Note From the Chair

Review Essay

*Every Person His/Her Own Archivist* by Josh Zimmerman

News

Calendar

*One Man Instructing Another on the Tractor,*" 13th Coast Guard District, Wartime Histories of Units, 1941 – 1945. National Archives, Pacific Alaska Region (Seattle).
May is National Preservation Month, and this year’s theme is “Celebrating America’s Treasures.” As an organization, we are honoring this theme by hosting the first ever SAA Preservation Roadshow to help educate the general public about the care and preservation of their personal treasures – items that may someday fall under our care in archives.

While National Preservation Month does not specifically relate to archives, the sentiment described on the website can definitely be applied to our treasured resources. “Throughout our nation’s communities there are significant places that have contributed to our American experience – whether it is a battlefield, a ship, church or house museum. Through the support of programs like Save America’s Treasures, thousands of preservation projects in cities and towns from coast to coast have worked to preserve these irreplaceable and tangible reminders of our roots.” In the next month, and throughout the rest of the year, let us take these words to heart, and consider the communities we serve, and think about how we can support these communities and organizations.

Jennifer Anne Hawkins
Review Essay

Everyone His/Her Own Archivist

Josh Zimmerman

Richard J. Cox, Personal Archives and a New Archival Calling: Readings, Reflections, and Ruminations, Duluth: Litwin Books, LLC, 2008. $35.00

In Carl Becker’s 1931 address to the American Historical Association entitled, “Everyman His Own Historian” he cleverly reduces history to its lowest common denominator and argues that the general public possesses some of the same skills that professional historians do, an idea that surely ruffled more than a few academic feathers. Using a now antiquated example of paying a coal delivery bill, Becker reasons that Mr. Everyman conducts historical research by analyzing various sources, weighing evidence, and making an informed decision based on that research.

Using Becker’s reductionist math, we can determine that everyone is just as much an archivist as he or she is a historian, yet only a select few of us have professional archival experience or formal training. Just like us, our non-professional counterparts constantly make decisions about appraisal, arrangement and description, and preservation that affect their professional, personal, and family records. Some inquisitive or resourceful people may stumble upon reliable information or advice, but many make decisions without a clear understanding of proper preservation techniques.

The effects of these uninformed decisions are disastrous not only to a family’s or an individual’s history, but also to the larger documentary universe. Since the 1960s, archivists have expanded the scope of their collecting policies to include documentation from un- and under-represented people, those all but forgotten in traditional collecting efforts. As a result of these conscious decisions, archival collections have started to reflect the rich diversity of American life. Though archivists have taken a more active role in collecting and even in creating documentation to fill gaps in existing collections, the initial burden of this herculean preservation task has fallen largely on people who know very little of preservation or archives for that matter. We solicit materials from defunct businesses and organizations and families of dead individuals, but rarely do we provide early preservation training for those same businesses, families, and individuals. When we do reach out to the community, our efforts are usually geared toward older material (photographic prints and negatives, paper, moving images, and audio tape) and not the massive amount of digital material created today.

Compared to analog records, digital materials are extremely unstable. As proprietary software, hardware, and file formats quickly become obsolete, we lose great swaths of information about the past. While some of the information is useless, the equivalent of digital post-it notes, other records are extremely valuable to individuals and families. Some technology journalists have termed this ominous loss to our digital documentary heritage the “digital dark age.” Despite the questionable aptness of this early medieval metaphor, the loss of valuable personal digital information is an enormous problem for a society heavily reliant on computers for entertainment, work, education, and almost every other facet of daily life. Due to carelessness, a blind faith in technology, an apathetic view of personal documents or history, or just plain blissful ignorance, many people are just not equipped to preserve their digital records. Companies rarely consider issues of long term preservation when developing new products or systems, which compounds the problem. So whose problem is preservation? Is it an individual’s responsibility to look out for his or her records? Is it the government’s responsibility through regulation and enforcement? Is it archivists’ responsibility?

In his newest book Personal Archives and a New Archival Calling: Readings, Reflections, and Ruminations, Richard J. Cox assigns this duty to the archival profession. But instead of viewing this task as a heavy burden, he sees it as a great opportunity to connect with a public that may not yet understand the value of archives and archivists. He explores the recent popularity of personal record keeping, collecting, genealogy, calligraphy, and journal-keeping as an untapped resource in educating people about the archival mission. He also urges archivists to embrace the romantic resonance of old documents and
photographs.

Cox presents personal preservation education as an entirely new calling for archivists and fashions himself its missionary. To archivists deeply involved in outreach, public education, and advocacy, Cox’s insights may not seem so novel. Unfortunately, he does very little to acknowledge the work that archivists have done to lay the groundwork for this new enterprise. Yet, the looming problem of personal digital preservation makes this an increasingly pertinent discussion.

*Personal Archives and a New Archival Calling* creates a tension between archival materials and archivists as professionals. Are archivists merely the sum of their collections, the combined results of our efforts of processing and making collections accessible? For quite some time, archivists have formed a sense of professional value from the materials with which they work and rightfully so. Without materials and people to use them and subsequently, find value in them, we would be a sorry lot. Cox suggests that archivists are (and can be) more than just the collections within their care; they possess a valuable set of skills that in turn can be taught to the public in order to help them manage and preserve personal archival materials. This type professional soul searching is ultimately healthy for archivists. The real danger lies in stagnant views of the profession and our place in society. In light of Cox’s previous work on the topic of professionalism (see “Professionalism and Archivists in the United States,” *American Archivist* Volume 49, Summer 1986), it surprised me that he didn’t fully capitalize on this tension to strengthen his argument for a realignment of the archival mission.

Whether you view *Personal Archives and a New Archival Calling* as a entirely new calling, an extension of the traditional archival mission of education and outreach, or question whether it is a calling at all, it is certainly a clarion call for archivists to increase and refocus their efforts towards helping the public preserve personal archival materials. Archivists constantly claim that both our profession and collections are indispensible to society. They pepper their prose with terms such as collective or social memory to add weight to this claim hoping that if they boldly employ these terms with confidence and often enough, it will magically come to fruition. Cox’s calling presents a very thoughtful and selfless way to ensure that the public understands the value of our profession and collections. As he writes, “The present interest in personal archiving represents a major new opportunity for archivists to re-imagine and better communicate their mission in society by aiding individuals who have already developed some interest in the archival enterprise” (2).

The major drawback of the book is that while it does provide great conceptual and professional ideas to mull over, it provides very little practical advice in helping archivists actually connect with the public. As he freely admits, “archivists have tended to address such matters mostly among themselves, and I plead guilty to this as well. For another, archivists have tended to take more conceptual views of their role in society, to the extent that the average person has little ability to connect in any meaningful fashion with the archival mission” (2). It is unclear whether his intention is to provide an intellectual framework for a movement already underway or to attempt to spur one on. Nevertheless, Cox leaves most of the heavy lifting to his fellow archivists. *Personal Archives and a New Archival Calling* is merely an argument that archivists should educate the public, but not how such a feat can be realized. It’s easy to criticize an author for what he or she didn’t write, but after reading this book, one is also left without a clear understanding of the immense scope of the public preservation problem and the possible solution. Large-scale systematic and collaborative approaches are needed to render Cox’s ideas a professional reality. Ask an Archivist Day on Twitter (June 9th), personal archives conferences, resources such as the Library of Congress’ National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program and regional and local events around the country such as the Seattle Area Archivists’ Archives Preservation Roadshow (Shameless Plug!) are all ways archivists have translated Cox’s conceptual proposition into educational action.

*Continued page 6*
Seattle Area Archivists presents

Archives Preservation ROADSHOW

May 14, 2011 | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

HOW OLD IS THIS? HOW DO I PRESERVE THIS? HOW CAN I SAVE THIS? HOW SHOULD I STORE THIS? HOW LONG WILL THIS LAST? WHAT IS THIS? Come ask professional archivists your questions about preserving family photos, film, audio recordings, and paper and digital records. Get advice that will help you preserve the history that's important to you! seattlearchivesroadshow.wordpress.com

*SORRY, NO MONETARY APPRAISALS WILL BE GIVEN*

National Archives and Records Administration, Pacific Alaska Region
6125 Sand Point Way NE Seattle, WA 98115-7999 | seattlearchivesroadshow.wordpress.com/ | seattlearchivesroadshow@gmail.com
Continued from page 4

For archivists looking to step back from their daily concerns, *Personal Archives and a New Archival Calling* contains plenty of concepts and suggestions to tackle and discuss. Perhaps the best idea that he presents is a rationale for his new calling. Cox states that by answering questions that individuals may have about personal preservation, it “may prompt new discussions about the administration of corporate and government records and information systems as well” (179). If nothing else, I think this book has reinvigorated and will continue to revive discussions of the proper place of archivists in society, their public role as preservation educators, and the value and necessity of new ideas in the archival profession.

**UW Special Collections has recently completed processing four new collections of personal papers.**

**James W. Forsyth family papers**
Accession No. 5541-001  
Date span: 1803-2004 (Bulk: 1850-1896)  
6.82 cubic feet (8 boxes)

James Forsyth (1834-1906) was born in Ohio and attended West Point Military Academy. After his graduation in 1856, he served in the 9th U.S. Infantry, which included postings in Washington Territory at Fort Bellingham and at Camp Pickett on San Juan Island. During the U.S. Civil War, he served as a lieutenant under Major General Phillip H. Sheridan, and remained with Sheridan after the war as his Chief of Staff, which involved him in many military campaigns against Native Americans in the West. As the colonel in charge of the 7th at Fort Riley, Kansas, he was the commander of the American troops participating in the Wounded Knee massacre in 1890 -- although there was an official investigation afterwards into Forsyth's conduct, he was cleared of wrongdoing by the government, and eventually retired from service as a Major General in 1897.

Materials include diaries, clippings, reports, ephemera, genealogical records, maps, and photographs, but the papers primarily consist of Forsyth's correspondence, particularly letters exchanged between Forsyth and his wife, Lizzie Dennison Forsyth, between 1866 and 1886. Other notable correspondents include Phillip Sheridan, Ulysses Grant, William Sherman, and "Libbie" Custer, the wife of General George Custer.

**Stan Henry papers**
Accession No. 5558-001  
22 cubic feet (23 boxes)


Stan Henry (1951-2003) was born in Indiana and graduated from Purdue University in 1975. After working for Purdue and for Alaska Pacific University, Henry moved to Seattle in 1979 to focus on his career as a writer. His short fiction was widely published in local and national periodicals such as *Seattle Gay News*, *Paper Radio*, *Out/Look*, and *Sacred City*. Henry frequently collaborated with other authors and artists, which ultimately resulted in his co-writing a musical called *Hibiscus*, which premiered at the Pilgrim Center for the Arts in Seattle in 1990. In addition to his work as a writer, Henry was a prominent activist in Seattle's community of people living with AIDS: he co-founded the Seattle AIDS Support Group in 1983, and assisted substantially in the creation of the Northwest AIDS Foundation and the Chicken Soup Brigade (now Lifelong AIDS Alliance).

Materials include correspondence, literary manuscripts, publications, ephemera, clippings, and photographs. Among Henry's frequent correspondents are the authors Rebecca Brown, Howard Cruse, Carl Vaughn Frick, Michael Harris and Bill Schelly.
Walt Crowley papers
Accession No. 5573-001
8 cubic feet (8 boxes)

http://www.lib.washington.edu/specialcoll/findaids/docs/papersrecords/CrowleyWalt5573.xml

Walt Crowley (1947-2007) grew up in Seattle, and became involved in political activism while a student at the University of Washington in the late 1960s. After several years as a contributor to Helix, an underground newspaper, Crowley became involved in social services, and in the 1970s worked in several positions for the city of Seattle, acting as their unofficial citizen participation expert. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, he remained involved in journalism and politics locally, writing for the Seattle Weekly, participating in regular debates with John Carlson on KIRO-TV, and serving as Governor Mike Lowry's speechwriter for two years in the early 1990s. In the late 1990s, after writing multiple books on the history of the Seattle area, he teamed up with his wife, Marie McCaffrey, and another local historian, Paul Dorpat, to conceive of and create an online encyclopedia of local history, which they named HistoryLink.org.

Materials include correspondence, clippings, photographs, art, and video tapes. Key subjects include Allied Arts of Seattle (for whom Crowley once served as president), the Blue Moon Tavern (which Crowley was instrumental in saving from demolition in 1990), and the Seattle Municipal League, an organization that employed Crowley as its policy director in the late 1980s.

Robert B. Walkinshaw papers
Accession No. 5568-001
Date span: 1903-1963
4.68 cubic feet (7 boxes)

http://www.lib.washington.edu/specialcoll/findaids/docs/papersrecords/WalkinshawRobertB5568.xml

Robert Walkinshaw (1884-1963) was born in Pennsylvania and graduated from the College of Wooster in Ohio. After receiving his law degree from Columbia University in 1911, he moved west to practice law in Tacoma until 1916, at which time he moved his practice to Seattle. He was an active member of many local clubs and associations, including the Rainier Club and the Monday Club. He published a work of local history in 1929 entitled On Puget Sound, which was illustrated by his wife, Jeanie Mayer Walter Walkinshaw (1885-1976), who had studied art in Paris with Lucien Seimon and Rene Mesnard, and worked with Robert Henri after her return to the States.

Materials include manuscripts, diaries, publications, correspondence, legal documents, photographs, prints, sound recordings, and ephemera. They cover Walkinshaw's college career, his travels as a young man, his legal career (including an article written about the Nuremberg Trials which appeared in the journal of the American Bar Association), and the research he saved from his work On Puget Sound.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS
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U.S. District Court Records Almost Fully Processed at NARA Pacific Alaska Region

Thanks to the efforts of several archivists, archives technicians, and students, the records of the U.S. District Courts of Oregon, Washington and Idaho are almost completely described in the Archival Research Catalog (ARC). The records include not only docket books and case files, but naturalization information, Commissioner’s dockets, indexes, registers, and other books tracking the work of the courts. We found several interesting things along the way. In the records of the U.S. District Court of Western Washington, Tacoma, the 1918-1919 volume of Military Petitions for Naturalization at Fort Lewis there are clusters of women in the Nurses Corps intermingled with the soldiers petitioning for naturalization.

While not related to the processing project, we also want to mention that we were finally able to accession the docket books (1892-1997) of the U.S. District Court of Idaho this year. We have been in discussion with the Court in Idaho about these docket books for several years. In addition to the docket books the Court sent a complete index to their cases through 1990, a wide variety of 19th and early 20th century administrative records and naturalization records.

— Kathleen Crosman, NARA

Graduate Travel Grants

The History Department at the University of Washington offers several travel grants for graduate students. The Maclyn P. Burg Graduate Student Scholarship Fund in History supports student travel costs for research trips. The Graduate School Travel and Honoraria Award provides funding for guest speakers, with leftover monies granted to students to cover travel costs to attend conferences or present papers. The History Miscellaneous Scholarship is also available for attending conferences or presenting papers. Mail to:

STEERING COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

The SAA steering committee requests nominations for our upcoming elections. Committee treasurer has decided to step down from the board, so this year we will have three vacancies to fill. Please send your name (or the name of a colleague) along with a short introduction to www.seattle.area.archivists@gmail.com.
This month marks the 44th anniversary of the formation of the Seattle Jewish Archives Committee

The Seattle Jewish Archives Committee was created on April 22, 1968, by the Women's Division of the Jewish Federation of Seattle and the University of Washington. The purpose was to acquire materials documenting Seattle's Jewish history.

The first meeting was held in the Manuscripts division of the University of Washington Libraries. This committee laid the foundation for the establishment of the Washington State Jewish Historical Society, which was organized in 1980. [History Link]

Collections of Catholic buildings photos being processed

Thanks to Alden Lee, volunteer and soon to be UW I-School student, for his work in the photo collections of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Seattle. Over the past 9 months, Alden has accessioned more than 13,000 images of Catholic parish, hospital, school, and college buildings throughout western Washington. Many of these images document landmarks important to the early history and development of towns and cities throughout the region. Plans to digitize and catalogue these collections are underway.

Tulalip village and St. Anne mission church circa 1860. Accession No. VR700.4233, Archives of the Archdiocese of Seattle.

HAVE ANY IDEAS FOR MEETINGS, PROGRAMS, OR ANYTHING ELSE?

We’re always open to new ideas for virtually anything archives related. It’s your Seattle Area Archivists. We’re especially looking for volunteers to host or plan Archives Reading Group meetings and Café des Fonds programs. Please contact: seattleareaarchivists@gmail.com

WANT TO HOST AN SAA MEETING AT YOUR REPOSITORY?

Let us know. We’re always looking for different repositories to host events and meetings. Please contact seattleareaarchivists@gmail.com for more information.
Genealogists and historians will benefit from a recent discovery at NARA, Pacific Alaska Region

One of the more unusual roles for military personnel during World War I, and one that many genealogists might not be aware of, took place in the Pacific Northwest. Men who had experience in the logging industry found themselves fighting the war not in the trenches in Europe but instead in the forests and mills of Oregon and Washington as a part of the Spruce Production Division. The Spruce Production Division was the U.S. Signal Corps unit responsible for logging and milling the lumber needed to build airplanes for the U.S. Navy, U.S. Army and European allies. The roughly 187 cubic feet of Spruce Production records include the correspondence of over 150 field squadrons and companies, district offices, and headquarters units in Oregon and Washington. In the past this material had been used by researchers interested in the World War I era, the impact of the 1918 flu pandemic, and the role of the company union, the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen, in maintaining labor peace. But its value to genealogists has been limited to those who knew the actual unit number to which their relative was assigned.

Recently a roster was found that lists all military personnel assigned to the Spruce Production Division as of November 1, 1918. The discovery of this roster opens up these records to family historians who know only that their relative served “in the woods” stateside or who know that their relative was in the Army and had previously worked in the lumber industry. The roster can be a valuable alternative to the official military personnel file (OMPF) since records of men discharged from the World War I Army were among the 80% of OMPFs destroyed in the 1973 fire at the Military Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri. The roster is arranged by first letter of the surname and then by unit; and lists the age, rank, duty assignment and home address for each man. We hope to have volunteers enter the information into a searchable database to improve access in the future.
Seattle Municipal Archives Digital Image Management Services

More than 300 photos of firehouse construction were added to the online Photograph Index in October and November. Stations represented are #21 (Greenwood), #13 (Mount Baker), #2 (Belltown), #17 (University District), #41 (Magnolia), #39 (Lake City), #35 (Crown Hill), and #33 (Rainier Beach).

Also, the Photo Archives is now including links to the best available historic scans in the Photo Index. In the past two months we have added almost 3,000 high resolution scans to catalog records.

Customers can now download the images directly from the Index.

HAVE AN EVENT THIS SUMMER?

Send us career opportunities, trainings, or any other information that you may have and we’ll post it on our website. For more information, email: seattleareaarchivists@gmail.com.
Busy Summer at the Archives

Carolyn Downs, NARA Intern

2010 was an unusually busy summer for the National Archives in Seattle, Washington, as eight student interns from across the country descended upon the Red Room (the processing room) with the fervor of those eager to get face-to-face with our nation’s history.

Under the guidance of archivist Patty McNamee, interns Jason VanGeelkerken – BA, Washington State University; Katie Magee – MA, Western Washington University; Laurie Waite – MLIS, San Jose State University; Barbara Morgan – MLIS, San Jose State University; Rebecca Smith – BA, Yale University; Ashley Stevens – MA/MLIS, University of South Carolina; Carolyn Downs – MAS/MLIS, University of British Columbia; and Kayla Ondareck – MSI, University of Michigan, were introduced to the ins and outs of the archivist’s trade.

What could possibly have drawn so many interns to a city that is known more for its rain than anything else? For some of the students, it was the attraction of traveling to a new part of the country; for others, it provided an opportunity to explore a possible career field; and for many, it was the lure of the institution itself.

Whatever the reason, students quickly learned that archival work is not as glamorous as it may first appear. Removing rusty staples from delicate paper, humidifying maps larger than a person is tall, lifting heavy boxes up and down ladders, photocopying seemingly endless amounts of newspaper clippings, and the occasional mold scare are all just a part of the day’s work. Such tasks, however, did not deter them from attacking their projects with efficiency and zeal.

Keeping McNamee on her feet with seemingly endless requests for new assignments, the student interns have prepared a large volume of material for public research. Focusing mainly on the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Forest Service, and the Army Corps of Engineers, projects included:

- processing and preservation of maps and plans from the Libby Dam, Wapato Irrigation Project, and the Olympic National Forest;
- processing textual records of the Beaverhead, Bitterroot, Kootenai, Nez Perce, and Flathead National Forests;
- cataloguing blue prints drawn for the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Training Centers in the Pacific Northwest;
- processing and indexing of land transaction case files of Pacific Northwest native tribal members from the 1950s and 1960s.

In addition, the interns have also had the opportunity to attend workshops conducted by the Records Management Program, work on accessioning records from the Records Center to the Archives, prepare finding aids, perform off-site reference service, and assist reference room supervisors by pulling and filing materials requested by researchers.
As the summer came to a close and the interns return to their respective universities, what from this experience will they take with them? For Morgan, some of the most valuable lessons were gleaned from the Emergency and Disaster Planning workshop conducted by the Records Management Program, and for VanGeelkerken, the internship affirmed his desire to pursue graduate studies in the archival field. For Waite and Stevens, the most enjoyable part of the internship was in processing the historical documents and making them available to the public; for Smith and Downs, it was in getting to know and learn from the other archivists and interns; and for Magee, it was in learning how to use a power saw and humidify oversized documents.

One thing that is certain is that the knowledge that has been gained during the summer will carry with the interns as they move forward in their professional careers.

**2011 Digitization Grant Program**

Washington State Archives and the Washington State Historical Records Advisory Board

**Deadline: 5/16/2011**

The Washington State Archives and the Washington State Historical Records Advisory Board (WSHRAB) are opening a new grant cycle for the Digitization Grant Program. This grant, supported by funding provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, is available to libraries and heritage organizations that possess historically valuable records created by separate local government entities. Grants of up to $5000 are available to digitize historical public records. Digital copies will be provided to the grant recipient and mounted on the Washington State Digital Archives, thereby improving preservation and increasing public access.

The application deadline is Monday, May 16, 2011. The WSHRAB 2011 Digitization Guidebook and Application can be found [here](#). For more information, contact Patrick Williams, grant coordinator, 360-586-0108, patrick.williams@sos.wa.gov or Midori Okazaki, WSHRAB Project Coordinator, 425-564-3947, midori.okazaki@sos.wa.gov.

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**Ruth Ittner, Iron Goat Trail Administrative Records Inventory and Preservation Plan Completed**

The Skykomish Historical Society has completed the first phase of preservation and cataloging for the Ruth Ittner, Iron Goat Trail Administrative Records collection. This work, supported by a Collections Care Program grant from 4Culture, consisted of inspecting and organizing the materials in thirty-five boxes, creation of a Preservation Needs Assessment, completing a box level inventory of the materials and posting the inventory online.

The collection consists of Iron Goat Trail administrative records. Included in the materials are Ruth Ittner’s personal “Trail Logs” 1994 – 2008, plans, schedules, photographs, meeting minutes, budgets, grant applications, awards, correspondence files, IGT annual brochures and trail guidebooks, Volunteers for Outdoor Washington records, books, videos, contracts, maps, and year by year files collected by Ms. Ittner.

Ruth Ittner was the Project Manager of the Iron Goat Trail construction, near Stevens Pass, Washington for Volunteers for Outdoor Washington in partnership with the US Forest Service and the Washington Department of Transportation.

Internet access to the inventory is available at the society website: [www.skykomishhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.skykomishhistoricalsociety.org) Use the collections tab, then select Search the Collection, Key Words: Ruth Ittner Collection

These materials are also available for inspection by appointment at the Skykomish Historical Society in Skykomish, Washington. For an appointment contact can be made at PO Box 247, Skykomish, Washington, 98288
Seattle Voices Heard at the City Archives

The Seattle Municipal Archives recently launched a new online exhibit space “Seattle Voices.” The online exhibit “space” provide clips from audio recordings. Primarily of Seattle City Council committee proceedings, including committee meetings and public hearings, the audio can be difficult to use, as it is primarily accessible through legislative history research. The clips provide a glimpse of the more interesting meetings, allowing individuals to come to life in a way not possible with textual documents, bringing voices to life of individuals not documented anywhere else in the archives. Give it a listen: http://www.seattle.gov/CityArchives/Exhibits/voices.htm You’ll hear the voices of Roberto Maestas, Larry Gossett and Rev. John H. Adams, among others.

Nicolette Bromberg’s Shadows of a Fleeting World
Now in Print

In the mid-1920s a group of immigrant Japanese-American Pictorialist photographers in Seattle came together to form the Seattle Camera Club in order to share their love of photography. While the club only lasted from 1924-1929, it was amazingly successful. Members exhibited their work all over the world and their photographs were widely published and won many awards. The president of the club, Dr. Kyo Koike, was even invited to become a member of the British Royal Photographic Society. Sadly, most of the Seattle Camera Club work was lost over time for various reasons, including the internment of the Japanese during WWII. Three important collections of photographs by camera club members reside at the University of Libraries Special Collections. The Iwao Matsushita, Frank Kunishige, and Dr. Kyo Koike photograph collections are an important resource for research and exhibition. The collections also include some works from other members, such as, Yukio Morinaga, Hiromu Kira, and Frank Ogasawara. These photographs constitute the largest surviving group of work by the Seattle Camera Club members. The holdings also include a complete run of the journal Notan published by the club (written in both English and Japanese), and many articles about photography written by Dr. Koike. The holdings at Special Collections are the largest and most complete record of any of the Japanese camera clubs which were prevalent on the west coast during the 1920s. In fact, in some cases there is almost nothing left of the work of some clubs which makes the Special Collections materials even more important for researchers.

A book on the Seattle Camera Club by Nicolette Bromberg and David Martin, Shadows of a Fleeting World: Pictorial Photography and the Seattle Camera Club has been published by the University of Washington Press. The Henry Art Gallery currently is showing Seattle Camera Club photographs from Special Collections along with works borrowed from private sources in the largest ever exhibition of their work. Included in the exhibit also are photographic Christmas and New’s Years cards made by the members of the club and sent to the club president, Dr. Koike. The exhibit will run until May 8th.

Volunteer archivists needed for Seattle Area Archivists' Preservation Fair on May 14th.

Please let us know if you can help! Contact Josh at seattlearchivesroadshow@gmail.com. Thanks for your help! For information on the Preservation Fair, please visit our event website at seattlearchivesroadshow.wordpress.com!

Protected by the Prince

Check out (if you haven’t already) the latest Harlequin Romance, Protected by the Prince, featuring national archivist Tamsin Connors.

Prince Alaric of Ruvingia is as wild and untamed as the remote kingdom he rules. Women fight to warm his royal bed, but he ensures that none outstays her welcome. Then reserved, bespectacled archivist Tamsin Connors uncovers a shocking state secret! Now Tamsin has Alaric’s undivided attention, and he finds himself drawn to her burgeoning purity! Duty demands only a temporary arrangement, but soon their powerful passion is enough to fuel a lifetime’s love!

[April 9 – June 3]

Now & Then

MOHAI, McCurdy Gallery

This exhibit delves into the rich and diverse history of Seattle through “repeat photography”—the practice of using historical and contemporary photographs to reveal the changes in our world. Now and then comparisons are proven delights where two images of the same place telescope the time that transpired between them. The repeat photographs include the work of local icon Paul Dorpat and his collaborators, Jean Sherrard and Berangere Lomont.

[April 14]

Opening Reception for In His Own Words: The Life and Work of Cesar Chavez

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Exhibition curator and Bridges Center Faculty Associate Professor John Hammerback (UW Communication) will give a short talk, followed by a tour of the show. Refreshments will be served.
Location: Allen Library South, Research Commons, UW Seattle. For more information, visit www.lib.washington.edu, call 206-543-7946 or e-mail pcls@u.washington.edu. Sponsored by UW American Ethnic Studies, Department of Communication, Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies, University Libraries, Simpson Center, Labor Archives of Washington State, and Humanities Texas.

To request disability accommodation, contact the Disability Services Office at least ten days in advance at: 206.543.6450/V, 206.543.6452/TTY, 206.685.7264 (FAX), or dso@u.washington.edu

[April 15]

Seattle Area Archivists Spring Meeting

Mark your calendars for our upcoming Spring Meeting for all SAA members, which will be held at NARA at on April 15 3-4:30 pm. The meeting will open with a short business section including a discussion of upcoming events. This will be a chance for you to offer your insights and hobnob with your colleagues. A tour of the National Archives facility will be available for anyone interested following the meeting.

[April 19]

Pacific Northwest Historians Guild Membership Meeting

Paul Spitzer will give a presentation on “Seattle’s notorious General Strike of 1919” at the Seattle Public Library, North East Branch, 6801 35th Avenue NE in Seattle.

[April 21-23]


Location: Great Northern Hotel in Helena Montana

Three workshops will be offered:

- SAA Basics of Electronic Records Management. Note: SAA Workshop Requires Separate Registration: Click here to

Register on SAA website

- Project Management for Archivists Note: registration for this workshop is done via conference registration form.

- Financial Management for Archivists Note: registration for this workshop is done via conference registration form.

[April 26]

Annual AKCHO Awards Program

7:00 – 8:30 PM
MOHAI, McEachern Auditorium

You are invited to the Association of King County Historical Organizations Annual Awards Program, hosted by the Museum of History and Industry and 4Culture. The AKCHO Awards are a special event to honor those who have made significant and memorable contributions to King County’s heritage.

Hors d’oeuvres Reception and No-Host Bar
5:30 to 7 p.m.
MOHAI Galleries

Please RSVP by April 20, 2010 to Jessie Cunningham. Please include: first and last name, if you are an AKCHO member, affiliate organization if applicable, e-mail address and/or phone number, and number of guests.

Cost: Free

Tickets/Registration: RSVP to Jessie Cunningham

More Information: akcho.org

Contact: Jessie Cunningham | (425) 638-9210

[April 29-30]

Archivists Association of British Columbia Conference 2011: Networks and Archives/Networks in Archives
Social, intellectual and technical networks define today’s society. Networks:

- Increase access to education and resources needed to manage information and cultural assets
- Build awareness of archival holdings in and among diverse communities
- Reach new audiences by using new technology, such as social networking tools

**REGISTER NOW!**

Conference registration fees:

**Students** $25

**AABC members**

Registration by April 8: $40
After April 8 $50

**Non-members** $50

Conference registration at the door on April 29 by cash or check only: $55

Register online at [http://www.gifttool.com/registrar/ShowEventDetails?ID=1831&EID=9082](http://www.gifttool.com/registrar/ShowEventDetails?ID=1831&EID=9082)

Irving K. Barber Learning Centre
University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC

The conference will include pre-conference workshops on the preceding two days (April 27th and 28th).

Daniel Caron, Librarian and Archivist of Canada, will be giving a keynote address.

- **Managing Photographic Media Workshop**
  
  Download the [Managing Photographic Media PDF](#).

The AABC is pleased to offer a 2-day workshop that incorporates the archival management of photographic media with preservation management. Team-taught by the AABC’s Archives and Preservation Advisors, this workshop is designed for archivists and collections managers responsible for photographic media. The workshop is taught using mini-PowerPoint presentations followed by hands-on sessions. The hands-on sessions will cover appraisal, access & privacy (including copyright), arrangement and description, photographic negative and print identification and the identification of safe and unsafe storage enclosures. The workshop will also briefly cover digitization best practices and management of born-digital archival photographs.

**Dates & Times:**
April 27 & 28, 2011
9:00am – 4:00pm

- **Electronic records workshop:** Digital Preservation using [Archivematica](#)

Digital preservation is applying strategies, tools and resources to overcome the threat of technology obsolescence and incompatibility to maintain the accessibility, usability and authenticity of digital information over the long-term. The workshop begins with a summary of digital preservation issues and strategies. The theoretical component will end with a discussion on the requirements of the Reference Model for an Open Archival Information System (ISO 14721) and how to translate these into specific, concrete actions using software tools.

Students will be provided with computer workstations pre-loaded with the free and open-source Archivematica software (as well as USB key version of the software). Archivematica is an integrated suite of open-source software tools designed to manage the functional OAIS workflow from ingest to access. Students will use Archivematica to learn about preparing Submission Information Packages for ingest, identifying and validating file formats, adding descriptive and technical metadata, normalizing records into preservation formats, creating an Archival Information Package using PREMIS, METS and Bagit, storing preserved objects and making Dissemination Information packages available to end-users via an ICA-AtoM web interface.
[May 2]

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

**Visual Literacy Workshop**

**Workshop Description**

This workshop provides methods to gain information from photographs and to understand how this information can be applied in a practical manner to help manage, arrange, and describe collections more effectively and for researchers to extract information. If you’ve attended SAA’s “Understanding Photographs” workshop, this is your next step! This workshop adds more concepts that are important for understanding the intellectual and physical nature of photographs. Incorporating these concepts into daily practice can have practical and economical benefit for the archivist and provide better service to the researcher. Learn to understand the photograph as artifact, visual literacy, and their application to photograph collection management and research uses.

Upon completing this workshop, you’ll:

- Have examined visual literacy in-depth and learned to apply this information in practice always to arrange and describe photograph collections;
- Know about the importance of the concept of object and image in collection management and the difference between physical order and intellectual order;
- Comprehend the intellectual and social nature of photographs;
- Understand the photographic messages, the complex collective life of photographs, and how the photographic information can be obscured or changed over time; and
- Be able to apply this knowledge to managing photo collections to save time and money.

**Attendance limited to 30 and places are going quickly.**

http:saa.archivists.orgScripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGIevents/232.htm

[May 7]

6 PM - 11 PM

**History is ____Awards Gala**

MOHAI and SIFF announce the first annual History Is____ Awards Gala. Come see the award-winning entries from MOHAI's History Is____ Film Competition while getting a special sneak preview of SIFF's 2011 Northwest Connections films. Arrive early for a festive reception celebrating all participating History Is____ filmmakers. Stay late to mingle with some of the Pacific Northwest's most acclaimed filmmakers while enjoying beverages and hors d'oeuvres, accompanied by the music of DJ Dorsia. Tickets are required. Held at Museum of History and Industry

6:00: Reception
7:00: Awards Ceremony, followed by After Party.

**Tickets available April 4th through SIFF's Box Office:**

- Reception and Awards Program only: $12 General; $8 MOHAI & Steering Committee Members; $5 Students (18 and under)
- Reception and Awards Program, with After Party Access*: $20 General; $15 MOHAI & Steering Committee Members; $10 Students (18 and under).

* After Party tickets include one free drink.

**Contact**: Helen Divjak | 206-324-1126

[May 14]

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**Personal Archives Preservation Roadshow**

National Archives and Records Administration, Puget Sound Region

6125 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle

**Directions**: www.archives.gov#directions
Get information about how to preserve:

- Photographic prints & negatives
- Letters and other family documents
- Moving images and audio, email, electronic documents, digital photos, and much, much more.

Bring your questions about preserving personal or family papers (in any format) and get advice from archivists and museum professionals with a wide variety of backgrounds and institutions around the area. Do you have an interesting family or personal document? Bring your treasures (personal papers, collections, and photos) to share and show off.

*SORRY, NO MONETARY APPRIASAL WILL BE GIVEN.

[June 16]

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

ARMA Seattle Brown Bag Lunch
Seattle City Hall
600 4th Ave, Floor 3 Wing Luke-ask front desk on 3rd floor
Session: Disposing of the Difficult: Legacy Data Management- The Missing Part of Most E-Records Programs Cost: Free
the area. Do you have an interesting family or personal document? Bring your treasures (personal papers, collections, and photos) to share and show off.

[June 18]

120th Annual Meeting of the Washington State Historical Society

Join the Washington State Historical Society at the History Museum on Saturday, June 18 at 11 a.m. to meet this year’s award winners in the Grand Lobby and learn about their recent, distinguished accomplishments in state history. At noon, enjoy lunch on the Mezzanine level followed by a program featuring a state of the organization address by Director David Nicandri, presentation of 2010 Society awards by Trustee John Hughes, and the annual Curtiss Hill Lecture delivered by noted teacher, naturalist, and writer, Jack Nisbet.

This year’s lecture, "Coming of Age: Natural Science in the Northwest, 1820 to 1835," focuses on the travels of the first scientists who came to the Northwest. This presentation will trace some of their travels, with a particular focus on Scottish naturalist David Douglas.

Members can expect formal invitation by mail with additional details. Cost of the luncheon is $35 and reservations are highly recommended. For more information or to reserve seats, contact Development Director Laura Berry at (253) 798-5899 or lberry@wshs.wa.gov.

[July 10-22]

The 25th annual Western Archives Institute
U.C. Berkeley in Berkeley, CA

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 who 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.

Tuition for the Institute is $700 and includes a selection of archival publications. Other non-negotiable fees including program transportation, facility fees, opening dinner, and luncheon at the closing program will be available in early February. Housing and meal plans are available at additional cost.

The application deadline for the 2011 Western Archives Institute is April 1, 2011. For additional program information,
see http://www.calarchivists.org/Default.aspx?pageId=704191

[August 22 – 27]

75th Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists, held in late summer in different cities throughout the country, includes a wide array of informative education sessions, pre-conference programs, tours of local repositories, special events, exhibits, and networking opportunities.

ARCHIVES 360°
SAA’s 75th Annual Meeting & Anniversary Celebration
Hyatt Regency Chicago
August 22 – 27, 2011