Dear SFA Members,

Another year of accessioning, organizing and appraising should be on most everyone’s slate of activities for 2012. As I look back on the past year and what I have accomplished at my own desk, I am amazed at how much was processed and neatly put away. Cleaning off my desk is a goal I strive for every week; it provides a sense of accomplishment, assuring me that I have been productive and have made a small dent in the backlog. At SFA, we also have accomplished much over the past year that will continue to benefit our members in the new year.

In the last quarter of 2011, SFA implemented a new online membership system to help improve and facilitate database management. Besides the glitch of sending you multiple membership renewal letters, what are your thoughts on the new system? Please let us know so that we can continue to make adjustments that will maximize the system’s capabilities.

The SFA Board’s last conference call meeting was held January 20. During the meeting, the Board approved the selection of members for the Awards, Scholarship and Nominations committees (page 2). As President, it was a great pleasure to call or e-mail each new committee member with news of their appointment. It’s not every day that we have the opportunity to talk with fellow archivists, give them good news, and, simply, catch up a bit. Each committee will be distributing their respective announcements via the SFA listserv to gain your support so they can work their magic. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to the committee chairs to ask questions or provide input. Also, if you would like to throw your hat in the ring, let us know. A couple of new faces have joined the committees, and there is always room for more.

In addition to the Board keeping active, the Conference Planning and Local Arrangements Committees, chaired by Sandra Varry, have been busy identifying interesting conference sessions, evening activities and possible surprises. Each year, we come together as a group to network, learn new archival ideas and have a good time away from our usual surroundings—and the 2012 conference in Sarasota will continue that great tradition. Please plan now to be in Sarasota during the first week of May for our annual pilgrimage for archival learning.

In 2002, a few South Florida archivists, librarians and curators decided to get together to talk about their organizations and introduce themselves. This small group met and decided that it could be really beneficial for networking and finding answers to questions. Since then, the group has grown to nearly 40 members who meet quarterly at various locations in Broward, Dade and Palm Beach counties. We started with an e-mail list, which led to our own “Gold Coast Archives Group” page on LinkedIn.

<continued on page 2>
The SFA Board is pleased to announce the 2012 Committee roster. We sincerely thank those who volunteered to serve this year.

If you are interested in providing assistance to one of the committees listed below, please contact President Michael Zaidman (michael.zaidman@jimmoranfoundation.org).

### SFA Committee Appointments

#### Awards
*Publicize, solicit and evaluate nominees for the SFA Award of Excellence.*

Chair, Leslie Siegel (Florida Atlantic University)  
Katherine Fleming (Barry University)  
Garret Kremer-Wright (Orange County Regional History Center)  

#### Conference Planning/Local Arrangements
*Develop, arrange and implement the Society’s Annual Meeting, including the facilitation of events and special non-programmatic activities.*

Chair, Sandra Varry (University of Central Florida)  
Burt Altman (Florida State University)  
Jessi Christian (The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art)  
Cynthia Peterson (University of Gainesville)  
Tomaro Taylor (University of South Florida Tampa Bay)  
Florence Turcotte (University of Gainesville)  
Michael Zaidman (The Jim Moran Foundation)  

#### Nominations
*Publicize, solicit and provide information to the membership regarding the slate of candidates for the SFA Board of Officers.*

Chair, Koichi Tasa (University of Miami)  
Laura Capell (University of Miami)  
Christine Wysocki (Flagler University)  

#### Scholarship
*Publicize, solicit and evaluate nominees for the SFA Judith Beale Scholarship.*

Chair, Erin Santana (The Jim Moran Foundation)  
Chris Barfield (Fort Lauderdale Historical Society)  
William Modrow (Florida State University)  

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER, CONT.

The Gold Coast Archives Group and SFA speak volumes to the power of connecting with our colleagues in archives and related fields. It’s always important to continue networking, meeting your local colleagues and discovering new opportunities through collaboration. If you need help starting your own local network, just ask any Board member to assist you in getting the ball rolling.

If you’re like me, whenever I watch television or a movie and someone mentions going to the archives or talking with a curator, I seem to stand a little bit taller. Usually, my family also mentions it to me, and they will proudly tell their friends . . . “my husband/son/brother does that.” We are in a really great profession and when the opportunity arises to explain to people what you do, I say tell them loud and proud, that you are an archivist!

Here’s to another successful and enjoyable year as a member of SFA and the archives profession.
This year’s conference promises interesting and informative sessions, workshops and poster sessions in addition to a number of networking opportunities for attendees. Whether you are new to the field or an experienced professional, this is one conference you will not want to miss!

Conference Registration Fees
SFA Members: $85
Non-SFA Members (includes one year SFA membership): $105
Students: $50

Hotel Registration Fees
Single and Double Occupancy rooms: $119/night plus applicable taxes
Deluxe Balcony rooms, single/double occupancy: $154/night plus applicable taxes
Parking: Free (Non-valet)
Reservations: https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=5132464

An Invitation to Share Your Knowledge, Wisdom & Experience
The 2012 Conference Planning Committee seeks proposals that demonstrate or highlight successful practices, techniques and collaborations presented as:

A. Skill-building workshops: Half-day, instructional sessions in which skills and techniques are taught and discussed
B. Discussion-based sessions: 45-minute presentations followed by Q&A or group discussion.

Submissions must include the following:
* Title and abstract or brief description of proposed session or workshop (not to exceed 250 words);
* One-sentence statement affirming presenter(s) commitment to attending the SFA Annual Meeting and presenting the proposed session or workshop if selected;
* Name, postal address, telephone number, and valid email address.

Proposals for the 2012 SFA Annual Meeting are due Monday, March 30. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered. Submissions should be directed to Sandra Varry via e-mail or fax (407.823.2529). Submitting presenters will be notified of the outcome of the proposal review process on or by April 6.
The Judith Beale Scholarship supports selected students and archival professionals in attending the SFA Annual Meeting. Scholarships include free conference registration and a stipend to reduce travel and lodging costs. For additional information, please visit http://www.florida-archivists.org/Judith-Beale-Scholarship.php.

To Apply
Applicants can be undergraduate students, graduate students or archives professionals in need of financial assistance to attend the SFA Annual Meeting. **Special consideration will be given to graduate students and individuals new to the archives profession.**

Applicants should submit:

- one-page letter describing interest in the scholarship and how it will contribute to educational or career goals.
- résumé or curriculum vitae.
- letter of reference from a person with knowledge of the applicant’s work or educational program.

Students should submit a transcript of coursework completed and underway. Unofficial copies of transcripts are acceptable.

Applications and supporting documentation should be received no later than Friday, March 23. Submit packets via postal or e-mail address to:

Erin Santana  
SFA Scholarship Committee  
c/o JM Family Enterprises, Inc.  
100 Jim Moran Boulevard, Mail Drop: JMFDF010  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

Judith Beale (d. 2010) was an archivist and active member of SFA who was beloved by her students and colleagues at The University of Central Florida. In tribute to Judith’s boundless enthusiasm for the archives profession and her work with students, the annual SFA scholarship was renamed in her honor.

**Contributions to the Judith Beale Scholarship Fund may be sent to:**

Society of Florida Archivists  
P.O. Box 2746  
Lakeland, FL 33806-2746
The Society of Florida Archivists’ Award of Excellence recognizes outstanding contributions to the preservation of Florida’s documentary heritage. Any person, institution, or exemplary program that has provided noteworthy leadership in the field, promoted excellence through outstanding achievements, or contributed significantly to the betterment of the profession may be considered for the award. Nominees are considered annually. Examples of areas in which significant contributions might be recognized include, but are not limited to:

♦ promotion of the identification and preservation of Florida’s archival and manuscript heritage.
♦ implementation of noteworthy management innovations, conservation, or collection development programs.
♦ encouragement of use and knowledge of archival holdings through a specific program.
♦ promotion of professional education.
♦ exemplary public programming efforts.
♦ proven leadership in professional associations at state, regional, and/or national levels.
♦ contributions to the Society in leadership or noteworthy committee work.
♦ additions to the professional literature.

Submissions must include the name, employer, and contact information of the individual, institution or program being nominated for the award. Submissions also should include a statement, not to exceed 1000 words, describing qualifications, history of activities, etc. to support your nomination. Supporting materials may be included as part of the nomination packet but are not required.

The deadline for nominations is April 4. Nominations should be directed to Leslie Siegel via e-mail.

The SFA Award of Excellence was established in 1989. Recent recipients have included John Nemmers, University of Florida (2011); Gertrude Laframboise, Rollins College (2010); Dorothy “Dottie” Patterson, Delray Beach Historical Society (2009), and Mary M. Flekke, Florida Southern College, & Maria R. Estorino, University of Miami (2008). For a complete listing of recipients, visit http://www.florida-archivists.org/SFA-Award-of-Excellence.php.
I first heard about becoming a Certified Archivist in 2007 when I was finishing my last semester of graduate school coursework. I knew that I wanted to become a Certified Archivist because it would ultimately help me gain future employment. I could have taken the exam after I graduated. However, I chose to wait until I had the required years of professional experience.

There is debate in the archival community about the benefits of sitting for the Academy of Certified Archivist's exam. Will the designation affect the daily routine of an archivist? Probably not. Will it signal to employers and other colleagues that a person is dedicated to continue learning? Yes.

In 2009, when I reached my year of eligibility, I registered  to sit for the annual August exam in Atlanta, Georgia. A few of my graduate school classmates had passed the exam previously, so I emailed them for advice on what to study and to inquire about the types of questions generally asked. They suggested I read the Academy of Certified Archivist's Exam Handbook and the Archival Fundamental Series II books. Getting back into the studying habit was a struggle. I found additional study help in the form of an annotated bibliography someone had created that analyzed a selection of books on archival theory.

The Archival Certification Exam consists of 100 multiple-choice questions with a three-hour time limit. There are seven domains comprising the exam, with approximately 10 questions from each domain. Domains cover every aspect of archival theory, from arrangement and description to public relations. The questions are straightforward and easy to understand. The answers, however, will need to be read carefully because they are very detailed.

Waiting for the results to come back required patience. I knew I would get some questions wrong. When the results came, I found out that I did not pass. This was very disappointing to me, but I knew that I would try harder the next year. I used the same material to study the second year but failed to pass the second time. For the third attempt, I re-read Mary Jo Pugh's Providing Reference Services for Archives and Manuscripts. This topic was one of the domains that I had trouble with on the test. In August 2011, I successfully passed the exam and received certification valid for five years. Through my perseverance and determination, I succeeded.
SFA Announcements

… SFA has discontinued print publication of *The Florida Archivist*. As an online-only publication, SFA is able to reduce the costs associated with printing and distributing the newsletter. If you require a print version of the newsletter, please send your name and mailing address to the Editor at the e-mail or postal address below:

Tomaro Taylor  
FMHI Research Library  
13301 N. Bruce B. Downs Blvd, MHC1737  
Tampa, FL 33612

SFA Member News


News from SAA

… Nominations are sought for SAA’s numerous awards, scholarships and honorary recognitions. The deadline is February 28: [http://www2.archivists.org/recognition](http://www2.archivists.org/recognition).

… March 2 is the deadline for the *I Found it in the Archives!* national contest: [http://www2.archivists.org/initiatives/i-found-it-in-the-archives](http://www2.archivists.org/initiatives/i-found-it-in-the-archives).

… Abstracts for the SAA 2012 Research Forum are due May 1: [http://www2.archivists.org/proceedings/research-forum/2012/call](http://www2.archivists.org/proceedings/research-forum/2012/call).

… The online publication *Using Archives: An Effective Guide to Research* (Laura Schmidt) and a web badge pointing directly to the source are available for use at [http://www2.archivists.org/usingarchives](http://www2.archivists.org/usingarchives).

Exhibits, Publications & Projects

… A new blog, “[eCODEX: News from USF’s Special & Digital Collections](http://lib.usf.edu/special-collection-news/),” was unveiled earlier this month. Weekly posts will highlight new and established collections, departmental initiatives, and events and exhibits at the University of South Florida Library’s Special Collections, Digital Collections and Florida Mental Health Institute Research Library. Visit the blog at [http://lib.usf.edu/special-collection-news/](http://lib.usf.edu/special-collection-news/).

… The University Archives and West Florida History Center (University of West Florida) has made available digital oral histories from the Creek Indian History Project, ca. 1980s: [http://143.88.66.76/Archon/?p=collections/findingaid&id=44&q=&rootcontentid=12587#id12587](http://143.88.66.76/Archon/?p=collections/findingaid&id=44&q=&rootcontentid=12587#id12587). The interviews were digitized as part of a grant project in UWF’s History Department.

… The Carrie Meek-James Eaton Black Archives and Museum (Florida A&M University) was awarded a $149,454 renewal grant to recruit and train black students for the museum profession.

… *Gasparilla: A Tampa Tradition* will be on exhibit at the Henry B. Plant Museum, January 13–February 13.


Collections


Conferences, Workshops & Webinars

… *Hurricane Summit*, Miami, FL (February 8).

… *WebWise Conference on Libraries and Museums in the Digital Age*, Baltimore, MD (February 29-March 2).


… *Florida Library Association Annual Conference*, Orlando, FL (April 18-20).

… “[Developing Emergency Plans](http://www2.archivists.org/initiatives/i-found-it-in-the-archives),” FL Connecting to Collections, Tallahassee, FL (April 24).

<continued on page 8>
… 2012 Southern Archivists Conference, Jackson, MS (April 26-27).
… SFA 2012 Annual Meeting, Sarasota, FL (May 1-4).
… Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL), Petion-ville, Haiti (June 4-8).
… NEH Sustainable Preservation Practices for Managing Storage Environments-Series II, Miami, FL (October 16-17).

Calls for Proposals
… The Association for the Study of African American Life and History seeks panel and paper proposals for a conference dedicated to exploring African American women’s roles in and contributions to the making of America. Proposals for the September 2012 conference are due April 16: http://convention3.allacademic.com/one/asalh/asalh12/index.php?

Funding Opportunities
… Grant proposals for the Council on Library and Information Resources’ (CLIR) Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives program are due March 16.
… Applications for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission’s (NHPRC) Electronic Records Project grants are due June 7. On February 8 and 23, the NHPRC will host webinars to answer questions about the grant. Information is available at http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/electronice.html.
… The National Endowment for the Humanities’ Division of Preservation and Access invites applications for Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions, due May 1.

Educational Opportunities
… Applications for the 2012 Archives Leadership Institute are due February 3. The Institute will be held July 22-28 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
… Increasing African American Diversity in Archives is a fellowship, mentoring, training and placement institute sponsored by The HistoryMakers. The program seeks applicants for a year-long fellowship beginning June 2012. Applications are due February 14. Additional information is available at the following URL: http://www.thehistorymakers.com/aboutus/careers.asp or by contacting Jessica Levy (jl@historymakers.com).
… The deadline for the FL Connecting to Collections Statewide Training Program has been extended to February 15. The application and requirements have been simplified to encourage broader participation. Contact Myriam Springuel (Myriam@SpringuelConsulting.com) for more information.
… The 45th Annual Georgia Archives Institute will be held June 11-22 in Morrow, GA. Designed for beginning archivists, the Institute will be led by Kathleen Row (Week 1) and Richard Pearce-Moses (Week 2). Applications are due March 1: http://www.georgiaarchivesinstitute.org/.
… The Archival Education and Research Institute (AERI) has announced a recruitment and outreach scholarship program to encourage minority students to consider doctoral education focused on Archival Studies. Applications, due March 1, can be found at http://aeri.gseis.ucla.edu/fellowships.htm#easp.
… Month-long fellowships for research and writing on the subject of North American Jewry are available at the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives. Applicants must be post-doctoral candidates, Ph.D. candidates completing dissertations, or senior or independent scholars. Program information is available at http://americanjewisharchives.org/programs_fellowship.php.
… The 25th annual Western Archives Institute is being held at California State Polytechnic University, July 8-20. Thomas Wilsted will serve as this year’s Principle Faculty Member. Applications and additional information may be found at http://www.calarchivists.org/WAI.
SFA is an organization of individuals and institutions who share a concern for the identification, preservation, and use of records of historical value. It is dedicated to the dissemination of information about such records and about sound archival methodology.

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The Florida Archivist
IN THE NEWS...

PUBLIC DOMAIN DAY
Find out which individuals’ writings entered the Public Domain on January 1, 2012:

SOCIAL METADATA FOR LAMS

MASTERS AND JOHNSON ARCHIVES GOES TO KINSEY INSTITUTE
Indiana University’s Kinsey Institute received the archives of noted sex researchers William Masters and Virginia Johnson. The collection documents the researchers’ work from 1957 to the 1990s.

PASS IT ON: PRESERVATION WEEK 2012
Check out Facebook and the PW 2012 Google Map for Preservation Week 2012 ideas. Events will be held April 22-28.

NARA AND THE US HISTORIC PHOTO MAP
The National Archives is contributing historic photographs to Historypin.com, a crowdsourcing site that allows contributors to add images and comments to a Google map of the United States. Read about the project here.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT DIGITAL COLLECTION UNVEILED
In December 2011, the Theodore Roosevelt Center, based at Dickinson State University in North Dakota, launched a digital library bringing together the disparate documents of Theodore Roosevelt, the only modern, former US President for whom a presidential library has not been named. The library brings together correspondence, photographs, speeches and other items that have been gathered and digitized from Theodore Roosevelt Center partners.

CROWLEY ACQUIRES WICKS & WILSON LIMITED
The Crowley Company announced the acquisition of Wicks and Wilson Limited, an England-based manufacturer and distributor of the Scanstation brand microforms and aperture card scanners.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES TRANSCRIPTION PROJECT
Volunteers are sought to help transcribe more than 300 documents in the Transcription Pilot Project:

VATICAN ARCHIVES TURN 400
On January 31, the Vatican’s secret archives turned 400 years old. Home to over 50 miles of shelving, the archive holds more than 12 centuries of history. A celebratory exhibition (“Lux in Arcana”) featuring 100 archival documents will be on display from March to September at the Musei Capitolini.

SPACE SHUTTLE RECORDATION
NASA has made available a website documenting their efforts to preserve the space shuttle Discovery and its sister ships. Visit “Space Shuttle Recordation” at http://www.nasa.gov/agency/crm/shuttle.