1-1-2015

President's Page

Amy Cooper Cary
Marquette University, amy.cary@marquette.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/macnewsletter

Part of the Archival Science Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/macnewsletter/vol42/iss3/2

This President's Page is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in MAC Newsletter by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.
Dear MAC Members,

This time of year always makes me think of the poem “Chanson d’automne” by Paul Verlaine—*Les sanglots longs / Des violons / De l’automne / Blessent mon Coeur / D’une langueur / Monotone*. And from my Milwaukee desk on a cold and dreary November day, it does seem like the wind is playing a heart-rending tune. What I didn’t know about this poem is its use as a signal to the French Resistance for the start of D-Day operations in 1944—an interesting little aside for you as we all face down another Midwest winter!

Random musings aside, it’s been a good fall for MAC. MAC members were treated to an early September Fall Symposium, “Oral History, Archives, and Innovation.” Held at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the symposium was a terrific success. Doug Boyd, director of the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky, gave the audience some very interesting and practical information. We owe our gratitude to Cochairs Anke Voss and Bethany Anderson, and all other members who worked so hard to welcome us to Urbana-Champaign and to provide yet another high-quality fall program!

On the Wednesday prior to the symposium, Council met and addressed a number of issues. You can see Secretary Michael Doylen’s full report of minutes in this issue of the *Newsletter*. As you’ll see in David McCartney’s report from the vice president, we were able to consider several issues about meeting locations. We’ve started to work more closely with our meeting service provider at AMC to help us identify meeting locations and then set up the work of identifying LAC and PC members. It’s a bit of a shift, but the process seems to be working, and we look forward to making our meeting location and committee selection process more diverse. Also pertaining to meetings, we have added our Statement of Values to our homepage at www.midwestarchives.org/mac-statement-of-values. This statement reflects MAC’s commitment to social responsibility as well as its commitment to MAC membership. Please be sure to review our values statement.

At the Council meeting, we also began the process of replacing our graphic designer. For those of us who have worked on the *Newsletter*, *Archival Issues*, the Nominating Committee, or on meeting committees, we all know our graphic designer, Aleda Downs. Aleda has been working with MAC for more than 20 years, and we have all benefited from her talent and skill. Just prior to the September Council meeting, Aleda informed me that she will be retiring. This is Aleda’s last issue of the MAC *Newsletter*. After a call for proposals, which were reviewed by a subcommittee of Publications and Council members, we have asked Holly Blessen, in Chicago, to take over as our new graphic designer. Fortunately, Holly and Aleda have worked together and will provide a smooth transition. Aleda, you have had such a significant impact on MAC, and I’m sure that I speak for everyone who has been involved in our publications in thanking you, and in wishing you all the best on your retirement!

This issue of the *Newsletter* also brings us the slate of candidates for our spring 2015 elections, and I want to thank Nominating Committee Chair Daardi Sizemore and the committee members for their hard work. Thank you, too, to the candidates who have agreed to run for office in the coming year. We can never take (Continued on page 5)
On Friday evening, symposium attendees enjoyed a catered reception at the Spurlock Museum and toured the museum to a serenade by the talented special collections colleagues and musicians Scott Schwartz and Marten Stromberg. All in all, attendees learned a great deal and had their oral history questions answered. One attendee reported:

The overall perspective was important in framing efforts to make materials available—in other words, values and ideas about what’s important, and how to think about oral history informed the process. This was very helpful! I appreciated the time offered by the presenters to freely discuss any aspect of the work, both during the official time slots and informally before and after.

Symposium cochairs Bethany Anderson and Anke Voss had the opportunity to work with a stellar group of colleagues who comprised the organizing committee (Rory Grennan, Joanne Kaczmarek, Ellen Swain, Cara Bertram, Sherrie Bowser, Jameatris Rinkus, Joyce Meyer, and Noah Lenstra). The symposium cochairs and organizing committee members are also grateful to the many donors who provided support and made this event possible, including the University of Illinois Library, the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Northern Micrographics, the Illinois State Archives, the Champaign County Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the U of I Records and Information Management Service (Urbana-Champaign, Chicago, and Springfield). Without this generous support and collaboration, the symposium would not have been the great event that it was!

**2015 Annual Meeting**

*(Continued from page 1)*

Another meeting favorite is the student and new professional posters. A call went out in November, with a deadline of January 15, 2015. If you have something to offer, please visit the MAC website at www.midwestarchives.org to find out more and submit your proposal.

The Annual Meeting Program Committee is composed of Cochairs Stephanie Bricking and Lisa Sjoberg, along with members John Faundeen, Matt Gorzalski, Sasha Griffin, Brad Houston, Jamie Martin, Shane Molander, Lisa Rickey, Carrie Schwier, Heather Stone, and Marcella Wiget.

This Joel Pett cartoon is sure to resonate with archivists.

**President’s Message**

*(Continued from page 2)*

for granted the talent and commitment of the people in this organization.

In closing, let me make one reminder. As you know, the spring 2015 Annual Meeting will be held in Lexington, Kentucky, May 6–9. During the Member’s Meeting, we will be considering motions to bring clarity to the definitions of voting members of Council and the establishment of a quorum during a business meeting to our Bylaws and Constitution. You will see these proposed revisions in this Newsletter. Please take a moment to read them through and be prepared to vote on this proposal in the upcoming Members’ Meeting. You will also see appropriate announcements via the MAC Blast.

As always, don’t hesitate to contact me if you have questions or concerns about MAC. I look forward to seeing you all at the spring meeting in Lexington!

My best wishes to you all,

Amy Cooper Cary
President, Midwest Archives Conference