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News from the Midwest

Midwest Archives Conference

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ILLINOIS

Episcopal Diocese of Chicago
In September, the Archives of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago moved to new facilities with secure, climate-controlled storage and an office for the historiographer. The archives shares a processing area and reading room with the Claretian Missionsaries Archives USA and the North American Province of the Cenacle Archives. In November, Bishop of Chicago Jeffrey Lee designated the Episcopal collections as the Richard R. Seidel Archives in honor of their longtime historiographer who passed away last year. Rev. Barbara Henry was elected historiographer and Newland Smith registrar. Visit the diocese at www.EpiscopalChicago.org.

Loyola University Chicago
The University Archives and Special Collections opened the Thomas J. Michalak Edward Gorey Collection. 1963 Loyola alumnus Michalak generously donated more than 1,100 items from his personal collection of Edward Gorey’s published works, book jacket and magazine illustrations, posters, prints, etchings, ephemera, and merchandise. A portion of the new Gorey Collection will be on display at Loyola University Museum of Art until June 15, 2014, as part of the exhibition “G is for Gorey—C is for Chicago: The Collection of Thomas Michalak.” Visit Loyola University Archives and Special Collections at www.luc.edu/archives.

Northwestern University
This winter the Northwestern University (NU) Archives displayed the exhibit Tune in Again: How Three Northwestern Co-eds Created One of Radio’s First Soap Operas. Radio show Clara, Lu ‘n’ Em aired from 1930 to 1946 with a midmorning timeslot sponsored by a dishwashing detergent, inspiring the “soap opera” genre. The title characters were portrayed by three accomplished NU alumnae who wrote every script and negotiated the complex world of sponsorships and contracts in the first radio show created and performed by women. The exhibit featured scripts, news clippings, posters, photographs, audio, and artifacts from a collection of show materials recently donated by “Em’s” family. Visit the University Archives at www.libraries.northwestern.edu/libraries-collections/evanston-campus/university-archives.

Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Southern Illinois Civil War (collections.carli.illinois.edu/cdm4/index_sic_civilw.php?CISOROOT=/sic_civilw) is a digital repository where researchers, students, genealogists, and others can access information pertaining to the Civil War in southern Illinois. Spanning the years 1854 to 1877, the repository covers the time between the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act and the end of Reconstruction. This repository assembles handwritten letters, diaries, photographs, and military orders that document the southern Illinois experience of the war and highlights life on the home front from the perspective of two women whose husbands served in the Fifth Illinois Cavalry.

Wheaton College
More than six decades of sermon manuscripts and typescripts by evangelist and 1943 Wheaton graduate Billy Graham are now available online from the Billy Graham Center Archives (BGCA) at www.wheaton.edu/BGC/Ministries/Archives/Sermons-of-Billy-Graham. Dating from 1941 through 2006, many of the 3,760 typescripts contain Graham’s handwritten notes and delivery suggestions. The BGCA staff also transcribed audio recordings of Graham’s sermons from 1949 through 2003, which are available for viewing in the reading room.

INDIANA

Eckhart Public Library
The Willennar Genealogy Center in Auburn, Indiana, is currently working on a long-term project to digitize the collection of the late John Martin Smith, a prominent local historian. His massive collection includes items of local, state, and national importance. The Smith family has given the Eckhart Public Library digital rights to the collection, and staff and volunteers are currently digitizing approximately 3,500 historic postcards that it includes. A consultant will write a five-year plan for digitization, develop curriculum for local educators, and help the library reach out to volunteers, particularly teenagers and young adults. Read more about the project at www.epl.lib.in.us/genealogy.php.

IOWA

University of Iowa
The University of Iowa (UI) recently acquired about 45 linear feet of (Continued on page 12)
additional materials pertaining to the life and career of Louis Szathmary. The Hungarian-born chef founded The Bakery, a legendary Chicago restaurant that operated from 1963 to 1989, and is frequently billed as the world’s first celebrity chef. The University Archives also opened the Patrobus Cassius Robinson Digital Collection, 1923–1928. The scrapbook offers a rare glimpse of African American student life at UI during the 1920s. The St. Louis native was awarded a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry in 1927, taught in St. Louis public high schools for 34 years, and operated a realty company in St. Louis from 1945 until his retirement in 1980. For more on these collections, visit digital.lib.uiowa.edu.

KANSAS

Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics

The Dole Archives (www.doleinstitute.org) began departmental strategic planning sessions last fall. This process is designed to develop the institute’s core administrative documents based on those identified in the American Alliance of Museums Core 5 pre-accreditation program. Last fall the archives completed and made public several new finding aids: Republican National Chairman Records, Walt Riker Papers, Dole Scrapbooks Collection, and Dole Speeches. Also available is the press release finding aid, which incorporates a Google search box to index and search full-text PDF documents, all hosted within Archon. Three visiting researchers, both international and national, were awarded funds to use the institute’s collections to further their research. We are currently partnering with University of Kansas Libraries on various projects: ArchivesSpace campuswide testing and implementation, research and instruction programming with our government documents librarian, and contributing content to the libraries’ exhibit program.

KENTUCKY

University of Kentucky

University of Kentucky (UK) Special Collections presents its first film series, “Reel to Real: Special Collections at the Movies,” for the 2013–2014 academic year. This film series explores five popular movies from a historically accurate perspective using materials and resources from the archives. Screenings are free and open to the public and are held in Worsham Theater at the UK Student Center. The films include Daniel Boone, Trailblazer (1956), In Country (1989), Beloved (1998), Coal Miner’s Daughter (1980), and Our Day (1938). For information, contact Stacie Williams at 859-257-8371 or stacie.williams@uky.edu.

MICHIGAN

Archdiocese of Detroit

The Archives of the Archdiocese of Detroit moved to the former Cardinal Mooney Latin School building on the grounds of Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. Portions of the 1960 building were renovated to include approximately 3,800 square feet of new climate-controlled storage space, a dedicated research room, and a conference room. In addition to 568 collections, the archives also includes photographs, film audio tapes from various events and area Catholic radio programs, sacramental records of over 80 closed parishes and hospitals, and transcripts from almost 300 closed Catholic schools. Contact the archives at archives@aod.org or 313-237-5846.

Keweenaw National Historical Park

On Christmas Eve during the copper strike of 1913–1914, panic ensued at the Italian Benevolent Society Hall in Calumet after a false or perceived cry of fire was heard at a party for the children of striking mining company employees and their families. At least 73 people died in a crush on the stairs as they tried to exit the building, most of them children. All survivors of the disaster have since died; the building, demolished in 1984, and a few artifacts remain. This year, however, Keweenaw National Historical Park acquired the prints that hung on either side of the stage in the hall at the time of the disaster. Read about the park at www.nps.gov/kewe/historyculture/collections.htm.

Lakeshore Museum Center

The Lakeshore Museum Center Archives (LMCA) in Muskegon (www.lakeshoremuseum.org/archives.html) has moved its reading room from the second floor to an empty storefront on the first floor of the same building. The former reading room will be outfitted with shelves to accommodate donations and create a larger processing space. LMCA hopes to open the
new reading room by April and, with the help of volunteers, provide open reading room hours two days a week.

Michigan Technological University
The Michigan Tech Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections of the Van Pelt and Opie Library hosts Retrospection and Respect: The 1913–1914 Mining/Labor Strike Symposium of 2014 in April to mark the centennial of the cessation of the 1913–1914 Western Federation of Miners labor strike against copper mining companies in the Copper Country of upper Michigan. The event is cosponsored by the archives, the Department of Social Sciences and the Department of Humanities at Michigan Technological University, the Keweenaw National Historical Park, and the Finnish American Historical Archive at Finlandia University. Visit the archives at www.mtu.edu/library/archives.

Wayne State University
The Walter P. Reuther Library (www.reuther.wayne.edu) has received a very generous $35,000 gift from a faculty member, which will fund much-needed physical improvements in the reading room this year. Reuther archivists are expecting increased researcher interest after numerous United Farm Workers collections were used in three projects that debuted in the early months of 2014: Miriam Pawel’s book The Crusades of Cesar Chavez: A Biography, the feature film Chavez, and Cesar’s Last Fast, a documentary that debuted at the Sundance Film Festival.

MINNESOTA

College of Saint Benedict
The College of Saint Benedict (CSB) in St. Joseph, founded in 1913, is celebrating its centennial. In addition to launching a major exhibit of historical photos displayed this year in several venues across campus, the archives has contributed to the creation of a time line (www.csbsju.edu/CSBCentennial/History.htm), a walking tour app, and the book Challenging Women Since 1913: The College of Saint Benedict. Additionally, online PDF “history lessons,” an ongoing series of PowerPoints prepared by archivist Peggy Landwehr Roske, provide ways to explore CSB’s history (www.csbsju.edu/SJU-Archives/SJUHistory/Vignettes.htm).

Dakota County Historical Society
The Dakota County Historical Society is processing a large donation from the recently closed Lockheed Martin Company’s Eagan facility. Employees at the location collected historical items for several years, and volunteers began sorting and cataloging the records and artifacts. The collection includes artifacts, documents, memorabilia, company newsletters, and more than 50,000 photographs and slides—some dating back to the mid-1940s and the early days of the company when it was called Engineering Research Associates (ERA). More than 50 retired and former Lockheed Martin and Univac/Unisys employees led the volunteer work to get this done. The resulting exhibit, From ERA to Lockheed Martin: Minnesota’s Computer Industry, opened in August and will be on view indefinitely. Visit www.dakotahistory.org/events/from-era-to-lockheed-martin-minnesotas-computer-industry for details.

MISSOURI

Concordia Historical Institute
The Rev. Dr. Daniel N. Harmelink of Huntington Beach, California, is the new executive director of Concordia Historical Institute in Saint Louis. The institute is the Department of Archives and History of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. Harmelink has a PhD in missiology from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana; an MDiv from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; and a bachelor’s degree in comparative culture from Concordia University, Irvine, California. Harmelink is the
founding president of the International Association of Reformation Coins and Medals, which seeks to further the study of the Reformation through numismatic art.

**Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis**

In January 2014, the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis launched a website (fraser.stlouisfed.org/centennial) to commemorate the centennial of the bank and the Federal Reserve System. The site includes a timeline, photographs, maps, and audiovisual resources from the bank’s archives and other repositories. The centennial site is part of FRASER (Federal Reserve Archival System for Economic Research), a free digital library that provides access to primary source materials, policy documents, data, and publications documenting US economic history, with an emphasis on the Federal Reserve System. Other FRASER collections include records from the Federal Reserve and papers of former leaders.

**State Historical Society of Missouri**

The State Historical Society of Missouri (SHSMO) has been selected to spearhead commemorations for the bicentennial celebration of Missouri’s statehood. On May 13, 2013, lawmakers gave final approval to a resolution directing the organization to develop plans to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Missouri’s birth as a state on August 10, 1821. Although the celebration is seven years away, a committee has already started gathering information to plan for the festivities. SHSMO is eager to collaborate with individuals and other groups to ensure the spirit of the resolution is carried out in a statewide effort to promote and celebrate the state of Missouri’s rich and complex history.

**Washington University**

Washington University Libraries announces the availability of over 100 hours of digitized interviews from the documentary series, *The Great Depression* (1993, Blackside, Inc.). *The Great Depression* interviews include complete, full-text searchable transcripts and embedded video of nearly 150 interviews from the Film and Media Archive’s Henry Hampton Collection. The interviews include diverse reflections from a grandson of Franklin D. and Eleanor Roosevelt; celebrated authors Maya Angelou and Gore Vidal; longtime *New York Times* political reporter Warren Moscow; actors Karen Morley and Ossie Davis; Morton Newman, who worked on the Upton Sinclair campaign for governor in California, and many more. *The Great Depression* interviews are available at digital.wustl.edu/greatdepression.

**Webster University**

Jacqueline Grennan Wexler (formerly Sr. Jacqueline) was a major figure in higher education in the 1960s and 1970s. She served as president of Webster University from 1965 to 1969 and was instrumental in the groundbreaking transfer of the Catholic institution to a lay board. A website with information about her collection and career is available at library.webster.edu/archives/findingaids/wexler/index.html. For more information, contact Curator of Archives Kathy Gaynor at 314-246-7811 or kgaynor@webster.edu.
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Troy Eller and Alison Stankrauff, Assistant Editors

NEBRASKA

Nebraska State Historical Society and the University of Nebraska–Lincoln
The Nebraska State Historical Society and the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Libraries recently completed a collaborative three-year Hidden Collections grant funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and administered by the Council of Library and Information Resources. The grant provided funding for additional staffing to organize, describe, and catalog several major railroad collections, including records of the Union Pacific Railroad; the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad (CB&Q)—Lines West; papers of Val Kuska (agricultural agent for the CB&Q); and the Charles J. Kennedy Railroad Collection. Find out more at libraries.unl.edu/specfaidsrailroads.

Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB) members presented them with an Achievement Award for 2013 at the meeting. Visit CAR at clevelandarchivists.wordpress.com.

Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center
Thanks to a generous gift, Cincinnati Children’s (prattlibrary.cchmc.org) hired Michelle Wirth for a year-long project to identify and catalog historical holdings recording the medical center’s rich history since its founding in 1883. The large collection was compiled over many years by community pediatrician William Gerhardt, MD. The collection includes medical textbooks and instruments, institutional records, photos, paintings, scrapbooks, furniture, biographical profiles of leading Cincinnati Children’s physicians and researchers, and more.

Cincinnati Museum Center
The Cincinnati Museum Center (www.cincymuseum.org) opened the John P. Childe Papers, 1913–1929. First Lt. John P. Childe (1893–1983) served with the 306th Infantry in the Oise-Aisne, St. Mihel, and Meuse-Argonne campaigns. The collection includes training instructions, military orders, telegrams, letters, and government-issued training handbooks with topics ranging from the use of weapons, trench warfare techniques, command strategies, and early aeronautics in warfare. The Clarence R. Runk (1897–1970) Papers contain letters and postcards Runk sent to his family during World War I, in which he served in the 522nd Motor Truck Corps as an ambulance driver.

University of Akron
The University of Akron Archival Services (www.uakron.edu/libraries/archives) successfully completed a nine-month, $1,980 National Historical Publications and Records Commission grant that was awarded last April through the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB). The funding was used to digitize and make available online 153 technical reports from the College of Engineering’s Daniel Guggenheim Airship Institute. The collection primarily documents research conducted from 1929 through 1949 in lighter-than-air flight, heavier-than-air flight, meteorology, aerodynamics, and G-force measurements. The Center for the History of Psychology (www.uakron.edu/chp) received a Museums for America grant of more than $52,000 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to enrich museum field trips for students, including a one-day brainstorming workshop with local high school teachers and the subsequent creation of a Teachers’ Resource Package with guides, lesson plans, and an online repository of archival materials for classroom activities.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Center for Western Studies of Augustana College
The Center for Western Studies of Augustana College in Sioux Falls has received a Preservation Assistance Grant of $5,981 from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The funding will be used to complete several goals recommended by consultant Elisa Redman, director of Preservation Services at the Midwest Art Conservation Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota, during the center’s recent participation in the (Continued on page 16)
Conservation Assessment Program, funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and administered by Heritage Preservation. The goals include the purchase of new temperature, humidity, and light monitoring equipment and supplies for an integrated pest management system as well as an in-house disaster kit for emergency preparedness. The project is occurring in tandem with the development of a new disaster plan for the center’s Fantle Building facility. Collections Assistant Liz Thrond attended workshops on disaster preparedness in 2013 sponsored by the Dakota Collections Care Initiative and funded by IMLS.

U.S. Geological Survey Earth Resources Observation and Science Center
The National Satellite Land Remote Sensing Data Archive resides at the US Geological Survey’s (USGS) Earth Resources Observation and Science Center near Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Through the Land Remote Sensing Policy Act of 1992, the US Congress directed the Department of the Interior to establish a permanent government archives containing satellite remote sensing data of the earth’s land surface and to make the data easily accessible and readily available. This unique archives provides a comprehensive, permanent, and impartial observational record of the planet’s land surface obtained throughout more than five decades of satellite remote sensing. A new fact sheet has been released describing the contents of this archives at pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2013/3100/.

**WISCONSIN**

**Swiss Center of North America**
This small but vibrant museum, library, and archives is located in New Glarus, Wisconsin, the heart of one of the largest Swiss settlements in America. Opened in 2008, this nonprofit center is the only organization that exists to celebrate, tell the story, and preserve the culture of more than 1.3 million people of Swiss descent in North America, but its reach is global, as the Swiss government has entrusted it with its popular Swiss Roots genealogy program (www.theswisscenter.org/swissroots/genealogy). The center’s Donald G. Tritt Library holds more than 8,000 volumes, rare books, papers, letters, and artifacts on Swiss history, immigration, art, science, education, business, and contemporary life to serve genealogists and researchers. The center features exhibits from its collections and provides an online newsletter, information and links for genealogical research through its website, and reference access to its collections. Visit at www.theswisscenter.org, or find the center on Facebook: www.facebook.com/the.Swiss.Center?ref=ts.

**Wisconsin Historical Society**
The Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) has shared 30,000 pages from its well-known civil rights manuscript collections at www.wisconsinhistory.org/freedomsummer. The digital collection displays more than 300 folders in CONTENTdm, selected from over 100 separate collections that document the Mississippi Summer Project of 1964. Thanks to the Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation, an exhibit of facsimiles will travel through Milwaukee-area secondary schools this year, accompanied by lesson plans and other curriculum materials. The exhibit has a companion website at fsxbrt.tumblr.com with photos, manuscripts, and expanded captions that tell the story of Freedom Summer. WHS is also publishing a Facebook page during this 50th anniversary year at www.facebook.com/WHS.Freedom.Summer.collection. “Like” the collection there and follow along as WHS highlights three documents each week. In June, the WHS Press will also issue an anthology of documents drawn from the collection called *Risking Everything: A Freedom Summer Reader*. Read more at www.wisconsinhistory.org/whspress/books/book.asp?book_id=432.