a single document. The revised contract also strives to improve understanding of MAC’s and AMC’s respective responsibilities and assigns new roles to AMC, especially around vendor coordination, website management, and meeting services. Council discussed cost implications for the proposed new services and expectations for vendor coordination services. It was moved and seconded to approve the revised administrative and meeting services agreement without the sections regarding vendor coordination and to revisit those at the fall Council meeting following recommendations by an advertising and vendor coordination task force. Council unanimously passed the motion with all members voting.

Secretary’s Report
Doylen summarized his written report to Council submitted prior to the meeting and responded to questions. Council discussed reaching out to members who have not renewed and leaving at least one work day between the end of the member renewal period and the start of the election to allow AMC to process new and renewing memberships.

Treasurer’s Report
Sizemore reported that for the 2013 budget year, revenue exceeded projections in almost all cases. Additionally, expenses were less than budgeted. The actual budget deficit for 2013 was $2,400 (it was projected to be $21,100). She also reported on highlights of the 2014 budget and provided an overview of bank accounts and investments. Council agreed not to pursue tax-exempt status in Illinois and declined to provide financial support to the National Coalition for History in the current fiscal year.

Council agreed to depart from the order of the agenda to permit Brad Houston, incoming webmaster, to give his report. His immediate goals include retiring old information from the MAC website and redesigning the site following recommendations of the Online Publications Working Group and approval by Council.

Communications
Behrnd-Klodt summarized the written report of the Documentation Working Group submitted prior to the meeting and responded to questions. Council deferred acting on the proposal to incorporate a values statement into the manuals until the fall meeting. It was moved and seconded to approve the manuals with the understanding that the Documentation Working Group will continue to improve them. Council unanimously passed the motion with all members voting. Council tabled discussion of electronic submission of scholarship applications until the fall meeting.

Publications and Publicity
Public Information Officer Daria Labinsky presented her report. She proposed to eliminate administrative access to MAC’s Twitter and Facebook accounts, if possible.

MAC Newsletter Editor Jennie Thomas presented her report. She added that all assistant editor positions are filled.

Vendor Coordinator Miriam Kahn presented her report on vendor activity at the Annual Meeting.

Development Coordinator Portia Vescio presented her report on developing infrastructure and tracking institutional donors.

President Cooper Cary presented the report of the Archival Issues Editorial Board on behalf of Chair Barbara Floyd.

Membership Committee
Alexis Braun Marks, chair of the Membership Committee, presented her report. She underscored issues associated with the Annual Meeting Pals program. President Cooper Cary proposed a conversation between herself, the vice president, and Braun Marks.

Other Ex Officio and Standing Committee Reports
Alison Stankrauff, chair of the Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship Committee, presented her report. Lydia Lucas, chair of the Emeritus Scholarship for First-Time Meeting Attendees Committee, presented hers. Council accepted reports from other ex officio and standing committees.

President Cooper Cary indicated that the next regular meeting of Council will be held on Thursday, September 11, 2014, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. She also requested that all new members of Council meet briefly following the Annual Members’ Meeting on Friday, April 25.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was moved and seconded to adjourn. Council unanimously passed the motion with all members voting. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.
The following minutes are presented in draft form for informational purposes only. Membership will vote to approve this draft at the 2015 Members’ Meeting.

President Amy Cooper Cary called the Annual Members’ Meeting of the Midwest Archives Conference to order at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, April 25, at the Westin Crown Center in Kansas City, Missouri.

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Minutes of the April 19, 2013, Members’ Meeting were approved as presented.

Presentation of 2014 Awards
President Cooper Cary introduced Dennis Meissner, chair of the MAC Presidents’ Award Committee, who presented awards to John M. Preis, president and CEO of the YMCA Retirement Fund, and Jack Pitzer, retired editor and unofficial historian of the National FFA Organization. Ellen Engseth, curator of the YMCA Archives at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, accepted the award on behalf of Preis.

Lydia Lucas, chair of the MAC Emeritus Scholarship Committee, presented the award to Julie Hatfield, University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire.

On behalf of the Louisa Bowen Memorial Graduate Scholarship Committee, President Cooper Cary presented the award to Andria Hoy.

Alison Stankrauff, chair of the Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship Committee, presented awards to Raquel Flores-Clemons, graduate student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Lorena Ramirez-Lopez, graduate student at New York University.

Heidi Hornaday presented the graduate student poster awards. Adrienne Evans, University of Wisconsin–Madison, received first place; Lindsay Morecraft, graduate student at the University of Iowa, second place; and Ellen LeClere, graduate student at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, third place. The awards were made possible by the generous support of UMB Bank.

Other Acknowledgments and Recognitions
President Cooper Cary thanked the Program Committee and Local Arrangements Committee, as well as outgoing Council members and other leaders. She congratulated newly elected officers and thanked all who ran for positions in the 2014 election. She thanked the Nominating Committee for its work. Finally, she thanked AMC for its continuing assistance.

Treasurer’s Report
Treasurer Daardi Sizemore provided a detailed report on MAC’s financial status. She noted that the dues increase approved by the membership last year is already having a positive impact on the budget. In 2013, the organization exceeded its revenue goals by almost $13,000. Additionally, MAC spent almost $6,000 less than budgeted. As a result of these and other factors, MAC’s actual deficit was only $2,400, which is considerably less than projected. Sizemore remarked on the possibility of a balanced budget in 2014. She then highlighted the generosity of members who provided support in the area of student scholarships. Thirty-one students received support from gifts provided by members and the LAC. Sizemore closed by thanking the membership for the opportunity to serve, and past and current MAC Council members and AMC for their assistance.

Bylaws Changes
President Cooper Cary introduced two proposed amendments to the bylaws previously distributed to the membership by e-mail on February 20, 2014, thereby fulfilling the 45-day notice required by the constitution. The first proposal follows:

To Amend Article I, Duties and Powers of Officers and Council Members, Section 2, Vice President, by adding the phrase “may sign any documents as authorized, and” to the fifth sentence.

If amended, the sentence will read:

“The vice president may sign any documents as authorized, and shall act as liaison and adviser to the program and local arrangements committees and other committees and service providers, as appropriate, including oversight of planning and arrangements for semiannual meetings; and act as liaison concerning Conference publications with the public information officer and with other committees, as appropriate.”
It was moved and seconded that the proposal to amend Article I, Section 2 of the bylaws to approve the vice president as signatory for official documents be accepted. The motion passed.

President Cooper Cary introduced the second proposal as follows:

To Amend Article VI, Meetings, Section 3, Council Meetings, by adding the phrase “either physically or by teleconference or videoconference” after the word “present” in the final sentence.

If amended, the sentence will read:

“A majority of the members of Council present, either physically or by teleconference or videoconference, and entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum at a Council meeting.”

It was moved and seconded that the proposal to amend Article VI, Section 3 of the bylaws to allow video/teleconferencing for Council members be accepted. During discussion, a member remarked on the ambiguity of the current language of Article VI, Section 3, pertaining to requirements for quorum at Council meetings. The member suggested a revision to the proposed amendment, but no motion was made. Another member asked if quorum was addressed elsewhere in Article VI of the bylaws; the secretary confirmed that quorum at Council meetings is defined in Article VI, as read. Another member asked whether the bylaws should indicate “majority” with a specific number. Another member questioned whether the current language is, in fact, ambiguous. It was moved and seconded that the main motion be tabled. The motion passed.

President’s Report

President Cooper Cary delivered her report to the membership. She identified key accomplishments such as adjusting the organization’s contract with AMC and making improvements to communications and publications, such as introducing a new pricing structure for Archival Issues and replacing the printed pocket program with use of Sched.org. She described progress on the Speakers Bureau, an initiative of the Education Committee designed to bring low- or no-cost educational workshops to archives professionals across our region. She also described her participation, on behalf of MAC, in SAA’s Regional Archival Associations Consortium. She encouraged members to share information about MAC scholarship opportunities and to promote MAC generally as a valuable resource. She thanked members for their service and ongoing commitment.

Vice President’s Report and Meetings

Menzi Behrnd-Klodt provided additional information about the Speakers Bureau and upcoming workshops. She then thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve and MAC leadership for its support. She also thanked those involved with planning the 2014 Annual Meeting. Bethany Anderson and Anke Voss, cochairs of the 2014 Fall Symposium, gave a presentation about the upcoming program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Then, Heather Fox, a cochair of the 2015 Annual Meeting, gave a presentation about the meeting to be held in Lexington, Kentucky.

Audrey McKanna Coleman (2014 Local Arrangements Committee) made closing announcements. There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

MAC Membership, 2007–2014

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<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
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<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
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<th>2014</th>
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<td>130</td>
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<td>Individual*</td>
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<td>887</td>
<td>872</td>
<td>893</td>
<td>764</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Includes emeritus and complimentary
From the Incoming Chair of the MAC Editorial Board
By John Fleckner, National Museum of American History

I am delighted and honored to accept a two-year term as chair of the MAC Editorial Board. Although I moved from the Midwest 30 years ago, my personal and professional ties to the region remain close. I count my MAC membership, including Archival Issues, among these important connections. A quick look through JSTOR at the first issue of the Midwestern Archivist confirmed my dim memory of serving on the journal’s first Editorial Board. Since the era of MAC’s creation, the profession has changed dramatically. Our journal is both a record of those changes and an important contributor to them. I am grateful for the generations of volunteer chairs and Editorial Board members who have sustained and improved MAC’s journal over the years.

One constant in the rapidly evolving world of archives and archivists is the continuing need for creating and communicating professional knowledge and understanding. Archival Issues is a venue for sharing research and reflections and for reviews of significant publications in our field. The AI Editorial Board and chair encourage new authors and experienced professionals to share their knowledge and experiences and to make them a part of the lasting record of our profession.

The Editorial Board accepts fully developed article submissions but also stands ready to discuss initial ideas for future pieces. We advise prospective authors that conference presentations often are the basis for articles in AI, but they usually require substantial revision to make best use of the journal medium. Sometimes this means putting case studies—reports on very specific projects and activities—into the wider context of professional practice. Literature reviews and a consideration of how the specific case can be of value to a wider audience will help in this transition. Even the simple stylistic devices of eliminating most first person and passive voice expressions can help to convey a broader perspective.

I want to conclude with a special thanks to Barbara Floyd, who has guided AI for the past three years, and to retiring board members Joe Turrini and Pam Hackbart-Dean. The current Editorial Board—Mary Ellen Ducey, Elizabeth Engel, Russell Horton, Sammie Morris, and Elizabeth Myers—and the new chair look forward to hearing from you.

2015 Annual Meeting:
MAC in the Bluegrass State
Lexington, Kentucky, May 6–9, 2015

Mark your calendars for the 2015 Midwest Archives Conference Annual Meeting, which will be held in Lexington, Kentucky, May 6–9, 2015. The Program Committee will be distributing the Call for Proposals in July with a submission deadline of September 19. Our goal is to have the call available before people attend the Society of American Archivists conference in August, so everyone can build on ideas presented there or network with colleagues to build session proposals. Whether you attend SAA or not, the Program Committee will be working with the MAC PIO to establish ways for MAC members to brainstorm session ideas through Facebook (more information will be shared about how to do so in the near future).

The Program Committee is particularly interested in sessions that allow for interactivity between presenters and attendees through alternative session formats (e.g., speed dating, breakout sessions, debates, lightning rounds, or open-mic sessions). The Call for Proposals will include information about and examples of all of these possible formats. The Program Committee encourages sessions that address the following content areas: audiovisual materials, records management, management issues, and outreach. That said, all topics and session formats are welcome and encouraged. We encourage everyone to submit proposals, particularly underrepresented groups and those who have not yet presented at MAC.

Please watch your e-mail and the MAC website for the forthcoming Call for Proposals. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the 2015 Program Committee cochairs, Stephanie Bricking (Stephanie.Bricking@cincinnatilibrary.org) or Lisa Sjoberg (sjoberg@cord.edu). We look forward to seeing you in Lexington in May 2015!

Remember, MAC members, if you’d like to congratulate a colleague on a promotion or say “welcome” to a new member, log in and find fellow members’ contact information in the Membership Directory, www.midwestarchives.org.
MAC Members Show Their Generosity

The development portion of the 2014 membership renewal has resulted in donations totaling $3,058, as of May 2014.* Heartfelt thanks go to the following MAC members who donated to the general operating fund ($881) and the new Annual Meeting Student Registration Scholarships ($731). Members also donated to the Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship for Graduate Students in Archival Administration ($245), the Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship for Minority Students ($270), and the Emeritus Scholarship for First-Time MAC Meeting Attendees ($931).

### General Operating Fund
- Pamela Bennett
- Kimberly Butler
- Thomas Connors
- Deborah Dandridge
- Anita Taylor Doering
- Ellen Engseth
- John Fleckner
- Erin George
- Kevin Haire
- Karen Mason
- David McCartney
- Patricia Michaelis
- Meg Miner
- Janet Olson
- Elizabeth Plummer
- Christopher Prom
- Judith Robbins
- Jackie Shalberg
- Alison Stankrauff
- Michele Tollie-Porter
- Sue Topp
- Elisabeth Wittman
- George Bain
- Nicholas Burckel
- Elizabeth Yakel
- Greg Kocken
- Karen Koka
- Karen Mason
- Dennis Meissner
- Phil Runkel
- Alison Stankrauff
- Cheri Thies
- Anne Thomason
- Michele Tollie-Porter
- Nancy Webster
- Marcella Wiger
- Elisabeth Wittman
- Donald Force
- Nancy Freeman
- Sue Holbert
- James Hone
- Jennifer Johnson
- Marilyn Levinson
- Suzanne Maggard
- Karen Mason
- David Null
- Monica Manny Ralston
- Joshua Ranger
- Michael Robinson
- Ryan Ross
- Amy Schindler
- Rebecca Schulte
- Daardi Sizemore
- Alison Stankrauff
- Ellen Swain
- Michele Tollie-Porter
- Portia Vescio
- Anke Voss
- Elizabeth Wilkinson

### Motley Scholarship
- George Bain
- Nicholas Burckel
- Jane Kenamore
- James Lynch
- Elizabeth Yakel
- George Bain
- Nicholas Burckel
- Cheri Thies
- Anne Thomason
- Michele Tollie-Porter
- Nancy Webster
- Marcella Wiger
- Elisabeth Wittman
- Donald Force
- Nancy Freeman
- Sue Holbert
- James Hone
- Jennifer Johnson
- Marilyn Levinson
- Suzanne Maggard
- Karen Mason
- David Null
- Monica Manny Ralston
- Joshua Ranger
- Michael Robinson
- Ryan Ross
- Amy Schindler
- Rebecca Schulte
- Daardi Sizemore
- Alison Stankrauff
- Ellen Swain
- Michele Tollie-Porter
- Portia Vescio
- Anke Voss
- Elizabeth Wilkinson

### Emeritus Scholarship
- Menzi Behrend-Klodt
- Matt Blessing
- Nicholas Burckel
- Ed Busch
- Kathleen Conway
- Deborah Dandridge
- Mary Ellen Ducey
- Tim and Vallie Ericson (St. Croix Valley Foundation)
- Barbara Floyd
- Nancy Freeman
- Wendy Dare Hall
- Valerie Harris
- Sue Holbert
- James Hone
- Menzi Behrend-Klodt
- Matt Blessing
- Nicholas Burckel
- Ed Busch
- Kathleen Conway
- Deborah Dandridge
- Mary Ellen Ducey
- Tim and Vallie Ericson (St. Croix Valley Foundation)
- Barbara Floyd
- Nancy Freeman
- Wendy Dare Hall
- Valerie Harris
- Sue Holbert
- James Hone
- Donald Force
- Nancy Freeman
- Sue Holbert
- James Hone
- Jennifer Johnson
- Marilyn Levinson
- Suzanne Maggard
- Karen Mason
- David Null
- Monica Manny Ralston
- Joshua Ranger
- Michael Robinson
- Ryan Ross
- Amy Schindler
- Rebecca Schulte
- Daardi Sizemore
- Alison Stankrauff
- Ellen Swain
- Michele Tollie-Porter
- Portia Vescio
- Anke Voss
- Elizabeth Wilkinson

### Student Meeting Fund
- Michael Arbagi
- George Bain
- Pamela Bennett
- Alexis Braun Marks
- Ed Busch
- Stuart Campbell
- Janet Carleton
- Jeanie Child
- Deborah Dandridge
- Mary Ellen Ducey
- Donald Force
- Nancy Freeman
- Sue Holbert
- James Hone
- Jennifer Johnson
- Marilyn Levinson
- Suzanne Maggard
- Karen Mason
- David Null
- Monica Manny Ralston
- Joshua Ranger
- Michael Robinson
- Ryan Ross
- Amy Schindler
- Rebecca Schulte
- Daardi Sizemore
- Alison Stankrauff
- Ellen Swain
- Michele Tollie-Porter
- Portia Vescio
- Anke Voss
- Elizabeth Wilkinson

*Above figures are based on donations and sponsorships processed online through MemberClicks and by checks received at the office. It is possible that payments were made directly to the treasurer, which may not be reflected on this list.
Update on the Speakers Bureau Pilot Project

MAC’s Education Committee has been working on a Speakers Bureau pilot project (2013–2015) to explore possibilities for providing workshops at low cost to folks across our region. Over the course of 2014–2015, the committee will sponsor four workshops—the first “Moving Images: An Introduction for Archivists,” presented by Paul Eisloeffel, was held in Jefferson City, Missouri, on May 30, 2014.

In addition, the committee is developing a Speakers Bureau list for each of the five regions in MAC. The list will include speakers on a number of different subjects. Speakers do not need to be MAC members to be involved.

If you are interested or have questions, comments, and/or suggestions, please contact the Education Committee member for your MAC subregion listed below, or feel free to contact the committee cochairs Ellen Swain (eswain@illinois.edu) or Tanya Zanish-Belcher (zanisht@wfu.edu).

Region 1: North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska
Lisa Sjoberg
College Archivist and Digital Collections Librarian
Concordia College
Moorhead, MN
Phone: 218-299-3180
sjoberg@cord.edu

Region 2: Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas
Marcella Wiget
Archives and Records Management
Kansas Historical Society
Topeka, KS
Phone: 785-272-8681, ext. 309
mwiget@kshs.org or mdwiget@gmail.com

Region 3: Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri
Anne Thomason
College Archivist and Librarian for Special Collections
Lake Forest College
Lake Forest, IL
Phone: 847-735-5064
thomason@lakeforest.edu

Region 4: Indiana, Kentucky
Ellen Swain
Student Life/Culture Archivist
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Champaign-Urbana, IL
Phone: 217-333-7841
eswain@illinois.edu

Region 5: Ohio, Michigan
Elizabeth Wilkinson
Curator of Manuscripts
Special Collections
Georgetown University
Washington, DC
Phone: 202-687-7614
ew543@georgetown.edu

Fall Symposium—Oral History, Archives, and Innovation

The Fall Symposium’s location, the historic Illini Union, is also the lodging site. The Union is centrally located on the University of Illinois campus.
Treasury Notes
By Daardi Sizemore, Minnesota State University–Mankato

Financial Position
Overall, MAC is in good financial shape. We have two banks, and our checking accounts total $66,804.82 as of April 22, 2014. Our four investment accounts have been growing. Our total invested assets are $279,926.14.

Over the last five to seven years, MAC has been growing by expanding services to members and streamlining some of our work. Last year at the Members’ Meeting, the membership approved a dues increase that went into effect with the 2014 membership renewal cycle. I am pleased to announce that the dues increase has already made a difference for the organization.

2013 Budget Recap
My quick recap for you is that we did much better in 2013 than anticipated. We brought in $12,763.34 more in income than budgeted and, for the first time since 2009, spent below our budgeted expenses (by $5,966). In the end, we planned to have a $21,134 deficit. Our actual deficit was only $2,404.47. I feel really proud of that, and I think that it reflects the work Council has done in the last few years to “Go Green” by offering online publications, the dues increase, vendor changes, and more. A lot of teamwork has made this happen. The full details can be seen in the Midwest Archives Conference Cash Statement (Detailed) January 1–December 31, 2013 , which follows on page 19.

2014 Budget Update
Our 2014 budget does have a planned deficit, but I believe that we are on track to have another solid financial year.

An area of both the 2013 and 2014 budgets that I’d like to highlight is gifts to the organization. The membership continues to be generous, and, for those who didn’t know, we are a 501(c)(3) organization, so gifts are tax deductible. We have three gift areas: Emeritus Scholarship for First-Time Attendees, General Operating Funds, and the new Annual Meeting Student Registration Scholarships. Members have the opportunity to donate to any or all of these funds as part of membership renewal and through our donation form. I would like to thank everyone who donated. Whether it was $5 or $50, it really makes a difference. The power of the group is really evident with a look at the Annual Meeting Student Registration Scholarship. Many individuals donated to this fund in amounts that ranged from $1 to $100. Together, MAC members donated $756 for student scholarships (or sixteen $45 scholarships). The spring 2014 LAC also raised money for this cause, and in total we awarded 31 student scholarships for the recent Annual Meeting. Yay members!

I have completed my term as MAC treasurer, and I would like to say thank you for the opportunity to serve the organization. I learned a lot and enjoyed the experience. The new treasurer of MAC is Joel Thoreson, and I know he will do a great job.

Upcoming MAC Meeting Sites and Dates

Fall Symposium, 2014
Champaign-Urbana, IL
September 12–13, 2014

Annual Meeting 2015
Lexington, KY
May 6–9, 2015
### MIDWEST ARCHIVES CONFERENCE

**Cash Statement (Detailed) January 1–December 31, 2013**

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<tr>
<th>Income</th>
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<td>Meetings (Gross)</td>
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<td>FM 2013</td>
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<td>SM 2014</td>
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### Expenses

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Greetings, fellow MAC members! I’m pleased and honored to serve as your vice president for the next two years, and I look forward to working with you all in the time ahead. I am grateful to my predecessor, Menzi Behrnd-Klodt, for making the transition a smooth one for this newbie, and I also want to thank Amy Cooper Cary and all Council and committee members who have given their time and expertise so freely. They guide and shape MAC’s direction, and I am excited and privileged to join such a dynamic group.

I am writing days after our 2014 Annual Meeting in Kansas City. Where to start? The meeting offered a diverse range of session topics appealing to newcomers to our profession as well as to those of us who have been around for a while; a fascinating glimpse of Charlie Parker’s life during his formative years in Kansas City; an opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new ones; tours and workshops; a reception at the remarkable American Jazz Museum and Negro Leagues Baseball Museum; and, of course, delicious barbecue with onion rings approaching the size of Frisbees. (I’ll remember this the next time I walk through our central campus and see students tossing those plastic objects.)

Meetings are MAC’s bread and butter—see, I’m still thinking about food—and we’re cooking up some great programs for this fall and beyond.

**Fall Symposium, Oral History, Archives, and Innovation, Illini Union Hotel, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign campus, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, September 12–13, 2014**

Recording, preserving, and providing access to oral history interviews in the digital age present a host of emerging challenges. Doug Boyd, PhD, director of the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky, will lead this two-day symposium at the University of Illinois. Topics to be covered include transcription, collection management strategies, digital preservation, legal and ethical issues, metadata, and utilizing open source digital tools. The symposium will be held at the Illini Union on the University of Illinois campus, which will serve as the conference hotel as well as the symposium site. Symposium Organizing Committee Co-chairs Bethany Anderson and Anke Voss also have a Friday evening reception planned at the Spurlock Museum on campus. Watch the MAC website for registration details soon!

**Annual Meeting, Lexington, Kentucky, May 6–9, 2015**

Save the date for next year’s Annual Meeting in Bluegrass Country! The Program Committee, cochaired by Lisa Sjoberg and Stephanie Bricking, is gearing up to receive your session proposals. The committee is also working with the Education Committee to line up workshops designed to address specific topics in depth. Plans are also under way for tours of the Buffalo Trace Distillery, a local horse farm, and downtown Lexington’s historical sites. The Local Arrangements Committee, cochaired by Deirdre Scaggs and Heather Fox, is busy lining up some great Kentucky hospitality, so plan to attend!

**Fall Symposium, Hard Skills for Managing Digital Collections in Archives, date and location TBA, 2015**

Facing the growing challenge of digital collections in your work, but not sure how to proceed? This symposium, featuring hands-on experience, is just for you. Many of the skills necessary to manage digital files can be learned in personal computing environments. Bertram Lyons, archivist and digital assets manager of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress and senior consultant for AVPreserve, will lead this practical two-day symposium. Topics will include basic digital preservation workflows and concepts, spreadsheets for data management, and the use of selected open source tools to help you manage datasets. More details about this useful program will become available; watch the MAC website for details!

Have a topic idea for a Fall Symposium or know of a great place to host MAC for a future Annual Meeting? Please let me know at david-mccartney@uiowa.edu. I look forward to hearing from you.
Archival Resources on the Web—Emily Symonds Stenberg, Assistant Editor, Washington University at St. Louis

Contact Eric Willey at ericwilley@gmail.com if you would like to guest author a column or have a good idea to share.

Goodbye and Welcome
This is Emily Stenberg’s last issue with us as assistant editor of Archival Resources on the Web. Many thanks to her for providing us with great digital tours of archival collections documenting our Annual Meeting sites and informative compilations of digital collections on subjects ranging from comics to medical and Prohibition resources, railroads, and crowdsourcing. Please welcome Eric Willey of the Filson Historical Society as the new editor of this column. If you are interested in writing an article for Archival Resources on the Web, contact him at ericwilley@gmail.com.

An Update of Resources on the Civil War Sesquicentennial
By Ed Busch, Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections

This year is the fourth of five years of the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War (1861–1865), the national experience that shaped the remainder of the nineteenth century with ramifications that continued into the twentieth century and up to today in civil rights and race relations. Many types of events and activities have commemorated what could arguably be the most important period of our history. Among these activities has been the creation of Civil War–related websites highlighting archival materials. Civil War online resources were included in the July 2011 issue of the MAC Newsletter; this article presents some additional sites that may be of interest.

Civil War on the Western Border, www.civilwaronthewesternborder.org, is the grant-funded product of a collaborative effort among libraries, museums, and historical societies across the greater Kansas City region. The website is intended for Civil War buffs, scholars, students, and local residents to explore, research, and discuss the Missouri-Kansas Border War, 1854–1865. This searchable website includes over 6,000 pages of digitized primary sources including letters, photographs, and maps from 25 Missouri and Kansas archives. The website is beautifully designed with photographs, an integrated background, and clearly indicated resource choices. The homepage includes the topical resource links and contains a quick pick of A–Z topics, a search box, an overview of the site, a featured document blog, and a preview of contextual thematics, as well as links to maps, a time line, a relationship viewer, and a collection browser. The Border War Map integrates location descriptions, and it links to related content and interactive thematic layers. The site’s interactive time line shows selectable events related to politics, violence, and the nation as a whole, and includes informational encyclopedic entries, using a simple dragging method for moving through the years. The encyclopedic entries are provided across the website and link to related primary resource documents. Photographs of people, buildings, maps, and more can also be found. The website's responsive design makes it especially useful for researchers needing quick facts on their mobile devices. Overall, Civil War on the Western Border is a great example for others highlighting valuable resources to follow.

Kentucky Educational Television (KET) has developed a resource called Kentucky and the Civil War (www.ket.org/civilwar) for students and teachers studying the history of Kentucky during the Civil War. The site features primary sources, such as letters and diaries, and other useful resources including time lines, maps, speeches, declarations, personalities, and links to other helpful websites. The introductory page provides an overview of the effects of the Civil War on Kentucky, a balanced review of the causes leading to the war, and useful slang and vocabulary lists. The primary sources section includes selected resources on Kentucky citizens and soldiers written during the war about its impact on divided families, soldiers’ lives, slavery, and women and children back at the family home. The website also includes multimedia resources on topics such as clothing, medical care, songs, and slavery. The materials and resources are specifically intended for school-age children, so this website is not for those doing detailed research on the conflict, but it provides a good overview for those interested in learning more about this period and specifically its effect on the state of Kentucky.

The University of Iowa Libraries initiated a crowdsourcing project to complete the transcriptions for its Civil War website, Civil War Diaries and Letters (digital.lib.uiowa.edu/cwd), which was launched in May 2011 with over 3,000 digitized diaries and letters. To accompany the images, the libraries enlisted the help of the public.
to transcribe the materials. As of February 2014, over 39,000 pages have been transcribed. The website provides a browsing function for diaries, correspondence, photographs, and years. Further refinement of materials can be accomplished by selecting a specific decade, location, personal name, format, or collection. Materials are displayed in a top-down style with the image followed by its associated metadata and the transcription when available. As part of the commemoration of the Civil War Sesquicentennial, the University of Iowa Libraries also initiated a blog with postings from war letters written by Civil War soldier Joseph F. Culver and his wife, Mary, at blog.lib.uiowa.edu/culver.

Civil War Collections at Michigan State University (MSU), civilwar.archives.msu.edu, was developed through a collaboration of the MSU Archives and the MATRIX Center for Digital Humanities. The work began with the transcription of hundreds of pages of letters and diaries and then moved on to scanning the source materials, uploading the images, and entering metadata. The website includes hundreds of pages of correspondence, diaries, musters, reminiscences, and photographs. A unique design feature of this website is the side-by-side display of pages of original materials with their transcriptions. Highlights of the online collections are love letters written by Mark Flowers to Emma Miller and the detailed descriptions of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers by William Eaegle. In Eaegle’s papers, we learn that many of the troops affectionately called George Custer the “Little Poodle.” New materials are added to the website monthly.

The Civil War in Art: Teaching and Learning through Chicago Collections (civilwarinart.org) is a website funded and developed by the Chicago-based Terra Foundation for American Art to connect the issues, events, and people of the Civil War period through works of art. This website was developed as a collaborative effort by the Terra Foundation with six Chicago cultural organizations. Highlighted exhibits on the website are Causes of the War, Lincoln, The Northern Homefront, The Military Experience, Emancipation and the Meaning of Freedom, and Remembering the War.

One effort that has taken off during the sesquicentennial is the preservation of Civil War battlefields. The Civil War Trust (www.civilwar.org) is the largest nonprofit organization focused on this land preservation. To date, the trust has saved 38,608 acres in 20 states. The organization also promotes educational programs and heritage tourism. The education resources section of its website includes transcripts and copies of primary resources for Official Records; Addresses and Speeches; Federal Acts, Bills and Orders; Military Correspondence and Documents; Personal Correspondence and Narratives; Prints and Photos; Maps; and Document Collections, as well as links to other online Civil War resources. Some of the popular resources available on the site are Lincoln’s and Davis’s inaugural addresses, the Union and Confederate constitutions, the Gettysburg Address, and General Lee’s farewell speech.

The genealogy website FamilySearch provides many military records that include the Civil War years. The site offers an overview of each state’s effort during the war and links to the participating units. For example, Illinois in the Civil War (familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Illinois_in_the_Civil_War) includes information on land and naval units, the militia, prisoners of war, and veterans’ organizations, as well as regimental histories and service and pension records. Genealogists are very familiar with FamilySearch, but it is also useful for Civil War researchers.

In 1961, the nation marked the Centennial of the Civil War, which coincided with the civil rights movement. Today, the nation is in a different place in race relations, and the sesquicentennial has been met with much less controversy and more reflection on the causes and enduring results of the conflict. Take the time to explore these unique resources during the final two years of the sesquicentennial commemoration. As President Obama proclaimed, “When the terrible and costly struggle was over, a new meaning was conferred on our country’s name—the United States of America. We might be tested, but whatever our fate might be, it would be as one Nation.”
ILLINOIS

Society of the Divine Word
The Robert M. Myers Archives proudly announces the publication of Communities of the Word: Stories of the Chicago Province, 1895-2012, which it sponsored and for which it supplied research assistance. In 1899, the Society of the Divine Word arrived in North America and established the Techny community, north of Chicago. From there, the society grew to include communities throughout the United States, Canada, and the Caribbean. Their histories make up the compiled stories of Communities of the Word, written by the men who lived, learned, and worked in their communities. Unlike Charles Dickens’s serialized novels, a new chapter will appear every month; unlike the Dickens serializations, the medium is electronic. A new installment will be posted each month on the Robert M. Myers Archives Holdings page at www.divineword.org/robert_m_myers_archives/communities_of_the_word.aspx.

IOWA

University of Iowa
The Department of Special Collections and University Archives at the University of Iowa Libraries has been awarded a grant of $300,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to preserve and digitally reformat the Keith/Albee Collection. Benjamin Franklin Keith and Edward Franklin Albee were partners in a Providence, Rhode Island-based vaudeville talent booking agency during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Over 50 linear feet of documents, including correspondence, newspaper clippings, and playbills, will be preserved and made accessible online to researchers when the project is completed in 2017. For more information, see collguides.lib.uiowa.edu/?MSC0356.

KENTUCKY

The Filson Historical Society
The Filson Historical Society proudly reports its May 2014 groundbreaking on a campus expansion project. Designed by the De Leon and Primmer Architecture Workshop, the project will transform the historical society through the construction of a 20,000-square-foot building featuring collection storage facilities, museum-quality exhibition space, and a multipurpose event center, and including the renovation of its current buildings and the creation of a public, parklike campus. The expansion, estimated for completion in late 2015, should ensure the future growth of the Filson and help secure the important history of Kentucky and the entire Ohio River Valley. The Filson thanks its 2013–2014 graduate intern, Mary Alexandra “Alex” Covington, from the history department at the University of Louisville, for her work in processing numerous photograph and manuscript collections. The Filson is pleased to welcome Johna Picco, from the University of Illinois’s Graduate School of Library and Information Science, as its 2014 Boehl Intern.

University of Kentucky
University of Kentucky’s Special Collections announces projects for its 2013–2014 Learning Lab internship. This year’s interns will be processing the E. F. Spears and Sons Hemp Records, the Ron Nickell Playbill Collection, the Daniel Drake Carter Letters, and three subseries from the Wade Hall Collection. The Special Collections Learning Lab is a center of primary research and experiential learning that allows undergraduates in various majors to explore archival training and theory according to their area of research interest. Additionally, students will produce a scholarly project related to the collection, giving researchers increased opportunities for access. A final presentation discussing Learning Lab outcomes will be held in April 2014 and is open to the public.

(Continued on page 24)
MICHIGAN

The Henry Ford
The Benson Ford Research Center at The Henry Ford worked with the Dearborn Public Library and other community organizations on the Big Read Dearborn, a community-wide reading celebration and exploration of Jack London’s classic novel, The Call of the Wild. The Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest designed to revitalize the role of literature in American culture and to encourage citizens to read for pleasure and enlightenment. The Henry Ford hosted the March 8 kickoff event, including a lecture and discussion. During 2013, the Archives and Library put 48 finding aids and related catalog records online, including the Engineering Laboratory Office Records subgroup of the Henry Ford Office Records, which contains an unbroken run of Henry Ford office correspondence from 1920 through 1952 and documents a period of more than 30 years of activity of Henry Ford and his company. Visit www.thehenryford.org/research/index.aspx for more.

Wayne State University
Several positions at the Walter P. Reuther Library have been restructured following the passing of a colleague and in anticipation of upcoming retirements and user needs. The existing librarian position was eliminated, and Kristen Chinery moved into the role of reference archivist. Former reference archivist William LeFevre has become senior processing archivist to focus on the enormous backlog of United Automobile Workers records. Deborah Rice has moved to a newly created third audiovisual archivist position to help respond to the high volume of AV requests. The Reuther has opened eight backlogged collections totaling more than 300 linear feet from the United Community Services (UCS) of Metropolitan Detroit. With its origins dating back to 1917, UCS was an umbrella organization for a wide range of social welfare agencies in the metro Detroit area, including those involved with child care, families, health, recreation, and community planning. For more information, visit www.reuther.wayne.edu.

MINNESOTA

Minnesota Historical Society
The Minnesota Historical Society received a National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) grant to complete an ambitious, large-scale project that resulted in complete digital access to texts of Hubert H. Humphrey’s speeches. Using a low-budget, high-volume approach that scanned each file with a sheet feeder to produce PDF/A reproductions, created minimal metadata for each file, and added them into an existing EAD inventory, the society digitized a total of 101,936 pages. The project also tested preservation reformatting of magnetic sound recordings and produced a selection of 106 speeches. Labor costs for digitization included real time playback of each recording, as well as an additional five minutes to add metadata, format the conversions into BWAV and MP3 files, and add them to an EAD inventory. The project realized a highly economical approach to mass digitization of an oft-sought collection of an influential twentieth-century politician. For speech texts, see www.mnhs.org/library/findaids/00442.xml and for sound recordings, www.mnhs.org/library/findaids/001098.xml.

Minnesota Legacy Grants
Two Legacy Grant–funded projects, for microfilm duplication and for archives processing and rehousing, have been completed at the Minnesota Air National Guard Museum in St. Paul. A Legacy Grant–funded cataloging project of over 2,000 negatives and positive transparencies has also been completed at the Northwest Airlines (NWA) History Centre in Bloomington.

OHIO

Ohio Digitization Interest Group
The Ohio Digitization Interest Group (OhioDIG) is happy to announce it has revived and is meeting every other month in the central Ohio area for presentations and networking. OhioDIG is an informal discussion group open to all with an interest in cultural heritage digitization. Meetings are bringing together more than 40 attendees from varied types of institutions to share on topics from digitization of specific formats to migrating platforms. Find out more at ohiodig.org.

Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board
The Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board awarded grants to 10 institutions for processing, cataloging, and digitization projects. Included are records documenting courts and local governments, businesses and industries, military and social organizations, and educational institutions. Funding is provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Grant recipients are the Alliance Historical Society, the Canal
Fulton Public Library, the Clinton County Records and Archives, the Hardin County Genealogy Society, Historic New Richmond, the Ohio Genealogical Society, Otterbein University, the Rocky River Public Library, the Summit County Historical Society, and the Warren County Historical Society. Visit ohrab.org for more information.

**WISCONSIN**

**University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee**

The School of Information Studies (SOIS) at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee awarded the Timothy L. Ericson Scholarship in Archival Studies to Hayley Jackson. The scholarship honors the founder and long-time director of the SOIS Archival Studies Program, Timothy L. Ericson, whose contributions to SOIS have supported his colleagues, inspired his students, and brought many new and talented individuals to the archives profession.

**The Wisconsin Veterans Museum**

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum joined the March Madness fun this year by hosting a Battle of the Beards bracket of Civil War soldiers on its Facebook page. The structure of the bracket mirrored that of March Madness basketball brackets with 16 photographs of creatively bearded soldiers and officers paired up two at a time for three rounds. Voting was open for 24 hours on Facebook before a winner was announced to advance to the next round. The final four challengers had full biographies posted on Facebook in the days leading up to the final round. The Battle of the Beards was an overwhelming success, creating a lot of conversation and excitement among staff and Facebook followers alike. Due to the overwhelming popularity of the competition, a new exhibit of Beard Bracket challengers is being launched on the Wisconsin Veterans Museum web page, providing a biography for all 16 soldiers and officers. See it at wisvetsmuseum.com/exhibitions/online/beard_bracket_challenge.
The Tail Wagging the Dog: Challenges of Working with Obsolete Computer Media

By Ben Goldman, Pennsylvania State University

Thanks to SAA’s Jump In Initiative¹ and the publication of an OCLC research report,² archivists from a variety of institutions are now surveying collections for fugitive computer media and implementing strategies for recovering data from such media. But as archivists dig into legacy holdings, they are uncovering the “long tail” of computer media: more exotic formats beyond typical floppy disks and optical media. Getting to the hidden content contained in these formats requires access to elusive equipment and strategies that may seem too prohibitive to be worth any one institution’s resources. This paper recalls the trials and tribulations of a project by Penn State Special Collections to recover content from old computer media. It closes by pondering the possibilities of working collaboratively across institutions to recover legacy data files.

Setting the Stage

While preparing a collection for processing, Penn State staff members turned up 27 three-inch, double-density Amstrad³ computer disks in the literary manuscripts of a modern English author. The disk labels indicated that many contained writings but did not indicate whether the writings replicated materials found in the analog part of the collection. A quick Internet search determined the disks were used on an Amstrad CPC or PCW computer, both briefly popular in the United Kingdom and Europe during the 1980s. Amstrad computers used the CP/M operating system and were popular for word processing using LocoScript software.

Some Amstrad machines are affordably available through websites such as eBay. But since vintage machines often do not function properly and because we couldn’t be certain which model would work with the disks we had, we didn’t purchase one. The author’s analog papers were reviewed for clues about the machine used to create the files, but only 1993 correspondence indicating the decision to purchase a new Macintosh was found. We contacted the author, who couldn’t recall any details of the Amstrad or the exact years of its use. We pondered the wisdom of purchasing obsolete equipment that might never be used locally again. Because we could not answer with certainty whether the data contained on the disks merited the investment of time and archival resources, we chose not to purchase.

If not for an OCLC Research project⁴ exploring the feasibility of outsourcing recovery of fugitive media, we might have decided the effort to proceed was too great. With the help of an internal research grant, we decided to use these 27 Amstrad disks as a way of contributing to the ongoing investigations led by Ricky Erway at OCLC Research.⁵

Project Details

Using the protocols piloted by OCLC Research, which included the development of a template agreement detailing responsibilities and roles, we agreed to send the disks to an American vendor. We also outlined our desired deliverables: a set of 54 disk images (two for every double-sided disk) in a standard image format, named according to a convention documented in a Google spreadsheet, and including a checksum for each image. Unfortunately, the vendor could not read the disks due to the limited availability of Amstrad hardware in the United States. We found a vendor in the United Kingdom who had experience with Amstrad machines, and we provided two sample disks.

Despite the agreement with the vendor, ultimately none of our requirements were met. Reading the disks proved challenging and took months. Commercial Amstrad machines include the CPC series, popular for gaming capabilities, and the PCW series, most commonly used for word processing. The vendor concluded the disks were used with the PCW series, probably a PCW 9512, but he did not have a functioning model. The vendor found a computer enthusiast in Cornwall who verified that he could read and recover the disks. We then shipped the remaining disks to the computer enthusiast.

We eventually received data, though not in the manner we had hoped. Disk images were produced, but the images were in .DSK format, imposed by the native operating system of the Amstrad machines. We could do little with this format beyond rendering it in an Amstrad emulator; neither of the two forensics tools adopted at Penn State (BitCurator and FTK Imager⁶) supports the CP/M operating system, and there is no known way to migrate the .DSK file to another disk image format. Additionally, the vendor provided three versions of every file found on the disks: RTF, Word 95, and Word 2.⁷ These file formats were chosen to account for various levels of data loss when migrating out of the
LocoScript software. Line spacing, tab stops, and font sizes were three particular issues noted. In sum, our recovery efforts ended with three versions of every unique file (861 in total) rendered to more modern but not fully contemporary formats, each with its own particular brand of data loss, in addition to a master disk image that was unusable outside the native operating system.

**Lessons Learned**

This experience provided some useful lessons. Outsourcing tasks to recover data from obsolete disks needs to be accompanied by clearly defined expectations, but technology sometimes defies curatorial intentions. Unforeseen challenges might require different strategies or solutions that contradict best practice around digital preservation. So while our relationships with vendors must be structured through written agreements, we also need to be flexible when technology hurdles get in the way of meeting requirements.

It was somewhat dizzying to discover that we have obsolete disk image formats. This begs numerous questions. Will the profession have to worry about format obsolescence with disk images too? Will archivists be forward-migrating images en masse in 20 years? What other challenges have we not anticipated? Would we have pursued this project if it hadn’t been funded by a grant? It’s hard to say.

Despite not having the archival requirements met in the recovery of the data, we still recovered data. We are processing the digital files in the collection and gaining much needed experience with hybrid collections. Disk images only usable in the native operating system present us the opportunity to explore emulation tools for researchers. Perhaps there are other archival repositories with significant holdings on Amstrad disks that will benefit from our experimentation. More questions come to mind. Is outsourcing media recovery a sustainable strategy for archives? Perhaps the price of outsourcing is too steep, especially when the disk content cannot be appraised in advance.

**Shortening the Long Tail**

The Penn State Special Collections experience with Amstrad disks has us thinking about building a collaborative framework for accomplishing this work within the profession. Many institutions now have born-digital archives programs outfitted with varying levels of technical infrastructure and an array of media types. Our workflows may differ, but they are all informed by the same underlying assumptions about digital preservation, which provides an excellent baseline for developing requirements for outsourcing among institutions. But we lack documentation on our practices, workflows, and the equipment procured to accomplish this work. A good start in this direction might simply be establishing a kind of formal registry where archivists can document the hardware and software infrastructure they have in place and to which we could all refer when new local challenges arise. Ultimately, beyond documentation and a formal registry, I imagine we will need a cooperative approach to recovering legacy data files. We don’t want the long tail of computer media wagging the archival dog. The best chance we have of dealing with the variety of unusual media found in archives will require some intentional coordination of our efforts.

**Notes**


5. OCLC Research piloted a test data recovery project that helped establish a baseline for costs ($40 per disk) and proposed protocols, while also informing the development of a template agreement (forthcoming) for archivists to use when working with vendors.


7. Because Word 2 files have trouble rendering in some updates to Word 2003, the vendor also supplied work-around scripts so that the files would display correctly.
The Importance of Connecting to First Responders:
Fire at the Zona Gale House
By Kathleen D. Mullen, Wisconsin Historical Society

A recent fire in Portage, Wisconsin, at the Zona Gale House (also known as the Museum at the Portage) perfectly underscores the tremendous benefits of connecting with first responders before a disaster. The local fire department received reports of the fire around 1:30 on a Sunday morning in early April 2014. Firefighters at the scene found themselves unable to reach any of the all-volunteer museum staff, affecting decisions about how to proceed in extinguishing the fire. But the savvy responders, many of whom had grown up visiting the museum (which also served as the Portage Public Library for many years), understood how precious the contents of the Gale House are to the small Portage community and its history. Gale was the first woman to be awarded a Pulitzer Prize in drama. The city of Portage, which was the focus of her writing, remains dedicated to preserving the study room she used while composing her work.

Due to this local attachment and knowledge of the space, firefighters tailored a remarkable response that minimized damage and maximized the preservation of the museum’s collections. First, they contained their spray to the area of the fire, rather than proactively wetting adjacent portions of the building. Then, with some responders working outside, others entered the ground floor of the building (which was not actively on fire) and covered the collections with plastic to reduce water and soot damage. Finally, to minimize water damage to the ceiling and walls in the first floor study (distinguished on the National Register of Historic Places for its beautiful architectural elements), the firefighters drilled drainage holes in the center of the plaster ceiling. This allowed a controlled drain of water from the floors above and kept the plaster ceiling and carved wood paneling on the walls dry and clean. Ultimately, local knowledge, forethought, and careful actions by these first responders combined to keep damage to these historic collections at a minimum.

How You Can Connect with First Responders before a Disaster
To safeguard your institution from disaster before it happens, there are many things to discuss with your local first responders, especially members of the local fire depart-
Set it up on a day or days most suitable to their schedule and give them free admission if you have an admission charge. Or you might arrange tours ahead of time and ask those scheduled to come what their particular interests are so that you can tailor your tours to particular heritage artifacts with which they will connect.

Some useful resources are available now that contain strategies for making this connection and include talking points to ensure a smooth exchange of information. For example, the Midwest Art Conservation Center maintains a checklist that details how to prepare for a meeting with your first responders.¹ This checklist stems from the center’s participation in a symposium held by the Alliance for Response (Twin Cities Chapter) in 2012 that brought first responders and local heritage institutions together. Heritage Preservation has published a wonderful poster on “Working with Emergency Responders: Tips for Cultural Institutions.”² You can purchase it directly from Heritage Preservation or download a booklet version on its website.³ Finally, the Connecting to Collections Online Community provides some great resources for learning more about this topic. In particular, the first two webinars in the Risk Evaluation: First Step in Disaster Planning series cover the importance of building a relationship with your local first responders and the steps to take in building that relationship.⁴ The recordings are freely available on the Connecting to Collections Online Community website.⁴

Notes
1. Midwest Art Conservation Center (MACC) and Alliance for Response, e-mail message to author, “Prepare before Meeting with Your Local Responders,” May 1, 2014. Contact MACC at info@preserveart.org for more information.
Mixed Media: Working with Audio and Visual Materials—
Heather Fox, Assistant Editor, University of Louisville

Contact HeatherFox at heather.fox@louisville.edu if you would like to guest author a Mixed Media column or share a good idea.

History in Three-Dimensions: Processing and Preserving a Stereograph Collection
By Natalie Morath, General Motors Design Center Archives and Special Collections

In the fall of 2012, a unique collection of stereographs was discovered in the Eastern Michigan University (EMU) Archives. Prior to its discovery, the EMU Archives stereograph collection included a few commercially produced and distributed sets depicting American and European culture through iconographic buildings and landscapes. These images are hardly unique and can typically be found in most collections of historic photographs, as such stereographs were produced, sold, and collected beginning in the 1850s. Additionally, the archives had a large collection of stereoscopes, the devices used to view the cards to produce a 3-D effect, in surprisingly good condition. The newly discovered stereograph collection proved unique for a variety of reasons. It had been boxed and stored among a vast unprocessed collection of audiovisual materials relating to the campus and school, along with negatives, photographic prints, slides, and moving images. Under normal circumstances, an unlabeled and unprocessed collection from an audiovisual cornucopia can be something of a nightmare for archivists, but this particular collection proved a valuable resource to add to the materials related to the EMU campus and history. It even provided the archives with a great opportunity to put together a small exhibit to introduce patrons to the newly processed collection.

The word *stereograph* comes from the Greek for “solid” and “picture,” which is an appropriate way to describe an image that seeks to imitate three dimensionality. Stereographs were taken by cameras with two lenses mounted side-by-side about 2½ inches apart, which is the average distance between a pair of human eyes. Like two cameras with a common back, stereo cameras produce two of the same image, taken very slightly apart at the same time. When viewed through a stereoscope, the image imitates the multidimensionality of human sight, allowing the two images to be reconciled into one image in the brain.

Holmes is better known as a writer and doctor, and never patented the stereoscope, but instead chose to share the design for free. He described his invention: “There was not any wholly new principle involved in its construction, but, it proved so much more convenient than any hand-instrument in use, that it gradually drove them all out of the field, in great measure.” His device had a rack to hold the stereograph at one end of a horizontal cross. A pair of magnifying lenses was attached to the crosspiece, with a septum similar to that attached between the camera lenses to separate the images. A vertical handle made the device easy for the viewer to hold up to his or her eyes.

Stereographs continued to grow in popularity and were eventually produced and sold into the millions of dollars per year. By the 1930s, however, as motion pictures grew in popularity, interest in stereographs decreased, and eventually production of the images and the stereoscopes ended. Today, stereoscopic photography remains a niche for hobbyists and professionals interested in film photography and maintaining older processes.

During the tenure of Michigan State Normal College (MSNC, now Eastern Michigan University) president Charles McKenny (1912–1933), identical sets of stereographic cards were distributed to Michigan high schools to publicize the university, particularly its campus, facilities, and student life. The photographs were produced by the MSNC Department of Physics, and the Ypsilanti Board of Commerce was responsible for their distribution. Fortunately for the processing of these collections, they were kept together in small boxes, along with the original instructions that provide historical context as well as a starting point for additional research.

Because these stereographs had been stored in relatively stable conditions, the damage to the prints themselves was minimal, although the mounts were brittle and deteriorating. Like many early photographs created for personal collection and use, stereographs were not intended to age well, or at least that was not the primary concern of their creators as the format exploded in popularity during the late 1800s. Harmful residual hypo, adhesives, chemicals in cardboard, storage envelopes, and atmospheric gases have
contributed to the deterioration of stereographs—typical for silver image prints. Stereographs in particular require quite a bit of handling to view properly, so more damage usually results from dirt or scratching on the surface of the prints. The print surfaces were cleaned with film cleaner and cotton pads, and, to ensure the long-term preservation of the images, both of the images were copied, as each records the scene from a slightly different angle. The MSNC stereograph cards were very lightly dusted with cotton pads before being stored in specialized acid-free stereograph boxes, which are designed to accommodate the heavy weight of mounted photographs, as well as the unique curve to each mount.

During the course of processing, the archivist noticed an extraordinary number of copies of each stereograph, surprising in particular because the sets were widely distributed close to a century ago. As a result, she determined that stereographs from the collection would make excellent display materials, as one copy could be put in a locked exhibit case while duplicates remained in archival storage. The archivists improvised a small exhibit to fill an empty display area that was awaiting a much larger exhibit later in the semester. The collection’s excellent condition allowed for a modeling of the cards “in use,” and, by carefully arranging a stereoscope at eye level, patrons could actually look through the viewfinder to appreciate the 3-D effect without handling any of the artifacts. The display also included information on the history of stereographs and early photography.

Annotated Bibliography


Eaton, G. T. Conservation of Photographs. Kodak Publication, no. F-40. Rochester, NY: Eastman Kodak Company, 1985. Although this publication is out of date regarding many conservation methods and includes no methodology for digitization, preservation/conservation methods for stereographs have not changed much, and the information in this volume is still helpful and relevant.


Weinstein, Robert A. and Larry Booth. Collection, Use, and Care of Historical Photographs. Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1977. This is another excellent resource on historic photographs. Although the preservation methodology is somewhat outdated, it is still an excellent source for identifying photographic types and methods.

Notes

This edition of the MAC Newsletter Up-and-Comers column spotlights the Digital Media Projects Lab at Wayne State University’s School of Library and Information Science. Digital resource labs lend themselves to the continued relevancy of modern archives and open doors to the greater information science community by providing invaluable support of, and collaboration with, its various organizations. In light of the exponential growth of the world of digital archives, the lab at Wayne State is a model not only of the technology required to make obsolete formats accessible to library and archives users, but as a training ground for the next generation of archives professionals as well.

Where the Tools Are

By Kim Schroeder, Wayne State University

The new Digital Media Projects Lab (DMPL, affectionately pronounced “dimple”) housed in the School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) at Wayne State University (WSU) has had a busy first year! The lab was created to give students hands-on experience in migrating fragile analog formats. It supports both the Archival and Digital Content Management students and includes players for audio cassette tapes and reels, phonographic disk recordings, and videotape, and four flatbed scanners.

Since our school is located in the Cultural Center of Detroit, many institutions both within the university and outside are anxious to have some of their older formats converted. Over the last year, we have worked on

1. Digitizing the complete run of the Detroit Sunday Journal (the strike newspaper). Though a few had been scanned, we completed the rest of the run, created metadata records, and ran optical character recognition, readying it for implementation in the library’s Fedora Commons installation. This fully searchable newspaper will be available to users in early summer.
2. Creating a DSpace archive of the school’s history. Students research for resources on faculty biographies, curricula, events, and student life. The student volunteers are divided into three teams for scanning, metadata, and research. This project has allowed students to become familiar with metadata design, system management, and scanning of various historical formats of text and imagery. Look for a public link to the project in the fall.
3. Converting a reel-to-reel audiotape of a speech Martin Luther King Jr. made in 1958, the most exciting project. The reel-to-reel tape was found at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History (CHWMAAH). Initially, little was known about the recording. As they listened with chills to the booming voice coming out of the computer, students learned an excellent lesson about the importance of mining these old formats.
4. Converting six reel-to-reel tapes from the Folklore Archives at the Reuther Library. This valuable collection comprises interviews conducted on campus in the 1960s and 1970s, and covers a range of content from daily rituals to individual views on racism.
5. Migrating cassette tape oral histories of the Horace Sheffield and Dr. Charles Wright collections from the CHWMAAH.
6. Creating instructional podcasts for a class project aimed at educating librarians on new technologies.
7. Scanning 1950s and 1960s newsletters from the University Liggett School for the ongoing development of its archives.
It is important to note that these projects involved more than 30 students from the SLIS program and even involved students online for metadata design and implementation. Laura Gentry, a new SLIS graduate, said that the DMPL allowed “…the ability to use a remote desktop using a proxy server. It is an unbelievable service for online distance students. I have used the lab extensively, even though I am hundreds of miles away. It also allows easy access for online distance students in different time zones around the world.”

This summer the lab embarks on two new projects, one on web archiving and the other on digital forensics. Students will evaluate web archiving tools, utilize BitCurator to make disk images of a local museum’s servers and other original digital content, and create a digital preservation plan for the museum working with a mirror image of its server. This trust in SLIS students and the potential growth of their skills has been a phenomenal collaborative effort.

From an instructor’s point of view, the DMPL is an invaluable resource for providing the hands-on experience needed to support classroom theory. For institutions, especially small ones with little hope of being able to purchase such expensive hardware and software, it opens doors on effectively closed formats. LaNesha DeBardelaben, director of Archives and Libraries at the CHWMAAH, has utilized the lab and SLIS students to help further the goals of the museum. DeBardelaben stated, “The WSU Digital Media Projects Lab has been a tremendous asset to our digitization work here at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. The library science students who have worked on our collections using the Digital Media Projects Lab have made important historical resources more readily accessible to a broader audience through digitization. We are delighted to be able to utilize the top-notch resources and equipment in the lab through our partnership with the WSU Library Science School.”

On the software end, the lab has a wide range of capabilities like advanced photo manipulation, audio editing, indexing, XML editing, and MARC tools, but we also want to do more in-depth training on typical content management tools used in archives. We have recently installed Archivists’ Toolkit and ArchivesSpace but hope to add more content to make them more useful tools for class projects and demonstrations.

Kevin Barton, a SLIS student and lab tech, has received extensive professional exposure throughout the course of his work on project management, storage, and permissions issues, as well as the management of several content systems. He stated, “The Digital Media Projects lab has allowed us to integrate all of the disparate elements of digital archiving into a single environment: physical media, digitization hardware and software, and data management tools. This allows our students exposure to the full range of real world expectations and responsibilities through a seamless experience.”

Wayne State hopes to see the DMPL continue to evolve as more students are educated in the tools and skills they must master in the twenty-first century. The lab is available for tours and tries to reach out to institutions that require assistance with digital preservation or migration. With only a year under their belts, DMPL staff feel good about the student experience and being able to help so many institutions.
Adam Carey joined the American College of Surgeons in Chicago as archivist in April after serving as archives manager/university archivist at Purdue University—Calumet.

Melissa Hubbard has joined Case Western Reserve University as team leader for scholarly resources and special collections at Kelvin Smith Library. Hubbard had served as rare books, manuscripts, and digital projects librarian at Colgate University and rare books librarian at Southern Illinois University—Carbondale.

Lisa Huntsha, archivist/librarian at the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, was awarded the Bicentennial Swedish-American Exchange Fund (a grant from the Swedish Institute) to pursue a course of study in Sweden entitled Exploring the Future of Access, Discoverability, and Digital Initiatives in the Modern Library/Archives Profession: A Tour and Study of Swedish Libraries, Archives, and Heritage Organizations.

Abigail Nye joins the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee Libraries’ Archives Department as reference and instruction archivist. Previously, she was archives and digital records coordinator at Carthage College.

Susan Rishworth retired as archivist of the American College of Surgeons in Chicago at the end of 2013.

Congratulations to the following MAC members elected to leadership positions within the Society of American Archivists (SAA) in 2014:

**Dennis Meissner** (Minnesota Historical Society) was elected to the position of vice president/president-elect. Meissner will serve as SAA’s 71st president in 2015–2016.

**Pam Hackbart-Dean** (Southern Illinois University—Carbondale) and **Rachel Vagts** (Berea College) were elected to the SAA Council for three-year terms (2014–2017).

**Eira Tansey** (University of Cincinnati) was elected to the 2015 Nominating Committee.

### NEW MEMBERS

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  N.A. Province of the Cenacle Archives  
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- Joseph Martin  
  Lewis University  
  Romeoville
- Ashley Mattingly  
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  Edwardsville
- Kelsey Walsh  
  America Association of Nurse Anesthetists  
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**Iowa**

- Allison Woods  
  Iowa City

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  Spencer Research Library  
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- Jonathan Kirkwood  
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  Kirkwood
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  Columbia
- Laura Jolley  
  The State Historical Society of Missouri, Manuscripts Division  
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http://www.uwm.edu/sols/programs/cas

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How to Get More Involved

Please consider donating your time to your professional organization—it is a wonderful way to contribute to the quality of the archives profession and also gives you an opportunity to meet and network with others.

Volunteering for MAC

Go to midwestarc.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com_mc&view=mc&Itemid=153&mcid_token=a3e462f5-4aa4-42a9-99c4-b008bca4c827 to fill out the Midwest Archives Conference Volunteer Form. The form provides MAC with the opportunity to collect information about who you are and in what you’re interested, so please share your interests with us!

Volunteering for SAA

In addition, remember that if you are an SAA member, you can volunteer for any number of appointed positions. The SAA website (archivists.org) has a wealth of information on various groups, their charges, activities, and membership. One of the options for students and/or new archivists is to intern for appointed groups. Another great route to getting involved is the sections and roundtables, where you can get involved in the projects, efforts, and real work that drives the passions of SAA membership. For more information on how to get involved in SAA, see Vice-President Kathleen Roe’s blog post, “From the Desk of the Vice President — Getting Involved in SAA,” available at http://offtherecord.archivists.org/2013/12/02/from-the-desk-of-the-vice-president-getting-involved-in-saa/.

Stay tuned for opportunities to volunteer for SAA as the work of the Committee on Public Awareness (COPA) begins. This new committee provides strategic information and advice to the SAA Council to enhance SAA’s capacity to promote the value of archives and archivists to institutions, communities, and society.
MAC ADVERTISING INFORMATION

MAC offers advertisers easy and effective ways to market products, services, and announcements. These outlets include its newsletter, journal, Annual Meeting program, and website. The newsletter, journal, and Annual Meeting program reach more than 900 individual and institutional members in the Midwest and across the United States; more than 16,000 people visit the MAC website annually.

For more information concerning advertising with MAC, and exhibits and sponsorships during conferences, please contact MAC vendor coordinator Miriam Kahn, MBK Consulting, 60 N. Harding Road, Columbus, OH 43209; phone: 614-239-8977; e-mail: mbkcons@netexp.net; or visit MAC’s website: www.midwestarchives.org.

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OTHER NEWS—Continued

Jennie Thomas, Editor

Volunteering for Other Regional Organizations

For a more local group, one where lone arrangers don’t have to be alone anymore and archivists can meet in person to discuss the issues affecting them at home, consider volunteering for a city, state, or other regional organization. For a directory of archival organizations across the United States and Canada, see http://www2.archivists.org/assoc-orgs/directory.

This is my last issue as editor of the MAC Newsletter. Many thanks to Council, the newsletter’s assistant editors, Meg Moss, Aleda Downs, and all the authors I have worked with over the past four years—I’ve enjoyed every minute of it! Taking over for me is Paul Eisloeffel of the Nebraska Historical Society. He was formerly the assistant editor for the Mixed Media column and has remained a faithful contributor to the newsletter, so I leave you in great hands. Look forward to exciting changes as the recommendations of the MAC Newsletter Redesign Task Force start taking shape!

Have content you’d like to see in the newsletter that doesn’t seem to fit anywhere else? Contact Paul Eisloeffel at pjeisloeffel@gmail.com.
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