



## Sunsetting the Newsletter

On the ballot for the 2023 Annual Meeting, there was a motion to update the SFA bylaws to sunset the SFA newsletter in light of the difficulty of finding an editor and content for the newsletter. The SFA membership voted in favor of sunseting the SFA newsletter, and as such, this will be the last SFA newsletter.

You can keep up with SFA news in several ways:

Join the listserv:

<https://floridaarchivists.wildapricot.org/listserve>

Follow us on Twitter/X: **@SocFLArchivists**

Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/floridaarchivists>

**The following edited bylaws that mention the newsletter now read as follows:**

### **Article VI: Meetings**

Section 1. The Annual Business Meeting of the Society shall be held for the purpose of conducting any business that may be brought before the meeting and providing a program of general interest to the members. Written notice of the Annual Business Meeting shall be distributed via postal mail or email, or publicized via the SFA website, or social media networks, to the membership at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date of the meeting.

[\*continued on page 12\*](#)

## Letter From the President



Dear Members of the Society of Florida Archivists,

I hope this letter finds you well as we head into Florida autumn and continue our dedicated work in the field of archival preservation and access.

In recent months, our society has achieved significant milestones. We've hosted a successful 2023 Annual Meeting and laid groundwork for the Adam Hunt Internship Stipend, both of which allow us to connect and build community with archivists from across the state and beyond. These projects expanded our knowledge and also reinforced the bonds of our community. I want to express my gratitude to our dedicated members and the tireless efforts of our board and committees. Your passion for the preservation of Florida's rich history shines through in everything you do. Together, we are making a meaningful impact.

Looking ahead, we have exciting plans for the remainder of the year. Keep an eye out for special events highlighting archives during October in celebration of American Archives Month 2023. Remember to save the date for the 2024 Annual Meeting taking place on May 12-14 in Deerfield Beach, FL. More information about the annual meeting and the call for proposals can be found in this issue.

If you have any ideas, suggestions, or if...

[\*continued on page 11\*](#)



# the Florida Archivist

Fall 2023

## SFA Board of Directors

### **President**

Rhia Rae

### **Vice President**

Arianne Johnson-Quinn

### **Past President**

Sarah Coates

### **Secretary**

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Alexandra (Ali) Vargas-Minor

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### **Web Communications**

Alexandra (Ali) Vargas-Minor

### **SFA Journal Editor**

Rachel Walton

### **Regional Archives Association Committee**

Rory Grennan

### **SAA Liaison**

Gerianne Schaad

### **Newsletter Editor**

Patricia Fiorillo



**JOHN G. RILEY**  
CENTER & MUSEUM

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**SSDN**

SUNSHINE STATE DIGITAL NETWORK



## Archives Month Call for Content

Florida Archives Month is almost here! Please help SFA celebrate Florida Archives Month by telling your colleagues about highlights from your collections.

SFA wants to highlight your archival acquisitions, successes, and exciting finds from the past year through postings on our 2023 Florida Archives Month webpage (and other SFA social media accounts) during the month of October.

Acquire a new collection or achieve a milestone in 2023? Let archivists and librarians throughout Florida know about it! Have a favorite object in your collection or an item that you think would be of interest to others? Consider sharing it with us so we can share it on our website!

We are currently accepting submissions for Florida Archives Month content.

2023 Florida Archives Month submissions should be 100 - 150 words and include a captioned photograph. Content is limited to Florida archives.

Please send your submissions with captioned photographs to Arianne Johnson Quinn at [aquinn@fsu.edu](mailto:aquinn@fsu.edu) before **October 9, 2023**.

We are excited to once again share this month with you!

## Sunsetting College and University Archives Section

On the ballot for the 2023 Annual Meeting, there was a motion to update the SFA bylaws to sunset the SFA College and University Archives section due to lack of activity specific to this Section and the difficulty in locating officers to serve. The CUA section members voted to dissolve the section, and the section was dissolved as of June 30, 2023.



*preserve***SOUTH**





## Save the Date!

*Society of Florida Archivists 2024 Annual Meeting*

“Community Creates Opportunities”

Tuesday, May 14 - Thursday, May 16, 2024

Wyndham Deerfield Beach Resort in  
Deerfield Beach, FL

[Society of Florida Archivists - Save the Date: 2024 SFA Annual Meeting \(wildapricot.org\)](https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/groups/hr/the-society-of-florida-archivists)



Reservations at the Wyndham Deerfield Beach Resort are available at discounted rates from \$159 (sunset view) to \$189 (beach view). Rates include complimentary

self-parking and waived resort fee with welcome beverage on arrival, bottled water 1x a day, Wi-Fi, beach chair, beach towel and umbrella.

**Book now, rooms are limited!**

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/groups/hr/the-society-of-florida-archivists>

Deadline to book a discounted hotel room is **March 1, 2024.**

More announcements, call for proposals, sponsorship and registration information coming soon!

If you have questions or are interested in sponsorship, please contact Michael Zaidman [michael.zaidman@jmfamily.com](mailto:michael.zaidman@jmfamily.com)

SFA 2024 Annual Meeting Committee:  
Michael Zaidman (Chair), Bebe Chang,  
Patricia Fiorillo, Allison Mason, Gena Meroth, Janet Naughton, Arianne Quinn,  
Carolina Rocha and Rachel Walton

## Call for Proposals

The 2024 Annual Meeting Committee proudly presents this year's theme:

*Community Creates Opportunities*

The Committee encourages proposals that address the conference's main theme within some key aspects of archival practice such as:

- 'Getting creative' with unfinished projects. Tell us about the status of a major project you're working on and what remains to reach completion? What creative strategies have you tried or would you like to use to tackle it? Are there collaboration opportunities?
- Legacy collections and backlogs. What work have we inherited, and how do we apply current practices and priorities to these legacies? What new opportunities await when reviving or expanding our collections?
- How have practices evolved over time in the areas of collection development, description, discovery, access, etc.? Tell us what is working well for you in these arenas and what challenges you have encountered. Which of these domains would you like to become competent in as our practices evolve?
- Opportunities for engagement, collaboration, and teaching and learning. How are we facilitating awareness of our collections? How are our efforts at promoting primary source literacy? How important is programming around collections to sustain an interest in the past?
- How are we approaching new technologies and how are they affecting our work? Where are the pain points and where do you see opportunity on these new digital horizons?
- Data literacy: are we viewing our collections as data points? To what extent are we deploying computational analysis tools? At the intersection of AI, archives, and history, what have we experimented with or used for beneficial results?
- With our varied work experiences, past and present, and our evolving knowledge of the field, what can we do differently in the future to improve archives for both practitioners and patrons? How can SFA help in this work?
- On the 41st Anniversary of the Society of Florida Archivists' founding, where has SFA been and where is it going? How has this organization's establishment of networks and communication informed archival practices in Florida? What can we expect from SFA going forward?

The above list is merely a starting point for generating topics. The committee encourages first-time presenters and proposals that highlight institutional commitment to diversity, inclusion, equity, and accessibility.



## **Presentation Formats:**

- Individual papers: 10-15 minutes in length and typically combined into a 45-minute session followed by a comment-and-discussion period.
- Papers in a complete panel session: 2 or 3 papers with a common theme and a chair/moderator, comprising a 45-minute session followed by a comment-and-discussion period.
- Discussion-based panel sessions: Visual or media presentations (e.g., videos, films, physical items from collections) followed by group discussion. 1-3 presenters may comprise a single session. Session length must be mentioned in the proposal.
- Lightning talks: Short individual talks (5-10 minutes) given in rapid succession, followed by a comment-and-discussion period.
- Poster sessions: Visual displays of projects, activities, or applied or theoretical research, to be incorporated into a larger poster session.
- Other formats: Hands-on demonstrations or other formats that encourage engagement and conversation.

## **Proposal Criteria:**

Submissions should be simple narratives of no more than 300 words that explain the purpose of the session, the intended audience, and how the session will proceed. You need not name specific presenters, but a designated chair or moderator must be identified. Please include that individual's contact information. Collaborative sessions are encouraged, but individuals with multiple presentations will be subject to the committee's approval.

Preference will be given to session proposals that demonstrate the following characteristics:

- Inclusion of geographically and demographically diverse perspectives and initiatives.
- Potential impact on archives and records management practice.
- Relevance of the topic to Society members and other interested attendees.
- Interaction and engagement with session participants.

Presenters need not be SFA members, but are expected to arrange their own conference registration, travel, and accommodations.

Proposals are due by the end of the day Wednesday, January 17th, 2024.

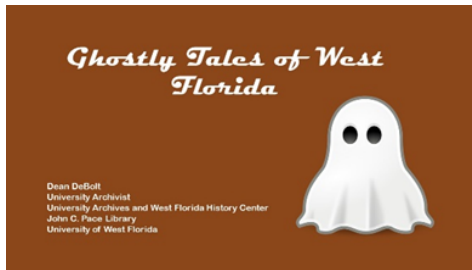
Please submit your proposals through the Annual Meeting Proposal Submission Form, linked here: <https://forms.gle/5fBh5nyHNRb5bFENA>

If you have any questions or issues submitting, please contact Carolina Rocha ([carolina.c.rocha@gmail.com](mailto:carolina.c.rocha@gmail.com)).



# the Florida Archivist

Fall 2023



## Ghostly Tales of West Florida

By: Dean DeBolt

What began as a simple request from our Library Marketing manager to do an online (virtual) talk on “Ghostly Tales of West Florida” for Halloween 2020, soon morphed into a full-fledged monthly virtual talk of “Stories from the Archives.” The University Archives and West Florida History Center at the John C. Pace Library, University of West Florida, is a regional archive covering the ten-county region of the Panhandle. This area abounds with stories from the days of Spanish and English occupation, Indian traders, early Florida history, the development of industries, the military, and naval aviation and spaceflight.



Each month, during the academic year, Dean DeBolt, University Archivist gives a virtual talk on a historical subject. Some of these utilize the resources of the collection while others expand on historical research that Dean has produced as a faculty member. Some topics like “Ghostly Tales”

(October obviously) and “Valentines” (February) have been repeated due to interest and timely demand. Others are created new, occasionally based on historical anniversaries or new research by patrons and users.

Talks have included: the 19th Amendment and Women's Suffrage in West Florida, Pensacola's First Space Traveler (monkey Miss Baker), Photographs in the Archives, Kudzu-the Plant That Haunts the South, Infamous Pensacola Tourists, and The Escapades of Maxine (a nationally-known circus elephant). The talk ‘Post Office Murals: History and Murals in West Florida’ let Dean use his stamp-collecting interests to highlight New Deal art in Post Offices. The most recent effort aired in April titled “Let's Go To The Movies: A Year in the Saenger Theatre, 1930.”



We have tried various time slots and weekdays to encourage attendance.

All talks are

online and our initial efforts were at the noon hour, and later we changed to one o'clock. Attendance has varied from 5 to 20 but we have recorded these and they can be viewed at:

[www.youtube.com/user/UWFLibraries](https://www.youtube.com/user/UWFLibraries)

Initially we titled these “An Hour In the Archives” but some of our programs were shorter and it just sounded wrong for promotion, so we changed it to “Stories from the Archives”

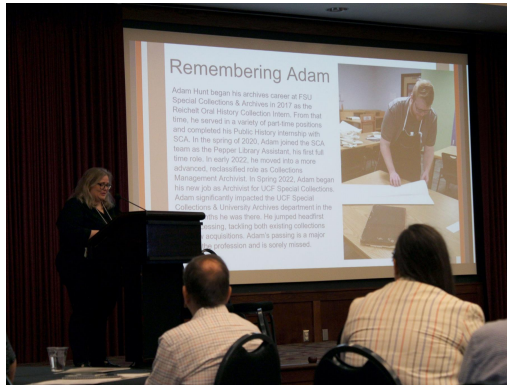


# the Florida Archivist

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## Introducing the Adam Hunt Memorial Internship Fund

The Adam Hunt Internship Fund promotes educational and professional development by providing students and emerging archives professionals with a funding opportunity targeted to get experience in the archival field. Named in honor of early career professional archivist and member of the Society of Florida Archivists Adam Hunt, who passed away in 2022, the internship stipend pays tribute to Adam's passion and commitment to the career development of new archives professionals.



*Adam Hunt Remembrance, SFA Annual Meeting 2023*

The internship stipend will attempt to match repositories in need with early-career archivists (including students and recent grads) through SFA leadership - an effort that SFA hopes will build community and combat the chronic underfunding in the historical and archival professions, as well as provide early career archivists with paid professional opportunities to grow their skills and

experiences without requiring the huge personal burden of providing unpaid labor.

The Board has assembled an ad hoc Committee to establish and define goals, strategies, and guidance in managing the extremely generous endowment from an anonymous donor. In order to ensure the longevity and sustainability of this gift, the Committee is determining how to replenish the endowment through fundraising activities. The committee will also make recommendations regarding the application and award process, with hopes for the first funded project to commence in 2025.

Be on the lookout for future developments, including a potential donation-matching campaign!



## SFA Journal Update

After a brief hiatus due to staffing changes, the SFA Journal is getting back in gear. The 2023 issue will be released later this year, and a call for articles and reviews for the 2024 issue will follow. As an Open Access publication, authors retain their own copyright to any pieces submitted. If you presented at the annual meeting, consider adapting it into an article!

For questions or ideas, contact Rachel Walton ([rwalton@rollins.edu](mailto:rwalton@rollins.edu)) or submit materials directly to the Journal's email at [floridaarchivists.journal@gmail.com](mailto:floridaarchivists.journal@gmail.com).

## Celebrating Awards to our Members

SFA presented two awards at the 2023 Annual Meeting. John Nemmers, the Awards Committee Chair, presented Laura Marion with the 2023 SFA Award of Excellence, and Beth Golding with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

John read the following excerpts from the nominations submitted for each recipient:

### 2023 SFA Award of Excellence

Laura Marion, the Collections Coordinator at Governor's House Library, University of Florida, is an archives leader in the northeast Florida region, where she steers the St. Augustine Archives Society, a consortium of library, archives, and museum professionals who live and work at area institutions in St. Augustine, Jacksonville, and DeLand. Laura puts a great deal of time and thought into organizing meetings at various institutions so that members can tour each other's holdings. Our institutions have benefitted from multiple collaborations as a result.

Laura was instrumental in the creation and implementation of one such collaboration, *Resilience: Black Heritage in St. Augustine*. Begun in 2020, representatives from fourteen local cultural institutions worked together on a project that aimed to highlight and center 455+ years of Black History in St. Augustine through public lectures, exhibits, tours, and digital humanities projects. Created in the midst of the COVID pandemic, the Resilience project had a very

large online presence, including a website, an online exhibit, and a very active social media presence, and Laura was extremely involved in the creation and success of these. The project culminated in February 2022 with a large community event known as Resilience Family Fest that was planned by Laura and Resilience partners. Laura has co-authored a book chapter and article, as well as various posters and presentations about the project. Laura is diligent and meticulous, and all her work with the Resilience project was done in addition to all her other normal responsibilities and duties managing the collections at the Governor's House Library.



*From left to right: John Nemmers and 2023 SFA Award of Excellence Recipient, Laura Marion, SFA Annual Meeting 2023*

The Awards Committee also notes that Laura chaired our Annual Meeting Committee in 2021 and did a terrific job (along with David Benjamin and Tyler McLean) transitioning to a very successful zoom conference during the pandemic. And I can add personally that it is truly a great pleasure to work with Laura at UF.

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## SFA Lifetime Achievement Award

Beth Golding has worked at the State Archives for a remarkable 28 years, most recently serving as State Archivist and Chief of the Bureau of Archives and Records Management. To say that she had made significant contributions to the profession is a huge understatement. Beth worked with the New York State Archives for 10 years before moving to Florida, and that was definitely New York's loss and our gain. In addition to remaining active in SAA and NAGARA (the National Association of



*From left to right: SFA Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient, Beth Golding and John Nemmers, SFA Annual Meeting 2023*

Government Archives and Records), she has been a leader in SFA throughout her career. She has had various board and committee positions and also served as SFA President from 2001-2003. As State Archivist, she also joined the board of the Council of State Archivists in 2020.

As a former student of Beth's, I may be more than a little biased when I say that her contributions as a teacher are equally important to the terrific work she has accomplished at the State Archives. Over a

span of more than 20 years, she has taught numerous students the essentials of archives management with courses through the FSU History Department, and she also has led a variety of professional and community-oriented workshops.

Because of her dedication to the profession and to this organization, I am so pleased to be able to present on behalf of the board this special Lifetime Achievement award to Beth Golding.

## 2023 Judith Beale Travel Scholarship Recipients

Janaya Ferrer- University of North Florida (Student)

Hannah Jancosko- Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida

Allison Mason- University of North Florida

Elizabeth Maycumber- Stetson University

Laura Parces- Florida State University



*2023 Judith Beale Travel Scholarship Recipients, SFA Annual Meeting*

Backstage  
LIBRARY WORKS



# the Florida Archivist

Fall 2023

## 2023 Fred L. Standley Award (FSU Libraries)

One of our own, Hannah Davis, won a prestigious award from Florida State University Libraries this year. Among other things, her tireless service to SFA was cited heavily in both the nomination and a speech at today's Libraries awards.



*efforts exemplify ways she puts her philosophy into actions benefiting students, faculty, and researchers."*

*"From fostering exciting in-person students visits to Special Collection to creating digital content for remote class instruction, Hannah consistently offers superior service to the FSU community."*

*"Her belief in my abilities instilled in me a sense of confidence and motivation that will stay with me throughout my career."*

Please join FSU Special Collections & Archives in congratulating Hannah on this mark of distinction. Hannah, don't let it change you!

Hannah Davis has been selected as the 2023 recipient of the Fred L. Standley award. This award selection is evidence of Hannah's impactful achievements and the excellence of [the FSU] Libraries' faculty.

I would like to share some excerpts from nomination letters:

*"This award is in recognition of Hannah's exemplary services, positive and lasting impact on students and faculty, incredible mentorship, and moving the field of archives in Florida forward in meaningful ways."*

*"Her leadership on critical collections projects, such as the Howard Mold Mitigation Project, the World War II Archives move project, and the Christmas 2022 Flood Response and Recovery*



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
LIBRARIES



NEDCC  
NORTHEAST DOCUMENT CONSERVATION CENTER



## Letter from the President

[Continued from Page 1](#)

there's a particular topic you'd like us to explore, please don't hesitate to reach out. Your feedback is invaluable in shaping the future of our organization.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication to the preservation of Florida's cultural heritage. Together, we will continue to make a difference, ensuring that the stories of our state are preserved for generations to come.

Warm regards,

Rhia Rae  
President, Society of Florida Archivists



## Sunsetting the Newsletter

[Continued from Page 1](#)

Section 2. Special Meetings of the Society may be called by the President, upon the approval of the Executive Board, or at the

written request of one-third (1/3) of the membership. Written notice of such meetings shall be distributed via postal mail or email or publicized via the SFA website, or social media networks to the membership at least forty-five (45) days in advance.

Article VII: Committees, Sections, and Other Appointments

Section 2: The President shall appoint the members and chairs of Standing Committees. The appointments shall be made known to the Executive Board and to the Society members through web communications

Article IX: Publications

Section 1. The Society shall publish publications as the Executive Board may designate.

Section 2. With the approval of the Executive Board, the President shall appoint Editors as are necessary.

Article XII: Amendments

Section 5. Any adopted amendments shall be published on the Society website.

## Welcome to our New Members

Dianna Bradley, Florida State University Libraries

Joyce Clifford, Spady Cultural Heritage Museum Clifford

Hannah Gauthier, The Wolfsonian-Florida International University

Paola Grimes, Osceola Library System

Diana Hagan, University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

William Kocses, Collier County Supervisor of Elections

Nicole Mijares, University of South Florida

Anyia Owens, Florida Department of State

Stuart Rochford, Florida State University Libraries

Reagan Shivers, Stetson University

Brooke Smith, Stetson University College of Law

Yvette Yurubi, University of Miami

## Final Thanks to our 2023 Annual Meeting sponsors

Thank you to all of our amazing sponsors at the SFA Annual Meeting 2023!

Preserve South

Florida State University Libraries

John G. Riley Center & Museum

Sunshine State Digital Network

Council of State Archivists

Friends of the State Library and Archive of Florida

Hollinger Metal Edge

NEDCC - Northeast Document

Conservation Center

AAPX Software, Inc.

Backstage Library Works

From the Page

Atlas Systems, Inc.



**FRIENDS** of the **STATE LIBRARY**  
and **ARCHIVES** of **FLORIDA**





# the Florida Archivist

Fall 2023

*Society of Florida Archivists  
P.O. Box 5645  
Tampa, FL 33675*

The Society of Florida Archivists seeks to connect,  
educate, and empower archivists and those working  
with historical records to preserve and promote  
Florida's documentary heritage.



<https://floridaarchivists.wildapricot.org/>



Society of  
Florida Archivists