Manuscript Repositories Newsletter

Fall 2004

From the Chair: Parting Words

By Pam Hackbart-Dean, Georgia State University

It is difficult to believe that the kids are back in school, we have already attended our annual meeting, and football season has begun!! I just have to say it--Boston was fantastic!! There were informative sessions and fun social activities-what a great mix.

As a section, we accomplished a lot during this past year. Thanks to a group of energetic members, several of our session proposals were accepted and presented in Boston. Working with the Reference, Access & Outreach Section and the Privacy and Confidentiality Roundtable, we successfully presented Council a letter requesting they make a statement about the USA Patriot Act. They did so in July. In addition, we planned a successful business meeting.

The Section business meeting was very well attended with over 175 members present. Clare Sheridan and James Cross featured a stimulating and thought-provoking program on the current and potential research in the field of textile history, the challenges of collecting in this area and the need for collaborative efforts. There were also reports on other projects and upcoming events related to SAA, as well as an election.

Congratulations to our new Vice Chair/Chair-Elect Amy Cooper Cary, as well as to the new members of our Steering Committee Maria R. Estorino from the University of Miami, Fernanda Pernone from Rutgers University, and Jill Severn from the University of Georgia.

Since this is my last column, I want to thank everyone who helped make this a good year. I appreciate all the guidance and support from Susan Potts McDonald, past chair, and our new chair, Cynthia Pease Miller. You are both wonderful mentors and advisors. I also want to give many thanks to our outgoing steering committee members Su Kim Chung, Joseph Anderson and Amy Cooper Cary, as well as continuing members Thomas Hyry, Theresa Salazar and Steve Sturgeon. Their enthusiasm and dedication to the section made my job so much easier.

It has been a very special and enjoyable year for me. I encourage all of you to become more involved in the work of the section. This is a great section with great members. I hope you will contribute articles to our newsletter, and/or your time as a member of the Steering Committee. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve.

News From Georgia Repositories

From the SGA Newsletter, submitted by Jill Severn,
Russell Library, University of Georgia

Newly Processed Collections at the Georgia Historical Society

Savannah Municipal Airport Records, 1924-1945 (MS 2114, 2 cubic feet): The development of the Savannah Municipal Airport began in 1928 when the City of Savannah and Chatham County jointly purchased the 730 acre Belmont tract previously owned by J.C. Lewis. The airport opened in 1929 and was officially named Hunter Field by city resolution in 1932. The two cubic feet of material in the Savannah Municipal Airport Records contain administrative records, bids and specifications, correspondence and financial papers.

Colonial Dames, 17th Century, Adam Brinson I Chapter Records, 1968-1985 (MS 2107, 4 folders). The Adam Brinson I Chapter of the Colonial Dames XVII Century was founded in Savannah, Georgia on February 2, 1968. Eligibility for membership in the society requires tracing one’s lineal ancestry to seventeenth century America. The mission of the Colonial Dames XVII Century is to foster interest in and preserve colonial period American history. The four folders of the Colonial Dames XVII Century Records contain meeting minutes from 1968 to 1977, as well as the chapter’s year books for 1981 to 1985.

Mackay Family Papers Addenda, 1828-1854 (MS 531, 3 folders). The Mackay Family Papers consists of correspondence from various family members of the Robert Mackay (1772-1816) branch of the family. The three folder addenda to this collection are the letters of John Mackay (1805-1848) to his mother, Eliza Anne (McQueen) Mackay (1778-1862). John Mackay wrote from a variety of locations in the Southeast while he was in the military. His letters discuss Georgia politics, plantation life, and family news.

John P. Rousakis Papers, 1962-2001 (MS 1678, 5.58 cubic feet). John P. Rousakis (1929-2000) was a Savannah native of Greek descent who served as mayor of Savannah, Georgia for 21 years. His accomplishments as mayor include: building Savannah’s tourist industry, expanding Savannah’s historic area and landmark preservation program, reducing crime, bringing the 1996 Olympics to Georgia and Savannah, and the implementation of various social and economic changes within the city. The Rousakis Papers include mayoral papers, personal papers and correspondence, and newspaper clippings of a professional and personal nature.

Altrusa Club Records, 1938-2002, undated (MS 2011, 10.9 cubic feet). The Altrusa Club of Savannah was founded in 1938 to serve as the local branch of the national organization. The Altrusa Club is an organization geared toward professionals who wish to engage in public service and foster personal achievement. Originally a club for women, the organization is now open to men. The Altrusa Club of Savannah is currently dormant due to lack of membership. The Altrusa Club Records consist of administrative records, program materials, publications, newspaper clippings and scrapbooks.

Georgia State University: Emma Kelly Collection, 1900-2001

The Special Collections Department of Georgia State University (GSU) has completed processing for the Emma Kelly collection, 1900-2001 [bulk 1980-1999]. The collection is part of GSU’s Popular Music Collection.

A native of Statesboro, Georgia, Emma Kelly collaborated with Johnny Mercer, performed at her own Savannah nightclub, appeared in the movie Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil and was inducted into the Georgia Music Hall of Fame. The collection consists of personal and family history, performance ephemera, audio-visual materials, songbooks, song lists as well as the numerous honors and awards she received in her lifetime.

Georgia State University: Eudora Welty Collection

Donated

John Bayne, an Atlanta book collector whose well-researched essays on Eudora Welty appear frequently in the Eudora Welty Newsletter (EWN), recently donated his extensive collection of Welty books and associated items to Georgia State University’s Library. The Bayne “Eudora Welty Collection,” as he chose to
call it, now resides in the Rare Book Collection of Georgia State's Special Collections Department.

The Bayne collection, containing more than 200 significant Welty items and appraised at nearly $30,000, includes twenty-five books signed by the author and several signed or inscribed by Welty and others, including her friend Kenneth Millar, using his penname Ross Macdonald; Walker Percy and Reynolds Price; and the artists Barry Moser and Katherine Wolfe, who illustrated Welty texts. The collection includes nearly all of the limited edition publications of Welty's fiction or essays and numerous edited or critical texts also signed by editors or authors. Among the many examples of other significant Welty texts are a copy of the 1920 St. Nicholas magazine where the young writer appeared in a national publication for the first time; a copy of the 1938 WPA guide to her native state: Mississippi: A Guide to the Magnolia State (1938) where several of her photographs appear and from which she drew inspiration for some of her fiction; the Philadelphia Inquirer newspaper version of The Robber Bridegroom (1943); and the limited edition of "Music from Spain" published in 1948 by Levee Press in Greenville, Mississippi. The collection contains numerous first American and first English editions of all of Welty's major book-length publications, an extensive list of secondary works and associated items, including catalogues of exhibitions, posters for books and dramatic productions, and numerous foreign editions of Welty's fiction.

Mr. Bayne said he chose Georgia State as the home for his collection because of the presence of the Eudora Welty Newsletter and the regular offering of courses in the GSU English Department that include the writer's work, especially the Welty graduate seminar. Mr. Bayne expressed an interest in continuing to develop the collection, which is already a valuable research archive for students, established scholars, and the editors of EWN. The collection fits well with other special collections at Georgia State, including rare works by the early nineteenth-century humorous and anecdotal writers of what was called the "Old Southwest," significant Southern historical and literary volumes, a Faulkner collection, the Lane Brothers and Tracy O'Neal photography collections, the Johnny Mercer Collection, and the Southern Labor Archive.

By Jill Severn, Russell Library, University of Georgia

The Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies at the University of Georgia is pleased to announce that the Lewis R. Morgan Papers, 1961-1995 are now open for research. These papers join over 120 collections documenting public policymaking and political culture centered in Georgia available for research at the Russell Library. To view the finding aid for the papers or to learn more about the collections, programs, and services of the Russell Library please visit the Library web site at www.libs.uga.edu/russell. For more information please contact Jill Severn at jsevern@uga.edu or 706-542-5766.

Lewis R. Morgan Papers, 1961-1995
Abstract: Chambers papers of Judge Lewis R. Morgan. Papers document Judge Morgan's thirty-five-year judicial career with the United States District Court (1961-1968) and the United States Fifth (1968-1981) and Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals (1981-1996). Includes case files (typically opinions, briefs, judicial memoranda, reports, administrative forms and correspondence), docket books, bench books, case indexes, correspondence, printed opinions, committee files, charge books and notes, news clippings, photographs, and maps. Of note are Judge Morgan's files relating to highly publicized cases, such as Wallace Butts v. Curtis Publishing Company, civil rights cases heard in District Court in Georgia and the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits, and materials relating to the split of the Fifth Circuit into the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits in 1981.

Anniversary of the W.R. Poage Legislative Library, Baylor University
By Ben Rogers, W.R. Poage Library, Baylor University
The W.R. Poage Legislative Library at Baylor University celebrated the 25th anniversary of the dedication of its building with a luncheon on October 8 for the families and friends of donors. Attending were guests from Virginia, Washington DC, Wisconsin, California, and Texas. The week of October 21 the library will hold an Archives Week Open House for the public. Further information about the W.R. Poage and the library's anniversary can be found at http://www3.baylor.edu/Library/BCPM/Anniv25/.

The first exhibit in the newly renovated exhibit area will showcase the Bob Bullock Archive. Bullock was Lieutenant Governor of Texas for eight years and Comptroller for sixteen years. His 1150 linear feet of papers were processed over a period of five years. Information about this collection can be found at http://www3.baylor.edu/Library/BCPM/Bullock/index.htm.

### Improved Access to California Historical Society's Manuscripts Collections

*By Mary Morganti, California Historical Society*

The California Historical Society (CHS) recently completed a 2.5-year project designed to improve access to manuscripts collections in the North Baker Research Library. Funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), the grant enabled us to create 1100 electronic catalog records, representing about a third of the collections by call number, but more than half in terms of importance and quantity. Our records reside in RLIN and can be found in MELVYL, the University of California’s on-line catalog, which is the primary online public access point for the CHS Library's holdings. The card catalog and shelf-lists that previously served as the primary access tools for manuscripts and photography collections still remain available in the library's reading room because the indexing they contain continues to be useful. Meanwhile, we continue to add to the steady accumulation of electronic records into the online catalog in order to provide more accurate, complete, up-to-date, and accessible information about our collections, whether from the library’s reading room or remotely via the Internet. Visit MELVYL on the Web at http://melvyl.cdlib.org to learn more about some of the treasures that can be found at CHS.

### Search Tool for the Biographical Directory of the United States Congress

*By Betty Koed, Historical Office, United States Senate*

The electronic edition of the Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, found at http://bioguide.congress.gov, allows a user to search for biographical information using a combination of name, office, and state. Using the following steps you can search the Bioguide database itself using the Google Advanced Search function. This facilitates a global search of the database. For example, you can find all collections listed in a certain repository or develop a list of all members who attended West Point.

1. Go to google.com
2. Click on Advanced Search (or go to http://www.google.com/advanced_search?hl=en)
3. Fill in your search term in the first space, and fill in the word senator or representative in the third space
4. Fill in the URL - http://bioguide.congress.gov - in the last space, for domain
5. Hit enter or click search

This searches only the bioguide database and users report that this seems quite efficient.

### Manuscript Repositories Section

[Leadership](http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/mss/fall2004.asp)
News items, articles, letters to the editor, and comments are welcome.

Next Newsletter deadline: March 1, 2005

Send to Amy Cooper Cary