**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-enactors, 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...
Susanne Sayre Batton resigned her position as deputy director from the Honolulu Academy of Arts, fulfilling her three year commitment managing the renovation of Van Buren’s book, Care and Handling of Thangkas: A Guide for Caretakers in India in January 2008 was replaced by a new collections manager at the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles and started July 7th.

The Conservation Center at LACMA is pleased to announce the appointment of Silvia Borrini as assistant conservator in objects conservation. For the past three years, Silvia has served as a collections manager at LACMA and was instrumental in improving collections care through the development of a number of policies. Silvia previously was a preparator at the Dioro Institute of Art and an objects conservator at the Brunkenthal National Museum in Sibiu, Romania. Silvia received her MA in the preservation and restoration of artworks from Lascua Blag University in Sibiu, specializing in the conservation of stone and ceramics.

Ejrue Jin recently finished her fourth year as a paper conservator and will work at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. She will return to LACMA as a Mellon Fellow for another year.

Brother Alan Reed from St. John’s Abbey completed his 7 month internship in July, paper conservation at LACMA. Brother Reed participated in a variety of re-housing and collections surveys 5 curatorial departments. His humor, lively spirit, and hand skills will be sorely missed.

Molly Gleeson – completed her internship at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) Anthropology Conservation Laboratory. This past year Molly presented her work entitled “Collaborative Work toward the Preservation of Spruce Root Baskets and Related Ethnographic Materials,” submitted to the Japan Society for the Study of Ethnography and Anthropology in Delhi, India. This summer, with support from the Getty Conservation Institute, Molly will be an Assistant Instructor for the “Preservation of Cultural Materials in Tribal Collections” course. Molly will work with Alice Auke and will be working at the San Diego Museum of Man.

Christian de Brer – will complete his internship at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology and will then begin a postgraduate internship at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) Anthropology Conservation Laboratory. This past year Molly presented her work entitled “Beyond Cultural Sensitivity and Toward Cultural Centeredness: Insights into the Preservation of Alaskan Spruce Root Baskets” at the AAM/NCC Conference held at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

Scott Carrile, column editor

Regional News, continued

with the ASM team that is developing plans for the new ASM exhibition facility at Rio Nuevo, Tucson, set to open in July. She is the author of a forthcoming book, Care Our Ancestors exhibit, which will be installed in the future at the new ASM Rio Nuevo facility. She continues with her text analysis and documentation project.

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 Mr. Lykaios in the Peloponnese, a collabora-
Regional News, continued

Richard Wolbers and Chris co-taught a workshop “New Methods of Cleaning Painted and Decorative Surfaces,” including the Modular Cleaning Program: a Systematic Approach to Cleaning Artworks” in Montevideo in June. The workshop was led by Debra Daly-Hartin and was a collaboration between the American Association of Conservators and CCI. It was hosted by the McCord Museum with a hands-on workshop conducted in a chemistry lab at McGill University. The packed four days consisted of two half-days lectures and a workshop for a smaller number of conservators. WAAC members Mary Piper Hough and Victoria Montana Ryan attended the workshop.

Chris will be taking the MCP Workshop to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in early October. Closer to home, Chris hosted a gel making party in August which included Tiarra Doherty, Susi Friend, Carolyn Tallest, Donna Williams, and Aneta Zebala, where they made up sets of the gels used in the MCP.

Regional Reporter: Virginia Rasmussen

NEW MEXICO

The Department of Cultural Affairs Conservation Department continues to work on a wide variety of projects for the Museums and of New Mexico system and in providing consultation in support of collection management, improving energy efficiency measures, and monitoring environmental quality during major construction in Cody, Wyoming, as well as during maintenance involving with the Girard collection storage areas in MOFA.

The department purchased a new reflector design for the Museum of Science and Technology.

Regional Reporter: Susan Lamas

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

The Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art and School of Architecture and Allied Arts at the University of Oregon in Eugene is hosting a public symposium on Saturday, September 14. Please see or Perish: Some Challenges for Public Art. The event is being held concurrently with the opening fall exhibition Cuba Avant-Garde (Contemporary Cuban Art from the Farber Collection).

The presenters include Brian Condime (Senior Conservator of Decorative Arts and Sculpture, The J. Paul Getty Museum), and Chris co-taught a workshop “New Methods of Cleaning Painted and Decorative Surfaces,” including the Modular Cleaning Program: a Systematic Approach to Cleaning Artworks” in Montevideo in June. The workshop was led by Debra Daly-Hartin and was a collaboration between the American Association of Conservators and CCI. It was hosted by the McCord Museum with a hands-on workshop conducted in a chemistry lab at McGill University. The packed four days consisted of two half-days lectures and a workshop for a smaller number of conservators. WAAC members Mary Piper Hough and Victoria Montana Ryan attended the workshop.

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Regional Reporter: Virginia Rasmussen

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This summer the RBCM conservation lab welcomed Stephanie Shank, a Young Professional, who is desig-ined for Sir Sandford Fleming College in the fall. Special thanks to Terry Stotin for cataloguing thousands of digital con-servation documentation images, a new task that will be ongoing as the project continues to manage digital assets at the RBCM. Further on that front, Stephanie also entered condition and treatment re-ports into the new collections manage-ment system.

Jennifer Barsby, second year intern from the Royal College of Art and Victoria and Albert Museum, is working in the textiles lab this summer, under the tutelage of Kjerstin Mackie and Colleen Wilson. She is looking forward to gaining experience with both the history and ethnology textile collections. Jennifer also in-cluded both presented at the spring Pacific Conservation Group meeting in Kelowna. Special thanks to Terry Stotin for her terrific work in organizing this “Interdisciplinary Heritage Forum.” Kjerstin has also contributed to the organization of and presented a paper at the 2008 Symposium highlighting re-search to date on Kwadi Dan Tsimshian, Long Ago Person Found.

In the fall, Betty Walsh will host Carly Wemys, a Sir Sandford Fleming intern, in the conservation archives lab. Betty has been very busy presenting posters in preparation for a Remembrance Day display. She has also presented on working with similar conservation archives and the latest in cleaning techniques and ap-proaches.

Jessica Fletcher gave a paper at the AIC conference on the strategies used to move objects into the museum’s new addition. Three pa-pers were given at the regional Colorado/ Wyoming Association of Museums meeting with the help of Carter Patterson, Gina Laurin, and Jessica Fletcher. Some of the staff were also able to attend the Denver IMSL’s “Connecting to Collections” workshops.

Two floors of modern and contemporary art are being changed in the new Ham-ilton building. This involves preparing over 125 items for exhibit— many for the first time. Those who work with similar materials appreciate the large amount of work needed. The conservation project has been headed by David Turnbull and has included the full time assistance of the rest of the lab staff.

Projects have included several over-sized paper treatments by Sara Monti-ning, Sandy Skuljan’s installation Fox Games, Pia Doffun’s sculptures with complicated matte surface treatments, and Dr. Jessica Fletcher and Gina Laurin, and Rachel Lacowitz’s lipstick-covered ties, shoes, and uniforms. Treatments on the latter group were performed by Liz Homberger, Gina Laurin, and Carter Patterson. The lab has an unusual amount of work these days from storage containers of aged bread and cheap lipstick.

Next up will be the reinstal-lation of Western American Art and the gallery for Colorado Realism. Both will involve all conservation staff, interns, and con-servators at the nearby WCCPA.

The Denver Art Museum is delighted to announce that they just received a grant from the Mellon Foundation to support permanent senior paintings conservation position. The museum has also received a conservation project grant from IMLS to provide safe storage and rehousing for the European paintings collection. Clarence Carl Patterson has been selected as the Colorado/Wyoming As-sociation of Museums (CWAM) Clear chairman and has joined the board of the University of Denver’s DU ART!.

The conservation lab is delighted to welcome Tara Hornung from the NYU Archives to start an advanced internship for the summer. Tara will be working on a number of projects but con-centrating on the analysis of Italian white metal bronzes in conjunction with a pro-gram at the Colorado School of Mines. They also extend a welcome to Tessa de Alarcon who will be their pre-program intern in conservation for the year. And for the final welcome, David Turnbull and his wife Kelly have introduced a new addition to the family: Tessa de Alarcon’s baby girl, born July 26, 2008.

Regional News, continued

Laura Downey-Stannell and her family welcome the addition of Amy Bianca, born June 5. Camille Moore has joined the Silverpoint team, as a partner. Camille has worked for Silverpoint as assistant conservator for the last two years and has been presented with a specialization in paper and photographs.

Karen Jones at the Jefferson Coun-ty Public Library announces that (WESTPA) Western States & Terri-tories Preservation Assistance Service program presented “Protecting Library & Ar-chive Collections.” This summer work-shop includes a summer in a 2-part sequence for disaster preparedness activities. Upon completion, participating institu-tions are invited to join an informal network of WESTPAS trained person-nel to provide mutual aid in the event of emergencies involving collections in the region. There is no cost to the institution, funds are provided by the National Endowment for the Humani-ties and co-sponsored by the Colorado State Library. Jefferson County Public Library hosted the second part of the series on 17th at the Lakewood Library in Clever and presented a poster in Grand Junction and Pueblo.


The workshop, held at the McCord Mu-seum and McGill University, presented the latest in cleaning techniques and ap-proaches. Richard Wolbers and Chris Steel presented a paper on UV meas-urement and the analysis of Indian white metal bronzes, Carolino de Alonzo’s paper on UV meter that translates UV in terms of the visible spectrum. The group also received training in using the UV meter that translates UV in terms of the visible spectrum.

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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.

The conservation department of the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco welcomes Katherine Holbrow as the new Head of Conservation. Her arrival coincides with the start of a major project to prepare 132 objects for Bankok and Mandalay, an exhibition highlighting Thai and Burmese objects and paintings from the Doris Duke Collection scheduled to open in October 2009. Objects conservators Markenn, Shelley J. San, Amanda Hall, Rowan Geiger, and Tonja Morris are conserving these objects for the forthcoming exhibition catalog.

Shihoko Sasaki has also recently joined the staff as conservator of paintings and is working on the Thai paintings. In addition, Marie Stewart joined the Asian for an 8-week internship this summer. Marie is a graduate student from the University of Delaware/Winterthur Program specializing in objects conservation.

At Architectural Resources Group (ARG) and ARG Conservation Services (ARGCS), architectural conservator David Wessel, conservator Katharine Untch, construction coordinator to Dave Newton, Susan Saltman, and architectural conservator Merseideh Jorjani presented papers at the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC) Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado in April 2008.

Architectural conservator Kelly Wong is continuing oversight of the exterior renovation of terra cotta cladding and new windows at 450 Sutter Street, an art deco building in San Francisco designed by Timothy Pfueger. Kelly also completed field work in July at an archaeological site in Gordion, Turkey.

Preservation masonry specialist Devin McDonald and architectural conservator Mary Slater completed a conditions assessment of One Beach Street in SF, a National Historic Landmark constructed in 1924 for the Otis Elevator Co.

Devin McDonald and conservation technicians Collin Eaton and Eric Hand completed masonry restoration of the base at the Francis Scott Key Monument in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. Bronze conservation treatments were conducted by Collin Eaton and Eric Hand under the supervision of Katharine Untch.

Devlin McDonald is also managing conservation treatments at another Golden Gate Park monument, the Portals of the Past. The monument will undergo plaster conservation, column replacement, and metal roof installation.

Katharine Untch, Devin McDonald, Merseideh Jorjani, Collin Eaton, Eric Hand, Jennifer Correia, and conservation interns Kelly Poff and Mason Wessel completed treatment of mosaic panels at the Masonic Auditorium in San Francisco. Ten of the fifty-five Plexiglas mosaic panels were in need of conservation treatments.

Will Shank returned to California from his home in Barcelona in order to co-facilitate a meeting at the Getty Conservation Institute in Los Angeles in August. With Cassie Myers of the GCI, Will addressed matters of maintenance of modern murals with an international group of visiting experts in the field. Will is the co-director of Rescue Public Murals, an initiative of Heritage Preservation. One of the pilot projects of Rescue Public Murals is the assessment of several endangered murals nationwide, including, in the Bay Area, The Song of Unity in Berkeley. In a collaborative effort, several of the original muralists met with community members, Tim Drescher of Rescue Public Murals, and Katy Untch of ARG Conservation Services, in order to formulate a plan to save this important work from 1978 at La Peña Cultural Center.

Molly Lambert will be in Honolulu at the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art (Shangri La) for six weeks this fall to treat a selection of architectural tile panels and mosaics. She will be joined for part of that time by conservation technician Sven Atema, also of Berkeley, together with Shangri La conservation technician Linda Gue, they will re-install several large Qajar period Iranian tile spandrels damaged from improper installation and verify Shangri La’s conservation treatments for the six weeks of its annual blit of repairs and treatments (site aloha). Regional Reporter: Beth Szuhay

TAXAS

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 placement: Danielle Fraser, Library 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; Melissa Tedone, 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; Youm in Kyung; Jill Sison.

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, retrofitted 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 conservation 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, sumingashi (mouth) mounters, woodblock printer/artist in the Kansai - Kyoto region of Japan.

Barbara Brown welcomes Isiao-Juan 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 Tainan 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 treatment on the close to 1000 page manuscript, Gui-guel’s Hand by Louis Ferdinand Celine while working with Stephanie Watkins in paper conservation at the Harry Ransom Center.

Lee Maria Greene, of Oregon currently studying at Northumbria University in the UK, spent July and August 2008 interning with Stephanie. Desi Peters, an undergraduate at the University of Texas at Austin, spent her summer (2008) volunteering in the conservation 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. Nane Lew, paintings conservator, continues to volunteer in paper and book conservation at the Harry Ransom Center.

Regional Reporter: Kim Grant

I never feel lonely in the kitchen.
Food is very friendly. Just looking at a potato, I like to pat it. There’s something so pleasant about a big baking 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

Regional News, continued

WAAC Newsletter Volume 30 Number 3 September 2008