Regional News

ALASKA

Monica Shah is planning a conservation clinic at the Anchorage Museum for its members and the public, to coincide with the Western Association of Museums conference in September. Conservators Carmen Bria, Scott Carrlee, and Karen Zukor, will be available for consultations. She has finished writing an emergency procedures manual for the museum, the first comprehensive manual for the institution. She has also been treating a variety of objects from the permanent collection, notably a large ceramic container made by Alex Combs.

Ellen Carrlee is working on a conservation survey of the Alaska State Museum’s natural history collection, including a small herbarium, sub-fossils such as mammoth teeth, marine shells, minerals, and taxidermy. Natural history conservator Catharine Hawks came in June to consult, and pre-program intern Peter Steiner has been helping to implement her recommendations. Ellen has also begun testing several PEG treatment protocols for archaeological basketry.

Scott Carrlee has been supervising six museum interns he placed at various small museums around Alaska this summer. Scott was able to travel to some very remote towns that have small museums or historical societies. The interns are working on a variety of collection related projects that help the museums develop better professional standards for collections care. Scott has also been busy laying the groundwork for the WAAC 2009 annual meeting in Juneau.

Janelle Matz has finished the re-installation of the Anchorage International Airport’s Alaska Native Art collection to protect it from excessive light levels and has a contract to oversee maintenance of the airport’s entire public art collection. She also is currently assisting a major private collection in treating a carpet-beetle infestation and in the fall will work with Cook Inlet Tribal Council on designing and installing environmentally secure display cases for their lobby. In addition to being ‘on-call’ with other corporate collections for trouble shooting, she continues to work with the Alaska State Council on the Arts managing their Alaska Contemporary Art Bank collection.

Regional Reporter: Scott Carrlee

ARIZONA

Brynn Bender traveled to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park to assist them in getting their historic hotel impression books and lantern slides into capable hands at the University of Hawaii for scanning and treatment. She also helped them improve storage for their tapa collection and large wooden artifacts. Brynn has been working on getting exhibited paintings, tin light fixtures, and ceramics surveyed and treated at the 1930s Old Santa Fe Trail Building in Santa Fe, NM which is a National Historic Landmark.

Maggie Kipling is continuing her work as lead conservator in the ceramic treatment project for park collections stored in Tucson. Audrey Harrison is treating ceramics along with preprogram volunteers William Shelley and Crystal Burnett. The entire staff is assisting in the rolling of 300 historic textiles from Chiricahua National Monument along with volunteers from the Tucson Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild. Maggie treated prehistoric ceramics and organic objects for a new exhibit at Tuzigoot National Monument scheduled to open later this year.

ASU student, Allison Clark, is participating in a pre-program internship at Fraser-Giffords just in time to assist in the conservation of a 15’ Charles Loloma mural that arrived in three long pieces with significant discolorations and paint losses.

For the first time the Costume Society of America (CSA) will be holding their national symposium in Phoenix at the Buttes Hotel from May 27 through May 30, 2009. The symposium is a valuable resource for all information on the study of dress. There will be activities, resources, and lectures for conservators, curators, university professors, designers, theater costumers, re-controllers, and vintage clothing enthusiasts.

In conjunction with the symposium, CSA will be having their Angels Project on Tuesday, May 26th at the Phoenix Museum of History. The project is similar to the Angels Project held by AIC before their annual meeting but this one is only concerned with clothing and textile collections. It is funded by an IMLS 21st Century Museum Professional Grant. Martha Winslow Grimm, textile conservator, is the organizer of the CSA Angels Project and also national secretary of the organization. More information about the Costume Society of America’s symposium can be found at: www.costumesocietyamerica.com

The Arizona State Museum (ASM) is very sad to announce that Hartman H. Lomawaima, director of the Museum since 2002, passed on Tuesday, July 8, 2008, after an 11-month battle with colon cancer which he fought with great determination. Born Nov 11, 1949, Hartman was Hongwungwa/Bear Clan Hopi from the village of Sipaulovi, Second Mesa, Arizona. Among Hartman’s many professional accomplishments, he is noted for being the first American Indian director of a major museum in the Southwest and the first American Indian director of any state agency in Arizona. Hartman will be greatly missed. Associate Director Beth Grindell has been appointed as the new Director of ASM.

On a happier note, the ASM Preservation Division would like to announce that the Arizona State Museum has received the 2008 Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections. This award is presented jointly by Heritage Preservation and the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC).

Nancy Odegaard has returned from sabbatical. She recently taught at the Caring for American Indian Objects workshop for the National Institute for Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums in Tulsa Oklahoma. She also participated in the Summit of Research Scientists in Preservation at the Library of Congress.

Teresa Moreno has been promoted to Associate Conservator at ASM and was awarded tenure by the University of Arizona (UA). Teresa continues her work...
with the ASM team that is developing plans for the new ASM exhibition facility at Rio Nuevo, Tucson, set to open in 2012. She also presented in the group's conservation issues regarding architectural planning, exhibit development, and object conservation.

This summer, Teresa returned to Greece where she worked as site conservator for a third season at the excavation and survey of the Sanctuary of Zeus at Mt. Lykaion in the Peloponnese, a collaborative project between the UA, the University of Pennsylvania, the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, and the 39th Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities of the Ministry of Culture. She also worked with Chérine Ragan, a first year conservation student at Buffalo State College, joined Teresa this summer at Mt. Lykaion for her summer internship.

Caitlin O’Grady continues to work on her PhD research, as well as the Arizona State University’s upcoming exhibit, *Journeys of Our Ancestors: Migration in the American Southwest*. In May, she attended the ART2008 conference in Jerusalem, Israel where she gave a paper on her current research. In August, she will attend David Scott’s summer course “Ancient and Historic Metals: Technology, Microstructure, and Corrosion.” This summer,she will start her new position as conservator for the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and Appraisal. Chris White worked as site conservator at the excavations at Poggio Colla, Italy this summer and is relocating to Oregon. Chris also completed his Master’s Degree in Information Resources from Oregon. Chris also co-authored a paper with his Parmigianino’s *Mediterranea* until the end of August. She has brought her Pinnagontino’s Holy Family to LACMA for the second part of the summer and will dur her third year internship with Rae Beabrn at the Smithsonian National Museum Conservation Institute. Ainslie will continue her graduate studies at ASU in the fall.

Regional News, continued

**Scott Carriere, column editor**

Rachel Freer, the Kress Conservation Fellow at ASM, continues to work on ornamental objects selected for the Sculpture Conservation Studio and a Conservation of Archaeological and Ethnographic Materials announced her third year internship with the paper conservation lab at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. She have been a guest in the paintings conservation program at LACMA for the summer and will continue her work on objects conservation as an expansion of her painting experience.

Soko Furuhata had a fabulous time on the Washi tour in Japan, organized and led by intern Ake and Hiromi Katayama this last April.

Melisa Gardner joined the paintings conservation lab at LACMA for a two month Frost summer internship in July and August. During her internship, Melisa worked with Charlotte Eng and Frank Pressker, gaining experience in operating the department’s portable XRF instrument, the digital microscope, and fadometers. Melisa also worked with Elma O’Donohue and learned to use the Philips SEM. She also studied paintings in connection with a survey of the museum’s collection. This past year, she presented at the NEH supported Storage Symposium held at UCLA on the topic “Storage, Handling, and Access to Human Mummy Bundles,” led by Brother Reed participated in a large variety of objects conservation activities have included cleaning Antonio Pineda’s silver objects for the upcoming exhibition of objects conservation, as well as supervision of their new art installations in the fall.

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The Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art (Book and Paper Conservator, Eugene), "Preservation of Modern Outdoor Sculpture: A Nemesis of Conservation?"; and Marie Laibinis-Craft (Objects Conservator, Portland), "Materials Matter: Challenges and Controversies in the Conservation of Public Art." Regional conservators and conservation students are encouraged to attend and participate in the decisions periods after each talk. Elizabeth Chambers (Paper Conservator, Portland), "The Conservation of Indonesian Shadow Puppets," will also lead a discussion following the symposium for conservators to consider the question: "Should there be an association of art conservators or areWAAC and the AIC enough?" For more information contact Jan Cavanagh (Rockefeller Archive Center).

The Royal BC Museum opened a large in-house exhibit in April, Free Spirit: Stories of You, Me and BC, celebrating the province’s 150th anniversary. Conservation staff was put to the test as over 500 artifacts, artworks, archival materials, and specimens were prepared for the exhibition. The assistance of contractors Jana Stefan, Tania Ainsworth, Simone Agius Emidio, and Barry Byers was much appreciated. And just as the exhibit launched, work began on a travel exhibition that will transport the stories and more artifacts on the same theme. George Field was put to task on mounting the artifact packing, improvising techniques to protect the art.
Regional News, continued

Laura Downey-Stanell and her family welcome the addition of Amy Bianca, born June 5. Camille Moore has joined Silverpoint Conservation as a partner. Camille has worked for Silverpoint as assistant conservator for the last three years, and is excited about working within the framework of the new program with a specialization in paper and photographs.

Karen Jones at the Jefferson County Public Library announces that (WESTPA) Western States & Territories Preservation Assistance Service presented “Protecting Library & Archival Collections” as a series of workshops. This summer in a 2-part sequence for disaster preparedness activities. Upon completion, participating institutions are invited to join an informal network of WESTPAS trained personnel to provide mutual aid in the event of emergencies involving collections in the region. There is no cost to the institution and it is provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities and co-sponsored by the Colorado State Library, Jefferson County Public Library hosted the second part of the series on Sept. 17 at the Lakewood Library. Classes will also be held in Grant Grand and Pueblo.


The workshop, held at the McCord Museum and McGill University, presented the latest in cleaning techniques and approaches. Rich Wolbers and Chris Stanfield provided instruction in cleaning for gel, emulsion, and aqueous based cleaning methods. The outstanding quality of the instructors’ workshop, the eagerness of the attendees, the professionalism of the hosts, and the deliciousness of the food in Montreal made the experience excellent for all.

Regional News, continued

Rachel Marsh and Jack Thompson will host the 2008 Symposium highlighting the issues paper artists need to be aware of with the long term care of their artwork especially weighing the cost of care against the loss of value if the collection is left to deteriorate. This article was derived from her experiences setting up the archive for the Dona Dome Papermills in New York City.

Dana Senge is working with the Naval Undersea Museum in Keyport, WA on several assessment projects including two one-atmospheric diving suits. These objects are very interesting to consider, and she hopes to help this institution develop protocol for exhibition and storage of the wide variety of materials used in fabrication.

BETHEL BELLER writes that the American Alliance of Museums Library is getting ready to start construction on a new 30,000 volume rare books room. Snowden Becker, a University of Texas Kilgarn Center film preservation PhD candidate, was at the AAC for the month of August doing a survey and rehousing project. Snowden presented her workshop, “Becoming a Film Friendly Archivist” at the AAC on August 22nd.

PAULEtte Reading, textile conservator, and Camilla Van Voeren at the Western Center for the Association of Fine Arts have completed the treatment of a movie banner for the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, OK. The banner was for the movie Born to the West based on the Zane Grey novel. The past few months have been busy ones for the conservation staff of the Denver Art Museum. The city of Denver hosted several conferences that brought many conservators and colleagues to town. They were able to spotlight the lab and discuss plans for future development.

Jessica Fletcher gave a paper at the AIC conference on the strategies used to move into the museum’s new addition. These papers were given at the regional Colorado/Wyoming Association of Museums meeting.

The conservation lab is dedicated to provide safe storage and rehousing upgrades for the European paintings collection. She has also assisted in cataloging the University of Denver’s DU ART! Sarah Melching is the new Conservation Clear chairman and has joined the board of the University of Denver’s DU ART! She has also helped with the University of Denver’s DU ART! Sarah Melching is the new Conservation Clear chairman and has joined the board of the University of Denver’s DU ART! Sarah Melching is the new Conservation Clear chairman and has joined the board of the University of Denver’s DU ART! Sarah Melching is the new Conservation Clear chairman and has joined the board of the University of Denver’s DU ART! Sarah Melching is the new Conservation Clear chairman and has joined the board of the University of Denver’s DU ART! Sarah Melching is the new Conservation Clear chairman and has joined the board of the University of Denver’s DU ART! 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England and worked the last three years at the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office. Her wide experience in books, paper, and archives will be greatly appreciated.

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At Architectural Resources Group (ARG) and ARG Conservation Services (ARG/CS), architectural conservator Desi Peters completed masonry restoration of the National Historic Landmark constructed in 1866. The walls of this Field Museum building will be completed in the spring. The project will address field work in July at an archaeological dig in Chesterfield, England and worked the last three years at the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office. Her wide experience in books, paper, and archives will be greatly appreciated.

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The Kilgarlin Center for Preservation of the Cultural Record, at the University of Texas at Austin would like to announce the following 3rd year internship places:

- Danielle Fraser, Libray of Congress, book and paper;
- Suzy Morgan, Northwestern University Library, book and paper;
- Sarah Norris, Newberry Library, book and paper;
- Emily Rainwater, Smithsonian Institution Libraries, book and paper;
- Melanie Tersagno, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library, book and paper.

And the following incoming conservator class for Fall 2008:

- Alexander Bero
- David Berson
- Kathryn Blackburn
- Jennifer Evers
- Evan Knight
- Yom in Kyung: Jill Sison
- Will Shank
- Jennifer Untch
- Eric Hand
- Jennifer Correia

The center participated in “Conservation of Historical Libraries of Arequipa, Peru: A Project of the Universities of Alabama, Iowa, and Texas” in July. This project involved many aspects of the Arequipa community as they set up cleaning programs for volcanic dust remediation, retrofitting as possible for earthquakes, and changed exhibit conditions to improve safety and access. There was both faculty and student involvement, with 3rd year conservator student Emily Rainwater and book conservation lecturer Chela Metzger volunteering from the University of Texas library and archives conserva tion program this summer.

In April, Stephanie Watkins, head of paper conservation at the Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas at Austin, participated in the Hiromi Washi 2008 tour of the Kansai region of Japan. The trip was supported by AIC’s Carolyn Horton Fund. The tour encompassed visits to papermaking museums, papermakers (both hand, family, village cooperative, and industrial operations), sugeta (papermaking screen) makers, brush makers, suminagashi (marbling) monteurs, woodblock printer/artist in the Kansai - Kyoto region of Japan.

Barbara Brown welcomes Hsiao-Ju Huang, who is interning with Barbara in the photograph conservation lab at the Harry Ransom Center for the next 5 months. She is here from the conservation training program in the Graduate Institute of Conservation of Cultural Relics, National Taiwan University of the Arts, Taiwan.

Laura Bedford, currently a second year student at the Kilgarlin graduate studies program at the University of Texas at Austin, recently completed 1000 page manuscript, Gauguin’s Hand by Louis Ferdinand Celine while working with Stephanie Watkins in paper conservation at the Harry Ransom Center on campus.

Nita Maria Greene, of Oregon currently studying at the universities of Iowa and Texas spent July and August 2008 interning with Stephanie, Des Peters, an undergraduate at the University of Texas at Austin, spent her summer (2008) volunteering in the information department of the Menil Collection in Houston, working with paper conservator Jan Burandt.

In the autumn, Desi returns to university, volunteering with Stephanie in paper conservation. Nani Lew, paintings conservator, continues to volunteer in paper and book conservation at the Harry Ransom Center.

Regional News, continued

Regional News, continued

I never feel lonely in the kitchen. Food is very friendly. Just looking at a potato, I feel happy. There’s something so pleasant about a big basting potato or a whole bunch of peas in their shells. To me, the kitchen had never stopped being a place just full of possibilities and pleasures.

Julia Child