
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

with the ASM team that is developing plans for the new ASM exhibition facility at Rio Nuevo, Tucson, set to open in 2012. This includes advising on conservation issues regarding architectural planning, exhibit development, and object selection.

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 Mt. Lykaion in the Peloponnese, a collaborative project between the UA, the University of Pennsylvania, the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, and the 39th Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities in Tripolis. **Katherine Ragan**, a first year conservation student at Buffalo State College, joined Teresa this summer at Mt. Lykaion for her summer internship.

Caitlin O'Grady continues to work on her PhD research, as well as the Arizona State Museum's upcoming exhibit, *Journeys of Our Ancestors: Migration in the American Southwest*. In May, she attended the ART2008 conference in Jerusalem, Israel where she gave a paper on her current research. In August, she will attend David Scott's summer course "Ancient and Historic Metals: Technology, Microstructure, and Corrosion." Finally, in October, Caitlin will start her new position as conservator for the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

Chris White worked as site conservator at the excavations at Poggio Colla, Italy this summer and is relocating to Oregon. Chris also completed his Master's Degree in Information Resources and Library Science this past spring at the University of Arizona.

Norine Carroll worked with Chris and **Marilen Pool** to complete the Pottery Project survey and assisted with the installation of the new Pottery Vault Interpretive Area. Her contract at ASM came to an end, and she has taken a position as a collections manager for the Archaeology Institute at University of West Florida. Marilen is continuing to work on the Pottery Project primarily in the treatment phase. Marilen has also completed an IMLS project at the Tucson Museum of Art.

Rachel Freer, the Kress Conservation Fellow at ASM, continues to work on organic objects selected for the *Journeys of Our Ancestors* exhibit, which will be installed in the future at the new ASM Rio Nuevo facility. She continues with her fiber analysis and documentation project. In addition, Rachel spent two weeks this summer working with **Beverly Perkins** at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center.

Gina Watkinson continues to oversee the operations of the ASM Preservation Division, supervising interns and volunteers. She has successfully held the lab together over the summer while everyone was coming and going. She also worked on the treatment and documentation of objects for the Library Hallway Exhibit.

Ainslie Harrison, a conservation graduate student at Queen's University, and **Allison Clark**, an undergraduate from Arizona State University (ASU), each completed a four week summer internship at ASM. During their internship they both assisted in the final stages of the Pottery Project. In addition they worked on rehousing a collection of rare books and a number of historical archaeological objects. They also conducted research and conservation treatment on several Hopi katchinas. Ainslie interned at LACMA for the second part of the summer and will do her third year internship with **Rae Beaubien** at the Smithsonian Museum Conservation Institute. Allison will continue her undergraduate studies at ASU in the fall.

Regional Reporter:
Brynn Bender

HAWAII

Susan Sayre Batton, assistant director of the Honolulu Academy of Arts, has left the islands for a position at the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles.

Valerie Free, conservator at Bishop Museum, is relocating to Washington, D.C.

Regional Reporter:
Lynn Ann Davis

GREATER LOS ANGELES

The free distribution of over 10,000 copies of **Victoria Blyth Hill's** book, *Care and Handling of Thangkas: A Guide for Caretakers* in India in January 2008 was very well received. Museums with Asian art collections all over the world have requested copies, and this year the English/Tibetan language book will also be translated into Chinese for distribution in China and Tibet.

Sculpture Conservation Studio has just finished a public art assessment with the city of Carlsbad and is working on an assessment of the public art with the San Diego airport. SCS will be advising them with their Venet and Urban Trees installations late summer, along with supervision of their new art installations in the new wing of the airport.

Jung-Ae Lee, who recently completed the post-baccalaureate program in art conservation at the Studio Art Centers International (Florence, Italy), has been working as a pre-program intern with **Jo Q. Hill** at the Fowler Museum. Her activities have included cleaning Antonio Pineda's silver objects for the upcoming exhibit, surveying Pre-Columbian ceramics, examining African headrests, and assisting with the condition documentation of several shows, including *Silver Seduction; The Art of Mexican Modernist Antonio Pineda, La Tinta Grita/The Ink Shouts: The Art of Social Resistance in Oaxaca, Mexico*; and *Make Art/Stop AIDS*. Jung-Ae is enjoying the variety of objects conservation as an expansion of her painting experience.

Herlinda Cabrero, a paintings conservator from the Museo del Prado, worked as a guest in the paintings conservation department at the Getty from mid-July until the end of August. She has brought with her Parmigianino's *Holy Family* from the Prado collections for study and treatment. The painting went on view in the public galleries at the Getty in early September.

As a follow-up to this initial collaborative venture, **Tiarna Doherty** will work as a guest conservator at the Prado for two months in the Spring of 2009.

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Susan Sayre Batton resigned her position as deputy director from the Honolulu Academy of Arts, fulfilling her three year contract to focus on collection management, curatorial upgrades, exhibitions, and AAM re-accreditation. She accepted a consultancy as acting deputy director at the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles and started July 7th.

The Conservation Center at LACMA is pleased to announce the appointment of **Silviu Boariu** as assistant conservator in objects conservation. For the past three years, Silviu has served as a collections manager at LACMA and was instrumental in improving collections care throughout the museum. Previously, he was a preparator at the Detroit Institute of Art and an objects conservator at the Brukenthal National Museum in Sibiu, Romania. Silviu received his MA in the preservation and restoration of artworks from Lucian Blaga University in Sibiu, specializing in the conservation of stone and ceramics.

Erin Jue recently finished her fourth year internship with the paper conservation lab at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. We are delighted that Erin will stay at LACMA as a Mellon Fellow for another year.

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

Soko Furuhashi had a fabulous time on the Washi tour in Japan, organized and led by **Betty Fiske** and **Hiromi Katayama** this last April.

Laleña Vellanoweth volunteered in LACMA's textile conservation lab in June following completion of her 2nd year in the NYU conservation program. She also worked for **Sharon Shore** at Caring for Textiles and with Irena Calinescu. From July through August she worked with textile conservators **Deborah Trupin** and **Sarah Stevens** on the New York State Battle Flag Preservation Project at Peebles Island, NY.

Yoonjo Lee finished her Mellon Fellowship in textile conservation at LACMA in September and has accepted a fellowship in Washington DC at the National Museum of the American Indian for the fall of 2008.

Melissa Gardner joined the paintings conservation lab at LACMA for a two month Frost summer internship in July and August. During her internship, Melissa worked with **Charlotte Eng** and **Frank Preusser**, gaining experience in operating the department's portable XRF spectrometer, the digital microscope, and fadometer. Melissa also worked with **Elma O'Donoghue** and learned to use the Phoenix digital infrared camera. She studied paintings in connection with a survey of the museum's Dutch collection for an upcoming catalogue and participated in day to day activities of the lab. Melissa returned to in September to start her third year in the conservation program at the Institute at NYU.

Paul Gardener attended the 2008 annual IIC conference in London this September. He delivered a paper entitled, "The Influence of Access to the Artist on the Conservation of Allen Jones' Works from the 1960S."

The UCLA/Getty Program in the Conservation of Archaeological and Ethnographic Materials announced the graduation of their first class of students in June of 2008. The following is a summary of their activities over the past year.

Christian de Brer – will complete his internship in the Getty Conservation Institute's Field Projects in September 2008. This past year, Chris presented a paper titled "Delicate Tasks – Housing Mummy Bundles and Other Excavated Artifacts from the Tarapaca Valley, Chile" at the Society of American Archaeology in Vancouver. In June, he presented at the NEH supported Storage Symposium held at UCLA on the topic "Storage, Handling, and Access to Human Mummy Bundles, Tarapaca Valley Archaeological Project, Chile." Chris also co-authored a paper titled "The Darkening of Lapis Lazuli Containing-Paint Layers in the Wall Paintings from the Bamiyan Caves in

Afghanistan," submitted to the Japan Centre for International Cooperation in Conservation for publication. Although Chris does not have definite plans for next year, he will be spending some of his time volunteering at the Natural History Museum assisting them in transferring the Ancient Latin American Hall collection to a new site.

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 Basketry as a Living Tradition," at the American Institute for Conservation Annual Meeting. In June, she presented at the NEH supported Storage Symposium held at UCLA on the topic "Storage, Handling, and Access to Human Mummy Bundles, Tarapaca Valley Archaeological Project, Chile." This coming September she will be presenting "Beyond Cultural Sensitivity and Toward Cultural Centeredness: Insights into the Preservation of Alaskan Spruce Root Basketry" at the ICOM-CC Conference in Delhi, India. This summer, with support from the Getty Conservation Institute, Molly will be an Assistant Instructor to Ellen Pearlstein for "Preservation of Cultural Materials in Tribal Collections" offered by UCLA Extension. Next year she will be working at the San Diego Museum of Man.

Allison Lewis – will complete her internship at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in September 2008 and will then begin a postgraduate internship at the Getty in Antiquities Conservation. This past June, Allison presented at the NEH supported Storage Symposium held at UCLA on the topic "Storage Solutions for Portable Finds at the UCLA Expedition at Lofkënd, Albania."

Steven Pickman – will complete his internship as the Neukom Family Foundation Intern at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, D.C. This past year, Steven did a poster session on the "Challenges and Choices in the Treatment of a Whalebone Sculpture" at the American Institute for Conservation Annual Meeting. He also presented at the Washington Conservation Guild (WCG)

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intern talks on the topic of “The Hidden Life of Everyday Objects; From a Toy Chair to Silverware.”

Özge Gencay Ustun - is completing her internship at LACMA and at the Southwest Museum of the American Indian, Autry National Center in Los Angeles. This past year, Özge presented her work on “The Limitations of Handheld XRF Analyzers as a Quantitative Tool for Measuring Heavy Metal Pesticides on Art Objects” at the National Museums in Berlin, Dahlem and at the Association of North American Graduate Programs in the Conservation of Cultural Property (ANAGPIC) Annual Conference in New York. Özge prepared a lecture on pesticides on American Indian collections for the course “Preservation of Cultural Materials in Tribal Collections” offered by UCLA Extension. This year, Özge is continuing to work at the Southwest Museum as an assistant conservator.

Liz Werden – will complete her internship with the Getty Conservation Institute’s Field Projects section in September 2008. This past June, Liz presented at the NEH supported Storage Symposium held at UCLA on the topic “Using 3-D Scanning as a Conservation Documentation Tool.”

The program’s second group of students began classes on September 27, 2008. The following is some information on each of the new students and a summary of their summer internship activities:

Siska Genbrugge – Siska is originally from Belgium and received her BA in art history from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. This summer, Siska will be working on archaeological objects from the Athenian Agora Excavations in Athens, Greece, as well as on a collection of African knives in the Royal Museum for Central Africa in Tervuren, Belgium.

Lauren Horelick – Lauren is originally from Baltimore, Maryland and received her BFA in Sculpture from the San Francisco Art Institute as well as her BA in Art Conservation from the University of Delaware. This summer, Lauren will be working to clean the tomb of the last Frigian King Midas and reconstructing ancient iron and ceramic vessels at the

Gordion Excavation Project in Turkey. During the later part of the summer she will be working on some conservation projects at the Field Museum in Chicago.

Jiafang Liang - Jiafang is originally from Xi’an, China and received her BS in conservation of historical heritage from the Northwest University, China. This summer, Jiafang will be working on Chinese wall paintings at the Freer Gallery of Arts, as well as doing on-site conservation at the Liangdaicun Archaeological Site (Zhou Dynasty) in Xi’an, China.

Linda Lin - Linda is originally from Taipei, Taiwan and received her BA in comparative literature from the University of California Irvine and was awarded a certificate in art conservation from the Studio Arts Center International in Florence, Italy. This summer, Linda will be working on a Massim canoe model and a collection of Inuit artifacts at the de Young Museum of San Francisco. She will be spending the second half of her summer in Xi-an China working at the Shaanxi Archaeological Institute.

Suzanne Morris - Suzanne is originally from Louisville, Kentucky and received her BFA in painting from Miami University, Ohio. This summer, Suzanne is participating in the Tarapaca Valley excavation in the Atacama Desert in northern Chile where she is working with mummies and identifying storage problems of composite materials. She will then intern at the conservation center of the Buffalo Bill Historic Museum in Cody, Wyoming where she will be working on a monumental Proctor sculpture of Teddy Roosevelt and assisting in formulating a mounting strategy for same, as well as working with other objects in the museum’s collection.

Chris Stavroudis taught his four-day Modular Cleaning Workshop in March at the Chicago Conservation Center (co-sponsored by AIC). The workshop was organized by **Elena King** who also was the assistant instructor. The 21 attendees included WAAC members: **Sandra Amann, Marie Laibins-Craft, Rob Datum, Betty Engel, Gabrielle Tieu,** and **Thomas J. Turner.**

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 Montreal in June. The workshop was organized by **Debra Daly-Hartin** and was a collaboration between the CAC (Canadian 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 **Tiarna Doherty, Susi Friend, Carolyn Tallent, 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 Monuments of New Mexico. The department has a total of seven conservators in six permanent and one term positions. They are: director/ chief conservator **Mark MacKenzie,** senior conservator **Maureen Russell,** associate conservators **Mina Thompson, Larry Humetewa, Conor McMahon, Rebecca Tinkham,** and assistant conservator **Anya McDavis-Conway.**

The department has had several very large projects during this period including the carrying out of collection surveys, participating in the planning and design process, and the conservation of the permanent exhibits for the new New Mexico History Museum currently undergoing construction behind the Palace of the Governors. The second conservation laboratory is located on the second

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floor of this museum, and the conservators have been designing the layout and purchasing furniture and equipment for it. This lab space will house three new specialties: textiles, paper and photo, and paintings.

During this period they have been conserving the art & artifacts for nine exhibits. These included: *A River Apart* for the Museum of Indian Art & Culture; *Trasteros and Trunks* for the Museum of International Folk Art (MOIFA); *Wayang Kulit, Indonesian Shadow Puppets,* MOIFA; the 100th year anniversary of Gustave Baumann exhibit featuring complete marionette theatre sets with painted back drops and end wall panels for the New Mexico Museum of Art (M.O.A.); *Flux* an art glass show, M.O.A.; and *Through the Lens* a view of New Mexico life from 1857 forward through photographic images for the Palace of the Governors.

The Laboratory also completed conserving the Frank Collection of Religious Icons culminating in the new permanent exhibit *Tesoros de Devocion* for the Palace of the Governors. This was an eleven month long marathon for the whole laboratory and represents the major focus of their recent work.

The department remains very active in conserving the permanent collection of the Museum of New Mexico system and in providing consultation in support of collection storage upgrades, implementing energy efficiency measures, and in monitoring environmental quality during major building renovations as is happening with the Girard collection storage areas in MOIFA.

The department purchased a new reflected light spectrometer from Ocean Optics. They will be using this instrument both in the lab for accurately measuring color during conservation treatments and in monitoring the alkalinity of the air within the Girard storage area during its demolition and installation of compact storage units. Quite a bit of concrete work needs to be done during this project, and there will be increased alkalinity in the air that needs monitoring. They are also using a Beckman DU-7 UV-Vis Spectrophotometer to study prehistoric and historic dyes.

The department has been involved with a number of state monuments and their exhibit collections either providing conservation services or consultations. These monuments include: Bosque Redondo, Ft. Stanton, Coronado, and the nascent monument, the John Paul and Mary Daniels Taylor residence.

The department’s outreach program continues to provide service to many members of the public and to cultural institutions such as: the Institute of American Indian Arts, the National Hispanic Cultural Centre, the New Mexico Museum of Natural Science & History, and the Space History Museum.

Larry Humetewa was featured in an interview on NPR’s program, *Living on Earth*, about the work cleaning graffiti in Bandelier National Monument, part of the Vanishing Treasures Program of the National Park Services. **Conor McMahon** and **Lauren Meier** can also be heard on the program. You can listen to the interview by going to www.loe.org and listening to the story “The Writing on the Wall” aired on June 13, 2008.

Joe Sembrat of Conservation Solutions, Inc. (CSI) reports that they recently completed the assessment of over 30 public art works from the city of Asheville, NC, cleaning the New York Public Library lions, and the conservation of hundreds of objects from the wreck-site of the R.M.S. Carpathia. Current projects include the conservation of the Saint Dominic Statue in Washington, DC and the treatment of the Riverside Church façade sculptures located in the Upper West Side of New York City.

CSI has recently been awarded contracts for conservation work on the Lincoln Center Fountain in New York, the conservation of the Nur al din Fountain from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the assessment of the public art collection in Miami, Florida.

Regional Reporter:
M. Susan Barger

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 November 1, 2008 titled “Preserve or Let Perish: Some Challenges for Contemporary Art Conservation.” 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 Considine** (Senior Conservator of Decorative Arts and Sculpture, The J. Paul Getty Museum), Keynote Address, “The Conservation of Modern Outdoor Sculpture: A Case Study of the Stark Collection at the J. Paul Getty Museum”; **Susan Lunas** (Book and Paper Conservator, Eugene), “3-D: Books from the Black Lagoon”; **Jan Cavanaugh** (Paintings Conservator, Portland), “Ephemeral Art: The Nemesis of Conservation?”; and **Marie Laibinis-Craft** (Objects Conservator, Portland), “Materials Matter: Challenges in the Fabrication and Conservation of Public Art.” Regional conservators and conservation students are encouraged to attend and participate in the discussion periods after each talk. **Elizabeth Chambers** (Paper Conservator, Portland Art Museum) will also lead a discussion following the symposium for conservators to consider the question: “Should there be a Northwest association of art conservators or are WAAC and the AIC enough?” For more information contact Jan Cavanaugh.

The Royal BC Museum opened a large in-house exhibit in April, *Free Spirit: Stories of You, Me and BC*, celebrating the province’s 150th anniversary. Conservation staff was put to the test as over 500 artifacts, artworks, archival materials, and specimens were prepared for the exhibition. The assistance of contractors **Jana Stefan, Tania Ainsworth, Simone Vogel-Horridge,** and **Barry Byers** was much appreciated. And just as the exhibit launched, work began on a traveling train exhibit, showcasing some of the stories and more artifacts on the same theme. **George Field** was put to task on mount making and artifact packing, improvising techniques to protect the ar-

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tifacts from the extreme environmental and physical stresses endured as the train traveled the southern tracks of BC.

This summer the RBCM conservation labs welcomed **Stephanie Shank**, a Young Canada Works student who is destined for Sir Sandford Fleming College in the fall. Stephanie was instrumental in cataloguing thousands of digital conservation documentation images, a new task that will be ongoing as the struggle continues to manage digital assets at the RBCM. Further on that front, Stephanie also entered condition and treatment reports into the new collections management 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. Colleen and Kjerstin both delivered presentations at the spring Pacific Conservation Group meeting in Kelowna. Special thanks to **Tracy Satin** for her terrific work in organizing this “Interdisciplinary Heritage Forum.” Kjerstin Mackie also contributed to the organization of and presented a paper at the 2008 Symposium highlighting research to date on Kwaday Dan Tsinchi, Long Ago Person Found.

In the fall, **Betty Walsh** will host **Carly Wemyss**, a Sir Sandford Fleming intern, in the archives conservation lab. Betty has been busy treating a number of war posters in preparation for a Remembrance Day exhibit in the fall. Betty is also working on implementing cold storage for the archives and museum audiovisual and other early plastic collections.

Lisa Bengston dismantled and packed up the traveling *Treasures of the Tsimshian* exhibit as it closed at the final venue in June. She has also been busy with pesticide residue testing of the ethnology collection using XRF technology.

Kasey Brewer attended the Field Museum’s “XRF in Museums” workshop, a wonderful opportunity to network with colleagues using this technology. She presented preventive conservation train-

ing for museum and archives staff and assisted **Susan Maltby** with the University of Victoria’s Collections Care course.

The RBCM staff would like to say a special good-bye and congratulations to Jana Stefan, as she heads off to New Zealand, in preparation for new position as senior conservator for the Antarctic Heritage Trust work this fall and winter (read spring and summer).

In between working at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and various field jobs, **J. Claire Dean** has been working hard honing her stereophotography skills. So much so that at the recent National Stereoscopic Association’s annual convention she was awarded their Best New Presenter award for her digital 3D slide show of images shot during her trip to Mali to attend the TERRA2008 conference in February this year. She is now doing an in depth assessment of what she will present next year.

Claire Gerhard has moved from New York City and joined the conservation community in Seattle! She recently had an article published in the summer issue of *Hand Papermaking Magazine* regarding the issues paper artists need to be aware of with the long term care of their artwork especially weighing the cost of care against the loss of value if the collections are left to chance. This article was derived from her experiences setting up the archive for Dieu Donne Papermill in New York City.

Dana Senge is working with the Naval Undersea Museum in Keyport, WA on several assessment projects including two one-atmospheric diving suits. These objects are very interesting to consider, and she hopes to help this institution develop protocol for exhibition and storage of the wide variety of materials used in fabrication.

Charles Rhyne recently posted an in-depth website: “Architecture, Restoration, and Imaging of the Maya Cities of Uxmal, Kabah, Sayil, and Labná, the Puuc Region, Yucatán México” at <http://academic.reed.edu/uxmal/>. This web site provides around 250 19th and early 20th-century site drawings, prints, and photographs, most rare or previously

unpublished, along with 1000 recent photographs with descriptive captions, many recording information not previously available in print or on the web. These may be opened side-by-side, making possible comparison of these sites before and after the extensive restoration campaigns of the 20th century. An extensive annotated bibliography is included.

Jack Thompson recently completed a CAP survey for the People’s Center Museum of the Karuk Tribe of California. During this assessment he had a positive experience working with the UV888 Personal UV Sensor from Oregon Scientific, a UV meter that translates UV in terms of safe time exposure. Jack has also reprinted *Finishing Metalwork and Bronze Founding in Japan* through his company: The Caber Press.

Ordinary bookbinding repairs for some classy books have been keeping **Susan Lunas** busy this summer. She re-bound a miniature children’s Bible from 1787, repaired a photograph album, and repaired the spine of another Bible printed in 1831. She has also helped out repairing the paper collections of the Kam Wah Chung historical site in John Day, Oregon.

Regional Reporter:
Dana K. Senge

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

Mark Minor has been involved in a major treatment of a 19th-century sleigh for the Frontier Army Museum in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. The sleigh was owned by General Nelson Miles, of Civil War fame and Indian campaign infamy. He has also been involved in the treatment of a Saarinen parquet cabinet for the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

Beth Heller writes that the American Alpine Club Library is getting ready to start construction on a new 30,000 volume rare books room. **Snowden Becker**, a University of Texas Kilgarlin Center film preservation PhD candidate, was at the AAC for the month of August doing a survey and rehousing project. Snowden presented her workshop, “Becoming a Film Friendly Archivist” at the AAC on August 22nd.

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Laura Downey Staneff and her family welcome the addition of Amy Bianca, born June 5. **Camille Moore** has joined Silverpoint Art Conservation, LLC, as a partner. Camille has worked for Silverpoint as assistant conservator for the last year, after graduating from the NYU program with a specialization in paper and photographs.

Karen Jones at the Jefferson County Public Library announces that (WESTPAS) Western States & Territories Preservation Assistance Service presented “Protecting Library & Archive Collections,” a series of workshops this summer in a 2-part sequence for disaster preparedness activities. Upon completion, participating institutions are invited to join an informal network of WESTPAS trained personnel to provide mutual aid in the event of emergencies involving collections in the region. There is no cost to the institution. Funding is provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities and co-sponsored by the Colorado State Library. Jefferson County Public Library hosted the second part of the series on Sept. 17 at the Lakewood Library. Classes will also be held in Grand Junction and Pueblo.

Victoria Montana Ryan recently returned from Montreal where she attended a workshop, hosted by CAC-ACCR and CCI-ICC, on “New Methods of Cleaning Painted & Decorative Surfaces: Including: The Modular Cleaning Program: A Systemic Approach to Cleaning Artworks.”

The workshop, held at the McCord Museum and McGill University, presented the latest in cleaning techniques and approaches. **Richard Wolbers** and Chris Stavroudis provided hands-on instruction for gel, emulsion, and aqueous based cleaning methods. The outstanding quality of the instructors’ workshop, the eagerness of the attendees, the professionalism of the hosts, and the deliciousness of the food in Montreal made the experience excellent for all.

Paulette Reading, textile conservator, and **Camilla Van Vooren** at the Western Center for the Association of Fine Arts have completed the treatment of a

movie banner for the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, OK. The banner was for the movie *Born to the West* based on a Zane Gray novel.

The past few months have been busy ones for the conservation staff of the Denver Art Museum. The city of Denver hosted several conferences that brought many conservators and colleagues to town. They were able to spotlight the lab and discuss plans for future development.

Jessica Fletcher gave a paper at the AIC conference on the strategies used to move into the museum’s new addition. Three papers were given at the regional Colorado/Wyoming Association of Museums meeting by **Carl Patterson**, **Gina Laurin**, and **Jessica Fletcher**. Some of the staff were also able to attend the Denver IMLS “Connecting to Collections” workshops.

Two floors of modern and contemporary art are being changed in the new Hamilton 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** with the full time assistance of the rest of the lab staff.

Projects have included several oversized paper treatments by **Sara Melching**, Sandy Skuglud’s installation *Fox Games*, Pia Doffunny’s sculptures with complicated matte surface treatments by Jessica Fletcher and Gina Laurin, and Rachel Lacowitz’s lipstick-covered ties, shoes, and urinals. Treatments on the latter group were performed by **Liz Homberger**, Gina Laurin, and Carl Patterson. The lab has an unusual odor these days from storage containers of aged baked bread and cheap lipstick.

Next up will be the reinstallation of Western American Art and the gallery for Colorado Realism. Both will involve all conservation staff, interns, and conservators at the nearby WCCFA.

The Denver Art Museum is delighted to announce that it has just received a grant from the Mellon Foundation to support a

permanent senior paintings conservation position. The museum has also received a conservation project grant from IMLS to provide safe storage and rehousing upgrades for the European paintings collection. Staff are already assisting in this project. **Carl Patterson** has been selected as the Colorado/Wyoming Association of Museums MAST chairman and has joined the board of the University of Denver’s DU ART!. Sarah Melching conducted a portion of the workshop “Focus on Collections Care” presented by the Balboa regional center.

The conservation lab is delighted to welcome **Tara Hornung** from the NYU conservation training program as our advanced intern for the 2009. Tara will be working on a number of projects but concentrating on the analysis of Indian white metal bronzes in conjunction with a program 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 long awaited addition to the lab family, Todomu Woody Kitson Turnbull, born July 26, 2008.

Regional Reporter:
Paulette Reading

SAN DIEGO
No news.

Regional Reporter:
Frances Prichett

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

After almost five years at Zukor Art Conservation, Oakland CA, paper conservator **Jamye Jamison** will be assuming a new position at ICA (Inter-museum Conservation Association) in Cleveland. Jamye and **Karen Zukor** are happy to report that they will still be working together on their manuscript project in India, begun in 2007. They plan to spend the month of February 2009 in the northwest Punjab. Karen welcomes **Rachel Marsh**, who will take Jamye’s place as associate conservator. Rachel has graduate certificates in both archive and book conservation from

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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 **Mark Fenn**, **Shelley M. Smith**, **Annie Hall**, **Rowan Geiger**, and **Tonja Morris** are conserving these objects for the forthcoming exhibition catalog. **Shiho 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/Winterther Program specializing in objects conservation.

At Architectural Resources Group (ARG) and ARG Conservation Services (ARG/CS), architectural conservator **David Wessel**, conservator **Katharine Untch**, construction coordinator **Nina Saltman**, and architectural conservator **Mersedeh 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 Pflueger. Kelly also completed field work in July at an archaeological site in Gordion, Turkey.

Preservation masonry specialist **Devlin 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.

Devlin 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, Devlin McDonald, Mersedeh Jorjani, Collin Eaton, Eric Hand, and architectural conservator **Jennifer Correia** completed the conservation and restoration treatments of *The Fire Next Time II*, a mural by Dewey Crumpler. Treatment included consolidating historically significant paint layers and visually integrating losses in the painted surface.

Katharine Untch, Devlin McDonald, Mersedeh 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 forty-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 de-install several large Qajar-period Iranian tile spandrels damaged from improper installation and salts. Shangri La will be closed for the six weeks for its annual blitz of repairs and treatments (site aloha).

Regional Reporter:
Beth Szuhay

TEXAS

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 placements: **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 safely and access. There was both faculty and student involvement, with 3rd year conservation 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

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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, suminagashi (marbler), mounters, woodblock printer/artist in the Kansai - Kyoto region of Japan.

Barbara Brown welcomes **Hsiao-Ju 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, *Guignol's Band* by Louis Ferdinand Celine while working with Stephanie Watkins in paper conservation at the Harry Ransom Center on campus. **Nita Maria Greene**, of Oregon currently studying at Northumbria University in 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. **Nani Lew**, paintings conservator, continues to volunteer in paper and book conservation at the Harry Ransom Center.

Regional Reporter:
Ken 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