

# SOCIETY OF ALABAMA ARCHIVISTS

17 October 2025  
The University  
of Alabama  
in Huntsville



# Society of Alabama Archivists

Annual Meeting, 17 October 2025

**8:30 - 9:00**                      **Registration and Coffee (Auditorium)**

**9:00 - 9:15**                      **Welcome (Auditorium)**

**9:15 - 10:00**                    **Keynote Address by Dr. Bob Riter (Auditorium)**

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**10:00 - 10:15**                    **Break**

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**10:15 - 11:15**                    **Concurrent Sessions 1**

**Breakout Room A**                **Sears Media Archive**

Carey Heatherly and Sheila Brandt – University of Montevallo

**Rethinking Digital Collections: Using JSTOR as a Content Management System at UAH**

Charlie Gibbons – University of Alabama in Huntsville

**Breakout Room B**                **Daddy's Fiddle: Alabama History in the First Half of the 1900s through the Diaries of a Child**

Deidra Dees – University of South Alabama

**The Accidental Archivist: How a Cataloger Brought Order Out of Chaos**

Debbie Walker – Gadsden Public Library

**Breakout Room C**                **Still Processing: Grief in Archives Roundtable Discussion**

Catherine Champion Oseas – Birmingham Public Library

Robin Watson – H. Grady Bradshaw Library & Cobb Memorial Archives

Katie Owens-Murphy – University of North Alabama

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**11:15 - 11:45**                    **Poster Session and Break**

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**11:45 - 12:45**                    **Concurrent Sessions 2**

**Breakout Room A**                **Marketing Special Collections**

Rachel Jones Lopez and Haley Herfurth – University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Preserving the Records and History of Historic Religious Institutions in the South: An Opportunity and Need for Educating the General Public in Basic Archival Practices**

Meredith Johnston – Government Street Presbyterian Church

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|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Breakout Room B</b> | <b>Burning Questions: Archival Memory and the 1865 University of Alabama Fire</b><br>Rebecca Whiting – University of Alabama<br><br><b>Alabama’s Restaurant History in Menus: Metadata and Online Exploration</b><br>Greg Schmidt and Amber Davis – Auburn University<br>Lucie Arnaud – University of Southern Mississippi |
| <b>Breakout Room C</b> | <b>What I Did in the Archives Last Summer: A Historian of Photography, a 1970s Spacecraft, and a Museum of Information Explosion</b><br>Phestus Hutcheson, Kaleb Rasmussen, and Gloria Sipper – University of Alabama in Huntsville                                                                                        |
| <b>12:45 - 1:15</b>    | <b>Lunch (Auditorium)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>1:15 - 2:00</b>     | <b>Business Meeting (Auditorium)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>2:00 - 2:30</b>     | <b>Concurrent Sessions 3</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Breakout Room A</b> | <b>Records Management Treatises and Discussion of Records Management within Treatises on Archives in Central Europe, 1571-1804</b><br>Joseph Freedman– Alabama State University                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Breakout Room B</b> | <b>Archiving at The Ends of the World</b><br>Jeff Hirschy – University of Southern Mississippi                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Breakout Room C</b> | <b>Comparative Research on Underground Music Archives in the American South</b><br>Jon Sewell – Middle Tennessee State University                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>2:30 - 2:45</b>     | <b>Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>2:45 - 3:45</b>     | <b>Tour of UAH Archives (Optional)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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**Liles, David A., "View of current First Baptist Church Huntsville from Governors Dr SW."  
UAH Archives, Special Collections, and Digital Initiatives**

