

The MONTANA Archivist

SPRING 2007, VOL. 8 NO. 1



GRANT/SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

MCH grants

Montana Committee for the Humanities grant deadlines and guidelines have changed. As of January 1, 2007, the Opportunity Grant maximum is \$1,000, and the threshold for grants subcommittee consideration is \$5,000. The grants subcommittee will consider proposals requesting \$5,000 or less **quarterly**, in March, June, September, and December. The full Committee will consider proposals over \$5,000 twice annually, at its fall and spring meetings. Full details, including relevant deadlines, are available at the **MCH grants web page**. Contact **MCH** if you have questions.

WORKSHOPS/TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

- **Northwest Archivists Annual Meeting to be held in Moscow, Idaho, May 17-19.** This years theme is *Dynamic Archives: Preserving the Past and Speaking to the Future*. Workshops include *Issues in Photograph and Film Collection Management*, and *Describing Archival Collections (DACS): A Content Standard* (see <http://www.lib.washington.edu/nwa/> for registration, program, and travel information).

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Upcoming Events



May 1-3	Minneapolis, NEDCC School for Scanning
May 13-17	Chicago, American Association of Museums Annual Meeting
May 17-19	Moscow, ID, Northwest Archivists Annual Conference
July 18-21	NAGARA, Kansas City, MO
Oct. 18-20	Helena, MT, Montana History Conference
Oct. 23-25	Oklahoma City, OK, National Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums Conference

• **Montana History Conference—serving up a taste of the past for thirty-four years!**

The 34th Annual Montana Historical Society's annual Montana History Conference will be held October 18–20, 2007 at the Great Northern Best Western Helena, Montana. Save the Date! (See <http://mhs.mt.gov/museum/historyconference2007.asp> for schedule of events and registration information.)



*Italian railroad crew baking bread, ca. 1908, by Evelyn Cameron
Courtesy of Montana Historical Society*

• **National Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums 2007 Conference**

This year the theme is “Guardians of Language, Memory and Lifeways”. Join your colleagues in Oklahoma City, October 23-25, 2007! The national conference, Guardians of Language, Memory and Lifeways: Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums, provides a network of support for tribal cultural institutions and programs. It is a unique event that brings together a wide variety of people that share the common goal of cultural preservation. The 2007 conference builds on two previous conferences that were held in Arizona during 2003 and 2005. <http://tribalconference.org/scholarinfo.html>

• **NEDCC SCHOOL for SCANNING**

The Northeast Document Conservation Center presents: School For Scanning: The A-Z of Creating Digital Collections Celebrating its 11th year. The event,

co-sponsored by the Midwest Art Conservation Center, will be held May 1-3, 2007, at the Marriott Minneapolis City Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

This popular three-day conference takes digitization from theory into practice and is geared toward participants with a beginning or intermediate level of digital knowledge. Participants who already have experience in digitization can obtain an up-to-date briefing. From metadata to rights management, from file formats to funding, learn how to create and manage sustainable digital collections. (See <http://www.nedcc.org/education/conferences/sfs2007/registration.php> for more information).

- **Establishing and Managing Successful Records Management Programs**

Learn how to establish and/or strengthen records management programs and systems from one of the top seminar leaders, consultants, authors and educators in the field, Mark Langemo, Ed.D, CRM, FAI. This comprehensive workshop is sponsored by the Wyoming State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB), Laramie County Community College, and the Wyoming State Archives, in cooperation with Wyoming Chapter of ARMA International. It will introduce tried-and-proven, practical approaches for developing and strengthening organization-wide records management programs. It will cover managing records on all media - including electronic. It also will focus on how to develop and execute a legally valid records retention program, achieve compliance within programs, develop state-of-the-art filing systems, manage inactive and vital records, identify and manage historical records, and successfully implement digital and film-based imaging solutions. The workshop will be held at the Wyoming State Archives facility, April 26-27, 2007. For More information contact Wyoming State Archivist Tony Adams at 307) 777-7035 or tadams@state.wy.us.

NEW RESOURCES

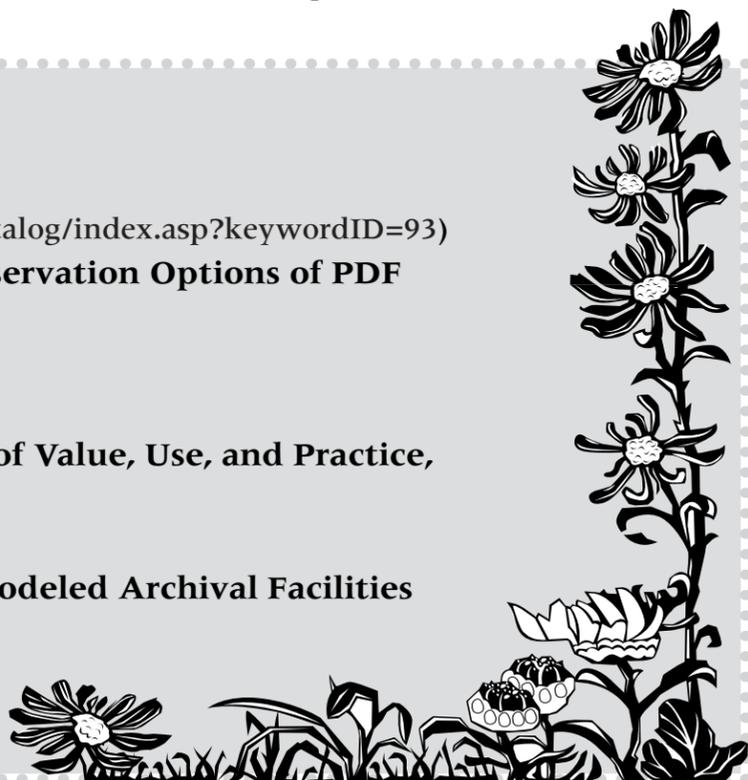
New titles from SAA:

(See <http://www.archivists.org/catalog/index.asp?keywordID=93>)

Electronic Records: Preservation Options of PDF
by Huth, Geoffrey A.

Film Preservation:
Competing Definitions of Value, Use, and Practice,
by Gracy, Karen F.

Planning New and Remodeled Archival Facilities
Wilsted, Thomas P.





FROM THE STACKS

Marino and Cavallari Family Papers

Processing has recently been completed on a Montana Historical Society manuscript collection centered on an Italian American family in Helena. The Marino and Cavallari families were involved in the grocery, hotel, and apartment house businesses in Helena from about 1912 to 1971.

Vincenzo (Vi) Marino was born in Prizzi, Italy, in 1866. He came to the United States about 1900 and first settled in Livingston. In 1912 he opened a confectionary, tobacco, and grocery store at 132 South Main St. in Helena. He later moved the store a few doors away to 124 South Main. At the South Main location he also operated the Montana Hotel. About 1935 the store and hotel moved to 106 Broadway. Marino was active in the Eagles Lodge and in the St. Helena Cathedral. Vincenzo Marino married Anna Provenzano in Italy about 1887. The couple had a daughter Sophia and a son Frank. Vincenzo Marino died in Helena in 1948.

Vincenzo and Anna Marino's daughter Sophia was born in Prizzi, Italy, in 1898. As a young woman she helped her parents in their grocery store and eventually took it over in the 1930s or 1940s and operated it as the Marino-Cavallari Grocery. She also had the Marino Apartments at the same Broadway location. Sophia Marino married Cesare Cavallari on July 18, 1940. They had no children. Sophia Cavallari died in Helena in 1971.

Cesare Cavallari was born in Dinomi, Italy, in 1890, the son of Frank and Frances Cavallari. He worked in Havre as a machinist's helper for the Great Northern Railway. In April 1917 he enlisted in the army and served as a private. He received a medical discharge in November of that year. About 1929 he moved to Helena and shortly thereafter moved into the Marinos' Montana Hotel. After the war he was active in the American Legion and in the Disabled American Veterans. Cesare Cavallari died in 1963 in Helena.

Family papers consist primarily of correspondence (1919-1969) to Vincenzo Marino, Sophia Marino, and to Sophia's husband Cesare Cavallari. Many of the letters are from relatives in Italy and are in Italian. Most significant of these are those from the Provenzano family, Anna Marino's relatives. In addition there are papers concerning the family's involvement in fraternal, religious, and veterans organizations.

Records of the family businesses consist of correspondence (1919-1959) primarily from grocery and hotel suppliers; financial records (1914-1956); and miscellany, including hotel registers, advertisements, and wholesale price lists.

To see the complete box-folder inventory go to:
<http://nwda-db.wsulibs.wsu.edu/findaid/ark:/80444/xv59180>



ARCHIVAL MUSING

Recently one of our State Records Archivists, Karen Bjork, completed a five week course on the use of social software in libraries. Below Karen discusses some of the ways this software can be used in archival settings.

Social software and the creation of a social library has been all the talk in journals and at conferences, but what is an online community all about? How can librarians and archivists provide relevant services and information through these communities? The purpose of this article is to give a brief overview and show examples of several popular social software tools that librarians and archivists are using.

Blogging: A blog, short for weblog, is a Web site that contains brief entries arranged in reverse chronological order. Their content usually centers on a particular subject or theme. Librarians and archivists are using blogs to promote institutional services, resources, and programs. One of the best things about blogs is that many blogging programs are either free or inexpensive to use. Several examples include Blogger.com, Wordpress.org, and Livejournal.com. All three software programs are open source and available for use without charge meaning that a minimum initial investment is required.

Examples:

Oregon State University Archives Collecting, preserving, and sharing history
http://blogs.library.oregonstate.edu/osu_archives

Reading Archives, Richard Cox
<http://readingarchives.blogspot.com/>

Waterboro Public Library's Weblog of literary and library news and resources
<http://www.waterborolibrary.org/blog.htm>

Wiki: A wiki is a web site that can be edited directly by people browsing it. This means everyone can contribute by adding to the wiki, making changes, and deleting items quickly and easily. Wikis are very useful for gathering information and resources and can be made into a reference tool. The research center staff at the Historical Society is in the process of creating a

wiki designed to assist researchers in finding the best resources for their projects. Types of software that can be used for wiki implementation include PmWiki, MediaWiki, and PBWiki. Like that of the blogging software, all three are open source.

Examples:

Ohio University Libraries Biz Wiki (MediaWiki)
http://www.library.ohiou.edu/subjects/bizwiki/index.php/Main_Page

USC Aiken Gregg-Graniteville Library (PmWiki)
<http://library.usca.edu/index.php/Main/HomePage>

Johnson Library Archives and Special Collection (MediaWiki)
http://wiki.spsu.edu/index.php/Johnson_Library_Archives_and_Special_Collections

Tagging: A way for users to attach meaningful keywords to content, tagging allows users to classify and categorize their own digital content. The social bookmarking site *Del.icio.us* is the most common form of tagging that enables the online storage of bookmarks. What you would, in the past, put in the "favorites" or "bookmarks" menu of your web browser are now stored online. Those bookmarks can be publicly visible to others (shared), given tags (similar to categories), and are accessible from any computer.

Examples:

University of Pennsylvania Library
<http://tags.library.upenn.edu/>

Creating a social library is about more than just the tools. It's about empowering the users. These tools not only have the potential to foster sharing, collaboration, and consumer-created content but can also assist in the marketing of your institution's services and programs.

WEBSITES, BLOGS AND WIKIS...OH MY!



Disaster Preparedness website: This link ties to a great resource compiled by the State Archives of South Carolina. There are useful forms and to do lists that can help you start or improve your disaster plans! <http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/16.pdf>

Women Artists Archives National Directory: An innovative online directory to archival materials on women visual artists and artists' organizations in the U.S. Developed by Rutgers University Libraries, with initial funding by The Getty. The Women Artists Archives National Directory unites online information on archival repositories into a single union catalog. Partnering with more than 80 institutions that include the Smithsonian Institution's Archives of American Art, the National Museum of Women in the Arts, the Library of Congress, and the National Association of Woman Artists, WAAND currently directs users to information on approximately 800 discrete collections indexed to more than 5,000 individual artists' names. <http://waand.rutgers.edu>. If your institution is interested in submitting information to the directory, go to http://waand.rutgers.edu/input_form/index.php.

New Preservation Resource: PreservationDirectory.com, online resource for historic preservation, building restoration and cultural resource management in the United States & Canada, has added two new sections to their already great resource—**Green Building & Sustainable Building Practices;** and **Landscapes: Historic & Cultural Landscapes.** <http://www.preservationdirectory.com/PreservationGeneralResources/GeneralResourceCategories.aspx>

NHPRC BUDGET WOES CONTINUE:

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission has provided project funding for various historical records repositories and local governments over the past three decades amounting to nearly \$470,000. The projects included funding for a traveling archivist to provide in-house training to archivists across the state; establishing tribal archives; establishing records programs for local governments; and publishing a tribal history of the Salish-Kootenai people. Despite all the great work they support, NHPRC has again been targeted for a zero budget. The President's budget proposal calls for eliminating the

NHPRC. The House Appropriations Committee and Subcommittee on Financial Services and Government should be encouraged to fund NHPRC at \$10 million for national grants and \$2 million for administration, for a total of \$12 million.

Your help is needed! Getting US House and Senate restoration of NHPRC funding will require a major effort over many months and will need the involvement of a great number of individuals.

Has your repository or local government received NHPRC funding or do you hope to request funds in the future? If so, now is the time to act on your appreciation of NHPRC's good work in Montana and the region.



PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Copies of the Montana SHRABs manual, *Preferred Practices for Historical Repositories* are still available, free of charge. This publication is a checklist and self-assessment manual and provides information on a wide variety of management and preservation topics related to archives and museums. Copies are available from Jodie Foley at (406) 444-7482 or jofoley@mt.gov. Additional copies of the SHRABs other publications, including *So You Have a Box of Papers...* and the quarterly newsletter are also available.



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