**Regional News**

**Maggie Kipling** and Brynn conducted a condition survey of objects on exhibit at Chris-tina Natl. Museum. Maggie, Audrey Harrison, and Estelle Echenique continue to treat ceramics in the NPS collections.

March is Archaeology Month in Arizona. Nancy O'edgeaard presented an Arizona Archaeology Month lecture entitled “Lagoon Luggage: Should an Ancient Fossil Trav-el?” and she and Teresa Moreno organized and hosted a workshop on basketry care at the Arizona State Museum (ASM) conserva-tion lab. The event included both an all-day course and a hands-on workshop for members of the public. Nancy and Teresa also taught another hands-on workshop on “Packaging and Storing Materials for Safeguarding Collections” at the Annual Meeting of the Museum Association of Arizona in Bisbee, in May. In addition, Nancy assisted the University of Nevada Natural History Museum with their exhibition conservation plan. She pre-sented lectures at the American Museum of Natural History, the NYU Conservation Center, and the University of Delaware.

Teresa Moreno is working on a condition survey and storage improvement project for conserving the ASM’s collections of American silver and turquoise jewelry. She is also preparing for another season of ex-amination at the Sanctuary of Zeus on Mt. Lykaion after which she will be on sab-tastic from the ASM and the University of Arizona through June 30, 2010.

Meghan McFarlane, WUDPAC third-year intern at ASM continues her work on the conservation of a group of Hopi Kachina dolls in the museum’s collection consisting of a variety of analytical techniques including XRF, FTIR, and portable RAMAN.

Marlen Poo is continuing to work part-time at the ASM on the treatment phase of the SW Pottery Project. She is also working for the Arizona Historical Society, Southern Region on an NEH grant project to per-cess collections and prepare plans for an eventual collections move.

Paintings conservator, Esther Echenique from Santiago, Chile has joined the studio of Linda Morris part time. Alison Pinto, a graduate student at ASU, commutes from Scottsdale to study paper conservation. Ra-chel Shand while Interning with Linda was offered the position of Assistant Registrar at the Tucson Museum of Art, but happily is still able to work at the conservation studio one day a week.

**Regional Reporters:**

**Maggie Bender**

**GREATER LOS ANGELES**

Yosi Poselev, photographer at LACMA, announces that his publication on digital photography is now available. Digital Photo-graphy for Art Conservation Ed. 2, self-published, available through www.lulu.com. Yosi has also made available online a presenta-tion originally given at the WAAC meeting in Los Angeles, which describes the theory and practice of producing ultraviolet-excited inks on film by using photography and reflec-tance UV photography using off-the-shelf digital cameras and filters.

In Dec. 2008, the Getty Villa opened three conservation related exhibitions. Fragment to View: Approaches to Ceramic Restora-tion explores contemporary issues in vase restoration, providing a behind-the-scenes look at how Getty conservators assemble ancient pottery fragments into understand-able forms. The exhibition “Constructing Identity: A Statue of a God from Dresden” examines the history of a Roman statue that has been suc-cessively restored as Alexander the Great, Bacchus, and Antinous in the guise of the wine god. The Getty Commons: Roman Portraits and Modern Copies shows how curators and conservators have determined the identity of Shalash, one of an ancient bust of an Egyptian emperor Commodus, which was once thought to have been made in the 1500s.

The Antiquities Conservation Department is collaborating on a conservation project with the Georgian National Museum (GNM) in Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia. Jeff provided input to the GNM on the treatment phase of the SW Pottery Project. She is also working for the Arizona Historical Society, Southern Region on an NEH grant project to per-cess collections and prepare plans for an eventual collections move.

Dan Tsinchi (Long Ago Person Found), an associate professor of anthropology at Pacific Northwest College of Arts and Sciences, leading to two symposia, and a symposium summarizing the results of the research.

Lisa Bengston has furthered her research into testing for pesticide residues employ-ing handheld XRF technology. Interest in the technology has now spread as Betty Walsh is using the analyzer to identify photographic processing techniques and the Museum’s archaeologists have used it to investigate the manufacture and uses of hides in ancient cultures.

Colleen Wilson continues to write enter-taining and informative articles for the RICM’s Discovery Magazine and deliver educational based textile conservation prog-blams.

**New Mexico**

Betina Raphael writes: “Over the past few years, I have headed a volunteer com-mitee for the care and maintenance of an ancient Hohokam group of vases at the Fe, NM. The artist, Oliver Rush, left her studio to the Santa Fe Friends (Quakers) to use as their meetinghouse along with many of the original furnishings and ex-am-ples of Mr. Rush’s watercolors, prints, and frescoes. As a member of the Quaker Meeting and head of the Building Commit-tee, I have learned new respect for the history of the building and the arts. It has been mind with new interest in the challenges of historic preservation, or “the big object in front of us.” I’ve learned new respect for the history of the building arts and the approach of Southwest preservationists. Recently I have been consulting on the preservation of another artist’s studio/home in Santa Fe, the Gustave Baumman House. Come and take a look at these wonderful buildings if you find yourself in Santa Fe.”

M. Susan Barger shrank her shoulder while making museum site visits early in December and is now in “aggressive” phys-i-cal therapy after surgery and two months of shoulder immobilization.

**Regional Reporters:**

**M. Susan Barger, PhD**

**Pacific Northwest**

At the Royal BC Museum, all hands were on deck for the arrival of the Treasures: The World’s Cultures from the British Museum exhibition, which opened May 1st. George Field conditioned over 1200 pounds of the conservation-related RH in¬-croclimates to satisfy the requirements of the artifacts in this exhibit.

Kjerstin Mackie is wrapping up work on the artifacts associated with Kwaday Dan Tsinchí (Long Ago Person Found), the frozen preserved human remains dis-covered in northern BC almost ten years ago. This has been a multi-disciplinary, multi-institutional project involving historians, scientists and members of First Nations Communities, leading to two symposia, and a symposium summarizing the results of the research.

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**Regional Reporters:**

**M. Susan Barger, PhD**
Regional News, continued

Finally, digital conservation documentation went live on April 1, 2009, providing the conservator to study and produce condition records, condition, treatment, and analytical reports, as well as associated photodocumentation to the catalogue records of the collections. Likewise, all catalogue information is available to the conservators for reference.

Claire Gerhard was recently featured in her alma mater magazine, The Carleton Voice, in an article entitled “Risky Business” which focused on some Carleton alumni facing hazards-like surviving fire and ice, and the occasional encounter with a grizzly bear in their work. Her keen interest in highlighting the risks in conservation!

Claire, Nicholas Dorman, and Mitchell Hersch Bishop served on a panel discussing conservation of modern art at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle as part of Eros, Bios, Thanatós: Conundrums in Conceiving conservation of modern art at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle.

Nicholas Dorman served as Facilitator for the Raising Public Awareness team as part of the Connecting to Collections initiative, which aims to develop a statewide preservation strategy for Washington State. Nick was relieved to have a quiet month in March as emergency contact for the AIC-Cert emergency response group and encourages other members to volunteer. You get lots of support from the AIC team, and it didn’t turn out to be a dreadful addition to his workload even with a volcanic, tor- tured, and a large portion of the northern US under water.

Tim Marsden gave a presentation to SAM about conservators’ role in mainte- nance and protection of art at the Olympic Sculpture Park.

The Seattle Art Museum is hosting an af- ternoon of talks entitled “Art Conservation in the Pacific Northwest” in October. The conservation department at SAM has been awarded an AIC Lecture Grant to help support the event. The scheduled talks will highlight several areas of conservation and remind communities of the preservation of collections within the region.

Dana Sengé has been collaborating with the museum staff at the Hibu Cultural Center to prepare and stabilize important artifact donations from the Tulalip community for safe entrance to the storage facility. Many of these large pieces (including house posts, canoes, and a story pole) require some maintenance and treatment prior to entering the museum buildings.

Marie Laibinis-Craft is working with conservation scientist and Portland State University professor, Tamá Littauer Clare, on a technical examination of the Portland Art Museum’s money tree from the Eastern Han Dynasty. The bronze money tree is a rare type of funerary object found in tombs in southwest China and is named after the coin motif often used in the design of the branches. The examination includes analy- sis using x-radiography, XRF, and FTIR.

Regional Reporter: Dana K. Sengé

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

David Turnbull will be leaving the Denver Art Museum to move back to Canada. He will be working as a conservator for the Edmonton Public Art Program. David is sad to be leaving the DAM but is happy to be living near family and babysitters and is looking forward to the challenges involved with his new job.

Mark Minor is happy to report that he has finally finished his new studio in Howard. It’s a two-story, 1600 foot active and ac- tive solar heated space, with lovely views of the Northern Crest of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. He considers the view a well-earned perk from all the years he’s spent laboring in basement conservation labs (of numerous institutions).

Paulette Reading completed work on a wedding dress exhibit at the Heritage Center in Lakewood, CO. The show will be open through August. She is currently preparing Navajo weaving for an exhibit at the University of Colorado Museum of Natural History.

Regional Reporter: Paulette Reading

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

Martha Little has been working on a con- dition survey of the Islamic manuscript col- lection at the Naghla Library in Egypt. She spent three weeks in Cairo in the fall of 2008 and another three weeks in April of 2009, as part of a small international team of con- servators who have been training Egyptian library staff. The survey of the Persian, Turkish, and Mamluk Egyptian manuscript books is the first stage of the Thesaurus Islamicicus Foundation and Dar al-Kuthub Manuscript Conservation Project.

Recent news from SFMOMA: After over a year of construction and the temporary move of the conservation lab, the staff en- joyed the opening of the new Rooftop Gar- den in May. In addition to a lovely outside space for sculpture, the fifth floor galleries were opened in the new book. The conservation department is also preparing for a large show of the permanent collection to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the museum.

Regional Reporter: Dana K. Sengé

Regional News, continued

Welcome, Leah Noel Johnson, daughter of Amanda Hunter Johnson, celebrated her first birthday in March.

Karen Zukor returned in early March from spending a month in Paris collecting for a long-term manuscript project. She was accompanied by Janine Jamyce, now at AICA in Cleveland. Before starting her work, Karen and Jamyce traveled to Udaipur and surrounding, in ancient fortresses. Jain and Hindu temples, and what is billed as the World’s Largest Turban. It was dusty. This spring, Karen taught a series of work- shops on archival materials and framing techniques, for art students, practicing art- ists, and framers. The presentations are given in tandem with Aletha Worrall, a conserva- tion framer based in Oakland, CA.

Architectural conservators Mary Slater and Kelly Wong of Architectural Resource- es Group (ARG) are conducting a condi- tion assessment of the 1920 Santa Barbara County Courthouse, a National Historic Landmark, designed by William Moor and Company. The condition assessment is part of a historic structures report that will be produced in the near future. The court- house features many original wood furni- shings and elaborate metal light fixtures, as well as decoratively painted ceilings by Giovanni Smeraldi and sandstone sculp- tures and a fountain by Ettore Cadorin.

ARG Conservation Services has been working on several projects. With the as- sistance of preservation masonry special- ist Devlin McDonald, Mersedeh Forjani, and Katharine Utech recently completed conservation treatment on the San Fran- cisco Museum of Modern Art including the treatment of a large broken sandstone that was part of contemporary sculpture instal- lation. Katharine has been consulting on an outdoor sculpture by Roy Lichtenstein; on appropriate methods for cleaning brick and metal substrates for historic buildings in Sacramento; on the conservation treat- ment of the historic beacon at Mt. Diablo State Historic Park; and on the treatment of historic cannon at the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Katharine and historic preservation specialist, Ted Dunn, are also working on a ceramic tile mural in Monterey.

Architectural conservators Mary Slater, Kelly Wong, and Lacey Bubnaš, as well as construction specialist Nina Saltman recently completed an on-going effort to survey the exterior conditions of nine origi- nal buildings (c. 1910) at San Francisco General Hospital.

Regional Reporter: Beth Sezhay

TEXAS

On March 5th, Mark Van Gelder was the invited guest speaker at the Austin Artist’s League, a group which has been meeting in Austin regularly since 1927. His talk fo- cused on the significance of preventative measures in paintings conservation.

Gregory Thomas, has returned to Hawaii. Greg established his private practice, Art Care, offering painting and paper conserva- tion in Kailua, HI in 1987. Over the past several years Greg has continued provid- ing fine art conservation services to clients in the Pacific Region, while working on the mainland from his previous studio in Rockport, Texas. Greg’s new address is: Art Care, P.O. Box 331, Kailua, HI 96734. Same e-mail address: artcare@mac.com and new phone #: (808) 397-0900.

Regional Reporter: Ken Grant

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