

**Regional Archival Associations Consortium (RAAC)**  
**2013 Steering Committee Candidates**

**MULTI-STATE CANDIDATES**

**Tessa Beers, New England Archivists**

**Bio:** I'm a Representative-At-Large for New England Archivists from 2013-2016. I am currently a Processing Archivist for Harvard Business School Special Collections, where I work on digital forensics and electronic collections. I received my MSLS from UNC-Chapel Hill.

**Candidate Statement:** As a Steering Committee member, I would represent the multi-state regional associations, encouraging collaboration with local associations both in similar regions and across the United States. As a voting board member of New England Archivists, we have worked successfully to plan cross-association programming and have developed working relationships with other archival associations as well as other similar professional associations. My goal would be ensuring that the Regional Archival Associations Consortium accurately portrays its membership and proactively advances both the current state of the profession as well as any predicted states which may exist in the future. As a Steering Committee member, I would make every endeavor to ensure that the broad spectrum of archival associations' needs is represented. Ensuring that the development of RAAC is proactive, responsive, and communicative will guarantee its viability as a representative of the Archives Profession as a whole.

**Amanda Focke, Society of Southwest Archivists**

**Bio:** Amanda Focke is the Asst. Head of Special Collections at Fondren Library, Rice University. She works with university archives, manuscript collections and rare books, with a focus on policies and workflows for digital content. She holds an MLS (University of Maryland College Park), has been a Certified Archivist for 10 years, and is working towards her Digital Archives Specialist certificate. She is currently the Immediate Past President of the Society of Southwest Archivists.

**Candidate Statement:** For the past 10 years I have been active in the Society of Southwest Archivists, as newsletter editor, local arrangements chair, board member and president. I have also worked at the city level, with board service for the Archivists of the Houston Area. I strongly believe in the power of regional and local groups to bring relevant professional development to members, to advocate regarding issues and legislation, to facilitate networking, and even coordinate disaster relief. As part of RAAC, representatives from such groups all over the country have an opportunity to learn from and inspire each other. I would very much like to serve on the initial steering committee to listen to members' needs and shape the committee's work into its most useful, concrete form.

### **Tim Hawkins, Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists**

**Bio:** I am currently the Executive Director for the Bessemer Historical Society, in Pueblo, Colorado, a nonprofit organization that operates the Steelworks Museum and Colorado Fuel and Iron (CF&I) Archives. I am a Certified Archivist and have supervised grant projects funded by the NEH, NEA, Save America's Treasures NHPRC, and NSF. Past employers and consulting clients have included the Wisconsin Center for Film and Theater Research, the National Geographic Society, AT&T Broadband and Internet, Playboy Enterprises, Archdiocese of Chicago, Naropa University, the University of Colorado, Pulse of the Planet, and the Kids' Science Challenge.

I have actively participated in the activities of professional organizations for many years. I am the current President of the *Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists (SRMA)*, Communications Coordinator for the *Visual Materials Section of the Society of American Archivists*, and a former Council member of the *Midwest Archives Conference*,

**Candidate statement:** As SRMA President, I've encouraged our members to participate more actively in the activities of our neighboring regional organizations. I believe this to be a cost effective way to maximize our dwindling professional development budgets, as well as a way to just be good neighbors and possibly attract others to participate in SRMA's activities. Because of my past experience with a variety of regionals – SRMA, MAC, SSA, CIMA, NEA and MARAC – and because of my commitment to foster increased collaboration among the regionals, I believe I would be a positive addition to the Steering Committee for the Regional Archival Associations Consortium.

### **John LeGloahec, Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference**

**Bio and Candidate Statement:** John LeGloahec is an Archives Specialist at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), where he processes and provides reference on electronic records. Before NARA, he worked at the International Monetary Fund Archives and the Rockefeller Archive Center, where he supervised the Nelson A. Rockefeller Papers Project.

John has been an active member of MARAC since 1995 and was elected Chair in 2013, and also served as Treasurer and Member-at-Large. He has served on many of the MARAC committee, including the Membership Development, Finance and Meetings Coordinating Committees. He has co-chaired two Local Arrangements Committees and served on two Program Committees. A member of the Society of American Archivists since 1995, he recently served on the Nominating Committee and the SAA 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Task Force and was Host Committee Co-Chair for the 2006 Joint Annual Meeting and a Program Committee Member for the 2001 Annual Meeting. Since joining NARA he has been active in the National Archives Assembly, serving as President, Vice President, and Treasurer.

John holds an M.L.S. from the University at Albany and an M.S. in Social Studies Education from C.W. Post, Long Island University. His undergraduate degree is in American History from the University at Albany.

## STATE CANDIDATES

### **Jennifer Brannock, Society of Mississippi Archivists**

**Bio:** Jennifer Brannock is an Associate Professor and Curator of Rare Books and Mississippiana in University Libraries. In Special Collections at USM, she coordinates bibliographic instruction, supervises general reference activities, engages in preservation management activities, coordinates outreach activities, curates exhibits, and conducts collection development and management activities for Mississippiana, Rare Books, and Genealogy. Her professional interests include preservation and disaster preparedness/recovery, popular culture, bizarre books, and special collections outreach and reference service.

**Candidate Statement:** As a curator who does a lot of outreach, I'm always in contact with people. I'm in daily contact with students, professors, researchers, and community members assisting them with research as well as promoting our collections. My contact with archivists and special collections librarians in the area is somewhat limited. The Society of Mississippi Archivists has become more active in the state over the past several years, but with so few archivists in the state, the same people are involved with the organization every year. The possibility of opening up the archives world through the Regional Archival Associations Consortium (RAAC) is really appealing. I think that RAAC will be a great way to expand our knowledge and learn more from the experiences of other local, state, and regional archival groups. As a representative on the Steering Committee, I would work to create resources for groups and find ways to publicize these resources as well as the activities of the groups. I often learn more about working in archives/special collections by hearing about the activities of other archives. Through communication and outreach, I think RAAC can help local, state, and regional archival groups grow.

### **Kristen Chinery, Michigan Archival Association**

**Bio:** Kristen Chinery is an Archivist III at the Walter P. Reuther Library, Archive of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University. She has sole responsibility for maintaining intellectual and physical control of the Reuther's secondary source and non-manuscript primary source collections, which include books, periodicals, collective bargaining agreements, and pamphlets. Kristen received a MA (History), MLIS, and Archival Administration Certificate from Wayne State University. She currently serves as president of the Michigan Archival Association (MAA).

**Candidate Statement:** I was first elected to the board of the Michigan Archival Association (MAA) in 2007. Since that time, I've had the opportunity to meet archivists from across the state and hear their suggestions for what professional organizations can do to assist one-person shops and large repositories alike. Collaboration has been the primary focus of most of those conversations. For its part, MAA developed an "Adopt-an-Archive" program for resource sharing between small and large institutions. When I took over as president in 2009, MAA partnered with the Historical Society of Michigan to provide quality, affordable workshops to members. Low-cost exhibits, grant writing, and the care of audiovisual materials are among the topics included. MAA's most recent

educational initiative offers funding to students and archivists to attend professional conferences and workshops. Developing partnerships and collaborative efforts to expand educational opportunities is a core principle of MAA's mission, which is why participating in RAAC was approved enthusiastically. I would be honored to serve on the Steering Committee, and look forward to representing MAA as a member of the Regional Archival Associations Consortium.

### **Lynette Stoudt, Society of Georgia Archivists**

**Bio:** Lynette Stoudt is the Director of Library and Archives at the Georgia Historical Society (GHS). She has worked at GHS since 2005 and is responsible for the management and operations of the Library and Archives Division. Prior to joining GHS Lynette worked at the Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley, as a consultant with History Associates Incorporated, and in the special collections libraries at UC Irvine and UC San Diego. She obtained her MLIS from San Jose State University and bachelor's degree in Anthropology from the UC San Diego. Lynette is active in national, statewide, and local professional organizations. She currently serves as President of the Society of Georgia Archivists and as one of SGA's Mentoring Program coordinators. She is active in Heritage Preservation's Alliance for Response program and currently serves as Secretary of Savannah Heritage Emergency Response (SHER). She is certified to serve during activation of her county's Emergency Operations Center as a cultural heritage representative.

**Candidate Statement:** I would be honored to serve on the Regional Archival Associations Consortium Steering Committee as a statewide organization representative. I currently serve as the President of the Society of Georgia Archivists and have worked with several of our fantastic colleagues on the Regionals Associations Group planning committee in the past few months leading up to the formal establishment of this consortium. If nominated to the Steering Committee, I look forward to continuing the important work of this group to create a network of support and information exchange for regional organizations across the nation.

## **LOCAL CANDIDATES**

### **Daniel Alonzo, Archivists of Central Texas**

**Bio:** Born and raised in McAllen, in deep south Texas. BA from UT-Austin, MSIS from UT-Austin in 2004. Spent 3 years starting a small archives in the best small town museum west of Ft. Worth, the Old Jail Art Center, in Albany, Texas ([www.theoldjailartcenter.org](http://www.theoldjailartcenter.org)). It was at the OJAC, as a lone arranger, that I learned all aspects of archival administration. I gained enough experience to return to Austin as the photo archivist at the Austin History Center. Recently I took a new position as the processing archivist at the Texas General Land Office.

**Candidate Statement:** Actually, my biography isn't quite complete. When I moved back to Austin in 2007, it was because my wife was starting graduate school, not because I got a job at the Austin History Center. In fact, I moved back to take a job at National

Instruments. Coincidentally, the Archivists of Central Texas (ACT) was just starting up again after a long hiatus in preparation for SAA coming to Austin in 2009. It was through those early meetings of ACT that I met some local archivists and made some good impressions that would, six months later, lead to my position at the Austin History Center. From that start I got involved with the local arrangements committee of SAA for 2009 and then again with the local arrangements committee for the Society of Southwest Archivists when the annual meeting was hosted in Austin last May. Aside from being a good networking venue, being involved with the local regional group makes my existence as an archivist less isolating. It keeps me from becoming cynical and stagnant. I both want to learn from the successes other groups have had and I want to share what knowledge I have to help others get started.

**Rachel Chatalbash, Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc.**

**Bio:** Rachel Chatalbash is Senior Archivist at the Yale Center for British Art. She received her M.S. in archives management from Simmons College and is a Ph.D. candidate in Art History at the CUNY Graduate Center. Rachel has a decade of experience contributing to the regionals through Board leadership, committee work, and program and conference development, most recently serving as the President of the Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc.

**Candidate Statement:** I believe that our regional archival organizations are the champions of our archival collections and the archivists who manage them. Working with archivists on the regional level—through multi-state, state, and city regional archival organizations—has transformed my professional life, providing me with a core professional network, opportunities to develop programs for archivists and the communities we serve, and the experience of leading significant advocacy campaigns in partnership with local governments and allied professions. Through collaborative projects, the RAAC Steering Committee has the potential to augment all the regionals; in particular, I would like to focus on ways to better coordinate and support advocacy work, facilitate information sharing and best practices as they pertain to the development and management of the regionals, and improve communications and coordination between the regionals and SAA. It has been a privilege to contribute to the formation of the RAAC and to meet others who have had such enthusiasm for the regionals; I hope to continue to support and promote the regionals' efforts as a member of the RAAC Steering Committee.

**Casey Westerman, Metro Detroit Archivists League (MEDAL)**

**Bio:** Casey Westerman has been the University Archivist for Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, since 2011. He previously served as Technical Processes Archivist at Cornell University's Kheel Center for Labor-Management Documentation and Archives. He holds an M.L.S. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and an M.A. in English Language and Literature from the University of Georgia. He is a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists; he currently serves as SAA's Key Contact for the state of Michigan; he is a member of the Michigan Archival Association's Scholarship

Committee; and he is President and Events Coordinator for the Metro Detroit Archivists League (MEDAL).

**Candidate Statement:** Being involved at in archival organizations at national, regional, and local levels, I'm aware of both the possibilities and the drawbacks of multiple groups working independently towards common goals. MEDAL, a group founded in 2012 serving the archivists of Detroit and its surrounding counties, works to build connections between archives professionals in a broad urban area; it has facilitated collaborations that have led to proposals for presentations at MAC and SAA. Conversely, as SAA's Key Contact for Michigan, I am in contact with new professionals or professionals new to the area who would also benefit from involvement at local levels. I believe that RAAC has the potential to build strong connections between archival organizations at all levels, and that it can be of particular use to recently formed and very local groups, which are still determining their function in the network of professional associations.

As a member of the RAAC Steering Committee, I would seek to clarify the relations between SAA and these regional associations, to set up guidelines to facilitate useful interactions and cross-promotions, and, where possible, to reduce duplicated efforts and increase collaboration across the landscape of regional professional groups.