SAA
ARCHIVAL HAIKU
2011
Honorable Mentions

Judith Adkins
The past lives in space
Boxes cannot hold its soul,
But light glints in bytes

Steven Bingo
In constellations
of ink, nitrate, and now bits;
our shared narratives.

Debi Griffith
First there was chaos
Then the manila folder.
Now I can find stuff!

Other Haikus of Note

Brett Bodemer
Holocene tarpit,
the sign over the doorway:
“Welcome to Archives”

Sarah Campbell
Rusty paperclips
Eat away my memories
Leaving only dust

Kathryn Kramer
House-sized donation:
Books, music, clippings, posters.
Was he a hoarder?

Sister Joan Terese Niklas
Within doors and files
Past and present united
Gifts for the future.

Patty Rettig
Forty-pound boxes
Get lifted to highest shelf.
Gym irrelevant

Kristen Wilhelm
Cave paintings survive
Not Thermofax or floppies.
We're disappearing.

Aimee Ergas
Colored paper clips
Replace the old, rusty ones
Too much processing?

Bill Fliss
Clamshell boxes stand
In serried ranks, triumphant
Order from chaos

Dolores Hooper
Dusty boxes yield
secrets of the distant past;
I suppress a sneeze

Susan Otto
Caught between the stacks
Circled by words of others
Boxes press me down

Deborah Torres
If archives were food,
Menu no doubt would include,
Gerald Ham Sandwich.

Katherine White
The past never ends,
Leaving remnants to process
Job security

Josh Zimmerman
On clay baked by sun,
A new profession born from
Ancient business.

Kathie Johnson
Many precede us
Many will follow after
Present becomes past

Anne Sauer
At conference time,
Archivists swarm vendor swag
In sensible shoes.

Steve VanBuren
Family treasure
Trash bag orphaned by my door
Corn flakes for breakfast

George Bain
Jameson's offspring
Posner, Schellenberg and all
Cool seventy-five

Waverly Lowell
History Happens
What is old is new again
Archives make it so