ALASKA

Scott and Eleanor delivered another addition to their household. Carson Orion Carrick was born on August 20 and weighed 9 lbs. 6 oz. At the new addition, Scott has a great interest in conservation news, Ellen was very pleased with his work on the Gladbeck Internship project which brought two interns, Molly Gleason from the Getty/UCP program and Samantha Springer from the Winterthur/Delaware program to Alaska to work on baskets and objects with local basket makers. Scott continues to work on preventive conservation outreach for the state of Alaska and is very pleased to have been elected VP of WAAC.

Monica Shah also welcomed a new addition to their household as they adopted a puppy from India. Monica continues to establish the first conservation lab at the Anchorage Museum and is ordering equipment and working on exhibit loans.

Regional Reporter: Scott Carrilee

ARIZONA

The ‘other WACC’ is no more. The National Park Service’s Western Archeological and Conservation Center and the Intermountain Region’s Museum Services Program have merged. This will hopefully dispel the common misconception that our conservation labs deal primarily with archaeological artifacts.

NPS conservators Gretchen Voeks and Bryan Bender have been working on pesticide testing projects for collections of natural history specimens and NAPCAR items. Bryan, Audrey Harrison, and Maria Lessa also performed treatments for the Grand Teton National Park’s Vernon collection of Native American artifacts.

Maggie Kipling is completing treatments on a large basketry collection at the Arizona State Museum. She is currently working on the technical studies of these pictures with a BA in Collections Management.

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New Mexico

David Rasch has been promoted to the position of Director of the City of Santa Fe’s Historic Preservation Division within the Land Use Department. He was previously the Historic Preservation Officer for the city. The Santa Fe is celebrating its 250th year since the establishment of the city, and is continuing its historic preservation ordinance, making it the second oldest historic preservation ordinance in the country. Patricia Morris spent a week in July in Santa Fe attending a conference on the survey of 40 rare maps at the Montana Historical Society. She also hosted a get-together for all of the local conservators and their families in June.

NEW MEXICO

The Royal BC Museum has been very fortunate to host Jane Kemp, a conservation intern from the UK, working for the Costume Society of America. Another project of processing artifacts for storage was held in May at the University of Arizona. Bolee carried out a project with the Tsimshian community into PEG impregnation of waterlogged objects from a number of different cultures and periods at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. Steven Pickman will be held at the Neumok Foundation Internship at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, D.C. where he will work on historic collections.

Susanne Friend, column editor

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

The Regional News section is pleased to announce the hire of Mike Vawter as the new Administrative Assistant for the Division and the Conservation Lab. Giana was hired at the City of Santa Fe’s Historic Preservation Division, and is working as an intern for the Conservation Lab. She is currently working on the technical studies of these pictures with a BA in Collections Management.

New Mexico

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Susanne Friend, column editor
Regional News, continued

documentation, including digital photography and condition reports, was mastered by RICM staff.

The RBCM completed XRF testing for pesticide residues in a collection of First Nations artifacts which may soon be repatriated. Many thanks to the UBC Museum of Anthropology for their support and cooperation on this project. Work continues on the engineering of new cold and cool storage vaults. Construction is scheduled to begin in the new year.

Tania Ainsworth will be joining the RBCM this fall as a Sir Sanford Fleming intern. The RBCM also recently welcomed back Jana Stefan, a previous Fleming intern, who is assisting in the Archives Lab, with the help of former Archives conservator, Barry Byers, while Betty Wasih is on leave until September.

The Washington State Arts Commission's (WSAC) Art in Public Places Program hosted a workshop in October on conserving sculptures for an upcoming exhibition. The workshop was co-presented by the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco and the Seattle Art Museum.

Dana Seng of DKS Conservation Services, has been working with the National Parks Service for the past few months assisting with stabilization treatments of artifacts from the Gettysburg collection. She has had the pleasure of working with a wide variety of treatment issues as well as meeting the wonderful folks at the Harpers Ferry Conservation Center in West Virginia.

The Washington State Arts Commission's (WSAC) Art in Public Places Program has hired Adam Fah to fill the newly created half-time position of Conservation Technician. Adam will be working under the Collections Manager facilitating conservation projects, art handling, and partner agency training for the care of more than 4600 artworks located throughout Washington, as well as helping to shape a conservation review process for new acquisitions to the State Art Collection.

Since 2000, Adam has owned and operated a studio specializing in conservation and restoration of metal sculpture. He has been a professional patron for the past 9 years and currently enjoys facilitating bronze castings for artist Philip McCracken. The WSAC Art in Public Places Program is also organizing a traveling exhibition of Jacob Lawrence’s series The Legend of John Brown from the State Art Collection. The exhibition tour brings this body of work to community college galleries around the state, making the works accessible to audiences across Washington and the Pacific Northwest.

Victoria Montana Ryan has recently been named vice-chair for the ACCIPP specialty group. She also gave a presentation at the workshop “The Chemistry of Conservation” held at Colorado College. She attended the Canadian Association for Conservation annual meeting in St. John’s, Newfoundland this past May.

Denver Art Museum conservation staff regret to announce that third-year intern Jana Stefan has found a wonderful job in Omaha NE at the Gerald Ford Conservation Center. She will be missed, but not forgotten. On the other hand, we are pleased to announce that Elizabeth Homberger from Buffalo State College will take her place in the lab. Welcome back, Jana! Lab staff will be working on when we fill two new positions approved for next fiscal year: a conservation technician and a paper conservator.

Plans for the new Clyfford Still Museum continue to evolve. The DAM is currently hosting a small retrospective of his work.

In addition to the WAAC conference, Denver is to host the AIC and AAM conference meetings. DAM conservation staff are involved in all three for local arrangements and logistics.

One year after the opening of the new Frederick C. Hamilton addition, designed by Daniel Liebeskind, conservation staff are again hard at work on the museum’s more than 100,000 works on paper. The conservation lab at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco said farewell to Victoria Binder, 3rd year intern from the NYU program. Victoria has successfully completed her internship at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.

Kress Fellow Nina Quabech, on leave from the K20 K21 Museum in Dusseldorf, will be studying the conservation issues of three-dimensional work on paper. The lab is also pleased to be hosting Adam Staneff, a Kress Fellow for his 3rd year internship at the Winterthur program.

James Bernstein, Conservator of Paintings and Mixed Media, San Francisco, and Deborah Ball, Head of Paper Conservation, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, are recipients of the 2007 American Institute for Conservation Sheldon and Caroline Keck Award, in recognition of a sustained record of excellence in the education and training of conservation professionals. The award was presented at the annual meeting of the AIC held in Richmond, VA (April 2007).

James Bernstein has written the cover article for Golden Artist Colors’ newsletter Just Paint (Issue 17, September 2007), a special canvas preparation issue. The article “A Remarkable Way to Stretch Canvases (and other Essentials of Canvas Preparation)” will be available for download from the website at www.GoldenPaints.com. A series of Information Sheets will also be available as PDF’s from the website, addressing canvas selection, stretching/trainer supports, stretching technique, the studio environment, etc.

Jim taught three workshops in October: “Mastering Painting” (Bernstein and paper conservator Debra Evans, instructors) at the Campbell Center for Historic Preservation, Mt. Carroll, IL; October 14; “Mastering Floors” (Bernstein, objects conservator, Meg Craft, and paper conservator Margo McFarland, instructors) for Midwest Conservation Association in Chicago, IL; October 27-28; and “Mastering Inpainting” (Bernstein) at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, NY, October 28-30.

Setsuko Kawazu has been hired by the Asian Art Museum as Assistant Conservator, specializing in the treatment of screens and scrolls.

Mark Penn, Associate Head of Conservation of the Asian Art Museum, spent a month in Bhutan leading a workshop on conserving sculptures for an upcoming exhibit being organized by the Honolulu Academy of Arts. A paper he co-wrote with the Asian Art Museum’s former Head of Conservation, Donna Strahan, entitled “A Transfer of Technology: Jade Abrasive Methods Used to Create Inscriptions in Ancient Chinese Bronzes” has just been published in Scientific Research on the Sculptural Arts of Asia: Proceedings of the Third Forbes Symposium at the Freer Gallery of Art. 

Matthew Brack successfully completed his internship in paper conservation at the Asian Art Museum and has returned to complete his degree at Northumbria U.

Melissa Buschey is joining the Asian Art Museum paper lab this fall as a third year intern from the NYU program.

Denise Migdal will be participating in the North American Textile Conservation Conference in DC this November. Denise will be attending the workshop on “Aqueous Cleaning Methods” taught by Richard Wolbers and “X-rayography for Textiles” by Sonja O’Connor.

Regional Reporter: Beth Szuhay

Regional News, continued