
Regional News

ALASKA

Scott and Ellen Carlee welcomed a new addition to their household. Carson Orion Carlee was born on August 20 and weighed 8 lbs. Mother and baby are doing fine. In conservation news, Ellen was very pleased with the success of the Basketry Internship project which brought two interns, **Molly Gleason** from the Getty/UCLA program and **Samantha Springer** from the Winterthur/Delaware program to Alaska to work on baskets and collaborate 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 daughter 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 Carlee

ARIZONA

The 'other WACC' is no more. The National Park Service's Western Archeological and Conservation Center in Tucson is now the Intermountain Region Museum Services Program. This name change hopefully dispels the common misconception that our conservation labs deal primarily with archaeology!

NPS conservators **Gretchen Voeks** and **Brynn Bender** have been working on pesticide testing projects for collections of natural history specimens and NAGPRA items. Brynn, **Audrey Harrison**, and **Maria Lee** continue to perform treatments for the Grand Teton National Park's Vernon collection of Native American items.

Maggie Kipling is completing treatments on prehistoric ceramics and textiles from Tuzigoot NM and working on a condition survey of objects from Manzanar NHS.

Martha Winslow Grimm continues organizing volunteer Angels Projects for the Costume Society of America. A successful project of processing artifacts for storage was held in May at the Guy B. Woodward Museum in Ramona, California. Next year's Angel Project will be held at Jackson Barracks, a military museum in New Orleans, LA. The museum

took on 12 feet of water during Hurricane Katrina submerging their artifacts. The CSA volunteers will be at the museum on May 20th to help out with their military uniforms and flags.

Nancy Odegaard and **Teresa Moreno** taught an introduction to archaeological conservation class at the University of Arizona in the Pre-Summer Session. This is the second year that they have offered this class, and it has been very successful. Nancy and Scott Carlee taught their materials characterization class at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts Conservation Program in Copenhagen in June. In July, Nancy worked with Vicki Cassman on the Chinchorros mummies in Chile. After completing her tenure as President of AIC this past spring, Nancy is currently enjoying a well-earned sabbatical and is working on various other research projects. She will spend the fall at the Villa as a Getty Research Scholar.

Teresa Moreno is filling in as Acting Head of the Preservation Division at ASM while Nancy is away for the year. This summer, Teresa worked as site conservator for the second season of excavation at the Sanctuary of Zeus at Mt. Lykaion in Greece. She is currently working on the conservation of over five hundred objects for an upcoming exhibit entitled *Set in Stone* that will highlight Native American jewelry production and use in the Southwest. This work includes XRF and X-radiography to characterize the materials and technology.

Chris White has recently returned to ASM from Italy where he worked at the site of Poggio Colla on archaeological material. He is returning to the Pottery Project and is currently focusing on the identification of adhesives and organic residues on the museum's ceramics collection.

Caitlin O'Grady is completing her Kress Fellowship and will continue working in the ASM Conservation Lab as a National Science Foundation IGERT Fellow in Archaeological Science. She will continue working on her PhD research on the *Journeys of Our Ancestors: Migrations in the American Southwest* exhibit, scheduled to open September 2011. The ASM Preservation Division is pleased to announce the hire of **Gina Watkinson** as the new Administrative Assistant for the Division and the Conservation Lab. Gina came to ASM from Delaware where she graduated with a BA in Collections Management.

Regional Reporter:
Gretchen Voeks

GREATER LOS ANGELES

The Natural History Museum is pleased to host **Jennifer Kim**, a final year conservation graduate student from the NYU program, for a nine-month internship. Starting in September, Jen will be working with conservator **Tania Collas** and conservation technician **Kathleen Olson** to prepare Hispanic costumes and other objects for a new permanent exhibit.

In Decorative Arts and Sculpture Conservation at the J. Paul Getty Museum, **Julie Wolfe** has been collaborating with the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation in New York related to the Getty's outdoor sculpture by the artist entitled *Three Brushstrokes*. **Tom Learner** and **Alan Phenix** from GCI are also working on the project to develop a guideline for accurately repainting Lichtenstein's outdoor painted works.

Brian Considine, Julie Wolfe, and mountmakers **Adrienne Pamp**, **Mark Mitton**, and **Stephen Bell** are working on a temporary exhibition of the Cleveland Museum of Art's medieval art collection including over 130 works that will open in Sept. 2007. We are extremely happy to announce that **Katrina Posner** has joined the lab as a permanent staff member. Graduate Intern **Stephanie Grossman** will be joining the department for one year. A graduate of the conservation program in Cologne with an emphasis on modern sculpture, Stephanie is currently an MA candidate at the Technische Universität Berlin.

René Boitelle, a paintings conservator from the van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam, who is among others, responsible for the Museum Mesdag, is a guest of the Paintings Conservation Department for the Fall. He will be carrying out the study and treatment of a large Daubigny landscape from the Mesdag Museum, as well as working closely with other members of the department on the study and treatment of a second Daubigny landscape and a Courbet portrait. René will be working with the GCI on the technical studies of these pictures as well as three landscapes by Rousseau which are also in the studio (one of which is a recent Getty acquisition).

Sue Ann Chui is continuing with structural work on Nosadella's *Madonna and Child* from the Norton Museum of Art in Palm

Beach, Florida. She has also completed a comparative technical essay on a small painting of St. Ursula attributed to Agnolo Gaddi from the Santa Barbara Museum of Art which will be included in a forthcoming exhibition catalog on Cennino Cennini at the Gemäldegalerie, Berlin. **Tiarna Doherty** is working on a large painting of a tiger by Oudry from the Staatliches Museum Schwerin. The painting has large tears and areas of blanching thought to be from moisture damage.

Laura Rivers has accepted the position of Assistant Conservator of Paintings at the Menil Collection in Houston. She starts her new position in October.

Ellen Pearlstein from the UCLA/Getty Archaeological and Ethnographic Conservation Program reports that their students participated in a variety of internship projects this past summer. **Christian de Brer** returned to the Tarapaca Valley Field School in Tarapaca, Chile where he worked on mummy bundles and finds excavated in the valley. **Molly Gleason** worked on a basketry conservation project at the Alaska State Mus. in Juneau and the Sheldon Jackson Mus. in Sitka. She prepared baskets with a Tlingit weaver. **Allison Lewis** joined the Southern Methodist University's excavation at Poggio Colla in the Mugello Valley, Italy. She worked as a conservation intern cleaning, reconstructing, and rehousing a variety of objects. **Ozge Gencay Ustun** worked in the Objects Conservation Lab, Conservation Center at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. **Liz Werden** attended the Flinders University's Rock Art Field School in Australia.

During the 2007-2008 academic year, the students will focus on the following internship projects: **Christian de Brer** will work in the Getty Conservation Institute's Field Projects section on mosaics under the direction of Thomas Roby. **Molly Gleason** will join the Anthropology Conservation Laboratory at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) where her work will focus on a special loan of NMNH Native Alaskan collections to the Anchorage Museum and Arctic Studies Center. **Allison Lewis** will be working on archaeological and ethnographic objects from a number of different cultures and periods at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. **Steven Pickman** will be the Neukom Family Foundation Intern at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum,

Washington, D.C. where he will work on historic collections. **Ozge Gencay Ustun** will work at the Southwest Museum of the American Indian, Autry National Center in Los Angeles, California, where she will work on a large scale collections move as well as exhibitions and loans. **Liz Werden** will begin her internship with the Getty Conservation Institute's Field Projects section, focusing on documentation with **Rand Eppich**. They welcome the following students into the Fall 2007 class: **Siska Genbrugge**, **Lauren Horelick**, **Jiafang Liang**, **Linda Lin**, and **Suzanne Morris**.

Rosa Lowinger's 1999 *Sculpture Magazine* interview with Cuban artists Los Carpinteros has been published in a new book by the International Sculpture Center Press titled "Conversations on Sculpture." The book, which contains interviews with such seminal figures as Richard Serra, Anthony Gormley, Lynda Benglis, James Turrell, and Maurizio Cattelan, among others, contains valuable information relating to the conservation of these artists' works. It is available through ISC or from Amazon.

Regional Reporter:
Virginia Rasmussen

NEW MEXICO

David Rasch has been promoted to the position of Director of the City of Santa Fe new Historic Preservation Division within the Land Use Department. He was previously the Historic Preservation Officer for the city. Santa Fe is celebrating the 50th year since the establishment of its historic preservation ordinance, making it the second oldest historic preservation ordinance in the country. **Patricia Morris** spent a week in July in Helena, Montana doing a 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 State U. has announced that they are now the second university, after University of Delaware, to offer a four-year undergraduate museum conservation degree. This degree is offered through the art department as either a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor in Fine Arts degree. **Silvia Marinas** is the director of this program.

Angelyn Bass-Rivera and **Lauren Meyer** from the NPS along with **Conor McMahon** and **Larry Humetewa** of the Department

of Conservation of the Department of Cultural Affairs were featured in an article, "Racing Against Time" in the June 9, 2007 issue of the *Santa Fe New Mexican*. The article discussed the on-going conservation work at Bandelier National Monument.

Senior Conservator **Maureen Russell** has been working on several exhibitions including *Excavating Egypt: Great Discoveries from the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology* for the New Mexico Museum of Art, *Walang Kulit: Indonesian Shadow Puppets* for the Museum of International Folk Art, and *Santa Fe Style* for the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture.

Anya McDavis Conway recently finished her third year internship at the Conservation Department of the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs. Anya graduated with her Masters of Science from the University of Delaware graduate program. We are delighted that Anya will be staying with for another year. Anya will continue working on the Girard re-housing project for Museum of Indian Arts and Culture as well as many other projects and exhibitions.

In May, **Joe Sembrat** led a workshop on care of outdoor sculpture as part of the training for the Sikh Dharma as they prepare to open a museum at their main ashram in Española, NM. Museum Development Associates and their technical director, **M. Susan Barger**, have been working with the Sikhs for over a year on the museum.

Regional Reporter:

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

The Royal BC Museum has been very fortunate to host **Jane Kemp**, a conservation intern from the UK. Jane has assisted with monitoring and occasional artifact replacements in the summer blockbuster exhibit, *Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition*. She also participated in the condition reporting and mount preparation for next year's large in-house exhibit celebrating BC's 150th anniversary as a crown colony. Jane's greatest potential contribution, however, is her research into PEG impregnation of waterlogged archaeological basketry.

Treasures of the Tsimshian currently showing at the Art Gallery of Ontario and soon to be at the Canadian Museum of Civilization, marked the first traveling exhibit for which digitized conservation

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documentation, including digital photography and condition reports, was mastered by RBCM 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 College 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 Walsh** is on leave until September.

Susan Lewandowski (from the Seattle Art Museum Conservation Department) and **Rina Luzius** (from the Burke Museum, University of Washington) have been interning with Alice Bear Conservation.

Dana Senge, 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 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 patineur 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. *The Legend of John Brown* has been seen by audiences in the Tri-Cities, Vancouver and will open in Olympia in September and visit the Skagit Valley in early 2008. The tour is funded by the Washington State Arts Commission and the American Masterpieces initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Following the opening of Seattle Art Museum's new downtown galleries and Olympic Sculpture Park, conservation intern **Sarah Kleiner** has commenced studies at the conservation Winterthur/University of Delaware Masters Program in Art Conservation. Conservation technician Susan Lewandowski is traveling to St. Andrew's University in Scotland for the Postgraduate Masters course in Museum and Gallery Studies.

In September, the SAM conservation department welcomed a new coordinator, **Jenny Söderlund**.

This fall, SAM conservation and registrars will collaborate with the University of Washington, teaching artists' techniques to graduate students in the Fine Arts Department and teaching the art lab for the Museum Collections Management course of the Museology Masters program.

Jack Thompson has completed CAP surveys for both the World Kite Museum in Long Beach, WA and the Oregon Jewish Museum in Portland, OR. He has also had the pleasure of working on a few family treasures: a family bible that was stolen in 1943 and recovered just last year at a genealogical library in Vancouver, WA and a fiddle and fiddle case belonging to his great-grandfather. The bible has been treated and the family records inside updated, and the fiddle case is currently undergoing restoration.

Regional Reporter:
Dana K. Senge

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

Camille Moore, who recently graduated from the NYU conservation program, has joined Silverpoint Art Conservation, LLC as Assistant Conservator. She and **Laura Staneff** are working on a large group of photogravures by Edward Curtis.

Victoria Montana Ryan has recently

been named vice-chair for the AIC/CIPP 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 **Julie Parker** will have left us for 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 Liz. Lab staff will be growing soon 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 conference content.

One year after the opening of the new Fredrick C. Hamilton addition, designed by Daniel Liebeskind, conservation staff are again hard at work preparing yet more material for rotations and new exhibits.

Regional Reporter:
Paulette Reading

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

A volunteer firefighter in her spare time, **Debra Fox** is familiar with works of art in structure fires. She is working together with Beverly Perkins and the AIC Emergency Preparedness, Response, & Recovery Committee to develop guidelines for firefighters to use on the fire ground during salvage and overhaul operations. They will also prepare a disaster resource sheet for Incident Commanders to hand out to home owners and renters.

The paper conservation lab at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco said farewell to **Victoria Binder**, 3rd year intern from the Buffalo training program, who is off to the Museum Fine Arts, Boston, for a Morse fellowship. The lab welcomes

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Kress Fellow **Nina Quabeck**, on leave from the K20 K21 Museum in Dusseldorf, who will be studying the preservation and conservation issues of three-dimensional works on paper. The lab is also pleased to be hosting **Adam Novak** for his 3rd year internship from the Wintherthur program.

James Bernstein, Conservator of Paintings and Mixed Media, San Francisco, and **Debra Evans**, 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, stretcher/strainer supports, stretching technique, the studio environment, etc.

Jim taught three workshops in October: "Mastering Inpainting" (Bernstein and paper conservator Debra Evans, instructors) at the Campbell Center for Historic Preservation, Mt. Carroll, IL, October 1-4; "Mastering Fills" (Bernstein, objects conservator **Meg Craft**, and paper conservator **Margo McFarland**, instructors) for Midwest Conservation Association at the Campbell Center, October 8-9; "Mastering Inpainting" (Bernstein) at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, NY. October 25-30.

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

Mark Fenn, Associate Head of Conservation of the Asian Art Museum, spent a month this spring 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 Museum paper lab this fall as a third year intern from the NYU program.

Denise Migdail 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-radiography for Textiles" by Sonia O'Connor.

Regional Reporter:
Beth Szuhay