Notes from the Chair

Kyle Bryner

The SEMC Annual Meeting will take place in Charleston, SC October 21-23, 2019. SERA has some great events planned for its members such as a behind the scenes tour, a fun respite, and fabulous sessions. Be sure to mark your calendars and join us in October in Charleston!

Thanks for showing your support for SERA by shopping through Amazon Smile. Amazon gives a portion of the sales through the Amazon Smile site to non-profits and the Southeastern Registrars Association is one of the non-profits you can choose to support. If you don’t already, please consider making us the organization you support through this program. It costs nothing to your personally except your time to sign up. Here is where you can learn more: https://smile.amazon.com.

Do you know an amazing registrar or collections professional who deserves recognition? Consider nominating them for the Dan Silosky Award. This annual award recognizes an individual registrar or collections professional for their outstanding contribution to the field. Nominees must have five or more years of experience in registration or collections management and work in the Southeastern United States. Three letters of support are required for each nomination. This memorial award honors long time SERA member Dan Silosky. He is remembered for his dedication to the profession, witty outlook on life and love of scholarship. A vital member of SERA, he served as corresponding secretary (1984-1988), was the West Virginia State Representative and chaired the 1992 Membership Survey. See the SERA website for more details at: https://www.seregistrars.org/scholarships---awards.

Nominations are due to me by August 10th.

Don’t forget – SERA elections are coming up! Send in your nominations for Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer/Membership Chair. If you are a current member you will receive an email from the nominations committee with instructions on how to cast your ballot.

If you want to get more involved with SERA, reach out to any of the board members. Thank you again for making SERA the amazing organization it is!

Kyle
Greetings, SERA Members!

The SERA officers are already working hard on making this year’s Registrar’s Respite at SEMC 2019 the best one yet! The night is being generously sponsored by Transport Consultants International (TCI) and Willis Towers Watson, which have each committed $1,000 donations to SERA.* The event will be held at Stars Rooftop Bar (http://starsrestaurant.com/rooftop/) in downtown Charleston, South Carolina. We placed a deposit for the event on April 22, 2019, which is reflected in the expenses below. If you have not renewed your SERA membership yet in 2019, make sure you do so prior to SEMC so that you are eligible to attend!

Also, our sincere thanks to PastPerfect for once again sponsoring the Dan Silosky Award for Excellence in Collections Management and Registration in the amount of $250. SERA is accepting nominations for this prestigious award thru August 10, 2019. Please consider making the time to nominate a deserving colleague in the field.

Congratulations to Jordan Cao, Assistant Registrar, Gregg Museum of Art & Design, North Carolina State University, for being awarded the 2019 ARCS Travel Scholarship.*

Congratulations to Heather Otis, Collections Manager, Marco Island Historical Society, for being awarded the 2019 SEMC Travel Scholarship for Emerging Museum Professionals.*

I would also like to recognize Dirk Armstrong, Rachel Bradshaw, Aimee Brooks, Elizabeth Le, and Sandy Staebell, all of whom renewed their memberships this quarter after 15 or more years!

As of June 30, 2019, SERA has 135 active members, down from 138 (-2.2%) this time last year. 53 of our active members (39%) have yet to renew in 2019, so please check to make sure that you’re in good standing if you wish to keep receiving the benefits of a SERA membership. If you haven’t renewed during the 2019 calendar year, your membership has expired.

The current balance in SERA’s Chase checking account is $6,330.70. The current balance in SERA’s PayPal account is $3,017.45. The combined total on-hand is $9,348.15, down $1,541.31 (-14.2%) from the $10,889.46 on-hand reported in the Summer 2018 newsletter.

SERA’s fiscal activity for April 19 to June 30, 2019 is outlined below. Please feel free to contact me for any additional information.

*This income/expense, once payment clears, will be accounted for in the Fall 2019 Treasurer’s Report.

Austin J. Bell, Treasurer/Membership Chair

**SERA Quarterly Treasurer’s Report**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>SERA Income/Expenses: April 19 – June 30, 2019</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Opening Balance</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
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<td>Membership renew/sales</td>
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<td>Donations</td>
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<td><strong>Income total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
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<td>Deposit: Registrar’s Respite</td>
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<td>PayPal fees</td>
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<td><strong>Expense total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Ending Balance</strong></td>
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**NEW*/ RENEWING MEMBERS

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<tr>
<th>ALABAMA</th>
<th>MISSISSIPPI</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lindsay Elliott*</td>
<td>Megan Cook</td>
<td>Director of Archaeology</td>
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<td>Collections Manager, Vulcan Park and Museum</td>
<td>Director of Archaeology Collections, Mississippi Department of Archives and History</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cheryl Munyer (5 Year Member)</td>
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<td>Museum Curator, Waldrep</td>
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<td>Museum, Natchez National Historical Park</td>
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<td>ARKANSAS</td>
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<td>Jennifer Kick</td>
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<td>Collections Manager, Rogers Historical Museum</td>
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<td>FLORIDA</td>
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<td>NORTH CAROLINA</td>
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<td>Dirk Armstrong (15+ Year Member)</td>
<td>Jordan Cao</td>
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<td>Assistant Curator, The Dali Museum</td>
<td>Assistant Registrar, Gregg Museum of Art &amp; Design, North Carolina State University</td>
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<td>Rachel Bradshaw (15 Year Member)</td>
<td>Mary Douglas*</td>
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<td>Registrar, Flagler Museum</td>
<td>Collections Manager, Kamm Teapot Foundation</td>
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<td>Ana Juarez*</td>
<td>Mary Hauser (10+ Year Member)</td>
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<td>Library Service and Technology Fine Art Guide, Hillsborough County</td>
<td>Registrar/Associate Director, Gregg Museum of Art &amp; Design</td>
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<td>Kaitlyn Hof Mahoney</td>
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<td>Curator of Collections, Matheson History Museum</td>
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<td>GEORGIA</td>
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<td>TENNESSEE</td>
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<td>Aimee Brooks (15 Year Member)</td>
<td>Jordan Cao</td>
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<td>Collections Manager, The Columbus Museum</td>
<td>Assistant Registrar, Gregg Museum of Art &amp; Design</td>
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<td>Sarina Rousso (10+ Year Member)</td>
<td>Mary Douglas*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Registrar, Georgia Museum of Art</td>
<td>Collections Manager, Kamm Teapot Foundation</td>
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<td>KENTUCKY</td>
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<td>VIRGINIA</td>
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<td>Sandy Staebell (25+ Year Member)</td>
<td>Jordan Cao</td>
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<td>Registrar/Collections Curator, Kentucky Museum, WKU</td>
<td>Assistant Registrar, Gregg Museum of Art &amp; Design</td>
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<td>LOUISIANA</td>
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<td>WEST VIRGINIA</td>
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<td>Toni Kiser</td>
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<td>Assistant Director for Collections Management, The National WWII Museum</td>
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<td>SOUTH CAROLINA</td>
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<td>Robyn Adams</td>
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<td>Registrar, South Carolina State Museum</td>
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**Are you up to date on your membership?**

You can renew your membership online at, our web-store!

https://www.seregistrars.org/online-store

**The next deadline for submissions for this newsletter is Oct 30th, 2019!**
Then she will launch the collection inventory and rearranging storage to make it accessible. Working on a box inventory of the collection, Lindsay has been gearing up for the cataloging and preservation (CAP) assessment in 2017, Vulcan Park and Museum acquired the University of West Georgia. From 2008 to 2011, she worked as a museum exhibitions and educational programming and became collections manager in March 2018. Lindsay joined the staff in 2011 working in Vulcan Park and Museum in Birmingham. Lindsay looks forward to engaging with SERA members and resources! She is facilitating the loan of items loaned for an exhibit on Alabama in World War I. She facilitated the loan of Alabama’s Constitutions and Ordinance of Secession for the exhibition We The People: Alabama’s Defining Documents which opened on June 30 at the Huntsville Museum of Art. The museum is finally nearing the finish line of their collections move which is now two years underway. Lindsay has already been a huge help in planning the cataloging and inventory project.

ARKANSAS
Jennifer Kick
Collections manager
Rogers Historical Museum

The museum has two great collections interns this summer, Alison Fong (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) and Krisenda Henderson (University of Arkansas). They just completed a collections gallery exhibit on Victorian era women’s fashion. Also thanks to them, the museum is finally nearing the finish line on their collections move which is now two years underway.

Marie Demeroukas
Photo Archivist/Research Librarian
Shiloh Museum of Ozark History

The museum recently hosted a two-part workshop on photo preservation for the general public. One covered strategies for storing prints and negatives while the other considered strategies for digitizing images and managing digital media. Interestingly, most of the attendees where in their 60s, 70s, and 80s—the generation which has all the old family photos.

Carolyn Reno
Collections manager/assistant director
Shiloh Museum of Ozark History

Several interesting collections were donated to the museum this summer. Of particular interest are four record books kept by justices of the Peace in Durham (Washington County) dating from 1870 to the 1930s. Durham is a small farming community and records regarding various legal matters and court cases will offer insight into the life of the community. The books were stored for years in the vault of a local bank.

FLORIDA
Heather Culligan
Registrar
Tampa Bay History Center

The Tampa Bay History Center is currently undergoing a significant digitization project. The second half of the map collection from the Touchton Map Library and Florida Center for Cartographic Education, totaling over 2200 items, will be photographed over the next few weeks by Creekside Digital. The digitized maps will then become accessible online via the TBHC website, which already includes over 2700 digitized maps and related items. The collections staff is excited to share that several pieces from the Knight Collection will receive conservation treatment at the end of the summer. The Knight Collection includes hundreds of artifacts pertaining to the Seminole Tribe, including textiles, basketry, carvings, and dolls. Several years ago, TBHC hired a conservator to conduct conservation surveys for the textiles pieces. Now, with funding in place, TBHC can move forward with treating these significant pieces.

The museum recently received a significant donation of hundreds of produce labels from the State Library of Florida. Arriving over several days, Heather Culligan, Registrar, went through every box to initially organize and assess the condition of the produce labels. Interestingly, only three produce labels were duplicates of the existing TBHC produce label collection. Each label is now being cataloged (200 and counting!) and the entire produce label collection will eventually be...
The Newsletter of the Southeastern Registrars Association

Robin Kilgo
Communications and Member Services Manager
Association of Registrars and Collections Specialists

ARCS would like to welcome and congratulate one of our newest ARCS Board Members, Elise V. LeCompte, Registrar and Coordinator of Museum Health & Safety, Florida Museum of Natural History. Elise will be serving on the ARCS Board from 2019-2022.

Georgia
Erica Hague
Collections Manager
Atlanta History Center

We have had a busy summer, with the University of West Georgia class in for the past 8 weeks. We had 16 students take part in the 5 hour/week class this year, and were able to take them to several institutions around Atlanta to show them different collections. We also had several collections folks come talk to the students as part of a roundtable discussion.

Christa McCay
Collections Manager
Marietta Museum of History

The Marietta Museum of History has been busy over the summer with gathering images and history for a new exhibition opening in late August. The new exhibition entitled Faces of the Community, will feature images from African-American photographer, Raymond Burford. Mr. Burford took photographs of Marietta’s African-American community from the late 1940s until his death in 1963.

Kentucky
Chris Goodlett
Director of Curatorial & Educational Affairs
Kentucky Derby Museum

This summer, the Kentucky Derby Museum (KDM) has been updating its collections plan to take the organization through the next three years. During that period, KDM hopes to expand the reach of its oral history program to include both local and racing communities, conduct the first-ever wall-to-wall inventory and solidify methods of raising funds for collections.

In June, KDM installed the winning hats from its annual hat contest. Entries came to the Museum from across the country, and 2019 winners represented states as far away as Arizona and Massachusetts.

As of June, KDM is now home to the official Churchill Downs photographic archives. This project has been in discussion for many years. Now that the collection has been transferred to KDM, the collections team can begin the process of digitization.

After laying dormant for a little over two years due to space concerns, KDM revived its collections intern program this summer. Annie Davis, a freshman history major at Murray State University in Murray, KY, did great work cataloging the D. Wayne Lukas Collection. KDM received this approximately 1,300 piece collection in 2017. Through Annie’s efforts, cataloging is now approximately 90% complete.

This hat by Susan Allen of Louisville, KY received the Judges’ Choice Award in the Kentucky Derby Museum’s 2019 hat contest.

Sandy Staebell
Registrar/Collections Curator
Kentucky Museum, Western Kentucky University

In July 2019, The Kentucky Museum hosted the biennial conference of the National Basketry Organization. As part of the conference, the museum staff mounted the juried exhibition, "Basketry Now: 10th Anniversary Exhibition," which features 84 works by contemporary and traditional basketmakers from the United States, the UK, Canada, the Netherlands, and New Zealand. Two additional displays feature the work of the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Winners and 13 workshop instructors from the 2019 conference. All exhibits run through December 1, 2019.

We have also been gearing up for several exhibits. Any Great Change will be a temporary exhibit to highlight the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment, and will be opening to the public August 15th. Our Barbecue Nation exhibit will be coming down this fall to be replaced with a traveling exhibition entitled Black Citizenship in the Age of Jim Crow, which will open in January 2020, we are working now to identify local items of interest to add to the traveling show. We’re also moving forward with our new, and as of yet untitled Olympic Exhibit, which opens August 2020, and a Pride exhibition that will call our Midtown campus home starting in October 2020.
archaeology collections at MDAH shares Mississippi’s prehistory by serving as a research collection for use by the public. Looking forward, this collection will be reorganized in the 2 Museums complex so that it is a more effective research tool for Mississippians, the professional and avocational alike. In June, MDAH received a large collection of archaeology artifacts including items of cultural patrimony, and staff has been working with National NAGPRA to summarize and inventory the new collection.

NORTH CAROLINA
Susan Joyce Webster
Registrar/Curator
Greensboro History Museum

"American Democracy: A Leap of Faith" from December through March and continue the theme in core history and gallery exhibits with a focus on North Carolina stories.

Mississippi
Cheryl Munyer
Museum Coordinator
Natchez National Historical Park
Cheryl Waldrep, museum curator at Natchez National Historical Park, is working on annual inventory and yearly reporting. Greening Youth and HBCUI intern Ariel Roy worked on many projects this summer including cataloging and inventory.

Cheryl Munyer
Museum Coordinator
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Congratulations to Cindy Gardener of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH). She is now the Museum Division director.

Meg Cook, Director of Archaeology Collections for the MDAH reports that the

TENNESSEE
Elizabeth Le
Registrar
Hunter Museum of American Art
For our summer show, the Hunter Museum has the good fortune to host "William J. Glackens and Pierre-Auguste Renoir: Affinities and Distinctions," June 22 – September 22, 2019. Prior to the opening Registrars, Theresa Slowikowski and Elizabeth Le, were visited by couriers from 6 institutions, one came all the way from London, England! We are expecting even more couriers to come at the closing. One photo is taken during installation showing Barbara Buckley, courier from the Barnes Foundation, Philadelphia, PA speaking with Chief Preparator, Jon Newman.

The Hunter’s Associate Curator, Natalie A. Mault Mead took part in the Arts Patronage in Modern America conference that was held at University of Oxford (England) in June. Her presentation was titled "Money, You’ve Got Friends: Patronage during the Harlem Renaissance," which examined the artist-patron relationship that emerged during the 1920s.

WEST VIRGINIA
Crystal Wimer
West Virginia Association of Museums
The WVAM Conference Committee has a very special announcement! The theme for our 2020 Annual Meeting and Conference is "Stayin’ Alive: Sustainability, Relevancy, & Culture." Each year, we see museums, large and small, scale back their operations, or in the worst case, close their doors entirely due to challenges with sustainability and being relevant to their communities. West Virginia’s
museums share these same challenges, and the good news is, we are here to help. With this conference, we intend for our sessions to offer practical guidance on how to stem the tide, and keep your museum going strong well into the 21st century.

We welcome presenters and participants to send us their ideas as how to help WV museums keep on keepin’ on! Please visit the below link and download the Call for Proposals form and email to museumsofwv@gmail.com on or before 10/31/2019.

http://wvmuseums.org/annual-conference/

Upcoming Regional and National Conference Dates
SEMC—Oct 21-23, 2019 –Charleston, SC (Proposals closed)
ARCS—Nov 7-9, 2019– Philadelphia, PA (Proposals closed)
NCPH—March 18-21—Atlanta, GA (Proposals closed)
AAM— May 17-20—San Francisco, CA (Proposals opening soon!)

SERA NEWS is published quarterly by the Southeastern Registrars Association. The Southeastern Registrars Association (SERA) recognizes high standards of museum practice and fosters professional growth among museum registrars in the Southeastern region of the United States. We promote the exchange and dissemination of information and ideas through education seminars, publications and other means. SERA initiates and supports activities and projects which help create an atmosphere of cooperation and communication among, and between, registrars, other museum professionals, and those in related fields, and pursues further development of professional practices in the field.

Membership: Individual membership ($25.00) is open to museum professionals who perform registrarial functions for institutions in the twelve states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and the territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Associate membership is also available to those outside the region or those employed by for-profit businesses or organizations who express interest in the objectives of SERA.

Membership Contact:
SERA Treasurer/Membership Chair
Austin Bell
Phone: (239) 389-6447
curator@themihs.org