



Society of Florida Archivists

## THE FLORIDA ARCHIVIST



Tomaro Taylor  
SFA President

**Dear SFA Members,**

The 2012-2013 year promised (and delivered!) a wealth of opportunities and initiatives for SFA. As we approach our 30th Annual Meeting next month, let's take a quick look at where we are currently and where we are heading.

Much of the SFA Board's work centers on maintaining the organizational status quo—providing exceptional conference programming, ensuring the dissemination of relevant professional information and encouraging networking and other collaborative engagements among members. Over the past few years, the Board has worked extensively to improve varied aspects of the member experience while also streamlining and standardizing efforts behind-the-scenes. Did you see this year's ballot? It was electronic! We hope to increase use of other electronic services, such as online payments and annual meeting evaluations, in the near future. Additionally, the Board is developing an Administrative Manual which will be available online soon. Sincere thanks and appreciation to Flo Turcotte, Kathy Turner Thompson, Beatrice Skokan, Katherine Fleming, Bill Modrow and Mike Zaidman for working so extensively and diligently this past year.

When a new slate of officers joins the Board this May, our newest editor of *The Florida Archivist* will be in position to report it. Please extend a warm welcome to Janet DeVries. Janet joins the ranks of those who recently have stepped up, offered their services and accepted the challenge of advancing SFA. The Board extends sincere appreciation to Janet and others who volunteer both time and expertise. We especially thank those individuals who serve as Chairs and Members of SFA committees: Local Arrangements, Nominations, Awards, Judith Beale Scholarship, Listserv/Website, and Membership.

In addition to hosting our own meeting and sponsoring our own awards this year, SFA is also sponsoring an award at *another* meeting. The Board voted unanimously to provide a

*(President's Message continued on page 5)*

**Archives Spotlight**

*Melissa Sullivan, Advancement & Communication Specialist  
Debi Murray, Chief Curator*

**History on the Move**

The Historical Society of Palm Beach County has resided in some of the finest addresses in Palm Beach – The Flagler Museum and The Paramount Building. In 2002, then Chairman of the Society Harvey Oyer, III called the 1916 Historic Court House an “ideal location for a museum and educational resource center.” In 2008 the Society, originally formed in 1937, settled into its permanent home in the historic 1916 Court House in downtown West Palm Beach. The new accommodations gave the Society the opportunity to showcase its extraordinary collections and to create a state-of-the-art home for the archives in the brand new Richard and Pat Johnson Palm Beach County History Museum. Named in honor of Palm Beach residents and friends of the Society Richard and Pat Johnson, the 3,500-square-foot Museum has become a fixture in the community and a hallmark among cultural destinations throughout the county.

The incredibly diverse collections the Historical Society has been accumulating since its founding include 4,000 books, manuscripts, diaries, oral histories, and other personal ephemera detailing life in Palm Beach County, which made planning the museum a pleasure. At times it was difficult to cull out what would go in the “permanent galleries” and what would be saved for future temporary exhibits.

The move into the 1916 Court House and the museum opening in 2008 brought the Historical Society to the attention of more people, many of whom have donated materials to be preserved and shared with the public. What used to seem like a lot of space in the archive is quickly filling up. Dedicated volunteers are busily working to describe and catalogue the new acquisitions, while also tackling the older materials.

*(Archives Spotlight continued on page 4)*

SFA Annual Meeting 2013 Schedule  
*Viva SFA at 30: An Archival Celebration*  
 May 7 – 10, 2013

Hotel Duval, Tallahassee, Florida

Tuesday, May 7

8:30-4:30 pm SAA Pre-Conference Workshop, *Basic Electronic Records* at the Robert Manning Strozier Library, Graduate Classroom, Rm. 005A, ground floor, located at FSU, 116 Honors Way – *separate fee payable to SAA*.

Wed., May 8.

**All Sessions Held in Horizon Ballroom (8<sup>th</sup> Floor)**

8:30 – 5:00 pm Registration

9 – 9:15 am *Welcome* by **Tomaro Taylor**, SFA President and **Burt Altman**, Local Arrangements Chair

9:15-10:30 am *Access to Hidden Collections* – **Katie McCormick**; **Krystal Thomas**, Special Collections and Archives, Florida State University Libraries

10:30-10:45am Break

10:45-12 pm *Research and Publishing as an Archivist* – **Burt Altman**, FSU Libraries; **Mary Flekke**, Florida-Bahamas Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; **Wenxian Zhang**, Rollins College

12-2 pm Lunch on your own

2:15-3:15 pm *Innovation in Libraries and Archives: Adapting to New Realities* – **Charles Thomas**, University System of Maryland and Affiliated Institutions (USMAI) Library Consortium

3:15-4:15 pm *Partnering via the Research Lifecycle: A University Library's Experience with a Collaborative Scholarly Communication Initiative* – **Sandra Varry** and **Andrew Todd**, University of Central Florida Libraries

5:30-7:30 pm Reception at State Archives

Thursday, May 9

**All Sessions Held in Horizon Ballroom (8<sup>th</sup> Floor)**

8:00-8:30 am Board of Director's Meeting

8:15 am Exhibitors Introduction (Hollinger Metal Edge; Gaylord; Crawford Media), Silent Auction and Poster Sessions open.  
*Poster Sessions:*

- *The Formative Years at Florida State University: Student Experience in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s* – **Miranda Doran-Myers** and **Anna McCormick**, Special Collections and Archives, Florida State University Libraries
- *Florida Southern College Digital Postcards Collection* – **Catherine Jones**, McKay Archives Center, Florida Southern College
- *Stacks Management at the Alexander Architectural Archive* – **Jarred Wilson**, The University of Texas at Austin

8:30 – 4 pm Registration

9-9:45 am *State Land Records, Uses, Preservation and Access* – **Dr. Joe Knetsch** and **Karen McMillan**, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

9:45-10:00 am Exhibitors/Poster Sessions Break

10-11:15 am Annual Business Meeting

11:30-1 pm Luncheon, **Opal Room (Terra Level)** with speaker, Florida State University History Professor **Dr. Andrew Frank**, "Osceola, the Abolitionists, and the Making of a Seminole Icon"

1:15-2:30 pm *A Map Through Time: Virtual Historic Cities* – **Jamie Rogers**, Digital Collections Center, Florida International University and **John Nemmers**, George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida

2:30-2:45 pm Exhibitors/Poster Sessions Break

(continued on page 4)

# Communiqué

## SFA Member News

Susan Swiatosz has left the Flagler Museum and is now the Librarian/Archivist at the Boynton Beach City Library.

## Institutional News

*Esperanza Bravo De Varona and Lesbia Orta Varona Announce their Retirements from the University of Miami Libraries' Cuban Heritage Collection*

After more than 90 collective years of service, Professor Esperanza Bravo de Varona and Associate Professor Lesbia Orta Varona will retire from the University of Miami Libraries effective May 31, 2013.

"Esperanza Bravo de Varona and Lesbia Orta Varona are living treasures who have brought unparalleled creativity and energy to the University of Miami Libraries. Over their tenures, they have established the Cuban Heritage Collection as an internationally recognized archive of unique scholarly importance," said William D. Walker, Dean and University Librarian.

Esperanza Bravo de Varona holds the Esperanza Bravo de Varona Chair of the Cuban Heritage Collection. Her reputation and influence have attracted many valuable collections and significant contributions to the University. The Roberto C. Goizueta Pavilion, home of the Collection since 2003, stands as a testament to Professor de Varona's leadership. Under her direction, the Collection also received numerous grants, including two awards from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) in 1999 and 2000 totaling over \$1 million, and more recently a five-year, \$2.4 million grant award made by The Goizueta Foundation.

Lesbia Orta Varona has also announced her retirement after 46 years at the Libraries. She currently serves as the Collection's Reference Librarian and Bibliographer, Professor Varona has nurtured and grown the Libraries' renowned and comprehensive Latin American and Cuban collections, and the work of innumerable students and scholars has been enriched by her generosity and expertise. She is recognized and admired for her extensive knowledge of Cuban and Latin American cultural production and in particular literature and theater.

Both faculty members will continue to be active in the Cuban Heritage Collection as volunteers.

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(Annual Conference Schedule continued)

#### Thursday, May 9

- 2:45-4:15 pm      *Papers Session [four topics with four speakers]:*
- *University of Miami Digital Projects* – **Koichi Tasa**, University of Miami Libraries
  - *Making Archives Come Alive Through Documentaries* – **Diane Newman**, Florida Institute of Technology, Evans Library
  - *The Care and Feeding of Volunteers* – **Robert F. Nawrocki**, Saint Augustine Historical Society Research Library
  - *Wiregrass Churches* – **Dr. Martin T. Olliff**, Troy University Dothan Campus, The Wiregrass Archives

4:15–5:00 pm      Exhibitors/Poster Sessions Break

5:30-7:30 pm      *SFA's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Historic Capitol Reception*

#### Friday, May 10

9-10:15 am      *Consolidating the Record: A Brief History of Environmentalism in Florida* – **Erin Mahaney** and **Susan Stover**, Mote Marine Laboratory Library and Archives; **Gail Donovan**, New College of Florida

10:15-10:30 am      Exhibitors/Poster Sessions Break

10:30-11:45 am      *Collaborative Approaches to Sustainable Archives* – **Katherine Fleming** (Chair), Barry University, **Natalie Baur**, University of Miami Libraries; **Margarita Vargas-Betancourt**, University of Florida, George Smathers Libraries; **Brooke Wooldridge**, Digital Library of the Caribbean, Florida International University

12 pm      Annual Meeting Concludes

1:00-3:00 pm      *Florida Department of Environmental Protection Tour & Workshop* – **Dr. Joe Knetsch** and **Karen McMillan**. (Registration required on registration form)

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## Conferences, Workshops & Webinars

### *Florida Association of Museums Annual Conference*

The dates have been set for the 2013 FAM Annual Conference and Expo in Fort Lauderdale - September 8-11. The host hotel this year will be the Hilton Fort Lauderdale Marina located on the beautiful Intracoastal Waterway at 1881 SE 17th Street. A special rate of \$115 per night, free internet in sleeping rooms and \$11 per day parking has been contracted. This special rate ends August 8 -- so book your room today.

### *AASLH Annual Meeting*

The American Association for State and Local History will hold its 2013 Annual Meeting in Birmingham, Alabama from September 18-21. This year's theme, *Turning Points: Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things*, will examine the personal and organizational journeys that lead to vibrancy, sustainability and meaningful social change.

### *AASLH Scholarship Opportunity*

AASLH's Small Museums Committee is offering scholarships to AASLH members who are full-time, part-time, paid, or volunteer employees of small museums. The \$500 scholarship will supplement conference costs. Applications are available [www.aaslh.org/SmallMuseums](http://www.aaslh.org/SmallMuseums). Deadline is June 15, 2013. For more information contact Bruce Teeple [mongopawn44@hotmail.com](mailto:mongopawn44@hotmail.com).

## Interesting Web Links

### *Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC)*

The following link is to the leaflet for storing photographic materials. [http://www.nedcc.org/resources/leaflets/4Storage\\_and\\_Handling/11StorageEnclosures.php](http://www.nedcc.org/resources/leaflets/4Storage_and_Handling/11StorageEnclosures.php).

### *Conservation OnLine (CoOL)*

This is the conservation site from Stanford University. <http://cool.conservation-us.org/>

## Blogs

### *The School Archivist Blog*

Pamela Nye, Director of Archives at the Atlanta area Westminster Schools has launched a new blog for school (K-12) archivists. Please feel free to pass this address along to anyone who is interested!

<http://schoolarchivist.wordpress.com/>



*(Archives Spotlight Continued)*

in the 1990s, a part time, non-archivally trained employee who had a real feel for how an archive should be organized and maintained started the process of rehousing, reorganizing, and describing the archival collections. We have continued to follow that basic plan while applying 21st-century industry standards to the process. We entered the computer age when the affordable PastPerfect Museum Software was introduced and have made tremendous strides in describing and cataloguing the collections, especially since our move into the court house where we were able to add additional volunteer workstations.

We are very excited to report that in March 2013, we posted more than 13,000 catalogue records online with PastPerfect's online module. We are continuing to digitize and catalogue our collections, and project to have 20,000 records available online by the end of 2013. While that is nowhere near our entire collection, it is a good representation of our holdings. Researchers are now able to access our collections remotely and experience a sense of the treasures we strive to protect and share. To take a peek, please visit <http://historicalsocietypbcpastperfect-online.com/32781cgi/mweb.exe?request=ks>.

To make the archives even more accessible, Nicholas Golubov joined our academic team as a research and curatorial assistant in October 2012. Nicholas has a BS in industrial design and a BA in history and is investigating graduate school. His addition to the staff has allowed us to expand our research hours, which now include Saturdays.

What stands today is an all-access pass to Palm Beach County history through an admission-free institution featuring state-of-the-art interactive exhibits, and expanded research facilities. Whether through Museum tours and visits, public programming for families, the online research catalog and extensive information available through two websites ([www.historicalscocietypbcpbc.org](http://www.historicalscocietypbcpbc.org) and [www.pbchistoryonline.com](http://www.pbchistoryonline.com)), exhibition related public lectures, or curriculum delivered directly to classrooms, the Museum reaches well over 2,000,000 people annually and rising.

More information about the Richard and Pat Johnson Palm Beach County History Museum's five-year anniversary can be found in the upcoming *The Tustenegee*, a journal of Palm Beach County history published twice a year by the Historical Society of Palm Beach County, available on-line ([www.pbchistoryonline.org](http://www.pbchistoryonline.org)) and in print May 2013.

**Spotlight your institution in**  
***The Florida Archivist*. Email Janet DeVries at**  
[devriesj@palmbeachstate.edu](mailto:devriesj@palmbeachstate.edu)

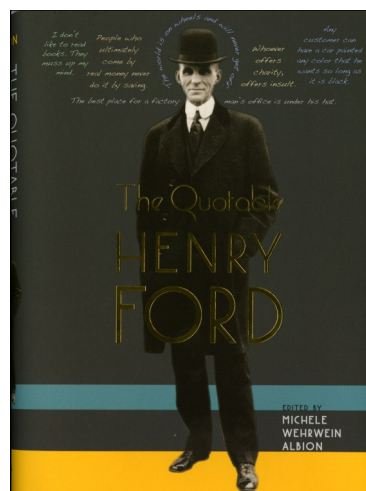


*Nicholas Golubov, new Research and Curatorial Assistant at the Historical Society of Palm Beach County.*

*President's Message, continued.*

financial contribution towards the 2013 Florida History Fair Best of Primary Sources Award. We are excited to partner with the Friends of the Museums of Florida History, Inc. to support research for students in grades 6 - 12 and look forward to making annual contributions towards the award.

This has been a great year! Let's celebrate our accomplishments together at the Annual Meeting. I look forward to seeing you there.



**New Publications**

*The Quotable Henry Ford*, edited by Micheele Wehrwein Albion, ISBN 978-0-8130-4405-7, \$24.95. Contact Teal Amthor-Shaffer, [tas@upf.com](mailto:tas@upf.com) or 352.392.1351 x. 209.

From the University Press of Florida: *Backcountry Lawman: True Stories from A Florida Game Warden* by Bob H. Lee, ISBN 978-0-8130-4429-3, \$24.95.



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### Immediate Past President

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### Newsletter Editor

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Complete listing:

[www.florida-archivists.org/Officers-Committees.php](http://www.florida-archivists.org/Officers-Committees.php)

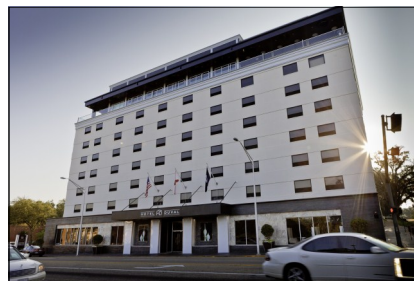
## 2013 ANNUAL MEETING

The Society of Florida Archivists will convene May 7 – 10, 2013, in our state capital, Tallahassee, for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Meeting at the Hotel Duval [\[www.hotelduval.com\]](http://www.hotelduval.com) (\$119 per night).

### **Conference Registration Fees**

SFA Members \$90 / Non-SFA Members  
(includes one year SFA membership) \$110 / Students \$50  
/ One-Day \$55. Registration available:

[www.florida-archivists.org/Annual-Meeting.php](http://www.florida-archivists.org/Annual-Meeting.php)



### 2013 Committee Members

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Koichi Tasa, Chair  
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#### Judith Beale Scholarship:

Erin Santana, Chair  
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### Judith Beale

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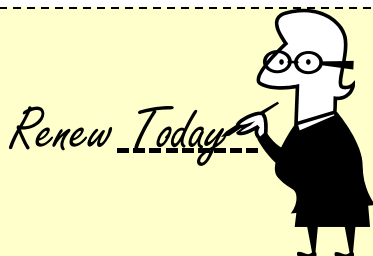
*Society of Florida Archivists  
P.O. Box 2746  
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*SFA is an organization of individuals and institutions who share a concern for the identification, preservation, and use of records of historical value. It is dedicated to the dissemination of information about such records and about sound archival methodology.*



Find us! Friend us!  
Join our Network!

Mail to:  
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We invite you to join the Society of Florida Archivists. Don't miss the continuing education opportunities offered by SFA each year, information about what's happening in archives in Florida in our newsletter, and the chance to mix with other archivists at the SFA Annual Meeting.

Specific benefits of Individual Membership are:

- ♦ Reduced registration fees for all of the Society's events.
- ♦ Subscription to *The Florida Archivist*.
- ♦ Full voting privileges in elections and at the annual business meeting.
- ♦ Eligibility for leadership positions in the Society.
- ♦ Discount on selected archival publications.

Membership in the **Society of Florida Archivists** helps all of us keep in touch with important archival developments and make a valuable contribution to the profession within the State. We hope you will become a part of this effort!

Questions? Contact Mary Flekke [mflekke@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:mflekke@tampabay.rr.com).

#### **SFA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

- ☐ \$20 INDIVIDUAL  
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☐ \$\_\_\_ JUDITH BEALE SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATION  
☐ \$\_\_\_ ADD'L. CONTRIBUTION TO SFA

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