OCTOBER 2009 IS TENNESSEE ARCHIVES MONTH
News and Notes

SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE ARCHIVISTS
NOW CELEBRATES
ARCHIVES MONTH

Following the Society of American Archivists and a number of other state archivists’ associations, the Society of Tennessee Archivists Executive Committee agreed to start celebrating Archives Month beginning this October 2009. For the last nine years archivists in Tennessee have celebrated Tennessee Archives Week each fall with events such as open houses, exhibits, tours, workshops, etc. The change means that we archivists now have a longer period of time for us to demonstrate and celebrate “who we are and what we do.”

As in the past, STA encourages archivists to develop a celebration that is suitable to them and their repository. If you’d like more information on what Archives Month is, information on how to celebrate Archives Month, or suggestions on planning an Archives Month event, contact STA President Steve Cox, or newsletter editor Jay Richiuso, and request a copy of our newly revised Tennessee Archives Month Action Guide. If you’d like copies of the Tennessee Archives Month poster, contact Jay Richiuso at 615-253-8759 or at Jay.Richiuso@tn.gov

Mary C. Barnes Archives Scholarship

The Society of Tennessee Archivists announces that The Mary C. Barnes Archives Scholarship is available again this year for award to a worthy individual to attend the annual meeting of the Society of Tennessee Archivists.

The Mary C. Barnes Scholarship was created in memory of Mary Catherine Barnes (1965-1998), an archivist who worked for the Tennessee State Library and Archives and the Metropolitan Archives of Nashville & Davidson County.

The scholarship provides free registration to the workshops, the meeting, banquets/dinners, and accommodations for two nights. Transportation costs, meals, and other sundry expenses will not be covered nor can they be reimbursed. For additional information concerning the meeting, the meeting program, and forthcoming meeting updates, please visit the Society’s web site at: www.tennesseearchivists.org.

ELIGIBILITY:
Please contact Ken Fieth at the Metro-Nashville/Davidson County Archives for these requirements.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES:
Applicants should send a letter of application no later than October 16. The letter should be no more than one page in length and should include the applicant’s mailing address, daytime phone, reasons for wanting to attend the annual meeting, and a brief description of interest and experience in archives. In addition, applicants should include the name and phone number of at least one reference who can attest to the applicant’s interest in the archives field. Applicant letters should be sent to:

C. Kenneth Fieth, Chair, Scholarship Committee
Friends of Metro Archives
3801 Green Hills Village Dr.
Nashville, TN 37215
Phone: (615) 862-5880

Tennessee Archivist is published by the Society of Tennessee Archivists. Please address all questions, comments, and submissions to: Jay Richiuso, Editor Tennessee Archivist c/o Tennessee State Library and Archives 403 Seventh Avenue North Nashville, TN 37243 Jay.Richiuso@state.tn.us

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www.geocities.com/tennarchivists

Tennessee Archivist, Summer-Fall 2009
President’s Message

As I wind down my presidency of STA, I have discovered something I’m sure all STA presidents before me discovered: The professional day job really gets in the way of doing STA business! But I hope I was able to get some things done, and I’m happy with the way things have turned out. I enjoyed my presidency and am grateful to have served in this capacity!

This summer, the Executive Board began formulating a new project in which STA will sponsor two awards at the annual Tennessee History Day, held in the spring every year. We will offer two prizes—one for the junior high level and the other for the high school level, for the outstanding paper in which the author utilized archival and primary source materials, either by visiting an actual archive, or accessing a digitized collection online. Extra “points” in the judging will go to an author who actually visits an archive or repository in person, getting the full archives experience. We are also exploring ways in which STA members can act as consultants with our young scholars in identifying and locating collections, and in helping them interpret the items. If you’re interested in participating, let one of our Executive Board Members know.

As we approach our very first Tennessee Archives Month, please visit and utilize the new Action Plan on the STA website (www.tennesseearchivists.org). Included are suggestions and letter templates for promoting your repository.

Look for information elsewhere in this newsletter on the upcoming STA Annual Meeting. This year it will be held at the Nashville Public Library on November 11-13, and the theme is Archives 2.0: Reinventing Archives for the Virtual Generation. Vice-President Jim Havron has put together an outstanding program, one that is truly timely, and I encourage all members to attend. We realize that budgets get cut, and travel expenses are eliminated, but one thing to consider for us professional archivists—you may be able to take a tax deduction for attending this (or any) professional conference.

We have added about a dozen new members to STA in the past year, and I welcome them to STA! I hope you can attend the annual meeting, and get to know us, and to let us meet you. We’re here to assist you in any way we can.

Have a good Autumn 2009 and I hope to see everyone at the Nashville Public Library in November!

Steve

STA Poster Contest

The Society of Tennessee Archivists is hosting a poster session at the annual meeting! Students, professional archivists, and information professionals are invited to create original posters based on this year’s conference theme: “Archives 2.0: Reinventing Archives for the Virtual Generation.” Other themes are also acceptable.

Students: We’ll hold a student poster contest! The winner will receive a first place certificate and recognition on the STA website. (This is a priceless asset for your resume—when employers Google your name they’ll be impressed!)

This poster session offers you the chance to network with other professionals, exchange ideas, discuss strategies for implementing emerging technologies, publicize a website or facility, and of course, enhance your resume! Plus, all presenters will receive a certificate of thanks. Posters should be at least 24” x 36.” Posters will be displayed on tables. We won’t provide stands or backing, so please make sure your poster can be securely leaned against a wall.

Space is limited, so send your poster proposal ASAP! We will give preference to posters based on this year’s conference theme. Proposals should include your name, phone number, email address, poster title, a brief explanation of your topic, and your professional status (professional or student). Students, please include your area of study and the name of your college or university.

Send poster proposals to:
Nancy Williams nwilli21@gmail.com
Phone: 865-640-5019

Tennessee Archives Month

JOHN H. THWEATT
ARCHIVAL ADVANCEMENT AWARD

Nominations for recipients of this year’s John H. Thweatt Archival Advancement Award, a part of Tennessee Archives Week, are now being accepted. Nominations should be sent to the awards coordinator, Eric Head, Knox County Archives, 500 W. Church Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37902-2505. Phone: 865-215-8800. ehead@knoxlib.org

Individuals, groups, and organizations that have made significant contributions to the advancement of archives and archival issues within Tennessee are eligible to be nominated. Please send recommendations, documentation, and other related materials relevant to nominees to Eric Head by October 15, 2009. This year’s awards will be presented at the Society of Tennessee Archivists’ Annual Meeting banquet, Thursday evening, November 12.
“Archives 2.0: Reinventing Archives for the Virtual Generation”

Registration Form
Annual Meeting
Society of Tennessee Archivists
November 11-13, 2009
Nashville Public Library Conference Center
615 Church Street, Nashville, TN

Print this form and mail to Amber Barfield / STA Treasurer / Tennessee State Library & Archives / 403 7th Avenue North / Nashville, TN 37243 by October 30, 2009. Make checks payable to: Society of Tennessee Archivists.

SECTION 1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name

Organization

Position

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Fax

Email

Tennessee Archivist, Summer-Fall 2009
Annual Meeting Registration

STA will handle all registration. There is no cost for the workshops, but space is limited. We encourage those interested in the Web 2.0 pre-conferences to register by Oct. 15. The Nashville Public Library (NPL) is co-sponsoring the event and will make unclaimed seats available to the public at that time. If you reserve a spot in the workshop and then decide you will not attend, please let us know so that we can make the spot available to others.

All sessions and the Web 2.0 workshop will be held in the Nashville Public Library, http://www.library.nashville.org/locations/loc_main.asp unless otherwise specified. Sessions, registration, hospitality room and vendors’ tables will be in the NPL Conference Center on the first floor. http://www.library.nashville.org/services/ser_rooms_main.asp

The Web 2.0 workshop will be in the Computer classroom on the 2nd floor. http://www.library.nashville.org/services/ser_computer_classroom.asp

The library opens at 9:00 and closes at 6:00.

Food and Accommodations

With the exception of the dinner on Thursday night, participants will be on their own for meals. There will be a hospitality room with snacks and drinks.

We have been given the government rate at the Best Western-Downtown Nashville, while rooms last. The hotel is just a block from the library, offers free parking, and extended continental breakfast. http://book.bestwestern.com/bestwestern/productInfo.do?propertyCode=43153
Phone: 615-242-4311; Toll Free Reservations: 800-627-3297 (Note that you are with STA and want the government rate we were promised.) There are also other hotels nearby, or you can book a room farther out and drive in.

The Scarritt-Bennett Center is an option that appeals to many for lodging. The former college campus turned retreat center is near Vanderbilt campus and has very nice and reasonably priced rooms. Because it is built on a dormitory plan, there is only one bathroom for 2 rooms, so you may have to share a bathroom. There are a limited number of larger beds for couples, otherwise the beds are twin size. If you wish, the Center is within bicycle range and bus service runs regularly to near the NPL.

There are pictures of the rooms on their Website: http://www.scarrittbennett.org/ For accommodation information call: Tel: 615-340-7500; Toll-free: 1-866-420-5486.

Please signify a desire to attend a pre-conference workshop by marking the space provided with an “X.” For the Conference attendance and Thursday night dinner, please enter the total amount in the space. If you are bringing a guest to the dinner, enter the amount in dollars and the number of people in parentheses. [e.g., (3) $45_Tour, Dinner and Session, Downtown Presbyterian Church.]

Workshops (select one):

_____ Web 2.0: What is it and What does it mean to us? 12:30-5:00pm (free) **Reservation Required.**  

_____ Collections Care and Management, 101: Connecting to Collections. 10:00am-4:00pm.

Fees  (Required for all session participants)

_____ Registration, $35.  
(We have tried to keep cost very low, so there is no single session registration. Please plan on registering to attend any Thursday sessions.)

_____ Tour, Dinner and Session, Historic Downtown Presbyterian Church, $15.  (Required for all diners)  
Session Speaker: Attorney Brian Casper on “Copyright in the Web 2.0 World.”

_____ Total amount paid.
Tentative Program

(The schedule may vary somewhat by the day of the event, so please rely upon the schedule you will be given at registration. Session titles are subject to change, though the topics and presenters are confirmed as of this date.)

Wednesday: November 11, 2009. Pre-Conference Workshops.

Workshop 1: 12:30-5:00pm.

“Web 2.0—What is it and How Does it Affect Us?” Kyle Cook, Web Education Specialist; Jenny Ellis, Web Education Specialist; Jim Havron, Certified Archivist and Library Associate
A look at the Web 2.0 phenomenon and some of its technologies, including some hands on work with some sites available to archivists and others. Includes discussion about some of the ways this concept affects all areas of archival practice. This workshop has been pre-approved for Academy of Certified Archivists recertification credit.

Workshop 2: 10:00am-4:00pm.

“Collections Care and Management 101: Connecting to Collections.” TSLA; Myers Brown (TSM)
- How to create a suitable storage environment for textiles, artifacts, photos, documents, and most types of museum artifacts.
- How to care for and document small collections housed in historic sites, libraries, and other historical societies. The basics of collection management including assigning and affixing numbers.

Thursday: November 12, 2009.

Registration and Welcome: 9-9:30am.

“How Are Our Users and Letting Them Know You Are There.” MyEmma. 9:30-10:30am.

or

“Twitter.” Kyle Cook and Jenny Ellis, Web Education Specialists, Nashville Public Library. 9:30-10:30am.

Break 10:30-11:00am.

“Archiving the Web.” Albert Whittenberg, Information Technology, Middle Tennessee State University. 11:00am-12:00 noon.

or

“More than You Pay For: Free Software Applications I Have Used in Archives.” Jim Havron, Archivist of the Tennessee Conference, UMC, and NPL Special Collections Staff

Lunch 12:00-1:30. (On your own. Information on nearby places to eat will be in registration packet.)

Keynote Address: Tre Hargett, Tennessee Secretary of State. 1:30-3:00pm.
Poster Session & Recognition of New Members

Tours or session: 3:00-4:30/5:00.

Break

Tour, Dinner, Session, and Awards: Historic Downtown Presbyterian Church; Session Speaker: Brian Casper, Attorney, “Copyright in a Web 2.0 World.” 6:00pm.

Friday: November 13, 2009.

Great Roundtable Discussion: General discussion, question and answer sessions with presenters and attendees. 9:15-10:30am.

Break: 10:30-10:45am.

Business meeting, elections, and door prizes: 10:45am-12:00 noon.

Tennessee Archivist, Summer-Fall 2009
VP’s Message

Thoughts (Such as They Are) from the Vice-President

I served as Southern Archivist Conference representative (in fact, I am still one of the two we have) for the Society last year when we hosted the conference in Nashville. As such, I was responsible for local arrangements for the conference. During that process, Georgia Varble, the hard working coordinator of events at the Firestone Conference Center of the Nashville Public Library (full disclosure, I work for the NPL) commented that she wondered why so many professional groups failed to put some of their effort during conferences into promoting their professions to people who were not part of their groups. She didn’t understand what archivists did, and noted that having Archives Week to promote archives, possibly to people who were already using them, was fine, but thought that if we invited people from outside our profession to participate in our conference we would do more good at one time than with an annual promotion week.

The primary purpose of our annual meeting is not to promote the profession to those outside of it, but perhaps we should be looking for opportunities to do so. This year we have made a start of an extra effort to reach out to students who may potentially choose our profession or an allied one and included Nancy Williams, a student, on our arrangements committee for the coming meeting. I hope this effort continues to grow. We started a social networking site on the Internet for anyone interested in our organization, with a special space reserved for members if we need it. The workshops and sessions at the annual meeting this year include people from other professions and we have decided to open the Web 2.0 workshop (pre-certified for ACA credit, I might add) to non-members if space allows. All of this hopefully serves to promote the profession, our repositories, and our organization. Steps in the right direction, in my humble opinion.

We have chosen this year to join the Society of American Archivists in promoting Archives Month instead of just a week. It is my hope that we will take the opportunity to find ways to tell people who do not understand what we do about our profession, not just advocate the use of our collections. It is also a chance to listen, to find out what others think of archives and the profession, and to use that knowledge to better serve both the public and the records in our care. The Tennessee Conference (UMC) Archives will be promoting its alternate methods of access, be participating in two workshops outside our institution and work through its blogs and other media to explain the value of archives to people who may never have set foot in one. We also plan to invite users and potential users to give us their ideas as to how we can serve them. An open house is planned. We want to tell folks about us and hear about them. I think I may run some of our ideas past Georgia Varble to see what she thinks.

What are you planning on doing for Archives Month?

Jim

Jim Havron
STA Vice President

New Exhibit at the Tennessee State Library and Archives:

“Abraham Lincoln: Beyond the Penny”

“The common, homely face of ‘Honest Abe’ will look good on the penny, the coin of the common folk from whom he came and to whom he belongs.” – Carl Sandburg

You carry his image around in your pocket but have you ever really seen the man behind the money?

On September 1, 2009, the Tennessee State Library and Archives invites you to an exhibit that honors Abraham Lincoln in the Bicentennial of his birth. In 1854, Abraham Lincoln stated: Stand with anybody that stands RIGHT. Stand with him while he is right and PART with him when he goes wrong. So come celebrate with us as we explore the many faces of the man who stood for right.

This exhibit showcases portraits of Abraham Lincoln. It also discusses the continued use of the penny to commemorate his anniversaries (centennial, sesquicentennial and bicentennial). If you have ever wondered what “Honest Abe” looks like without his beard, this exhibit is for you. This exhibit will run through October 29, 2009.

The Tennessee State Library and Archives is located downtown at 403 7th Avenue North, across from the State Capitol. The exhibit is free and open to the public. The Tennessee State Library and Archives is open Monday through Saturday from 8:00am - 6:00pm CST, excluding state and federal holidays. Limited street parking is available for visitors near the archives building.

For further information about the exhibit, contact Lori Lockhart at (615) 253-3457.
STA Member Marsha Mullin on the History Detectives

On July 6, STA member Marsha Mullin was featured in an episode of the PBS series, The History Detectives. In its 7th season, The History Detectives is a summer series that features true stories where several hosts acting as “detectives” research mysteries and events throughout history that individuals have asked them to investigate. Marsha is the Chief Curator and Director of Museum Services at The Hermitage.

In the Andrew Jackson Papers at the Library of Congress there is a letter purported to have been written by Junius Brutus Booth, the father of Lincoln assassin, John Wilkes Booth. In the letter Junius Booth threatens to kill President Andrew Jackson. This naturally raises the question—did aspirations of killing a president run in the Booth family? The letter, written thirty years before the younger Booth killed President Lincoln, includes the line: “You damn’d old scoundrel... ...I will cut your throat whilst you are sleeping.” It’s signed “Junius Brutus Booth.” The letter apparently was written in the attempt to get President Jackson to pardon two men who were sentenced to death.

According to Marsha, this letter had been known for some time, but had always been assumed to be a forgery. However, a closer look several years ago revealed that the handwriting appeared to match actual Junius Booth handwriting samples. And not only that, but research indicated Junius Booth had actually been staying at the hotel the letter was written from at the time the letter is dated. You can find out what the History Detectives determined in their research by watching the entire episode on the History Detectives’ web site, www.pbs.org/opb/historydetectives/.

Congratulations to Marsha for an entertaining, intriguing, and informative bit of history!
News and Notes

State Records Management Division
To Host 17th Annual Records Management Fall Seminar

The State Records Management Division of General Services will host the 17th Annual Records Management Fall Seminar on Tuesday, October 6, at the Nashville Public Library in downtown Nashville. The all-day event is free. The theme this year will be “Making the Case for Records Management in Challenging Times”. Topics presented will cover a wide range: Electronic Discovery, Open Records Act, an update on the Tennessee Electronic Records Standards, TSLA Initiatives, RIM/ISO Standards and related issues, an overview of The Intergovernmental Preparedness for Essential Records Initiative (IPER), as well as four state agency projects. The afternoon keynote will be given by Byron Grizzle, Director of Records Management for the Davidson County Sheriff’s Office.

For complete registration information contact Karla Nicodemus at 615-741-1718 or Karla.Nicodemus@tn.gov

Other Conferences and Meetings

The 2009 Iowa Museum Association Annual Meeting and Conference will be held October 4-6 in Waterloo, IA.

The Mountain-Plains Museums Association is hosting its 2009 conference in Cheyenne, WY, October 5-9.

The 2009 National Preservation Conference will take place October 13-17, in Nashville, TN.

The Southeastern Museum Conference Annual Meeting will be held October 13-16 in Charleston, WV.

The Oral History Association’s Annual Conference will be held October 14-18, in Louisville, KY.

The National Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums Conference will take place on October 18-22, in Portland, OR. For more information, email Malissa.Minthorn@tamastlikt.org.

The Western Museum Association will hold its annual conference October 24-30, in San Diego, CA.

Society of Tennessee Archivists Student Scholarships

In an effort to encourage student participation in the organization, the Society of Tennessee Archivists is pleased to announce the availability of two student scholarships to its annual meeting. The scholarships cover registration fees to attend annual meeting sessions, lodging expenses at the conference hotel (when travel from the student’s home to the conference exceeds 50 miles), and a complimentary ticket to the Society’s annual banquet. The scholarships also provide a stipend of $100 to help cover costs of gas and food expenses. Recipients of the STA Student Scholarships will be recognized with a certificate at the organization’s banquet.

Eligibility

The STA student scholarships are open to graduate and undergraduate students in archival and related programs, such as public history, history, museum studies, and library science in Tennessee colleges and universities.

Process

To apply, students should submit the following materials by October 1, 2009:

• Completed Scholarship Application
• Cover letter explaining why attending the annual STA meeting will benefit the student’s current and future career goals
• One letter of recommendation from a current or former instructor

The STA Executive Committee will review all completed applications and notify recipients by mail of their awards. The Committee will also notify individuals who applied for scholarships but were not chosen as award recipients.

Interested students should submit a completed application (See pages 8 & 9 for application) packet by October 1, 2009, to:

Taffey Hall, C.A., Chair, Education Committee
Society of Tennessee Archivists
Archivist, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives
901 Commerce Street, #400
Nashville, TN 37203-3630
615-244-0344

Tennessee Archivist, Summer-Fall 2009
Society of Tennessee Archivists Student Scholarship Application

I. Personal Information

Name: _____________________________________________ Date of Birth:______________________
Address:____________________________________________________________________________
City:________________________________________ State:  ______  Zip:  ___________________
Home Phone:____________________ Work Phone: __________________ Email Address:_______________________

II. Educational Information

Current Institution of Enrollment:

Student Status:  full time graduate student ______  part time graduate student ______
full time undergraduate student ______  part time undergraduate student ______

Degree Sought:  PhD (history) ______  PhD (public history) ______
PhD-other (please specify) ______
MA/S (history) ______  MA (history/public history) ______  MSIS ______
Masters-other (please specify) ______
BA/S (history) ______  BA/S-other (please specify) ______

Educational Background:  List in reverse chronological order and include fields of specialization.

Institution:________________________________________ Location:________________________
Date(s):______________________ Field(s) of Specialization:________________________________

Institution:________________________________________ Location:________________________
Date(s):______________________ Field(s) of Specialization:________________________________

Institution:________________________________________ Location:________________________
Date(s):______________________ Field(s) of Specialization:________________________________

III. Additional Information

Why would you like to attend the Society of Tennessee Archivists meeting? ______________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

Have you ever considered a career in archives?
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
Have you ever attended any history clubs or other meetings in the history field? Yes ______   No ______

If yes, list names and dates.
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

Other comments:
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

IV. Authorization

Have you received an STA scholarship in the past? Yes ______   No ______

If so, which scholarship did you receive and when?
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

Signature:
___________________________________________________________________________________

Date:
___________________________________________________________________________________

**********

Application Deadline: October 1, 2009

Mail completed application form, cover letter, and letter of recommendation from current or former instructor to:

Taffey Hall, C.A., Chair, Education Committee
Society of Tennessee Archivists
Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives
901 Commerce Street, #400
Nashville, TN 37203
(615) 244-0344
Nominations for STA Officers

The following STA members have been nominated to be officers of STA for 2009/2010.

For Vice-president/President Elect: Lucinda Cockrell, Center for Popular Music, Middle Tennessee State University

For Secretary: Eric Head, Knox County Records Management

Election of STA officers takes place at the STA Business Meeting on the last day of the Annual Meeting. Write-in candidates can be submitted at the meeting.

“Want to Keep Up with What’s Happening in Archives around the State?”
If so, then you should Visit Gordon Belt’s

Posterity Project

The Posterity Project is a blog chronicling news and issues related to archives, history, civic responsibility, and open access to public records in the Southeast, with reflections on archives and history in the "Volunteer State" of Tennessee. Click here to learn more about what inspired the creation of this blog.

WHY NOT JOIN STA?

The Society of Tennessee Archivists invites membership from all persons interested in Tennessee’s archives and historical resources. Membership is on a calendar basis. STA currently holds one meeting each year which includes the annual business meeting, at which the society officers are elected by the membership. STA publishes its newsletter several times a year and invites contributions from members and non-members. STA is a member of the Southern Archivists Conference (SAC), the regional association for Southern archivists and is currently comprised of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee. SAC meetings are held every other year with each state alternately hosting the meeting.

Full Membership, $20.00/year            Institutional Membership, $20.00/year
Associate Membership $10/year

Please make checks payable to: SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE ARCHIVISTS, and include membership information (name, address, institutional information, phone number, fax number and email address) and mail to:

Amber Barfield, Treasurer
Society of Tennessee Archivists
c/o Tennessee State Library and Archives
403 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37243-0312

Want Copies of the Tennessee Archives Month Poster?

Contact newsletter editor Jay Richiuso at 615-253-8759 or Jay.Richiuso@tn.gov

Jay Richiuso
The Society of Tennessee Archivists Newsletter Editor
c/o Tennessee State Library and Archives
403 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37243

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