The SGA Annual Meeting Travels to Athens
Georgia's Classic City welcomes archivists from around the state

The Society of Georgia Archivists is pleased to be in Athens for its annual meeting on November 12 through 14. The home of the University of Georgia (UGA), Athens is an historic and eclectic town in northeastern Georgia located an hour and a half from Atlanta, two hours from Macon and Augusta, three hours from Columbus, Rome, and Tifton, and four hours from Savannah and Valdosta. Local activities include shopping at funky boutiques and record stores, walking around the UGA campus, and dining at one of Athens’ distinctive southern restaurants. This year’s annual auction and reception offers an opportunity to spend an evening in one of Athens’ antebellum homes, the Taylor-Grady House.

Athens streetscape: College Avenue and Clayton Street at night. Photo courtesy of the Athens Convention and Visitors Bureau

The meeting will be held at The Classic Center in downtown Athens - only a short walk away from the UGA campus and unique shops and restaurants. The Hilton Garden Inn, this year’s conference hotel, is conveniently located across the street from The Classic Center. Rooms will be $124 per night. Reservations must be made by October 21 to secure this rate. For reservations contact the hotel at (877) 782-9444 and mention the SGA annual meeting (rate code SGAA). Parking at the Hilton Garden Inn is $8/night. Parking is available at the Classic Center across the street. For more information, call 706.357.4444.

Advance registration fees will be $95 for members, $115 for non-members and $70 for students. This year we are pleased to offer online registration. Visit http://tinyurl.com/64phn3 to register. To take advantage of these rates, your registration must be postmarked or submitted online by October 24. After this date, participants may register on-site for the non-member fee. Not an SGA member? Join us! Visit www.soga.org for more information.

For more information about Athens, please visit:

Flagpole Magazine online - Athens local weekly that lists bands playing, art events, and new restaurants to visit, among other local information.

40 Watt Club, Athens, GA. Photo courtesy of
The 2008 SGA Annual Meeting theme is **Archives in Focus: Describing, Sharing, and Caring for Photographic Collections** and the slate of sessions planned is both informative and interesting thanks to the 2008 Program Committee.

**Wednesday, November 12, 2008**

**Pre-Conference Workshop** - Standards and Best Practices for the Description of Photographs  
Instructor - Martha R. Mahard, former Curator of Historical Photographs at the Fine Arts Library, Harvard University, and currently Associate for Information Practice at Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

All archives have photographic materials as part of their collections. Many have been as neglected by archivists as by scholars over the years, under-processed, under-cataloged and under-utilized. Join us for this exciting, hands-on opportunity designed to give you a solid grounding in the current standards in use in the visual materials community. You will learn how the description of photographs differs from the description of other archival documents and how to formulate accurate and useful descriptions at both item and collection level.

The workshop will survey current data structure standards, data content standards such as Cataloging Cultural Objects and DACS, and online tools supporting controlled vocabularies and specialized thesauri. We will also review suggested best practices for collection level description of photographic materials. Participants will have an opportunity to discuss specific cataloging questions with the instructor.

**Thursday, November 13, 2008**

8:30-9:00 Registration and Breakfast

9:00-9:15 Opening remarks and welcome

9:15-10:00 Keynote Address by Ben Loeterman - For more than twenty years, Ben Loeterman has been one of public television’s most prolific producers of current affairs and historical documentaries. His work has appeared on the PBS flagship current affairs series Frontline since 1982 and has also contributed programs to the PBS history flagship series American Experience. Don’t miss the opportunity to hear from this award-winning producer and avid user of archives.

10:00-10:15 State of the Archives by Georgia State Archivist David Carmichael

10:15-10:30 Break

10:30-12:00 Concurrent Sessions

Anne Smith, Georgia Archives  
Lynette Stoudt, Georgia Historical Society  
Paul Crater, Atlanta History Center  
Jill Severn, UGA, moderator

B. Essentials of Effective Photograph Arrangement  
Helena Zinkham, Library of Congress

Wesley Chenault, Atlanta History Center, moderator

12:00-1:30 Lunch and SGA business meeting

1:30-3:00 Concurrent Sessions

A. Emerging Technologies for Outreach from the Archive, Web 2.0 Primer
Jennifer Link Jones, Georgia State University
Abby Griner, UGA
Laura Carroll, Emory University, moderator

B. Practical Preservation Strategies for Photographs
Rachel Wetzel, Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts, Philadelphia
Christine Wiseman, Georgia Archives, moderator

3:15-4:15 Informal, drop-in round-table discussions on hot topics such as:
- caring for rare books in your archives
- oral history conducting, collecting and access
- finding aids forum- bring copies of your finding aids for discussion
- Healthy Collections Initiative-GA’s IMLS statewide preservation planning grant with survey tool
- brochure and forms swap- bring copies of brochures and forms to promote and share ideas and improvements
- SGA Membership discussion on establishing a mentor/mentee program in SGA

Also, at this same time the Archivists Toolkit Users Group will be meeting in one of the breakout rooms at the Classic Center.

5:30-7:30 SGA Reception and Auction, Taylor Grady House. Bus transportation sponsored by the Digital Library of Georgia will be provided from the Classic Center to the Taylor Grady House. The walk is 1.1 miles and directions can be viewed via Google Maps.

Friday, November 14, 2008

8:00-9:00 Atlas’s Aeon software demonstration
Atlas Systems will be demonstrating its Aeon software (circulation and workflow automation for special collections) in one of the breakout rooms of the Classic Center.

8:30-9:00 Registration and breakfast

9:00-10:30 Concurrent Sessions

A. Regional and Statewide Disaster Planning Initiatives
Julie Framingham, IPER, Georgia Archives
Christine Wiseman, HERA, Georgia Archives
Kara McClurken, SOLINET, Atlanta, GA
Tina Seetoo, Georgia Archives, moderator

B. Copyright Basics for Managing Photo Collections
Lisa Macklin, Emory University
Mandi Johnson, Georgia Tech
Sheila McAllister, Digital Library of Georgia, moderator

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45-12:15 Concurrent sessions

A. Records Management for Archives and Archivists
Mary K. Wilson, Emory University
Sarah Jacobson, Georgia Archives
Tamara Livingston, Kennesaw State University, moderator

B. Access to and Outreach through Photo Collections on the Web
Brian Dietz, North Carolina State University
Jackie Couture, Eastern Kentucky University
Paul Crater, Atlanta History Center, moderator

Please join SGA in Athens for what promises to be one of our best conferences yet. See you in the Classic City!

For more information regarding the annual meeting, please contact Elizabeth Russey, Second-Year Director, at localarrangements@soga.org or http://www.soga.org/pubs/nltr/current/newsletterprint.php
Teresa Burke, First-Year Director, at programcommittee@soga.org.

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