Nashville Hosts Southern Archivists Conference
March 26-28, 2008

Tennessee was the host state and the Nashville Public Library (NPL) the site for the Southern Archivists Conference, March 26-28. Over seventy archivists from Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee attended the bi-annual conference which offered a rich and varied program. Kicking off the conference on Wednesday afternoon was the Pre-conference workshop, “Dating 1840-1940 Photographs by Technologies and Formats,” presented by noted art curator and photograph historian Frances Robb. Thursday’s workshops included archiving email and email management, as well as implementing EAD, and saving regional films. Tours of the Tennessee State Library and Archives and other local repositories, and dinner at the Caney Fork Fish Camp rounded out an otherwise action-packed day. Friday’s program consisted of workshops on starting digital collections, budget conscious digitization, and the SAC business meeting.

Alabama will host the 2010 Southern Archivists Conference. Make plans now to visit historic Montgomery and the interesting and attractive Alabama Department of Archives and History. (See photos on pages 4 and 5)

Irish Delegation Visits Sister City Nashville

A delegation from Nashville’s Sister City of Belfast, Northern Ireland, visited Nashville during March 9-11, 2008. Delegation members included the Lord Mayor, Jim Rodgers; Councillors, Michael Browne and William Humphrey; Director of Development, Marie-Therese McGivern; Head of Economic Initiatives, Shirley McKay; and Cultural Tourism Officer, Carolyn Mathers. The delegation’s itinerary included meetings with Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen and Nashville Mayor Karl Dean; a tour of downtown Nashville; a meeting to discuss educational projects and community exchange visits for youth with representatives from Sister Cities, Ulster Project, Metro Schools and the Mayor’s Office of Children and Youth; and the Celebration of Belfast Nashville Songwriters. (See Sister City, page 6)

Left to right: Laine Sutherland, Tennessee State Library and Archives; Keeper of Records at Public Record Office of Northern Ireland; Aimee James, Nashville Public Library; Councillor Jim Rodgers, Lord Mayor of Belfast; Councillor William Humphrey.
The History Press Seeks Authors

The History Press is looking for writers who are interested in preserving their area’s heritage. We publish several core series of books, including Brief Histories, American Chronicles and Vintage Images.

In Brief Histories, the history of a town or county is presented in a straightforward, readable style that will be accessible to all readers. The books are typically between 30,000 and 40,000 words long and contain around 50-100 pictures.

American Chronicles books are compilations of history articles or historical vignettes about interesting people, places and events in an area’s past. They are between 25,000 and 35,000 words long with 25-75 images.

The Vintage Images series are visually driven books that present the history of an area through a collection of historic images. There are three different types of Vintage Image books:

- The “Lost” series comprises collections of images that document elements of a town’s history that have been lost to time. The number of images depends on the book’s layout but ranges from 140-200. Introductions and captions combine for a total of approximately 15,000 words.

- The “Picturing the 20th Century” series is similar in format to “Lost” books, but focuses on images of a town or county as it has grown and changed through the 20th century.

- Finally, our “101 Glimpses” books are smaller, gift books that show the highlights of an area’s history. As the series name indicates, these books have 101 pictures - as well as a short introduction and captions.

The History Press is a traditional publisher and handles all parts of the publishing process, including financing, sales, editorial, design and printing, and compensates its authors with royalties. For more information about us, please visit our website at www.historypress.net.

If this publishing opportunity appeals to you, please contact Lee Handford at 843-577-5971 or at lee.handford@historypress.net. Ms. Handford would be delighted to speak with you about our program and answer any questions.

John H. Thweatt Archival Advancement Award

Do you know an individual, organization, or group that has done something that has advanced archives or archival interests in Tennessee? It could be a volunteer or volunteer group that has saved archival materials from destruction, an individual who has written a noteworthy book or collection guide, a group that has contributed time, talent, or money to a worthwhile archival endeavor, or other such activities that advance archives in Tennessee.

If so, then you may want to nominate them for the John H. Thweatt Archival Advancement Award. The award is named after longtime TSLA archivist John Thweatt, and is presented during Tennessee Archives Week at the STA Annual Meeting banquet.

If you have a deserving nominee in mind, please send the nomination with any supporting documentation by October 10, 2008, to:

Susan Fletcher, Archivist
Dixon Pentecostal Research Center
260 11th Street NE
Cleveland, TN 37311
423-614-8576
**President’s Message**

Friends & Colleagues –

Greetings! 2008 is proving to be an exciting year for the Society of Tennessee Archivists. Our organization’s new website, launched in March, is receiving rave reviews and record hits. We continue to expand our membership base with new individuals joining STA each month. And we look forward to hosting former Acting Archivist of the United States, Dr. Trudy Peterson, as the keynote speaker at our annual meeting in November. STA is YOUR organization and it is through YOUR dedication to the Society that we continue to move forward.

Amid this local flurry of activity, I want to draw your attention to a national issue worthy of STA’s support. The Preserving America’s Historical Record (PAHR) Act, now before Congress, if passed would provide a total of $50 million to be distributed in the form of formula based federal grants for the preservation of historical records to states across America. The bill, introduced by Reps. Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) and Chris Cannon (R-UT), would provide additional funds to those already available through the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Tennessee could see as much as $900,000 in additional grant money for historical records’ conservation and access.

More information on the status of PAHR is available on the Society of American Archivists website at [www.archivists.org](http://www.archivists.org). I encourage you to contact Tennessee’s Congressional delegation today urging support of this legislation.

Archival advocacy is important, and indeed essential, to developing our profession across Tennessee. I urge you to join your colleagues in supporting these efforts today.

Kind regards –

Taffey

Taffey Hall, STA President

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**The Special Collections at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga: New Digital Initiative**

The Special Collections of Lupton Library, at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, has begun a new digital initiative, which includes a new web site and several digitized collections now available on the web. The new web site for the Special Collections ([http://www.lib.utc.edu/specialcollections.html](http://www.lib.utc.edu/specialcollections.html)) provides informational pages about the various collections, arranged by subject and discipline, as well as several collections completely digitized.

These include the letters of Civil War General John T. Wilder ([http://www.lib.utc.edu/wilder-letters.html](http://www.lib.utc.edu/wilder-letters.html)), a Union general originally from Indiana, but who moved to Chattanooga after the war and became a major industrialist of the South. The collection includes photographs of General Wilder as well as his letters to his wife during the war and other military and post-war documents. Another online exhibit is the collection of Southern Literature Resources in the Special Collections ([http://www.lib.utc.edu/Southern-Literature.html](http://www.lib.utc.edu/Southern-Literature.html)), including letters from members of the Agrarian movement centered at Vanderbilt University in the 1930s.

Other new sites include early pictures of the university, including sports photos, and blueprints of historic Patten Chapel, one of the campus’s oldest buildings ([http://www.lib.utc.edu/Current-Online-Exhibits.html](http://www.lib.utc.edu/Current-Online-Exhibits.html)). Digitized collections for the future will include Civil War Resources in the Special Collections, as well as a site for Appalachia writer, artist and poet, Emma Bell Miles (1879-1919) who lived on nearby Signal Mountain in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

*Contributed by Steve Cox, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga*
**SAC Meeting photos**

Ben Peterson, Greg Johnson, and Dorothy Davis.

Ken Fieth, Metro-Nashville Government Archives, Jeanne Sugg, State Librarian and Archivist, and Steve Cotham, McClung Historical Collection.

Frances Robb and Dr. Ellen Garrison.

Nancy Argent, Rockefeller Archive Center, speaking at the “Waking Up Cemetery Tours” workshop.

*Above and below right:* The attentive crowd at the “Waking Up Cemetery Tours” workshop.

Photographs by Jim Havron
SAC Meeting photos continued...

Jennifer Brannon and Taffey Hall, STA President, work the SAC registration table.

Attendees at the EAD workshop.

Laine Sutherland, Cathy Bordelon and Ryan Semmes having dinner at the Caney Fork Fish Camp.

Above, below left and right: The Friday SAC Business Meeting.

Photographs by Jim Havron and David R. Sowell
EPISTOLIC HISTORIANS AND ARCHIVISTS TO MEET IN MEMPHIS

Melodies, Maladies and Meandering Ministries is the title of the annual conference of the National Episcopal Historians and Archivists, (NEHA) meeting in Memphis June 11-14. The program offers something for everyone, and all are invited to register. Many of the sessions will be at Calvary Church, Second and Adams, and artifacts and relics from Calvary’s archives will be on display. Events will also take place at St. Mary’s Cathedral, Grace-St. Luke’s and Elmwood Cemetery.

The opening evensong will take place on Wednesday, June 11th at the Cathedral with the Cathedral choir, and preceded by an organ recital by Dr. Jane Gamble. The Cathedral archives will be open.

Thursday morning, June 12th, begins with Holy Eucharist, Bishop Don Johnson, preacher and celebrant. Special music will be provided by clarinetist James Gholson and Joan Gilbert, pianist. The morning, with its focus on music, starts off with Dr. Tim Sharpe, whose topic is I Sought My Lord in the Wilderness. Sharpe, author of Memphis Before the Blues, will discuss black and white “wilderness” spirituals, and how they eventually found their way into the Church hymnals. Musicologist Dr. Nancy Saultz Radloff, organist of St. John’s Episcopal Church in Ithaca, NY, will speak on Music for Meandering Ministries. Discussing how music played a role in the developing mission churches and their hymnals in the 18th and 19th centuries, with emphasis on the role of music in the creation and expansion of Calvary Episcopal Church.

Thursday afternoon’s first session is a panel on Memphis during the Civil Rights Era. Speakers include Dr. Douglas Cupples, Brooks Ramsey and Happy Jones. Marvin Booker, a homeless man, writer and busker, will present the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s speech delivered in Memphis in April 1968.

The second Thursday afternoon session is a panel on Yellow Fever. Participants include Molly Crosby, author of The American Plague; Charles Turner, author of The Celebrant; and Carl Stockton, who will speak on the 1792 Epidemic in Philadelphia and the role of Absalom Jones.

On Friday, June 13, the plenary speaker will be Michael K. McNeely, Historiographer and Archivist of the Diocese of Arkansas, who will speak on Meandering Ministries. The emphasis for rest of that day is on Women’s History. The first presenter is Grace Sears speaking on Ada Loring-Clark, Extraordinary Expatriate in Tennessee, which should be especially interesting to women who belong to the Order of the Daughters of the King. Young women from St. Mary’s School will show parts of their video production, Women of Elmwood, and West Tennessee Diocesan Historiographer and Archivist Patricia LaPointe (who also serves as Conference planner) will speak on The Robert Church Family of Memphis.

Saturday morning offers two workshops. Park and Parish Historian Mike Strock offers guidelines on Writing Parish Histories, and Sue Repkopf (Archivist, Diocese of Missouri) and Susan Witt (Archivist, Diocese of Buffalo, New York) will give a workshop on developing and maintaining church archives.

The banquet speaker will be the Rev. Jim Wilkerson of the Seaman’s Church Institute. Wilkerson is known as the Mississippi River Chaplain. The Annual Meetings of NEHA and of the Episcopal Women’s History Project will also take place during the Conference.

For registration information, please go to NEHA’s website: www.Episcopalhistorians.org. Or contact the Rev. Bindy Snyder, Conference Chair, at revbindy@bellsouth.net

Sister City, continued

On March 11th the delegation came to the Main branch of the Nashville Public Library to meet and converse with local archivists and tour the library. Library staff met the delegation in the lobby and provided a library tour, with special emphasis on the Special Collections Division. The delegates were especially interested in the library’s Civil Rights Room and the StoryCorps StoryBooth. The final stop on the tour was the library’s new Special Collections Center, where refreshments were provided and the delegates mingled with representatives from the Tennessee State Library and Archives, the Society of Tennessee Archivists, the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society, the Nashville Public Library, and the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives. After the library visit the delegation left for the Hermitage, where they toured, had lunch, and officially presented their “Belfast Genealogy Guide to Tracing Your Family History.” The purpose of both visits was to highlight the cultural and historical links between Nashville and Belfast.

Contributed by Aimee James, Nashville Public Library
New from Neal-Schuman Publishers:

**Leading and Managing Archives and Records Programs: Strategies for Success**

Archives and records managers face the need to plan for and develop robust programs, secure needed resources, recruit and supervise talented staff, meet institutional expectations as well as user needs, and deal with the ever-increasing volume of digital content. They must lead their programs through challenging times and at the same time manage on a day to day basis to get the work done and serve customers. There are many books that address archives and records management techniques but little on management and leadership. This new volume in Neal-Schuman’s *Archivist’s and Records Manager’s Bookshelf* series is designed to fill that gap.

In *Leading and Managing Archives and Records Programs: Strategies For Success*, Bruce Dearstynne, a leader in the archives and records management fields, brings together thirteen prominent archives and records management program directors and professional leaders to share their experiences on building programs and reflect on management and leadership practices that worked for them. The authors draw insights and advance recommendations based on their long experience in building and leading exemplary programs. The essays cover planning, program building, advocacy, communication, aligning with institutional priorities, decision making, capitalizing on opportunities, dealing with crises, managing the impact of digital technology, and a number of other topics.

The book’s authors present helpful insights, practical advice, effective strategies and useful recommendations. The editor has written chapters on leadership techniques, challenges and opportunities that these programs face, future prospects, and books and other sources of additional information.

Contributors and Chapter Titles Include:

- **Eugenia K. Brumm**, “The Records Management Leader”;
- **Diane G. Carlisle**, “Records Management Standards: What They Are and Why They Are Important”;
- **Carole E.B. Chokey**, “Leading a Successful Records Management Program”;
- **Bruce W. Dearstynne**, “Setting the Stage: Challenges and Opportunities in Leading Archives and Records Programs,” “Leading Archives and Records Programs: Perspectives and Insights,” and “Issues and Sources”;
- **Peter Emmerson**, “From Cultural Luxury to The Way We Do Things...? The Influence of Leadership in Archives and Records Management”;
- **James E. Fogerty**, “Competing for Relevance: Archives in a Multiprogram Organization”;
- **Mark A. Greene**, “Trying to Lead From Good to Great and Some Reflections on Leadership at All Levels”;
- **Edie Hedlin**, “Meeting Leadership Challenges: Lessons from Experience”;
- **Philip F. Mooney**, “Stranger in a Strange Land: The Archivist and the Corporation”;
- **Gregory Sanford and Tanya Marshall**, “Managing Change at the Vermont State Archives: A Continuing Issue”;
- **Leon Stout**, “Leading from the Middle: Building a University Archives”;


Also available from the Society of American Archivists.

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**Educational Opportunities and Scholarships**

**Society of Tennessee Archivists Student Scholarships**

In an effort to encourage student participation in STA, two student scholarships to the annual meeting are available. 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 the costs of gas and food expenses. Recipients of the STA Student Scholarships will be recognized with a certificate at the annual 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 **September 29** of each year:

- Completed Scholarship Application
  ([http://www.tennesseearchivists.org/ScholarshipAppliation.pdf](http://www.tennesseearchivists.org/ScholarshipAppliation.pdf))
- Cover letter explaining why attending the STA annual 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 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 packet by **September 29, 2008**, to:

Aimee James  
Nashville Public Library  
615 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37219  
615-862-5842/615-862-5838  
aimee.james@nashville.gov

*Tennessee Archivist, Spring 2008*
In compiling an updated STA membership directory, I am encouraged by the many new members who have joined STA in the past few years, as well as the many current members who joined STA years ago and who are still active. I welcome the new members and urge you to get involved with the society, as well as with what may be an increased Southern Archivists Conference. At the last SAC meeting in March, held at the Nashville Public Library, the four states (Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama) formed a task force to look into forming a more formal association. Hopefully, the groundwork for a more formal association will arise from this effort.

Planning for the annual meeting, to be held on Nov. 5-7, at the Dubose Conference Center, in Monteagle, Tennessee, is continuing. Our sessions will be consistent with this meeting’s theme: *Extending Our Reach: Renovating and Innovating*, and will be based on the survey many members took at the end of last year’s meeting. We should have a full schedule ready by the next newsletter. There should be something for everyone and I invite all members to attend.

Whether you’ve been a member for years, or are a new member, an ex-member, or a prospective member, I invite you to join, pay or update your dues, and to put a foot forward in making STA a resource as well as a professional asset in your work. If you know other Tennessee archivists or those who work in an archive who are not yet members, tell them about us. To paraphrase a famous line from President Kennedy, ask us how we can help you while telling us how you can help us.

We need and welcome your membership and involvement!

Steve

Steve Cox, STA Vice-president

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STA Secretary Lucinda Cockrell might be humming the old standard, “Moonlight In Vermont,” as she prepares to spend the next year in Vermont. Her husband, Dale, has been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to write a book based on his research of the songs and music from the Laura Ingalls Wilder Little House books (http://www.pasfiddle.com). They both love Vermont and own a house in Lincoln, so the next year will be spent enjoying the many cultural, historical, scenic, and recreational amenities the state has to offer. Thankfully, Lucinda has been allowed to take a leave of absence from her job as Coordinator at the Center for Popular Music and as STA Secretary. She is going to visit and get to know as many archives and archivists in the state as possible. She will be attending the STA Annual Meeting in Monteagle, where there will definitely be Vermont maple syrup as a door prize this year!
MARY C. BARNES ARCHIVES SCHOLARSHIP

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. Her concern to further her archival education and training was the inspiration for the scholarship.

The scholarship includes 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: http://www.tennesseearchivists.org/mcbscholarshipinfo.html

ELIGIBILITY:

Those eligible are undergraduate and graduate students in history, preservation, or archives programs who are working or volunteering in a school, historical, or local archives; individuals working or volunteering in a county or other archival repository with a budget less than $8,000 (not including salaries); be working full or part time for at least 15 hours during a seven day period; and possess a fundamental knowledge of archival skills and theories. Applicants must be residents of Tennessee, be employed in Tennessee, or attend a school in Tennessee. Students or positions in museum studies, library disciplines, and related fields are not eligible.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES:

Applicants should send a letter of application no later than October 16, 2008. 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 Drive
Nashville, TN 37215
615-862-5880

WOMEN'S HISTORY IN THE MOUNTAIN SOUTH
CALL FOR PAPERS:

We are seeking abstracts or essays that document the history of women in the Mountain South for a book tentatively titled Daughters of Appalachia: A Reader on Women's History in the Mountain South. Essays may reflect any time period from the frontier era to present day and cover a wide variety of topics that reveal women’s participation and contribution to the history of the region. Topics should include, but are not limited to, race, ethnicity, class, religion, education, politics, healthcare, work (farm and industry), reform, etc.

Essays of particular interest are those that examine the social, political, or economic interaction between women of diverse social, racial, and ethnic groups; comparative studies of women within the region on specific topics; women's roles in the blending or maintenance of Appalachian and minority cultures (such as Latino or Muslim) in the region; essays that reveal how women challenged or contradicted traditional perceptions of Appalachian women; and essays that examine the social, economic, or political ties of Appalachian women to the nation or world.

A university press has expressed interest in the project and will accept a proposal for review based on the selected abstracts. For consideration, abstracts and a short vita must be received by July 15, 2008. Questions and submissions may be sent to:

Connie Park Rice, Ph.D.
History Department
P.O. Box 6303
West Virginia University
Morgantown, WV 26506
Connie.Rice@mail.wvu.edu

OR

Marie Tedesco
Director of Liberal Studies
P.O. Box 70659
East Tennessee State University
Johnson City, TN 37614
tedescom@etsu.edu
The 2008 Society of Tennessee Archivists Annual Meeting
November 5-7, 2008

Dubose Conference Center, Monteagle, TN

“Extending our Reach: Renovating and Innovating”

More Information to Come!  
Please Make Plans to Join Us!

WHY NOT JOIN STA?

The Society of Tennessee Archivists invite 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

TENNESSEE ARCHIVES WEEK

is 
November 2-8, 2008

If you haven’t planned an event for Archives Week yet it’s time to start now!

Need help? Copies of the STA Action guide can be requested from the STA newsletter editor at the address below.

The Society of Tennessee Archivists Newsletter

c/o Tennessee State Library and Archives

403 Seventh Avenue North

Nashville, TN 37243

Tennessee Archivist, Spring 2008