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## Regional News

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### ALASKA

**Ellen Carrlee** has been hired as the new conservator at the Alaska State Museums. She is taking over the position from **Scott Carrlee** who is now the Curator of Museum Services. Scott will be doing field services full time now helping museums around the state with preventive conservation, collections care, and general museum functions through workshops, site visits, and grants. Ellen is very happy to be back doing conservation full time after 5 years as the Curator of Collections and Exhibits at the Juneau Douglas City Museum. Scott became a Fellow of the AIC in August.

**Monica Shah** is currently traveling around India.

**Emily Ramos** recently visited Juneau for an arts awards ceremony with the Governor.

*Regional Reporter:*  
Scott Carrlee

### ARIZONA

**Martha Grimm** has been elected to a two year term as National Secretary of the Costume Society of America organization. She serves not only as secretary of the Board of Directors but also as secretary to the Executive Committee. The Costume Society is an organization dedicated to the scholarly study of all aspects of dress and appearance.

The Western Archeological and Conservation Center (WACC) hosted a 5 day materials characterization course prior to the 2006 WAAC conference in Tucson. Two tours of the center were conducted before the opening of the WAAC conference. Participants were toured through the objects and archives repositories in addition to the conservation labs.

WACC conservators welcome **Maggie Kipling** to the labs. Maggie will be working on the conservation of pre-

historic ceramic vessels from Tuzigoot, Montezuma Castle, and Lake Mead, in addition to treating archeological textiles from Montezuma Castle.

**Brynn Bender** and **Audrey Harrison** continue work with the Grand Teton's Vernon collection of ethnographic objects from over 200 tribes. The lab once again hosted Shoshone beadwork expert **Laine Thom** who is assisting with identification of tribal associations and materials of manufacture for this important collection.

**Gretchen Voeks** is continuing her work with a preservation plan for Kaluapapa National Historic Park's cemeteries, and a collection management plan for the Grand Tetons National Park. Gretchen and Brynn recently traveled to Glacier National Park to write a collection condition survey.

The ASM hosted the opening reception of the 2006 annual WAAC meeting during which meeting attendees were able to tour the museum's new conservation lab, climate controlled pottery vault, and pottery interpretive area, which are finally in the last construction stages. **Nancy Odegaard** and **Teresa Moreno** have been overseeing the Pottery Project, the construction, and the move into the new facility.

Nancy, AIC President, has been working with the AIC Board to prepare a terrific 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary AIC Annual Meeting, April 16-20, 2007 in Richmond Virginia. She retires from the board at this meeting.

Teresa will continue on as WAAC Secretary for 2007.

**Chris White** is progressing with his role on the Pottery Project and is preparing the new climate controlled storage facility for the museum's collection of 20,000 whole vessels. The move of the collections into the new vault has begun! Administrative Assistant **Sonya Issaeva** and interns **Martina Dawley**, **Melissa Kingston**, **Israel Favela**, and **Jen Evers** are all assisting on the Pottery Project. Chris is also continuing adhesive and residue identification and will resume treatments now that the new lab is up and running.

Nancy, **Maggie Kipling**, and **Israel Favela** continued XRF analysis for pesticides on the Navajo textile collections.

Teresa, Sonya, Jen, and Mel are working on a rehousing project of a collection of 15,500 cellulose nitrate negatives from the museums photo archives.

**Caitlin O'Grady** has been awarded a Kress Fellowship at ASM. She is doing conservation and scientific analysis on objects being prepared for the *Journeys of Our Ancestors* exhibit.

**Odile Madden** is continuing her research at the Smithsonian's MCI and NMAI on pesticide standards for portable XRF analysis.

*Regional Reporter:*  
Gretchen Voeks

### GREATER LOS ANGELES

**Susanne Friend** and **Duane Chartier** welcomed **Pamela Skiles** in October to ConservArt Associates, Inc. as the new associate painting conservator. Pamela left the Oakland Museum in May to relocate to the Los Angeles area. **Alyson Souza** has left ConservArt to pursue her career as an artist.

Sculpture Conservation Studio just completed the conservation of a 1930 colorful terrazzo floor with a sunburst pattern, in the lobby of a building in downtown Los Angeles that is being converted to condominiums. **Viviana Dominguez**, **Traci Lucero**, and **Gabrielle Tieu** are completing the conservation of the art deco lobby of the old Desmond building in the mid-Wilshire district.

SCS has also completed an assessment for the city of West Hollywood of their public art and policies. The city of Inglewood has finally started construction of the wall in Grevillea Park where the WPA *The History of Transportation* mural will once again be visible to the public. SCS

is completing the restoration of the second "lost panel" according to the artist's drawings and looking forward to the installation of the 60 panels and dedication in the Spring 2007.

**Victoria Blyth Hill** spent three days at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond last November conducting a survey of their important Tibetan and Nepalese thangka collection. She is also working with curator Jane Livingston on media identification of a group of drawings by Richard Diebenkorn from the collection of the Norton Simon Museum. Ms. Livingston is writing the catalogue raisonné on Diebenkorn's drawings.

**John Griswold** and **Dave Harvey** spent over two weeks at the Metropolitan Museum of Art supervising the installation of the Daffodil Terrace for the exhibition *Louis Comfort Tiffany and Laurelton Hall, an Artist's Country Estate*. Griswold Conservation Associates were the lead conservators for the team, partnering with Mark Rabinowitz of Conservation Solutions, Inc. in Washington, DC to stabilize and reconstruct the immense terrace and fireplace. The conservation effort on both coasts began over two years ago. After the exhibition, the pieces will be returned to the Morse Museum of American Art in Winter Park, Florida, where they will eventually be put on permanent display in a new wing.

John Griswold, **Denyl Cloughley**, and pre-program intern **Megan Barkey** have been implementing GCA's phase I treatment recommendations for the gilt and polychromed 17th-century Spanish reredos at Mission San Juan Capistrano, removing layers of modern metal leaf and metallic paint to expose the original burnished water gilding, including several areas of silver leaf and estofado decoration. John is also completing a treatment feasibility study of the first non-indigenous stone sculpture in California on the facade of the Royal Presidio Chapel, San Carlos Cathedral, in Monterey. John presented preliminary findings regarding the 1794 polychromed slate relief carving of Our Lady of Guadalupe at the Monterey History Symposium in October.

**Axel Börner**, a guest conservator from the Alte Galerie in Dresden, worked in the paintings conservation studio at the Getty

for four months beginning in September of 2006. His work included the study and treatment of two very early Canaletto paintings from the Dresden collections. Both paintings are now on view in the galleries at the Getty Center.

**Mark Leonard** will be finishing the retouching of Jean-Baptiste Oudry's life-size portrait of a *Rhinoceros* (affectionately named Clara during her journeys around Europe in the eighteenth century) in one of the exhibition galleries in January. There will be scheduled discussion periods with visitors to the museum. The finished painting will be included in an upcoming exhibition at the Getty, *Oudry's Painted Menagerie*, opening in May of 2007.

**Tiarna Doherty** has been spending time at St. Catherine's Monastery in Egypt helping with the preparation for the *Holy Image, Hallowed Ground: Icons from Sinai* exhibition on view until March 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Sue Ann Chui** will be publishing an article on a 15th-century Italian professional standard in the forthcoming *Walters Art Museum Journal*. A similar version of the paper will also appear in the next *PSG Postprints*.

**Alan Phenix** has joined the Getty Conservation Institute as Scientist in the Museum Research Laboratory.

**Janice Schopfer** joined the Conservation Center at LACMA in January 2007 as Senior Paper Conservator. Janice comes to LACMA from the Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco, Legion of Honor after 22 years of service.

**Chie Ito** completed her second year Andrew Mellon Fellowship at LACMA in September 2006 and began her Kress Fellowship in Conservation at The Lu-Esther T. Mertz Library at the New York Botanical Garden in October 2006.

**Chail Norton** covered the paper conservation lab at LACMA while **Soko Furuhata** returned to Japan for a 4 week business trip and vacation.

**Stephanie Jewell**, a senior at Loyola Marymount University, is in a year-long pre-program internship at the Conser-

vation Center, LACMA, working with **Frank Preusser**, **Catherine McLean**, and **Chail Norton**. During her internship, she is assisting with the study of air borne particles in the costume exhibition, *Breaking the Mode*, and assisting with various paper conservation projects, including the surface cleaning of drawings by Erté.

*Regional Reporter:*  
Virginia Rasmussen

## NEW MEXICO

The big news from the Conservation Department of the Museums of New Mexico is **Mina Thompson** and husband, Caleb, and big brother, Miles, welcome their new baby girl, Cora Gregory Thompson, born October 31, 2006. Mina will be on maternity leave until February 2, 2007.

The lab welcomes third year intern **Anya McDavis-Conway** from Wintherthur. Anya began in September assisting her supervisor, Senior Conservator **Maureen Russell**, cleaning and waxing bronze sculpture at the Museum of Fine Art's (MFA) outdoor sculpture garden. She also assisted Maureen with two unusual treatments for an upcoming exhibition at the Governor's Gallery about New Mexico's Lowrider culture titled, *Driven to Distraction*; a 1940 Harley-Davidson motorcycle and a Lowrider bicycle. She has been stabilizing several archaeological ceramic vessels for the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture (MIAC) for a large exhibition, *The Secrets of Casas Grande*, with lead conservator **Larry Humetewa** and the other objects conservators in the lab.

Maureen Russell will be traveling to Cairo, Egypt to work at the Cairo Museum for several weeks teaching and consulting with museum staff. She will also be working on the reinstallation of the Pre-Dynastic galleries.

**Conor McMahon** is currently busy with several projects. He is working on a con-

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## Regional News, continued

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dition survey funded by a Getty Grant of the Kuaua murals as well as working on a research project with the National Park Service at Bandolier Monument with conservator Larry Humetewa. Conor also continues to work with the New Mexico State Monuments and the Palace of the Governors.

**Rebecca Tinkham** held a one day, in-house workshop on making storage mounts for the hats in the collection of the Palace of the Governors. This was the first in a series of workshops which will train Palace personnel as they continue to rehouse the clothing and textile collection in preparation for moving into modern storage facilities at the future New Mexico History Museum. Rebecca continues to survey the clothing and textile collection of the Palace in an increasingly cold basement hoping to reach the 2,000th object mark before having to break for the winter. She has also completed conservation treatment on the gowns worn by the wife and daughter of the first governor of the state of New Mexico at his inauguration in 1912.

Director of Conservation, **Claire Munzenrider**, retired in August, 2006 after 26 years. She will be working as a conservation consultant and in private practice.

**Conservation Solutions, Inc.** (CSI), in conjunction with Griswold and Associates, recently completed the conservation treatment of the fireplace, columns, and capitals from the Louis Comfort Tiffany Long Island country estate, Laurelton Hall. The treated pieces were crated and shipped to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City where they will be part of a Tiffany exhibit that runs through April of 2007.

CSI is also involved in the start-up of several projects that include: the restoration of exterior metals at the US Postal Museum; the conservation of the immense granite *Haupt Memorial Fountain* located on the White House grounds; and on-going work on the exterior facades of the Ross administrative building of the US Holocaust Monument Museum, all of which are located in Washington, DC. Additionally, CSI continues work on Fort Christian, a 17<sup>th</sup>-century fort located on St. Thomas in the US Virgin Islands.

This past summer CSI returned to the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, NC to perform a conservation treatment on a 16<sup>th</sup>-century Italian wellhead and the training of the Biltmore staff on how to maintain their outdoor sculpture collection. CSI also completed the treatment of over 100 artifacts from the RMS Titanic wreck-site that were recovered during the 2004 expedition. More recently, CSI has begun a conservation assessment of artifacts recovered from the pirate ship *Whydah* which is scheduled to go on public display some time later this year.

CSI also continues to have a presence on the lecture circuit where **Joe Sembrat** and **Patty Miller** presented "Preserving the Space Age: The Conservation of Saturn V Rockets" at the APT 2006 Annual Conference. They were also invited speakers at the symposium "Corrosion & Preservation of Historic Artifacts," hosted by the NACE International, the Smithsonian Institution's Museum Conservation Institute, and the Washington Conservation Guild.

**Jo Anne Martinez Kilgore** and **M. Susan Barger** have been certified as Institutional Protection Managers by the Certification Committee of the International Foundation for Cultural Property Protection.

M. Susan Barger participated in a panel at the AASLH annual meeting in Tucson on advocacy for small museums with Kristin Laise of Heritage Preservation and Sharon Lien of the Deming (NM) Luna Mimbres Historical Museum. Susan also chaired a session on infrastructure improvements in small museums at the Mountain Plains Museums Association in Taos. In November, she ran a workshop on textile preservation at the Silver City (NM) Museum.

**Nancy Thorn** at Gold Leaf Restoration completed the restoration of the ceiling in the north entry for the 1937 Cherberg Building on the Olympia State Capitol Campus. The original finish was a painted decoration over aluminum leaf and had been overpainted. Most of the overpaints were successfully removed, while some areas required re-gilding and reproduction of the original painted design.

*Regional Reporter:*  
M. Susan Barger

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST

A panel discussion titled "Art, Artifacts, and Authentications: The Conservator's Side of the Mystery" took place in October at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art (University of Oregon in Eugene). This public presentation was organized in conjunction with *Faux or for Real: The Art of Researching Art*, an exhibition dealing with issues of fakes and copies. The panelists included conservators from Portland, Corvallis, and Eugene:

**Jan Cavanaugh** (Paintings Conservator, Portland), "The Science of Conservation: Some Background and the Case of Rembrandt,"

**Marie Laibinis-Craft** (Objects Conservator, Portland), "The Case of the Han Dynasty Tomb Pillar: Establishing Authenticity Using Thermoluminescence Dating,"

**Thomas Fuller** (Objects Conservator, Corvallis), "Layers of History: The Conservation of Archaeological Materials,"

**Susan Lunas** (Books and Paper Conservator, Eugene), "Fakes and Flakes,"

**Elizabeth Chambers** (Paper Conservator, Portland Art Museum), "Analytical Conservation Realities in a Small Pacific Northwest Museum of Art."

**Dana K. Senge** has settled in the Seattle area and is establishing her objects conservation practice, DKS Conservation Services, LLC. Her past few months have centered on discussions with several institutions in the area to learn about current conservation and preservation practices in the small museums and historical societies in the region.

*Regional Reporter:*  
Peter Malarkey

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## Regional News, continued

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### ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

**Mark Minor** and his assistant, **Jeremy Petersen**, finished the stabilization of the choir loft of the Santa Ana de la Hoya church this October. The church is a beautiful, late 17th-century Jesuit mission in the foothills of the Sierra Madre, some two hours south of Chihuahua. Mark has also moved a few miles down the canyon from Salida, and now can be found at 689 CR 4, Howard, CO, 81233. His studio number is 719 942-4609.

**Karen Jones** presented a history of bookbinding and the book arts in the Rocky Mountain West at the Guild of Book Workers centennial convention in NYC, in October.

**Paulette Reading** has left her position at the Denver Art Museum to stay home with her 15-month old son. She has been doing textile conservation for private clients as time allows.

**The Western Center for the Conservation of Fine Arts** is pleased to announce that **Cynthia Lawrence** has joined the staff. **Camilla Van Vooren** presented a paper on the life and work of Nicolai Fechin at the Mountain Plains Mus. Assn. Annual Meeting in Taos in September.

**The Conservation Dept. of the Denver Art Museum** is delighted to report that we survived the big opening events for our new 146,000 sq. ft. addition designed by architect Daniel Libeskind. 48,900 people visited the museum during the opening weekend and preview festivities. Thanks to good planning and a lot of staff in the right places, no significant damage occurred.

All conservators are currently working on the IMLS-funded collections move and rehousing project. About one-third of the museum's holdings will be moved to a new storage facility in our new addition. Since many of these are over-sized contemporary paintings without frames, there is a lot of preparation needed.

**Gina Lauren** will continue in a contract position at the DAM for most of 2007. She is currently working on rotation pieces for the new African and Oceanic installations.

Third-year intern **Julie Parker** from Buffalo State College is developing a digital imaging protocol for the lab. She is also doing an extensive conservation treatment on Chief Iron Tail's headdress from the Buffalo Bill Museum and Grave.

Reorganization has resulted in new job titles. **Carl Patterson** is now officially the Director of Conservation at the Denver Art Museum. **Jessica Fletcher** is the Associate Conservator, and **Kristy Jeffcoat** and **David Turnbull** are both Assistant Conservators.

*Regional Reporter:*  
Paulette Reading

### SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

**David Wessel** of Architectural Resources Group (ARG) and **Katharine Untch** of ARG Conservation Services (ARG/CS) recently completed a web-based computer model of the Watts Towers to synthesize previous condition and other historic documentation related to the site. Assisting with the project was ARG/CS Historic Architect **Glenn David Mathews** and Conservation Technician **James Cocks**. James and Katharine completed a survey of monuments for the San Francisco City Arts Commission and treated *Lotta's Fountain* in time for the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake Centennial celebrations.

**Amila Ferron**, an architectural conservation student at the University of Pennsylvania, recently completed a summer internship at ARG/CS and assisted with paint analysis at the Howard Hughes aircraft hangar at Playa Vista and stabilizing a mural wall at the Allied Arts Guilds in Menlo Park.

ARG welcomes new employee **Mary Slater**, an architectural conservator with a degree from the University of Pennsylvania Architectural Conservation Program and formerly at the National Parks Service working at Bandelier National Monument. ARG also welcomes back **Kelly Wong**, a recent graduate of

the University Pennsylvania program previously working with ARG's architecture group. Mary, Katharine, James, and Kelly have all recently been working on documenting interior décor at the New Mission Theatre in San Francisco.

**Alina Remba** was recently awarded a Fulbright Senior Specialist Grant to teach a two-week seminar on conservation of contemporary paintings at the Instituto Superior de Conservación y Restauración Yachay Wasi in Lima, Peru. Earlier this year, she traveled to Portugal at the request of Ana Calvo, Chair of the Art Conservation Department of the Universidade Católica Portuguesa at Porto as a Visiting Professor. She lectured to Post-Graduate students on contemporary art conservation.

**Charlotte Ameringe**, Associate Paintings Conservator at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco for the past five years, has accepted an associate paintings conservator position at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. She will be greatly missed by her colleagues in San Francisco, and we wish her the best in this wonderful new position.

**John Burke** at the Oakland Museum of California directed the move of the museum collections into a new 60,000 sq. ft. climate-controlled facility and an NEH Preservation Grant for installation of compact storage, as well as completion of nitrate negative cold storage. The move, which included rehousing and cleaning of collections, was completed in December, 2006. John also recently taught a workshop on modified atmosphere treatments at the Tainan National University of the Arts in Taiwan, and is currently preparing recent volumes of the *JAIC* for online delivery.

**Milada Machova**, Paintings Conservator at the Oakland Museum, has been busy surveying the condition of the painting collection selected for reinstallation after the Museum renovation. In the meantime she helped with the preparation of the Arthur and Lucile Mathews' paintings and frames for exhibit, while also attending to the demands of community private collectors.

**Susan Roberts-Manganelli** is taking a personal leave of absence from the Can-

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## Regional News, continued

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tor Arts Center for seven months from mid-December to August, to work and live in Sharjah City, in the emirate of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. She will manage and train staff, develop museum infrastructure, and plan work spaces at the Art and Contemporary Arab Art Museum, one of 7 museums in the Sharjah Museums Department. The museum is currently busy collecting 19th-c. Orientalist paintings and works on paper besides contemporary art. In the spring, she will be involved in the collections' move from the old to the new Islamic Museum on the waterfront (Sharjah is next door to Dubai, the Indian Ocean, the Arabian Sea, desert, and oases).

**Will Shank** is preparing a didactic version of an exhibition of which he was curator at the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao in 2004-05, for the Koret Education Center at SFMOMA. It will open the Koret Center's new galleries in February 2007. *A Hidden Picasso* tells the story of a repainted canvas from 1900, SFMOMA's *Rue de Montmartre*, which hides a prototype for the nineteen year-old Picasso's first masterpiece in Paris, *Le Moulin de la Galette*, from the same year.

Working with **Tim Svenonius** of the SFMOMA education department, Will was able to recreate the almost-complete, hidden image in color by extracting the colors visible through the surface cracks and applying them digitally onto the black-and-white radiograph. Will, who is now based in Barcelona, attended an N.Y.U. conference at Villa La Pietra in Florence that commemorated the 40th anniversary of the 1966 flood in November. He also was invited to attend a symposium about the technique and conservation of the paintings of Morris Louis which was held in December in Atlanta during an exhibition of Louis' paintings at the High Museum.

*Regional Reporter:*  
Beth Szuhay  
Associate Conservator, Textiles

### SAN DIEGO

**Beverly Perkins** carried out a CAP survey for the 'Iolani Palace collection. While she was in Hawai'i, she taught a day-long workshop on conservation 101 to members of the Hawai'i Museum Association. The workshop explored working with a conservator, examination and determination of condition, documentation, ethics, and treatment options. Beverly also taught the collections recovery component of the Collections Management course given to California State Park Employees. Bev is writing this from Cody, Wyoming where she is working on the collections at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center. Bev's new email address is Perkins.b@ca.rr.com.

*Regional Reporter:*  
Francis Prichett

### TEXAS

**Maria Sheets** recently organized a group of local volunteers and conservators in Dallas, including **Stephanie Grant, Philip Martin, Laura Pate, Brad Smith, Betsy Manship, and Melanie Sanford** for an Angel Project that helped clean four 9/11 commemorative sculptures by artist John Collier which are due for an exhibit at the Longview Museum. The Angel Project was covered by both CBS and the Dallas Morning News.

Maria continues her work on the fire recovery of the Biblical Arts Center in Dallas. The Biblical Arts Center is rebuilding and will include a full conservation lab that will be on display to local patrons. They are trying to make the best of what will be a long recovery from a devastating 6-alarm fire that was in June of 2005 by showing the slow process of cleaning as well as educating the public about conservation in general.

Having finished the conservation treatments of seven more paintings by A. R. Gurrey (two are double sided oil on board paintings) for the Kaua'i Museum,

**Gregory Thomas** is starting other projects. One such endeavor includes evaluating the merits of using anti-reflective, ultra-violet filtering and additionally optional non-splintering glazing, as a replacement for existing traditional picture frame glass over charcoal/chalk/pastel media on paper for a private art collection. These glazing products have been available for many years, e.g. Amiran TN and Mirogard Plus from Schott North America.

On July 29th, **Mark Van Gelder** participated on a panel, along with three local artists, as a guest speaker at a workshop put on by the city of Austin's Art in Public Places program. The workshop topic was educating artists about how to successfully make the transition from interior, gallery art to the public art realm. His comments focused on the considerations related to insuring the durability of artwork in a public environment, from initial testing of materials to local community involvement.

Korean paintings conservator, **Nancy Lew**, continues to volunteer in paper and book conservation at the Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas at Austin under the supervision of **Stephanie Watkins** and **Olivia Primanis**, respectively.

Stephanie will be attending the joint AIC-PMG & ICOM-CC Winter meeting for photograph conservators in Rochester, NY between February 21-25, 2007.

The Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas at Austin is celebrating their 50th anniversary with parties beginning at the end of January 2007. See [www.hrc.utexas.edu/50](http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/50) for the ongoing public events.

*Regional Reporter:*  
Ken Grant