



COLLECTION MANAGERS COMMITTEE
SPRING 1992 NEWSLETTER

❖SAN ANTONIO❖❖TAM❖❖APRIL❖

The Annual Meeting for the Texas Association of Museums in San Antonio will provide Collection Managers with a variety of sessions to choose from including a pre-conference workshop on the Native American Grave and Repatriation Act. Regular sessions of interest are "From Artifacts to Archives," "Multiculturalism as Reflected in Your Collections," and "Permission Granted: Permit Regulations." Look for a review of a few of the workshops on pages three through five of the newsletter.

The Collections Managers Committee will have a breakfast meeting on Saturday, April 4th to discuss programs and business for 1992-93. This is an important meeting for the CMC. Results of the recent election to fill the positions of Chair and Treasurer will be announced, as well as the presentation of the 1992 Outstanding CMC Member Award.

CONGRATULATIONS

to scholarship recipients Mildred Walker and Deveri Darilek. Ms. Walker is the Curator of Collections at the Dr. Pepper Museum in Waco. Ms. Darilek is the Collection Manager/Registrar at the Cowboy Artists of America Museum in Kerrville. The CMC awarded scholarships of \$150.00 to defray the costs of attending the TAM Annual Meeting in San Antonio.

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MEMO TO THE MEMBERSHIP

TO: Collections Managers Committee
FROM: Rick Casagrande
RE: Workshops 1992-93

GREETINGS! It is almost time for the Annual Meeting, and I look forward to seeing many of you in San Antonio. The programs look great with some excellent sessions planned specifically for the Collection Managers. I would like to thank the CMC members on the Program Committee and Gary Smith for being so diligent in making these sessions available.

I was recently appointed by Elaine Sullivan to head up a committee for programs. My first task has been to put together a tentative schedule of workshops for the coming 12 months; as follows:

- August 1, 1992 "Managing Storage," a practical approach to storage concerns.
Organized by Melissa Thompson, Amon Carter Museum.
Location: Kimbell Museum,
Fort Worth Museum of Science & History,
Amon Carter Museum
- October 24, 1992 "Managing Collections on Exhibit,"
a discussion between Educators, Exhibit personnel
& Collection Managers.
Organized by Sherry Humphries, Star of the Republic Museum.
Location: Menil Museum, Houston.
- January 30, 1993 "Annual Conservation Workshop," dealing with identifying
conservation concerns in your museum environment.
Organized by Richard Casagrande, San Antonio.
Location: Institute of Texan Cultures, San Antonio.
- April 1993 Annual Meeting Pre-Conference Workshop: "How We Manage Your
Collections: Team Playing," presented by Mary Case, Registrar,
Smithsonian Institution.
Organized by Kim Peel, San Antonio Museum Association.
Location: Waco, Texas.

The schedule as outlined above is tentative, and I look forward to hearing from you at the Annual Meeting. I hope you will come with some good ideas and suggestions. It has also been brought to the attention of the Executive Committee that travel is getting more difficult due to lack of funds. Please give this some thought, and let us know if the workshops are a valuable benefit to CMC and TAM members.

I look forward to seeing you next month.

TAM ANNUAL MEETING WORKSHOP REVIEWS

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP: "Native American Grave and Repatriation Act"
Wednesday 12:30-4:30p.m.

The Native American Grave and Repatriation Act (NAMGRA) signed into law in November 1990, establishes conditions, standards, and definitions under which Native American human remains, funerary and sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony might be repatriated from federally-funded museums and federal agencies.

This session presents information and answers questions concerning NAMGRA, how to complete an inventory, how a more positive approach to this issue might be used and who to contact for help, resources, and information.

The first part of this workshop will review how the Act is to be implemented and what is required of museums according to the Act. In addition, the work of the American Association of Museums' task force, formed to establish guidelines for museum responses to NAMGRA, will be discussed.

The second part will present a case study of one museum which has completed one inventory and is processing a second. With the completion of this inventory the collections staff has had to deal with a number of issues: How is an inventory completed and what information needs to be included? What objects fall into the definitions of funerary, sacred, or cultural patrimony according to the Act? How does a museum fulfill its obligations of collections care and management within this new law?

Part three will address a second museum's efforts to take a positive approach to the Act through the formation of a committee on sensitive materials and an adopted policy on collection, display, and repatriation of culturally sensitive materials. This museum has set policies to review their collections and identify culturally sensitive materials and to initiate action to identify potentially concerned parties.

The final part of this session will focus on what resources are available in Texas for helping museums complete their inventories and how to contact the proper group or groups. Also, what the Act represents for future relationships between museums and Native Americans will be discussed.

Chair: Elain Brown Sullivan, Texas Memorial Museum, Austin, TX

Panelists: Martin Sullivan, The Heard Museum, Phoenix, AZ
Bruce Bernstein, Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe, NM
Ray Apodaca, Tigua Reservation, El Paso, TX

WORKSHOP REVIEWS

"No" to Frederick's of Hollywood: Commercial Use of Objects d'Art, Artifacts, Specimens, and Historical Sites. Thursday 9a.m.

Is the time ripe for museums to establish consistent guidelines regarding the commercial use of historic sites, specimens and artifacts in their care? Should taxidermy ducks be allowed to float in a pond? Should a museum's "hallowed halls" be used as the setting for a music video? Panelists will discuss the ways which their institutions permit use of materials for commercial ventures, problems they have encountered, and case examples, such as the filming of the Kennedy assassination at the Sixth Floor Museum of Dallas. Potential legal issues will be addressed by an attorney. Planned by Wesley Hathaway, Assistant Curator of Science/Museum Nurse, Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, the Natural History Committee, and the Collection Managers Committee.

Chair: Jim Herold, Associate Curator, Governor Bill and Vara Daniel Historic Village, Strecker Museum, Baylor University.

William R. Brown, Curator of History, Panhandle Planish Historical Museum, Canyon.

Bob Hays, Executive Director, The Sixth Floor Museum, Dallas.

Richard Goldnor, Attorney, Matthews and Branscomb, San Antonio.

Permission Granted: Permit Regulations Affecting Archaeological, Scientific and Zoological Collections in Texas. Thursday 10:30 a.m.

Do you need a permit to excavate a sixteenth-century Spanish trash pit? What are the requirements for displaying live native animals in your nature center? Can you give a mounted bird you have deaccessioned to a school teacher for use in the classroom? What are the laws concerning dinosaur bones discovered in the Texas Panhandle? Recently, major changes in the state regulations affecting these and other activities of museums, nature centers, and zoos have been proposed or adopted, and the answers to these questions may have changed. Museums may need to rethink and retool their procedures in order to be certain they are maintaining their collections legally. The speakers will discuss new and existing regulations, explain permitting procedures, and answer questions. Planned by Jane Deisler-Seno, Curator of Science, Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History.

Chair: Dr. Stephen Runnels, Executive Director, Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Refuge, McKinney.

Barto Arnold, State Marine Archaeologist, Texas Antiquities Committee, Austin.

Bob Mallouf, State Archaeologist, Texas Historical Commission, Austin.

Raenell Silcox, Attorney, Legal Services, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

WORKSHOP REVIEWS

Legislative Issues: When Laws Are Retooled, Will Museums Be the Toolees?
Thursday 10:30 a.m.

Legislative issues continually redefine how museums must operate. As museums reexamine their roles in the community, they must consider often-changing legal requirements and legislative shifts in social policy. This panel will focus on legal trends affecting museums as well as recent legislative developments. It will address federal issues such as tax policy (gifts of appreciated property, UBIT), Native American repatriation, artists rights, copyright, and funding of federal cultural agencies. State issues such as employment laws, hotel-motel tax, and funding of state cultural agencies will also be covered. Planned and chaired by Jack Nokes, Director of Administration, Laguna Gloria Art Museum, Austin.

Nan Morris, Esq., Director of Professional Services, Texas Accountants and Lawyers for the Arts, Houston.

Multiculturalism as Reflected in Your Collections and Exhibits
Friday 9a.m.

Many Texas museums were established at a time when communities were predominantly Anglo in their orientation and, and subsequently, in the content of their collections. These institutions now find that their collections and their exhibits are not representative of their increasingly diverse communities. In response, museums have organized temporary exhibits from borrowed collections or sponsored traveling exhibits (accompanied with special educational programs) to try to reach broader audiences. Beyond these temporary measures, however, how can museums engage the permanent trust and cooperation of minority groups in their communities? And, more importantly, how can they use this relationship to expand their collections and exhibitions to represent their constituency more adequately? Planned and chaired by Ellen Murry, Curator of Education, Star of the Republic Museum, Washington.

Spencer Crew, Chair, Department of Social and Cultural History, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

SPRING 1992 CALENDAR

- March 22-24** "Project Success through Problem Solving" workshop for mid-level professionals with responsibilities for museum collections, Chicago, IL. Contact Mary Case, Office of the Registrar, Smithsonian Institution, 900 Jefferson Drive, S.W., Room 1410, Washington, D.C. 20560, 202-357-3125.
- March 25-27** ALI-ABA's "Legal Problems of Museum Administration" in Chicago, IL. Contact Alexander Hart, ALI-ABA, 4025 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3099, 215-243-1630.
- March 30** "Ethics of Textile Conservation" Portland, Oregon. Contact Loretta Harrison, Assistant Director, Horner Museum, Oregon State University, Gill Coliseum L-1, Corvallis, OR 97331-4104, 503-737-2951.
- April 3** Grant deadline for IMS Professional Services Support. Address below.
- April 6-7** "Emergency Preparedness for Cultural Institutions: What it Means and How to Provide It" Strong Museum, Rochester, NY. Contact Regional Council of Historical Agencies, 1400 North State Street, Syracuse, NY 13208.
- April 6-9** "Exhibition Production Techniques for Tribal Cultural Facilities" Washington D.C.. Contact Exhibition Production for Tribal Cultural Facilities, Office of Museum Programs, Art and Industries Bldg., Room 2235-Stop 427, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C. 20560, 202-357-3101.
- April 10-11** New England Museum Association and Old Sturbridge Village Museum Archives Institute, Sturbridge, MA. Contact Theresa Rini Percy, Director of Research Library, Old Sturbridge Village, 1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge, MA. 01566, 508-347-3362.
- April 23-25** "Exploration: Columbus to Columbia." Texas Historical Commission's 1992 preservation conference in Houston. Contact THC, Local History Programs. Address below.
- April 24** Grant deadline for AAM MAP I (institutional assessment). Address below.
- April 25-29** American Association of Museum's annual meeting, Baltimore, MD. Contact Meetings and Continuing Education Department, AAM. Address below.
- May 1** Applications due for Fellowships in Museum Practice, Smithsonian Institution. Address below.
- May 15** Applications due for Seminar for Historical Administration at Colonial Williamsburg held in November 1992. Contact Ms. Peggy Howells, Manager, Museum Professional Services, The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, P.O. Box 1776, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1776, 804-220-7211.
- June 1** Deadline for Utilization of Museum Resources: Presentation of Collections, Catalogue, and Education from National Endowment for the Arts. Address below.
- June 4-7** "Maintenance of Outdoor Sculpture: Whose Job Is It?" Buffalo, NY. Contact American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, 1400 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Suite 340, Washington D.C. 20036, 202-232-6636.
- July 31** Grant deadline for AAM MAP II (collections management assessment). Address below.

ORGANIZATIONAL ADDRESSES

- *AAM Museum Assessment Programs (MAP) 1225 Eye Street N.W., Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20005, 202-289-9118.
- *Institute of Museum Services (IMS), 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20506, 202-786-0536.
- *National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20506, 202-682-2000.
- *National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20506, 202-786-0438.
- *National Historical Publications Records Commission (NHPRC), National Archives Building, Washington, D.C. 20408, 202-501-5610.
- *National Research Council, Office Scientific and Engineering Personnel, Associateship Programs, 2101 Constitution Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20418, 202-334-2760.
- *National Science Foundation (NSF), Public Information Office, 1800 G. Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20550, 202-357-9498.
- *Smithsonian Institution, Office of Museum Programs, Washington, D.C. 20560, 202-357-3101.
- *Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA), P.O. Box 13406, Austin, Tx 78711, 512-463-5535.
- *Texas Historical Commission, Local History Programs, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Tx 78711, 512-463-6100.

NEWS AND BUSINESS

THE OPEN RECEPTION at the Annual Meeting is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1st. The OPEN Project, an acronym for Orienting Professionals and Establishing Networks, is designed for those new to the profession or new to the state or those who just want to expand their contacts in the museum field. The project is organized by Verna Anne Wheeler, Director of the Crosby County Pioneer Memorial Museum in Crosbyton. If you would like to volunteer as a "mentor" in this project, call Debbie Welchel at the TAM office, 512-328-6812.

DUES ARE DUE. Membership dues for the Collection Managers Committee were due January first for 1992, and are in arrears if not paid at the Annual Meeting in April. Send your payments to Lisa Rebori, Houston Museum of Natural Science, #1 Hermann Circle, Houston, Texas, 77030.

THE RESOURCE SHARING

PROJECT will soon enter a planning phase which will enable TAM to gather further information from the field and put together a comprehensive proposal for funding. The planning phase will receive support from the Edward and Betty Marcus Foundation and the Meadows Foundation.

THE AAM ETHICS COMMISSION

will review the new Code of Museum Ethics during 1992. The AAM Board of Directors voted in November 1991 to delay members' subscription to the code for at least a year. A TAM Annual Meeting plenary session will explore the Code of Ethics in a town meeting format.

COLLECTION MANAGERS COMMITTEE TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

INSTITUTION _____

POSITION _____

MAILING ADDRESS (CHECK ONE) () MUSEUM () HOME

STREET OR P.O. BOX NUMBER _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

MUSEUM PHONE(____) _____

HOME PHONE(____) _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES: () PROFESSIONAL () ASSOCIATE

ARE YOU () A RENEWING MEMBER OR () A NEW MEMBER?

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF TAM? () YES () NO

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS BEYOND THE ANNUAL \$10.00 DUES ARE WELCOME AND HELP TO FURTHER THE GOALS AND PROGRAMS OF THE CMC. MEMBERSHIP IS VALID FOR ONE CALENDAR YEAR AND EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31ST.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO COLLECTION MANAGERS COMMITTEE.

MEMBERSHIP DUES \$10.00 + CONTRIBUTION \$ _____ = TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____