

Thank you KCAA!

For your generous support to make the recent Midwest Archive Conference annual meeting a rousing success. More than 230 archivists from the MAC region attended the meeting. KCAA's contribution of \$3,000 to offset the expense of the breaks is gratefully acknowledged and greatly appreciated. Moreover, we thank the members of KCAA for generous contributions of ideas, time, and energy to make the conference participants welcome and help them enjoy a fruitful

The Haskell Cultural Center and Museum

by **Bobbi Rahder**, Archivist/Curator

Haskell Indian Nations University is a unique and special place. Although it originally started as an assimilation school like other Indian boarding schools, Haskell's destiny was different than that of other schools. Haskell is the only Government boarding school that has evolved into a four-year university for Native students. It is also the only inter-tribal college, accepting students from all federally recognized tribes. As Haskell's students got their education and training, they stayed on to work as staff or faculty teaching other Indian students. Slowly, the school's focus changed. More and more each year, Native culture was incorporated in the curriculum. Today, Haskell alumni are proud to be from Haskell, and return for every commencement and homecoming. Haskell's story is one of endurance and survival, and with the opening of our new Cultural Center and Museum, a story of celebration.



The Haskell Cultural Center and Museum officially opened on September 14, 2002. A proposal to fund the 1.3 million-dollar building was approved by the American Indian College Fund. The first floor of the new 6,000 square foot building made of Florida cypress logs includes a visitor's desk and interactive displays that explain the history of Haskell and all the changes it has gone through. The new exhibit, "Honoring Our Children Through Seasons of Sacrifice, Survival, Change, and Celebration," examines the history of Haskell from the perspective of the first Haskell students, and celebrates what Haskell has become. This exhibit will be on display until September 2003, when we will install new exhibits made from our collections as well as showing current student artwork. The display area has a marmoleum-tiled replica of Haskell's Medicine Wheel, an earthwork south of the campus where students go to worship and use the sweat lodge. The exhibit hangs on flexible aluminum panels that we can install or remove as needed.

The lower level of the Cultural Center has three HVAC systems to provide environmentally controlled storage for our collections. We keep the temperature at 68° F and the relative humidity at 50% to accommodate the variety of items in our archival and museum collections. We also have a state-of-the-art compact storage shelving system to hold the large museum and archives collections. The research room on the lower level allows researchers to use archival materials and access our museum collections via a computerized database.

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The Corner Chair by Mary Hawkins

Angela Curran (KCAA Senior Co-Chair, 2002/2003) invited me, as Junior Co-Chair, to occupy *The Corner Chair* in this issue of the newsletter, and I'm glad to have the opportunity. In the previous issue's Corner Chair, Angela noted the importance to archival staff—especially in these hard financial times—to stay professionally grounded and connected through organizations such as KCAA. I certainly support those sentiments. KCAA membership costs very little, but affords excellent opportunities to share professionally with archival colleagues and to gain a wider grasp of the rich and varied archives located in this area. A number of those archives, in fact, were proudly showcased this spring when the Midwest Archives Conference convened in Kansas City on April 24-26 for its annual spring meeting. The Kansas City meeting of MAC was a real boon to area archivists, affording a relatively low-cost opportunity to join archivists from the multi-state region for an array of excellent meetings and exhibits, and also an opportunity to support the hard work of the local arrangements committee. KCAA subsidized the cost of coffee break refreshments throughout the MAC conference and prepared KCAA badges which KCAA members were encouraged to wear at the conference, signifying their KCAA affiliation and KCAA's warm welcome to conference participants. In its new membership year, I urge you to continue to support KCAA, not only with your dues, but also with your active participation.



Membership Committee Report by Marilyn Burlingame

Currently, there are 138 members of KCAA.

Annual membership renewal forms have been sent. **Members, please remember to send your check in a timely manner.** Solicitations for new membership are in process.

Please welcome **Joel Thornton**, Wyandotte County Museum; **Sybil Kahn**, Jewish Community Archives; **Gary Toms**, Mid-Continent Library; **Glenda Stevens**, Dole Archives; **Max Krause**, Emporia State Archives; **Meri Janssen**, Nazarene Archives; **Cheryl Collins**, Riley County Museum; **Rebekah Webber**, Missouri State Archives; **Carol Bohl**, Cass County Historical Society; and **Mark and Karen Zecy**, American Micro; **Sara Anderson**, Baker University.

RENEWAL NOTICES WERE MAILED JUNE 1ST.
PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND IN YOUR CHECK SOON.



Calendar

August 18-24, 2003
Society of American Archivists (SAA) Annual Meeting
Los Angeles, CA

September 12-14, 2003
Great KCAA Archives Fair
Blue Ridge Mall, Raytown, MO

October 23-25, 2003
Midwest Archives Conference (MAC) Fall Meeting
Dearborn, MI

February 10-12, 2004
2004 Missouri Digitization Pre-conference and Conference
Independence, MO

April 29 - May 1, 2004
Midwest Archives Conference (MAC) Spring Meeting
Milwaukee, WI

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Haskell's vision is to become a national center for American Indian research, education, and cultural programs. As part of our effort to become a national center, Haskell has opened to the public its historical museum and archives collections. The Haskell Archives includes administrative records, history books, student rosters, theatre and music programs, photographs, films, videotapes of Haskell events, and the student-run *Indian Leader* newspaper and yearbook.

The Frank A. Rinehart collection of historic glass plate negatives is a unique part of the Haskell Archives. The Rinehart collection consists of 809 glass negatives made by Rinehart and his assistant Adolf Muhr in 1898, 1899, and 1900 in Omaha, Nebraska. Many of the images were made at the Trans-Mississippi Exposition and Indian Congress held in Omaha in 1898. A new exhibit of platinum prints made from the glass negatives called "Beyond the Reach of Time and Change" was recently displayed at the Kansas State University Student Union and at the National Conference of University Student Activities Centers in Nashville, Tennessee. The University of Arizona Press is publishing a book with the same title this year. The book includes 100 Rinehart photographs and essays from contemporary Native American writers, teachers, and artists about the Rinehart collection.



In addition to archival materials, Haskell owns a valuable collection of museum artifacts from its 118-year history, including traditional clothing, jewelry, basketry, pottery, beadwork, and art by such well-known artists as Don Secondine, Alan Houser, Franklin Gritts, and Dick West.

For those unfamiliar with Haskell's history, it began as the United States Indian Industrial Training School in Lawrence, Kansas, in 1884. It opened as a boarding school for 15 American Indian students, providing agricultural education for grades one through five. In the beginning, the school's emphasis was on assimilation—teaching the Indian boys and girls to become productive members of the dominant society. In 1887, the school's name was changed to Haskell Institute, to honor Dudley Haskell, the U.S. Representative from Kansas who was responsible for the school's Lawrence location. A semi-military system was initiated in which students wore uniforms, marched to their classes, and exercised regularly. By 1894, 606 students were enrolled, representing 36 states. Haskell expanded its academic training beyond the eighth grade to include "normal school". In 1927, Haskell began offering post-secondary courses. For years, Haskell was the only Government-funded school for Indians to offer a full, four-year high school course of study.

Since its introduction in 1900, football has always been the leading sport of interest at Haskell. During its early history, the Haskell football schedule included competition against many of the leading colleges and universities in the Midwest and South. In 1926, Haskell dedicated its new football stadium—the first lighted stadium in this region. All of the money to build the stadium and the Haskell Arch was donated by American Indian people. To celebrate the event, Indian people came from all over the country, and a large Pow-Wow and pageant were held. Today, Haskell is the home of the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame, which recognizes many American Indian athletes who attended Haskell and later became famous: Jim Thorpe, George and John Levi, and Billy Mills.

In 1933, Haskell got its first American Indian administrator, Dr. Henry Roe Cloud. Dr. Roe Cloud was from the Winnebago tribe, and was the first Native American to graduate from Yale University. By 1935, vocational/technical training became part of the curriculum; students were trained to be auto mechanics, electricians, painters, masons, office workers, etc. Haskell Institute graduated its last high school class in 1965, and by 1970, was accredited as Haskell Indian Junior College, and offered only college-level courses. Gradually over the years, the school's emphasis changed from assimilation to studying and preserving American Indian culture. In 1993, with the addition of a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary teacher education, the Board of Regents changed the school's name to Haskell Indian Nations University.

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Minutes

Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, December 12, 2002

2:00 p.m.

Liberty Memorial
Kansas City, Missouri

Welcome and Introductions

Angela Curran opened the business meeting by welcoming members and thanking the staff at the Liberty Memorial for hosting the meeting. She then turned the meeting over to junior co-chair Mary Hawkins.

Mary began by introducing Jonathan Casey from the Liberty Memorial. Mr. Casey explained the mission of the site as well as giving a brief overview programs and resources available at Liberty Memorial. He also discussed the current renovation project.

Next, Mary passed around a card for Membership Committee co-chair Marilyn Burlingame who recently retired. Then Mary had the members introduced themselves to those attending the meeting.

The next item on the agenda were the Officers and Committee Reports.

Secretary's Report (Letha Johnson)

Letha Johnson asked if there were any corrections to the minutes, which were distributed prior to the start of the meeting, hearing none, a motion was made and carried to approve the minutes.

The secretary will try to have the minutes from the quarterly meetings ready for publication in the newsletter so that members can submit corrections prior to the next quarterly meeting.

Treasurer's Report (Jean Bischoff)

Jean Bischoff gave a brief summary of the treasurer's report, which was distributed prior to the beginning of the meeting.

Money was taken from the general account and added to the funds from a matured Certificate of Deposit in order to purchase a new Certificate of Deposit.

There were no expenses incurred during the last quarter.

A motion was made and carried to approve the report.

Committee Reports

Awards & Nominations

There is currently not a chair for this committee. In the interim, Cynthia Laframboise and Letha Johnson have agreed to take over the duties of the committee.

Education (Alan Perry)

Alan Perry distributed the committee report and then presented the proposal regarding an Archives Fair contained within the report to the membership.

- The fair would be held early in October so as to avoid a conflict with the fall MAC meeting.
- The fair may be held all day on a Saturday and Sunday.
- Currently looking at the first weekend in October (10/4 – 10/5)
- Possible location would be Union Station in Kansas City.
- Opportunity for member institutions to showcase their genealogical and other types resources.

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- Video/audio tapes, photographs, documents, etc.
- Support and assistance from the membership would be needed to help staff the tables at the fair.
- The fair would be free to the public.

Next, Alan opened the floor for any questions, comments, or suggestions regarding the proposal.

- Have the fair be on at least part of a Friday as well as all day on Saturday and Sunday.
- Make postings regarding the fair on the KCAA listserv and website.
- Possible to coordinate the fair with the official Archives Weeks with Kansas and Missouri?
- It was pointed out that the smaller institutions might have a problem with having a representative at the fair.

Finally, Alan asked for a vote by the membership on the proposal. The proposal was approved.

Membership (Marilyn Burlingame & Nancy Piepenbring)

Neither of the co-chairs were able to attend the meeting, but a brief report was sent to Mary Hawkins.

Marilyn Burlingame is still going to serve as co-chair of the committee. Currently there are 136 members of KCAA. There are 24 exchanges for the newsletter for a total of 160 for mailings.

Newsletter (Mary Burtzloff)

Mary Burtzloff requested submissions for the next issue of *The Dusty Shelf*. The next issue should be sent out before the Spring MAC Meeting in April. Submissions should be sent to Mary in January or February.

Publicity

Angela Curran informed the membership that a chair for this committee is still needed, especially with the upcoming MAC meeting and the education programs KCAA would like to sponsor. In the interim, Angela has been covering the duties of the committee.

Publications (Paul Edwards)

Paul Edwards was unable to attend the meeting. No report was submitted.

Minority Internship (Amy Williams)

Amy Williams was unable to attend the meeting. No report was submitted.

Scholarship (Cynthia Laframboise)

Cynthia Laframboise was unable to attend the meeting.

Mary Hawkins reminded the membership that they can apply for a scholarship to help cover expenses from attending conferences that are not paid for by their institutions.

The Steering Committee approved making registration scholarships available to area students who wish to attend the MAC meeting in April from this fund.

Future meeting locations

The site for this year's annual dinner has not been determined yet. Suggestion can be posted on the KCAA listserv.

The Spring Quarterly Meeting will be held at the Baker University Archives in Baldwin City, Kansas, on March 13 at 2:00.

A call was made for members to suggest sites for future quarterly meetings. Suggestions can be posted on the listserv or emailed to any of the officers.

MAC in Kansas City, April 24-26, 2003 (Alan Perry for Dave Boutros & Amy Williams)

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KCAA members are encouraged to join MAC if they were not presently a member.

- Low cost of a membership
- Membership rates for attending meetings, etc.

Tours and events offered during the meeting include:

- Restaurant tours
- White House Decision Center, Truman Presidential Museum and Library
- Federal Records Center (“The Cave”)
- Walking tour of Country Club Plaza
- Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering, and Technology

KCAA Archives Fair Set for September

by Alan F. Perry

We’ll be holding the great KCAA Archives Fair the weekend of September 12-14. The site is the Blue Ridge Mall, just east of Kansas City, Missouri, off of Route 70 and about on the line between KC and Independence. KCAA members at the March quarterly meeting voted unanimously to hold the fair.

The Jackson County Genealogical Society is having its annual book sale at the mall that weekend, and we will be working closely with them to our mutual benefit. We understand that the book sale attracted 600 to 800 people last year.

The purpose of the fair is to showcase KCAA member institutions, members, and our holdings and services. Many people have no idea how many historical collections and archives can be found in our area. Here’s our chance to let them know! We can bring promotional material as well as copies of photographs, sound recordings, videos, or paper documents from our collections. We will probably have a “the archivist is in” table where we can offer impromptu advice on preserving family papers and memorabilia, and sell copies of *Keeping Your Past*. We plan to advertise the fair far and wide.

What we do is limited only by our imagination and our willingness to contribute time and work. Brilliant ideas are welcome!

Of course, the most effective and impressive advertising for KCAA institutions are KCAA members themselves, and each participating institution should plan to have someone at the fair part of the time. But don’t panic—none of us will have to staff the fair the entire weekend. As the time gets closer, we’ll work up a schedule of who will be in attendance when. Institutions can share tables: we’ll cover for each other. Flexibility will be the watchword.

We’ll set up in the large central court area of the mall on Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday. This adjoins the room where the Jackson County Genealogical Society book sale will be held.

KCAA will rent folding tables and the mall will provide (free, yet!) chairs, electricity, poster stands, and 24 hour security. Mall management will also provide, at no charge, an 8’ x 12’ stage complete with two microphones, a mixer, and two speakers. We can use this for show-and-tells (or anything else) by participating institutions.

We can eat at the mall food court, an Applebee’s, and at something called Pochie’s. There’s also a Chinese buffet across the parking lot

The Education Committee is coordinating the fair. In the near future, we will contact members that have (or should have!) shown interest in participating. In the meantime, mark your calendars for the Great KCAA Archives Fair, September 12, 13, and 14, at the Blue Ridge Mall.

The Education Committee solicits your questions and suggestions. The committee includes Jean Bischoff, Justin Dragosani-Brantingham, Marilyn Finke, Bob Knecht, Jerry Motsinger, Alan Perry, and Bobbi Rahder.

LET THERE BE (FILTERED) LIGHT —And Passive Humidification

Flatten Them Right

For nigh onto a decade now, our faithful passive humidification chamber has been relaxing tense and brittle documents drawn from our holdings. The original chamber has worked so well that we've recently built a second one to accommodate the items we're processing as part of a project to preserve our many Army Corps of Engineers maps, charts, and drawings. The chamber itself is an expansion and modification of the tried-and-true trash can design found in Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler's *Preserving Archives and Manuscripts* (Chicago: SAA, 1993) and in KCAA's own *Keeping Your Past*. The original model was constructed for the Olmstead National Historic Site in Boston to help the site cope with its huge collection of oversize drawings.

Like so many good ideas, this one is quite simple. Its largest component is an open-top box made of ¼" acrylic sheets stuck together with acrylic cement. Ours is 42" x 34", but yours could be larger or smaller depending on the size of the items you'll be running through it. The box is 9" deep. When it's in use, it is covered with a sheet of polyethylene tacked to a wooden frame hinged on both ends. The hinged ends enable us to gain access to the documents in one end or the other of the chamber without removing the entire cover, which would allow most of the built up humidity within to escape. Access during the humidification process is important, as you often will want to turn or open out documents to hasten the process.

When using the chamber we spread several blotters across the bottom, then soak them, using a basic hardware store watering can. Two layers of "egg crate" fluorescent light covers go atop the wet blotters. These have been gently cut to size with a hacksaw, work accompanied by occasional curses when you're not quite gentle enough and begin snapping off pieces you really wanted to keep intact. The documents to be relaxed lie on the light covers, safely above the wet blotters. With the cover in place, the documents are usually supple enough to be flattened the next morning. The process is nearly foolproof, as even documents left in over a long weekend don't pick up enough moisture to become dangerously damp.

We use our chamber for tightly rolled large maps and drawings as well as folded smaller documents. Most are usually turned or opened out at least once during the course of the treatment.

We flatten the humidified documents between blotter sheets weighed down by sheets of ½" thick acrylic reinforced, gravitationally speaking, by bricks.

I'll be happy to provide you with a list of necessary supplies and tools, along with construction tips. All supplies can be acquired locally from plastic supply houses and hardware stores. The total cost, including a generous supply of white unbleached blotting paper, will be about \$600-\$750. The cost of staff labor to put the thing together is not included. Actually, we found the construction rather fun (seriously!).

And Sleeve Those Lights

Another one of those small, prosaic (yawn) but really important things I so delight in bringing to your attention is the importance of protecting your records from ultraviolet (UV) radiation.

Some years ago, we undertook a quite unscientific but revealing test of the power of the UV then being sprayed about our stack and processing area by unshielded fluorescent lights. We dismembered a Hollinger box, laying a flat piece of grey boxboard on a table where it would be exposed to direct light during our regular working hours. We left one strip completely exposed, protected another strip with a piece of heavy file folder paper, and partially protected a third strip by laying matte polyester over it. Nine months later the visible differences between the three strips were striking. The unprotected strip had significantly faded from dark to light gray; the protected strip remained its original color; the partially shielded strip was somewhere between the other two. Of course, the change in color is only the visible evidence of

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Today, there are 1,000 students enrolled, representing 150 tribes and 36 states. Haskell is unique among tribal colleges in that it accepts students from all over the country, from all Federally recognized tribes. Haskell offers baccalaureate degree programs in American Indian Studies, environmental science, business administration, and elementary teacher education in addition to junior college degrees. All of Haskell's courses incorporate the perspective of various Native American cultures into the class curriculum.



Haskell's students are very interested in the past and in preserving their culture. The American Indian Studies program in Tribal Archives and Tribal Museum Management prepares Haskell students to become tribal archivists and tribal museum managers. Students can complete the AIS program internship requirement by getting hands-on experience working with the Haskell Cultural Center's museum and archives collections. They can also participate in conducting and transcribing oral history interviews with tribal elders. Interns not only get experience in learning how to handle and preserve historical records and artifacts, they get practical experience in grant writing, producing exhibits, and website development working with the Cultural Center website. Students can pursue graduate studies in the

Indigenous Nations Program or the Museum Studies Program at the University of Kansas and get internship credit working at the Haskell Cultural Center.

The new Haskell Cultural Center and Museum is a living center celebrating living Native Culture. Our vision statement asserts our intent to "serve as a national center for the study of living American Indian traditions" through "exhibitions, educational programs and research." It emphasizes the unique Native American perspective Haskell's museum and archives program provides to students "with classes and training that are focused on oral tradition and the spiritual dimension of objects of power needed to prepare them for careers in tribal archives and tribal museums."

We hope the new Haskell Cultural Center and Museum will become a resource for all Native people, as well as the Haskell community of staff, students, and alumni; and for researchers around the world.

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nasty deeper changes within the paper, as the UV embrittles the paper fibres by reacting with the lignin found in most modern paper. We now use this piece of boxboard during document preservation classes as an effective show-and-tell item.

The lesson, of course, is to keep your permanent records out of direct *and indirect* unshielded fluorescent light or sunlight. (Incandescent bulbs generate heat but not UV light.) We've done it by buying UV filtering sleeves for the fluorescent tubes in our stack-processing area. One of the major suppliers, Solar Screen, sells these in the roughly \$2.50-\$3.50 range for 48" sleeves (depending on volume). Standard catalog suppliers such as Light Impressions, University Products, and Gaylord also offer them.

If you are fortunate enough to have a dedicated stack area (lucky you), you probably won't want to lay out the money necessary to sleeve those lights that are only on when you are moving records in and out. However, records exposed to light for long periods as they are being processed should be protected.

UV protection: short term expense, long term economy. Do it!

MidAmerican Archives: News of KCAA People & Repositories

NEW ARRIVALS!

Lynn Ward gave birth to her second child on January 23rd. He is a healthy baby boy and is named Joseph (Joe) Robert.

Emporia State University Archives Barb Robins (robinsba@emporia.edu) is the new University Archivist at Emporia State University.

The Truman Library is pleased to announce that former intern, **Jeremy Spencer**, a graduate student in history at UMKC, has been hired by the Truman Library Institute as part of the William T. Kemper Foundation-Commerce Bank, Trustee grant. Jeremy will be working on the preservation and arrangement of the Truman Presidential Papers.

Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Kansas City

Bonnie Cozad delivered her second child, Rebekah Jean (5 lbs. 7 oz; 18"), on December 30, 2002. Bonnie has resigned her position to stay home with her children. Jovan Sage has been hired as Senior Clerk.

University Archives-Kansas City **Cynthia G. Edwards**, formerly of the Truman Library Institute, is now a Senior Archives Specialist at the University of Missouri-Kansas City University Archives. She replaces Marilyn Burlingame who retired December 31st. Marilyn is working part-time to do special projects.

Nazarene Archives

Meri Janssen, a part-time employee for the past two years, has recently become a full-time employee of the Archives.

The Alabama Public Television production, "Rebels in the Pulpit: Early

Alabama Women Clergy," aired in February and used the career of early Nazarene preacher Mary Lee Cagle (1864-1955) as the framework for examining several issues involved in the public ministry and ordination of women. The 30-minute production is now available as a video. APT developed a fine Website about the show at: <http://www.cptr.ua.edu/rebels/index.asp>. The page has several links to other aspects of the production, including a photograph album page (http://www.alabamatv.org/rebels/pulpit_photos_1.asp) based on photos from the Nazarene Archives.

The Nazarene Archives Website has a new address since January: <http://www.nazarene.org/archives/index.html>. Any KCAA entities with links to our site should double-check to ensure that their link is to the correct address. We have also enhanced the site with new pages, including a number that are in Spanish.

The Special Collections Department at Kansas City Public Library

has unveiled its long-awaited Local History Database. This database brings together in one search interface the Library's many web resources including its Local History Index, photographs, postcards, biographies and building profiles. In addition to offering "one-stop shopping" the new database features much stronger searching capabilities including full Boolean searching, truncation and field searching. The database is available at the same website:

<http://www.kclibrary.org/resources/sc/index.cfm>

Missouri State Archives/Local Records

Division

Janice Lee has accepted the position of Archivist with the Missouri State Archives effective June 16th. She will be working in Jackson County and surrounding areas.

Archives for Family Practice with the American Academy of Family Practice Foundation

Sharron Uhler has returned to Kansas City after 14 years in Colorado Springs where she worked for the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum and the Western Museum of Mining and Industry. She is the archivist for the Archives for Family Practice with the American Academy of Family Practice Foundation.

Nebraska State Historical Society

Jill Koelling, Curator of Photographs for the NSHS for the last five years, has taken the position of Curator of Visual Materials at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona. While at NSHS, Jill engineered the Society's entry into the digital realm and became its first Head of Digital Imaging. Her colleague (and KCAA member) **Paul Eisloeffel** will take over Jill's curatorial responsibilities for the Society, combining the management of photos, moving images and sound recordings.

Sharon Siske-Crunk, formerly with Kansas City Parks & Recreation Archives, accepted a position as Archivist with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Infrastructure Division in June 2002. She, her husband Jeff and son Elliott now live in Austin, Texas.



Archives & the Nation: History, Archives, and the Public Interest

Budget Cuts Hit Hard in Nebraska

Budget cuts threaten the University of Nebraska's interdisciplinary program in Museum Studies, which includes a specialization in Archives Management. University Chancellor Harvey Perlman has recommended the elimination of the program as part of a series of "vertical" budget cuts which he believes will be less harmful to the university than across-the-board cuts.

In a posting to the KCAA listserv, Paul Eisloffel, UNL Instructor in Archives Management and Curator of Audio-Visual Collections at the Nebraska State Historical Society, wrote "the program at Nebraska is unique among the many available archives training opportunities that exist on the graduate level. It offers students an exploration of the archives profession in the context of, and in juxtaposition with, museum techniques. This is notably distinct from the perspective provided in library and information studies and public history programs. Moreover, Nebraska's program is interdisciplinary, and prepares students to deal with archives in a variety of cultural fields, including history, art, natural history and anthropology."

Chancellor Perlman also plans to eliminate the Nebraska State Museum's Anthropology and Zoology collections.

New Films and Sound Recordings Featuring Harry S. Truman Opened at Truman Presidential Museum & Library

The Truman Presidential Museum & Library has opened for research about 75 minutes of film and about 11 hours of sound recordings featuring former President Truman and several of his family, friends and associates talking about his life and presidency. The films and sound recordings, which collectively are called the Screen Gems Collection, were made by Talent Associates, Ltd. and Screen Gems, Inc. in the early 1960s during the production of a twenty-six part documentary called *Decision: The Conflicts of Harry S. Truman*.

The Decision films were broadcast beginning in November 1964. They were quite popular, and their star, former President Truman, was named the outstanding television personality of 1964 by the American Cinema Editors. After the films were aired, Truman asked Screen Gems, Inc. to send all the outtakes created during the film's production to the Truman Library. The immense collection of material—about 18,000 film and audio clips stored in about 2,600 metal film cans, never been seen by the public—arrived at the Truman Library in 1965. The archives staff began appraising and processing the collection in 1989. Most importantly, the small percentage of the material that was permanently valuable had to be identified and preserved. A team of volunteers was assembled to help with the work in 1996. Every clip has been viewed and described by the extraordinarily dedicated team of volunteers who have overcome many technical obstacles and devoted quite a few years of their lives to processing the Screen Gems Collection and seeing it opened for research.

Truman apparently considered the Decision series to be a film version of his memoirs, which he published in two volumes in 1955 and 1956. Sometimes in the outtakes he reads from a script, based on his memoirs, in a polished way, but at other times he ad-libs, speaks informally, and sometimes intimately. His subject matter ranges widely, from his boyhood in Independence, to his family and friends, the many important decisions of his presidency, his habits, diversions, and opinions. Other people are featured on the outtakes as well—Truman's sister Mary Jane, for example, his cousin Ethel Noland, his foreign policy adviser Averell Harriman, and local media personality Walt Bodine, who gives many insights into Truman's special ties to Independence and Kansas City.

This opening of Screen Gems materials is the first of three or four openings that will occur in the next few years. Truman Library archivists estimate that the Screen Gems Collection will eventually comprise about 5 hours of film and 25 hours of sound recordings.

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PATRIOTS OF WAR SATURDAY SPEAKER'S SERIES

The Truman Presidential Museum & Library announced the schedule for its second annual "Patriots of War" speakers series honoring American veterans and their stories on selected Saturdays, beginning May 17 running through August 16. The last two programs of the series will feature veterans with psychological warfare experience from Korea; and the first Medal of Honor winner from Vietnam.

Presented in cooperation with the Offices of Congresswoman Karen McCarthy (D MO), the Library of Congress Veterans History Project and the University of Missouri-Kansas City, Miller Nichols Library. The remaining programs will feature:

July 19, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

Paul A. Wolfgeher & Vern Scott

"Air Force Intelligence and Psychological Warfare in Korea"

Both Wolfgeher and Scott served in Korea from the fall of 1952 until February 1954. Wolfgeher was a Sergeant in the 1st Loudspeaker and Leaflet Company. Part of Wolfgeher's collection of propaganda leaflets will be displayed during the talk. Vern Scott served in Korea and attained the rank of Staff Sergeant (E-5). He received training as a radio traffic analyst and a crypto analyst. Mr. Scott will discuss flyovers, reconnaissance, couriers, and ferret missions. (The word "ferret" refers to a vehicle, usually an aircraft, used to investigate foreign radar systems by approaching the enemy radar system so as to cause the radar system to be activated thereby enabling the systems identification and the collection of additional intelligence.)

August 16, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

Retired Colonel Roger H. C. Donlon, M.H. -

"Family, Faith & Freedom"

Colonel Donlon, United States Army (Retired) was the first recipient of the Medal of Honor for Valor for Vietnam, and a current member of the National Council of the Vietnam Project. He is the author of the book, *Beyond Nam Dong*. His book describes the battle that he and his twelve-man Special Forces Team fought and his return to Vietnam in later years. Now Donlon is dedicated to fostering harmony between the people of the US and the Vietnamese people. Donlon was wounded four separate times in the Nam Dong battle. The following is quoted from the citation of award of his Medal of Honor. "Captain Donlon was serving as the Commanding Officer of the United States Army Special Forces Detachment A-726 at Camp Nam Dong, when a reinforced Viet Cong battalion launched a full-scale, predawn attack on the Camp. During the violent battle that ensued, lasting 5 hours and resulting in heavy casualties on both sides, Captain Donlon directed the defense operations in the midst of an enemy barrage of mortal shells, falling grenades and extremely heavy gunfire. His dynamic leadership, fortitude, and valiant efforts inspired not only the American personnel but the friendly Vietnamese defenders as well and resulted in the successful defense of Camp."

All presentations will be held at 10:00 am in the Truman Presidential Museum & Library's Whistle Stop Room and light refreshments will be served. Patrons should arrive through the Main Museum Entrance. The programs are free with museum admission, but seating is limited. For reservations, call the Central Ticket Office at 816-235-6222.





KANSAS CITY AREA ARCHIVISTS

...Striving to provide an atmosphere of cooperation which will enliven and support the use and availability of historical records.

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Our ability to study and understand the past rests on the availability of historical materials for examination and research. At work throughout the Kansas City region are people dedicated, either through professional responsibilities or personal interest, to making historical materials available for use by identifying, collecting, and preserving the records of our heritage.

The **Kansas City Area Archivists**, a local professional association of archivists, manuscript curators, librarians, historians, and others, seeks to unite those individuals interested in the advancement of archival collections in the Kansas City area, and in preserving the documentation of our past.

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Kansas City Area Archivists is a local non-profit organization serving archivists in Eastern Kansas and Western Missouri. Annual membership dues: \$15 individuals, \$30 institutions, \$10 students, \$50 sustaining institution, \$100 supporting institution.

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