Celebrating Success!
Archives, Advocacy & Anniversaries

STA’s Annual Meeting, Natchez Trace State Park
November 7-9, 2007

Natchez Trace State Park was the site of the Society of Tennessee Archivists’ Annual Meeting for 2007. Overall, eighty-eight members attended the meeting in West Tennessee. The meeting celebrated the Society’s 30th Anniversary on Wednesday evening when early arriving members gathered to hear long-time members reminisce at the opening plenary session.

This year’s meeting provided members with a number of opportunities for educational development on a range of topics including Introduction to Exhibits, Archival Advocacy, Career Development, Acquisitions and Collection Development, and Storage Issues. Renowned archival author and educator Dr. David B. Gracy II, from the University of Texas at Austin, delivered this year’s Keynote address. (Annual Meeting photographs on page 4 and 5)
John H. Woodard, Jr., 1957-2007

Long-time STA member John H. Woodard of Knoxville, native of Nashville, passed away suddenly Tuesday, November 6, 2007, at his home. John was a graduate of David Lipscomb University, Nashville, and attended the University of Tennessee Graduate School, Knoxville. He was with the Knox County Records Department for eighteen years. John was also previously employed at the Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville. He was an active member of the Navy League and ARMA as well as STA. John is survived by his parents John and Willena Wilson Woodard of Nashville.

STA sent a memorial in John’s name to the Knoxville Navy League, and this response was sent to all STA members by John’s parents:

"Thank you so much for the gift to the Navy League in memory of John. He enjoyed his membership in the Society of Tennessee Archivists and the many friends he made. Your sympathy and kindness will be in our memories."

Military Treasures Abound at Upper Cumberland Veterans Hall

Story from The Herald Citizen

There's the large hallway filled with photographs of local veterans and large display cases with history—all among county archives almost 200 years old. On most days the hall, located on the third floor of the Jackson County Courthouse, is quiet, but Veterans Day is particularly special here.

On Veterans Day 2007, the UCVH hosted an open house honoring local veterans. "We will always have a service or open house with refreshments on Veterans Day and Memorial Day," said UCVH Director Glenn Jones. "We've had one the last four years." Also a Jackson County archivist, Jones has been involved in almost every aspect of the memorial since its beginning. And, he said, this memorial is different from any other you may ever see.

"I just knew we needed a place to honor veterans and do it in a personal way," Jones said. "Usually there are just certain people displayed, and they might have the names, but you won't find everyone's pictures."

And by everyone, he means it. Each veteran is honored with a specialized frame, photo and description, and several are honored, uniforms and all, in large display cases—from local Civil War veteran Prettyman Jones to Wesley Tucker of Clay County, who died in Iraq in 2005.

The hall has come a long way since the first memorial was dedicated in February of 2005. There are now 388 veterans and more than 30 of those showcases with full-length military dressed mannequins. And, to add a more personal touch, the UCVH has added several scrapbooks of veterans to the collection, complete with old letters, photographs and family history. "People in the future might say, 'I'm related to that veteran,' and we'll have a book to show them. That makes it really personal," Jones said. "That's what makes our veterans' memorial different from others."

With so much interest and local history to gather from, the UCVH has certainly outgrown its current space on the third floor of the courthouse. The UCVH and its board of directors has been collecting funds—the group is non-profit and relies heavily on donations—to move the memorial out of the courthouse and to a location where it can continue to grow. "This is a great spot, but it's outgrown this location," Jones said. "People have donated guns, medals, flags -- we have things we can't even display because we don't have enough room." Jones said he would prefer the memorial be relocated to a one-story building on 2-3 acres so it would have even more room to expand in the future. And although most of the people that come out to the Upper Cumberland Veterans Hall each year on Nov. 11 have a relative on display—Jones has several—he said it is important for everyone to pay tribute to our nation's heroes. "Even if you don't know anyone or have a relative, it's still a touching feeling," Jones said. "Here, it's just about the regular soldier."

The Upper Cumberland Veterans Hall, located on the third floor of the Jackson County Courthouse, is currently accepting donations for its building fund.
President’s Message

Friends and Colleagues –

Greetings and best wishes for 2008! I can’t believe the holidays have already come and gone.

I’m still one of those people who makes a list of New Year’s resolutions. Over the years, I’ve learned to keep my lists focused on goals that I really think I have a decent chance of accomplishing. The time I vowed to drink less coffee only lasted about a week!

So short and simple, my New Year’s resolutions for the most part center on nurturing the relationships I have with friends and family. I make promises to myself to send the special people in my life more cards, do a better job of remembering their birthdays and other significant occasions, take them out to lunch more often, and just tell them I love them more.

For me, the most rewarding aspect in serving as President of the Society of Tennessee Archivists is the opportunity it gives me to get to know each of you better. I value the friendships I have gained from this experience more than I can ever begin to tell you. Your emails and notes of encouragement and appreciation have been invaluable to me over the past two years.

I begin this New Year with great excitement and anticipation for advancing the archival profession in Tennessee. I look forward to STA’s participation in the Southern Archivists Conference in March, to launching an enhanced website sometime soon, to building upon our membership base and recruiting student members, to celebrating Tennessee Archives Week, and to another stellar annual meeting. These and other initiatives set our state apart as a leader in archival advocacy. But more importantly, I look forward to continuing to build upon the friendships I have made over the past several years. No one has ever loved a group of people like I love you. I am both fortunate, and humbled, to serve the greatest community of Archivists in America!

Warm regards,

Taffey

Taffey Hall, STA President

Stirring Up the Past: Revolutions in Tennessee Cooking

"Tell me what you eat and I will tell you who you are."
—Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin, 1825

An old Spanish Proverb declares, “The belly rules the mind.” On January 17, 2008, you are warmly invited to an exhibit that will make your stomach rumble and spark your thought. Mark your calendars for the debut of Stirring Up the Past: Revolutions in Tennessee Cooking, presented by the Tennessee State Library and Archives. Tennesseans believe our home-cooking is the most tantalizing food in the South, and we are going to take you on a journey to see just how we have earned our indisputable reputation.

Prior to the current age, food preparation took months of planning and dedication. Putting meals together was more than scanning directions on the back of the box; it required hard-earned wisdom and a lot of time. For example, a vinegar recipe from the 1800s states, “It should be made in May to be ready for the fall pickling.” The exhibit will cover not only how food was prepared but also how the latest technology has transformed the face of modern day cooking. The exhibit will delve into Native American cooking, Pioneer/Civil War cooking, Victorian cooking and cooking in the Modern Age. Come join us for a nostalgic view of the way the original Betty Crockers got it done! Whether you eat fitness bars or indulge in Ben and Jerry’s, our exhibit will satisfy your hunger to know how food preparation originated. Bring your intellectual appetite!

This exhibit will run through June 13, 2008. 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. Limited street parking is available for visitors near the archives building.

For further information about the exhibit, contact Lori Lockhart at (615) 253-8713.
Above, attendees at the “Introduction to Exhibits” workshop.

Above and right, Genny Carter at the “Volunteer Voices” Pre-Conference Workshop

Jeanne Bigger, Marice Wolf, and Sara Harwell at the Opening Plenary Session.

Sara Harwell at the Opening Plenary Session.

Dr. Jim Neal at the Opening Plenary Session.

Above, Mancil Johnson, Jim Neal, Sherry Kilgore, Jeanne Bigger and Marice Wolf, at the Opening Plenary Session.

Sherry Kilgore presenting at the “Advocating Archives” Session.

Jackie Glenn presenting at the “Advocating Archives Session.”

Left and below, AASLH’s Bethany Hawkins presenting the “Introduction to Exhibits” Pre-Conference Workshop B.
Left, Stewart Southard moderates “Space the Final Frontier.” Panelists include Steve Richards, Al Stewart, and Bob Duncan.

Right, Al Stewart of Central Business Group talks about compact shelving.

Above and right, Patricia LaPointe, Laine Sutherland, Jim Havron, and John Lodl at the career development workshop.

String band playing for Thursday night’s reception crowd.

Taffey Hall, Jeanne Sugg, Carol Roberts, Amber Barfield, and Jill Hastings-Johnson at the Thursday night reception.

Reception attendees listing in rapt attention to Dr. Gracy’s Keynote address.

Right, STA President Taffey Hall conducting the STA Business Session.

Photographs by David R. Sowell
Money has always been a problem in Tennessee. In early Tennessee, pelts, tobacco and other commodities were often the money, due to the shortage of US and foreign coinage. The lack of specie and the problem of finding suitable trades impeded commerce. The early banks in Tennessee usually only issued $1 or higher bills. This left a void that was filled by merchants issuing small denomination notes.

The earliest merchant scrip in Tennessee had coins embedded in the plate to let the receiver know that the issuer had money. This note was issued by John Walker, Jr. at his ferry on the Hiwassee River. Walker met and was impressed with John Calhoun and named his community Calhoun in his honor. For years the Walker note was considered a North Carolina note until our research attributed it to Tennessee.

The United States eased the coinage shortage, but hoarding during the hard times of 1837, and the Panic of 1857, necessitated issuance of notes by prominent people in the community to facilitate commerce.

The Civil War caused major problems with smaller transactions. Early in the War the Confederacy only printed $5 notes or higher. Attempts to issue coins resulted in only four half dollars and twelve-cent coins. During this period, merchants, railroads, counties and others issued small denomination change notes. In most Southern states the state issued notes, but not Tennessee. Robert White in *Tennessee Its Growth and Progress* (1939) illustrated a merchant change note as a Tennessee State Issue. The illustrated note was identical to this one except serial number 28. White also illustrated a 5 Cent Cumberland Iron Works note in the book. He did not attribute the note, so we suspect it belonged to him. Please find it for us!

After the Civil War, much of the scrip was issued for use in the company store. The Federal Government actively discouraged private issue money by heavy taxes. This led to the disclaimer “Not intended as a Circulating Medium.”

By 1900 the issuance of paper scrip had mostly been replaced by metal tokens that lasted longer. There were paper examples that mimicked punch cards where the purchase was punched on strips of paper chits. Linda Parker of the Dickson County Archives found four inches of 1937 scrip issued by financially troubled Warner Iron Company at Cumberland Furnace. Imagine being paid in scrip that was redeemable in 24 months. Warner issued scrip at Riverside in 1937 and Warner in 1881. Warner also issued scrip as Southern Iron Works in Warner in 1893. The later issues from Cumberland Furnace are ugly compared to the 1880s issues of Drouillard Iron Company at Cumberland Furnace.

Dennis Schafluetzel and Tom Carson are working on a book on this subject and are doing intensive research on the issuers. We need your help. Your archives may have scrip notes attached as exhibits to the files. We need 300 dpi scans of these notes. You can view the 600+ notes that we now know exist at: http://www.schafluetzel.org/TN_Merchant/TN_CD_Book/index.htm Password SPMC6000
You can reach us at dennis@schafluetzel.org or tcarson@ewkm.net
Tom’s Phone number is 423-580-8115.

**PLEASE HELP!!!!!!**
Meeting News

Southern Archives Conference

(SAC)
March 26-28, 2008

STA will be home for the Southern Archivists Conference this year, which will be held March 26-28, 2008 at the Nashville Public Library. This year’s theme is “Beyond the Box: Innovation in the Archives.” There will be a pre-conference workshop, “Dating 1840-1940 Photographs by Technologies and Formats” on Wednesday afternoon, March 26, followed by a reception sponsored by Hollinger. (There is no extra charge for the workshop.)

This year’s program will include sessions on e-mail management, innovative use of archival sources, motion picture preservation, digitization projects and implementing projects with minimum resources. There will be roundtable discussions on digitization/new technologies, description and outreach, as well as plenty of time for networking and hobnobbing.

For more information visit:
http://www.msarchivists.org/SAC/sac_about.html

For information about 2008 registration, contact:
Jennifer Brannock, The University of Southern Mississippi, McCain Library & Archives, 118 College Drive
#5148, Hattiesburg, MS 39406

For information about Nashville, contact:
Jim Havron:
(615) 862-5782, James.Havron@nashville.gov
Nashville Public Library
615 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37219

For more information visit:
http://www.msarchivists.org/SAC/sac_about.html

For information about Nashville, contact:
Jim Havron:
(615) 862-5782, James.Havron@nashville.gov
Nashville Public Library
615 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37219

Western Archives Institute
June 15-27, 2008

The 22nd annual Western Archives Institute will be held at San Diego State University in San Diego, California, June 15 – June 27, 2008. The Western Archives Institute is an intensive, two-week program that provides integrated instruction in basic archival practices to individuals with a variety of backgrounds, including those whose jobs require a fundamental understanding of archival skills, but have little or no previous archives education; those who have expanding responsibility for archival materials; those who are practicing archivists but have not received formal instruction; and those who demonstrate a commitment to an archival career.

The Institute also features site visits to historical records repositories and a diverse curriculum that includes history and development of the profession, theory and terminology, records management, appraisal, arrangement, description, manuscripts acquisition, archives and the law, photographs, preservation administration, reference and access, outreach programs, and managing archival programs and institutions.

Tim Ericson has graciously agreed to serve as the 2008 Principal Faculty Member. With over twenty years of experience, Professor Ericson is extensively involved in archival education including coordinating and teaching as Senior Lecturer Emeritus at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's School of Information Studies. Prior to his Emeritus status, he was the Director of Archival Studies. Mr. Ericson has published in a number of archival journals, and he received a number of honors throughout his career including the Society of American Archivists Fellow Ernst Posner Prize winner for his article published in the American Archivist in 2005. Professionally, Ericson is active in a number of archival organizations including service as the President of the Society of American Archivists in 2003-2004. Mr. Ericson served as the Principal Faculty member for WAI in 2002 and a special Tribal Institute held in 2003.

Tuition for the Institute is $700 and includes a selection of archival publications. Additional fees are charged for program transportation, facility fees, opening dinner, and luncheon at the closing program. Housing and meal plans are available at additional cost.

The application deadline for the 2008 Western Archives Institute is March 15, 2008. For additional program information, contact:

Administrator
Western Archives Institute
1020 O Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Telephone: 916/653-7715
Fax: 916/653-7134
E-mail: ArchivesWeb@ss.ca.gov

The Western Archives Institute is co-sponsored by the Society of California Archivists, the California State Archives and San Diego State University Library and Information Access.

The application package will be available on the California State Archives web site at http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/level3_wai.html and on the Society of California Archivists web site at: http://www.calarchivists.org under Western Archives Institute.
The American Studies Association, Kentucky-Tennessee Chapter, will hold its 53rd annual conference at Fall Creek Falls, Tennessee, April 4-5. The conference presents interdisciplinary scholarship on all aspects of American culture, especially pertaining to the history and culture of our region or to issues of American Studies pedagogy. Sessions in alternative formats—roundtables, talk-format, student panels, visual, aural, or performative presentations—will be presented. The annual meeting of the Kentucky-Tennessee ASA is a convivial gathering where scholarship is shared and debated in an idyllic setting. Interested persons from within and without the region are invited to attend.

For further information contact:

Susan Myers-Shirk
Department of History, Middle Tennessee State University
P.O. Box 23
Murfreessboro, TN, 37132
sshirk@mtsu.edu

Educational Opportunities

NEW!!! from AASLH
Digitizing Audio Collections
Workshop participants will be introduced to the range of issues associated with converting analog recordings (particularly oral history collections) into digital audio. You will review CDP Digital Audio Best Practices and current audio metadata standards. Participants will discuss audio recording, file formats, storage, playback, and delivery. The workshop is presented in partnership with CDP@BCR. Instructor: Leigh Grinstead, Collaborative Digitization Project at BCR.
Date: October 22 - 24, 2008
Location: Metro Davidson County Archives, Nashville, TN
Cost: $200 members/$250 nonmembers

Academy of Certified Archivists Examination Sites for 2008
The archival certification examination will be held in:
- San Francisco, CA
- St. Louis, MO
- Buffalo, NY
- Nashville, TN
- Salt Lake City, UT
- and "You Pick Your Site" locations around the world.
The deadline for applying for the archival certification examination is May 15.

For additional information contact:
Academy of Certified Archivists
90 State Street, Suite 1009
Albany, NY 12207
Phone: (518)-463-8644
Fax: (518)-463-8656
acc@caphill.com
http://www.certifiedarchivists.org/
VP’s Message

For the past three years I have served as the editor of the *Tennessee Archivist*. This position has given me a unique perspective of the Society of Tennessee Archivists as I have received and reviewed submissions about the various Tennessee repositories, and communicated with many of you concerning your work. It has been a role that I found rewarding. As I look forward to serving the Society as Vice President and President in 2009 I anticipate an even more rewarding experience.

Part of the Vice President’s responsibility is the planning of the annual meeting. Since my first meeting in Franklin in 2001 I have looked forward to each meeting and have enjoyed the networking and fellowship with other Tennessee archivists. Our meetings give us an excellent opportunity to get together, exchange ideas, and find out what everybody else is doing. I’m keeping this in mind as planning for the 2008 meeting proceeds. This year our meeting will be held at the picturesque Dubose Conference Center (www.duboseconf.org) in Monticello, conveniently located right off of I-24, on November 5-8. This year’s theme is “Extending our Reach: Renovating and Innovating.” I am happy to announce that this year’s Keynote Speaker will be Dr. Trudy Peterson, former Archivist of the United States, and past archivist for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Dr. Peterson is a nationally recognized archivist and will also present a session on the police archives in Guatemala and the importance of records of police and other security services to the history of a country. You can find more information about Dr. Peterson at [www.trudypeterson.com](http://www.trudypeterson.com). There will be more information about our annual meeting in the coming months. If you’ve never attended an STA meeting, or haven’t attended the past few years, I encourage and invite you to join us this fall. You just might be surprised.

Whether you are new to STA or a long-time member, I also encourage you to get involved with the Society. We have many committees that would benefit from fresh insight and direction, and our annual meetings could not happen without the enthusiasm and volunteer work from members. I also encourage all STA members to attend this year’s Southern Archivists Conference (SAC) in Nashville, March 26-28. There is more information about this conference in this newsletter.

Please let me know if you have any questions, ideas or suggestions for STA. Have a good winter and I hope to see everyone at SAC in March!

Steve Cox, STA Vice President

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**Do One Thing for Emergency Preparedness**

Archives, libraries, museums, and historic preservation organizations across America will set aside May 1, 2008, to participate in MayDay, a national effort to protect collections and sites from disasters. In 2005, Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma provided a wake-up call. More recently, severe storms reminded us that disaster can strike with little warning. The Heritage Health Index, released soon after the hurricanes, reported that few institutions are really prepared. It’s easy to put off disaster planning, but you can take one simple step to prepare for disaster this MayDay. Any organization can participate in MayDay. Here are some ideas from the Heritage Emergency National Task Force:

- If you have a disaster plan, dust it off and bring it up to date.
- If you don’t have a plan, make a timeline for developing one.
- Get to know your local firefighters and police. Invite them to tour your institution and give pointers on safety and preparedness. A poster outlining tips for working with emergency responders ([http://heritage.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=E1l78wAEAAEAAZKAAGzFQ](http://heritage.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=E1l78wAEAAEAAZKAAGzFQ)) is available from the Task Force.
- Identify the three biggest risks to your collection or building (such as leaking water pipe, heavy snow, or power failure) and outline steps to mitigate them.
- Update your staff contact information and create a wallet-size version of your emergency contact roster. See the Council of State Archivists’ Pocket Response PlanTM (PRePTM) ([http://heritage.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=E1l78wAEAEAAAjOAAGzFQ](http://heritage.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=E1l78wAEAEAAAjOAAGzFQ)).
- Eliminate hazards such as storage in hallways, blocked fire exits, or improper storage of paints or solvents.
- Provide staff with easily accessible disaster response information, such as [www.heritageemergency.org](http://www.heritageemergency.org) ([http://heritage.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=E1l78wAEAAEAArAAgAAG2FQ](http://heritage.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=E1l78wAEAAEAArAAgAAG2FQ)).
- Register for a free course to learn how your institution fits into existing emergency response protocols. A list is available at [www.heritagepreservation.org/lessons/courses.html](http://www.heritagepreservation.org/lessons/courses.html) ([http://heritage.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=E1l78wAEAAEAAwfAAGzFQ](http://heritage.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=E1l78wAEAAEAAwfAAGzFQ)).

You can make a difference—help save our heritage! The Society of American Archivists (SAA) created the MayDay initiative in 2006 and promoted the idea to its members and allied organizations. Last year, the Heritage Emergency National Task Force, with SAA’s help, expanded the concept to include all kinds of collecting institutions and historic preservation interests.

The Heritage Emergency National Task Force is making disaster preparedness and response a higher priority for cultural heritage organizations across the country. The Task Force—an initiative of Heritage Preservation and the Federal Emergency Management Agency—is a partnership of 41 government agencies and national service organizations.

Heritage Preservation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving our nation’s heritage. Its members include libraries, museums, archives, historic preservation organizations, historical societies, conservation organizations, and other professional groups concerned with saving the past for the future. Their address is:

Tennessee Archivist, Winter 2008
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
It’s not too early to start planning, so start planning now!

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, Winter 2008