Welcome to the SAA Preservation Section Meeting for 2013. I’m so sorry that I can’t be there with you this year, but I’m well represented by Gina Minks, our Chair-Elect.

During the business portion of the meeting, I will update everyone on our activities for the year. We will hear from some of our colleagues and our Council representative, Terry Baxter, and honor a champion of preservation. Then, finally, we have a fantastic panel discussion for you today, focusing on “Preservation in the Cloud.”

You may or may not know that the Preservation Section has a very active Steering Committee who keep the Section going. We talk semi-monthly via conference calls that are hosted by rotating members of the committee. This year’s Steering Committee consisted of (please stand when I say your name):

* Jennifer Waxman, Immediate Past Chair and Nominations
* Supriya Wronkiewicz, Web Liaison
* Kate Elgayeva, Outreach Committee
* Craig Fansler, Program Committee
* Lance Stuchell, Web Liaison
* Jane Long, Nominations Committee
* Kara McClurken, Disaster Relief Fundraising Committee
* Beth Joffrion, Member-at-Large
* Tonia Sutherland, Member-at-Large
* Greg Schmidt, Nominations
* Alix Bentrud, Outreach
* Rachel Onuf, Education
* Katie Mullen, Education
* Aimée Primeaux and Gina Minks as Chair and Chair-Elect

Please give these colleagues a round of applause for all of their hard work.

This year, the Preservation Section has continued our promotional activities by designing and distributing an e-poster for Preservation Week. We have utilized membership support by continuing to update our online resources such as the “Selected Readings in Preservation” page on our SAA website. As you know, every year we sell a product at the Annual meeting to raise money for the SAA Disaster Relief Fund. All profit from the sale goes to the fund. Last year we sold aprons and raised over $1100. This year, thanks to generous support from vendors, every penny we make goes to the fund. We are selling “grab & go” disaster bags, so go get one if you haven’t already. It’s a great cause.

As we move into this next year, we welcome our newly elected steering committee members: Katie Mullen, Chair-Elect; Brian Cumer, Nominating; and Dyani Feige, Nominating. Because we also have some members who will be cycling off of the Committee, we will have some appointed positions open. If you are interested, please let me know soon. This is a great opportunity to get involved and make a difference (and do it with a great group of colleagues).

This year we lost a dear colleague and member of the Preservation Section, Jane Long, who died on July 25th of cancer. We’d like to honor her here in this meeting, and for this I’ll turn it over to Beth Joffrion.

[Introduce Joel]

[C2C Report]

[Terry Baxter Council Report]

I’ve spent a fair amount of time thinking about the ever-changing world of preservation. For most of us, we were trained learning about preservation in terms of books and paper, and maybe A/V or film. I love terms like “acid migration,” “benign neglect,” and “inherent vice” – all great names for heavy metal bands, I think. However, those terms and the issues behind them seem almost quaint when faced with the mounting questions around electronic records. As a whole, the preservation community does not historically embrace change; although our position descriptions at work have changed and many of us are now making decisions about preservation of electronic records by necessity. As SAA and the preservation community as a whole learns more about digital preservation, I urge this Section membership to become leaders in preservation of electronic records. By presenting this panel on “Preservation in the Cloud,” it is my hope that we take the opportunity to engage in a discussion about what preservation really means in today’s world. We all know that we can’t rely on benign neglect and hope that records stored in the cloud will be fine in a hundred years just like the records in the top of grandma’s closet. We must ensure that preservation remains relevant in the age of big data and cloud storage.

[introduce panelists – bios]