

SOCIETY OF ALABAMA ARCHIVISTS

Annual Meeting
30 September 2011



Five Rivers
Alabama's Delta Resource Center
Blakeley Hall
Spanish Fort, Alabama

Society of Alabama Archivists 2011 Program

8:30-9:30 Registration and refreshments

9:30-9:45 Welcome

10:00-10:45 Concurrent sessions 1 and 2

Session 1 Baldwin County Archives

John Jackson, Baldwin County Department of Archives and History

John will explain how the Department has expanded its mission of preserving government records to include historic home preservation, nature conservation, and support for local artists. Through this diversification the Department has increased its value to the community.

The Leon Schwartz Collection at the Springhill Avenue Temple

Susan Thomas, Springhill Avenue Temple Archives

Susan will share an outline of collections related to the life of Leon Schwartz (1872-1943), a Mobile businessman and politician who documented his remarkable life in journals and scrapbooks held by Springhill Avenue Temple and the Mobile Municipal Archives.

Session 2 The LYRASIS Digitization Project

Carey Heatherly, University of Montevallo, and Greg Schmidt, Auburn University

Through the Mass Digitization Collaborative, LYRASIS has partnered with the Internet Archive to offer subsidized digitization of large collections of standard format materials. The Internet Archive will host the scanned content on its servers, providing basic metadata and several downloading options. Carey and Greg will discuss their institutions' participation in the project and will show samples of digitized material now available online.

Oral History Developments

Greg Markley, Auburn University, and Cheylon Woods, HistoryMakers fellow

Greg will report on the annual meeting of the Oral History Association, giving details on developments and trends in the field. Cheylon will discuss the *HistoryMakers* Fellowship, Mentoring, Training and Placement Institute, which provides training for African American archivists and other archivists interested in working with African American collections.

10:45-11:00 Break

11:00-11:45 Concurrent sessions 3 and 4

Session 3 You're a Little Bit Archives, I'm a Little Bit Public History: Investigating the Internship Experience

Amy Christiansen, Leah Craig, John Laaman, and Hayden McDaniel, Auburn University

The panelists will discuss their graduate internships at institutions such as the Alabama Department of Archives and History and the Kentucky Historical Society. Topics will include funding, organization, outreach, and administration. Their experiences demonstrate the dynamics of archival practice and the different environments available to new professionals.

Session 4 When Arcadia Calls: The Making of the Pictorial History *Montevallo*

Carey Heatherly and Clark Hultquist, University of Montevallo

Carey and Clark will discuss the making *Montevallo*, recently published by Arcadia Press of Charleston, South Carolina. Known for its popular *Images of America* series, Arcadia has over 6,000 titles in print and is the country's leading publisher of local histories.

11:45-1:00 Lunch and keynote address

Random Musings of a Recovering Archivist

David Alsobrook, Museum of Mobile

Dr. Alsobrook, a native of southern Alabama, earned his master's and doctoral degrees in history at West Virginia University and Auburn University, respectively. His early archival experience was at the Auburn University Archives and the Alabama Department of Archives and History. For thirty years he was employed by the National Archives and Records Administration, serving as the supervisory archivist of the Carter Library and as the director of the Bush and Clinton Libraries. In 2007, after retiring from NARA, he became the director of the Museum of Mobile. Though his primary historical interests relate to Alabama and Mobile, he considers himself an "unreconstructed" archivist.

1:15-2:00 SALA business meeting

2:30 Tour of the Mobile County Probate Court Archives (125 Government Street in downtown Mobile)