

COLLECTION MANAGERS COMMITTEE WINTER 1992 NEWSLETTER

A message from the chair...

Ready for the holidays? It's been a great year for CMC, and I'm looking forward to 1992. Thanks again to Lisa Rebori for coordinating the pest control workshop, Elaine Sullivan for coordinating the permits workshop, and Carolyn Spears for putting together the wonderful and timely special newsletter on disaster recovery.

Mark February 22 on your calendars. That's the date for the second annual conservation workshop, to be held at the Institute of Texan Cultures. The morning session will be devoted to issues in preventive conservation, and the afternoon will focus on the problems caused by macrostructures (storage and display environments from the case to the building). This should be a very informative and productive session. Contact Sally Shelton or Leah Lewis for details.

The TAM Disaster Resource committee has been formed and is actively canvassing the TAM membership for information on disaster plans. Mary Candee and Rick Casagrande are co-chairs of the committee. If your or your institution has not been contacted, or if you have more information, please contact either Mary or Rick.

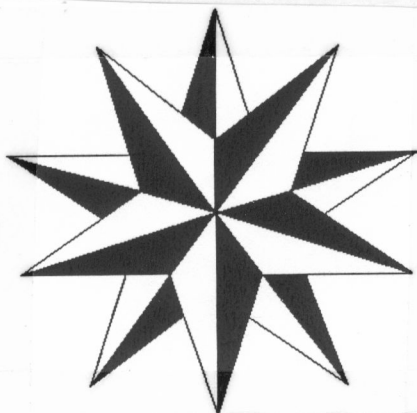
Howard Taylor reported at the TAM Council meeting that the resource sharing project is proceeding well. Grant funding to create a position has been requested. The person coordinating the project will work out of the TAM office to put the network together. To quote from the Council minutes of 3 August 1991, "Six Texas foundations and the Texas Commission on the Arts were invited to meet with TAM and the Pew Charitable Trusts to discuss the Resource Sharing project. We were encouraged to pursue the project and the Executive Director felt this was good visibility for TAM with the foundation community." If you are interested in this project, please contact Howard Taylor for more information.

It's election time again. If you have nominations for the position of either of the open positions, please send them in soon. This is a vital and growing committee, and we need your participation.

Nominations for the annual TAM scholarships are also open. This funding is intended to assist CMC members who would otherwise be unable to attend the TAM annual meeting. Potential members are welcome, too.

Thanks for everything you have done this year. See you in San Antonio (twice) in 1992!

--Sally Shelton



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NEWS AND BUSINESS

SCHOLARSHIPS TO TAM

The CMC is offering two scholarships to attend the TAM Annual Meeting in April. Preference will be given to new CMC and TAM members, and if you are not a member, you must be willing to join in order to receive the scholarship. Letters of nomination for the scholarship should be sent to Lisa Rebori, Houston Museum of Natural Science, #1 Hermann Circle, Houston, Tx, 77030. Letters should give clear evidence of need, as well as a statement as to commitment to the field. Please send letters no later than February 15, 1992.

OUTSTANDING CMC MEMBER AWARD

The Collection Managers Committee will present an outstanding member award for a person who has offered outstanding service to the committee. Letters of nomination will be accepted from any TAM member, but nominees must be members of the CMC. Letters may be sent to Carolyn Spears, Stone Fort Museum, P.O. Box 6075, SFASU, Nacogdoches, Tx 75962, and must be received by February 15, 1992.

NOMINATIONS FOR NEW OFFICERS

It is nominating time for CMC officers. Vacancies this year include the positions of Chair and Treasurer. Nominations must be submitted in writing to the Nominating Chair: Kevin Conley, Fort Bend Museum, P.O. Box 251, Richmond, Tx 77469.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION AWARDS

The THC each year recognizes contributions in the areas of preservation and appreciation of state or community history. Any museum that has developed exhibits, programs, or educational activities within a historical framework is

eligible. Categories include Interpretive Exhibits, Media, Educational Projects, and Community Involvement and are classified by museum budget size. Awards are for activities and work performed in 1991. The deadline for nominations is March 1, 1992. For more information and awards guidelines, contact Kit Neumann, Local History Programs, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Tx 78711, 512-463-6100.

MONEY MONEY MONEY

Remember that your CMC membership dues expire with the calendar year. Membership costs are \$10.00 for Professional or Associate levels. Make your check payable to COLLECTION MANAGERS COMMITTEE, and mail to Lisa Rebori, Houston Museum of Natural Science, One Hermann Circle, Houston, Texas 77030.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

A new TAM Ad Hoc Committee, the Disaster Assistance Network Committee, recently met to discuss projects and set priorities. CMC members Mary Candee and Rick Casagrande are Co-Chairing the committee.

COLLECTION SHARING PROJECT

The Collection Managers Committee of the Texas Association of Museums has been committed to the development and success of the TAM Resource Sharing Project from the time the project was first proposed. The Board of the CMC, which represents a large number of museum collections professionals and supporters in Texas and other states, has approved this statement of support for the Resource Sharing Project.

Museum collections are existing in a time of crisis and conflict over the availability and range of resources necessary for their existence and perpetuation. Although the American Association of Museums defines the ownership and care of collections as key criteria for defining a museum,

many collections suffer the effects of poor storage and exhibit environments, careless or untrained handling, inappropriate use, or an administrative or financial lack of support. The result is widespread deterioration of sensitive materials, loss of documentary, scholarly information, and the abandonment or disposal of collections which become or remain unstaffed.

Professional response to collections in crisis is evident at many levels. Collections improvement monies are available through programs administered by the Institute of Museum Services, the National Institute for Conservation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Science Foundation, to name only a few. These grants are highly competitive, and many require a matching commitment by the institution. Many small museums and collections of value are unable to compete successfully for these grants.

The greatest threats to collections come from storage in improper environments and from the withdrawal of support. Improper environments can do more damage over time than a single isolated disaster. Environmental factors that put collections at risk include physical neglect, theft and vandalism, fire, water exposure, biodeterioration, and temperature. Correcting these problems, especially the last four, may be outside the reach of the museum unless its resource base is increased. Loss of support in terms of staff, budget, or housing causes collections to become endangered or "orphaned," at risk of disposal unless another institution can be found to accept them.

The TAM Resource Sharing Project proposes to follow the example set by the Pew Charitable Trusts in Philadelphia to make collections and resources available between similar and between dissimilar institutions (or horizontal and vertical sharing). We, the Board of the CMC, support this project as being advantageous at all levels, but particularly as a means of pooling resources to save threatened collections in the state of Texas.

The Resource Sharing Project would, for example, provide for a museum with collections in a poor environment to remove them to an institution with better environmental controls as a means of stabilizing object deterioration most effectively until the owner museum can address its environmental problems. No transfer of ownership is necessary, and the conditions for housing and caring for the collections would be agreed upon in advance by both parties. The Project would also allow the manager of an administratively or financially endangered collection to plan for their removal to a host institution for housing and care, rather than trying to place them after the fall of the budgetary ax.

We think that this cooperation between institutions would best protect collections which are now deteriorating due to circumstances beyond the control of the individual museum. It would also give museums a network to turn to for assistance in the face of disaster recovery. The Resource Sharing Project would provide for the two-way flow of research and scholarly information between the sharing institutions.

The sharing of resources is by no means limited to the transfer of holdings from smaller to larger institutions. Many large collections suffer from inadequate staffing and little time for research and documentation. Smaller institutions with knowledgeable staff members may be able to provide higher-quality care than the collections can hope to receive in their home institutions until staffing increases.

We think that it is important that collections be shared upward along a gradient of storage environments and care; in other words, that they should never be transferred to an environment in which they are more at risk than in the original institution, and that a poor environment should be improved to the best of the museum's abilities prior to the return of

the collections. We further think that two-way communication and education is at the heart of the TAM Resource Sharing Project, and that this sharing should foster, not a sense of competitive ownership, but a flourishing of a sense of community ownership and responsibility between all museums in Texas on behalf of the priceless cultural and scientific heritage represented by the state's museum collections. The Collection Managers Committee continues its commitment of support to this project and stands ready to assist the success of the project with the professional expertise and involvement of its members.

WINTER 1991-92 CALENDAR

1/4/1992 Applications for History Museum Grants from the Texas Historical Commission due. Contact: Frances Rickard, Director, Local History Programs, THC, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Tx 78711, 512-463-6100.

1/15 Applications for Texas Committee for the Humanities Mini-grant program due. Contact: TCH, Banister Place A, 3809 South Second St., Austin, Tx 78704, 512-440-1991.

1/15 Applications for Texas Commission on the Arts Financial Assistance Programs. Contact: TCA, P.O. Box 13406, Austin, Tx 78711, 512-463-5535.

1/31 Application deadline for MAP II (Collections Management). Contact: American Association of Museums, 1225 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005, 202-289-1818.

2/1 National Science Foundation, Informal Science Education grants. Contact: Informal Science Education Program, NSF, Room 635, 202-357-7076.

2/7 National Endowment for the Humanities Projects in Libraries and Archives applications due. Contact: National Endowment for the Humanities, Room 426, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20506, 202-786-0438.

2/10 National Endowment for the Arts Museum Training and Fellowships for Museum Professionals applications due. Contact: National Endowment for the Arts, Museum Program, Room 624, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20506, 202-682-5442.

2/15 Draft proposals for major grants to Texas Committee for the Humanities due. See address above.

2/20-22 Association for Living Historical Farms and Agricultural Museums' (ALHFAM) Annual Meeting of the Mountain Plains and Western Regions. Surviving Today...For Tomorrow is the theme of the meeting to be held in Phoenix, Arizona. Call 602-329-0471 for details.

2/22 CMC's Conservation Workshop. See the registration form at the back of the newsletter for details.

4/1-4 TAM Annual Meeting in San Antonio!

4/24 Applications due for MAP I grants. See the AAM address above.

MEMBERSHIP LIST OF THE COLLECTION MANAGERS COMMITTEE

Heritage House Museum
905 West Division
Orange, Tx 77630
409-886-5385

Bill Allen
Allen Associates
3455 Wilshire Blvd., #2204
Los Angeles, Ca 90010
213-385-1678

Debra Ashe
Denver Art Museum
100 W. 14th Ave Parkway
Denver, Co 80204
303-575-2706

Mary Collins Blackman
Elizabet Ney Museum
304 E. 44th Street
Austin, Tx 78751

Margaret Blagg
Texas Association of Museums
P.O. Box 13353
Austin, Tx 78711
512-328-6812

Larry L. Bowles
Confederate Air Force Museum
P.O. box CAF
Harlingen, Tx 78551

Eric Brunneman
P.O. Box 7277
Albuquerque, NM 87194

Julie Burns
Heard Museum of Nat Science
Rt 6, Box 22
McKinney, Tx 75069
214-542-5566

Anne Jean Caffey
Stark Museum of Art
P.O. Box 1897
Orange, Tx 77530
409-883-6661

Mei Wan Campbell
Museum at Texas Tech
Box 4499, Texas Tech
Lubbock, Tx 79416-3191
806-742-2442-2498

Mary Candee
Texas Parks and Wildlife
4200 Smith School Rd.
Austin, Tx 78744
512-389-4885

Brenda Cantarutti
San Antonio Museum Association
P.O. Box 2601
San Antonio, Tx 78299-2601
512-978-8100

Cherly A. Carrabba
Carrabba Conservation
8403 Cross Park Dr., Ste. 2B
Austin, Tx 78754

Kathy Carter
Fayette Heritage Museum
855 S. Jefferson
La Grange, Tx 78216
409-968-3765-6418

Rick Casagrande
San Antonio Museum Association
P.O. Box 2601
San Antonio, Tx 78299-2601
512-226-5544

Paisley Cato
Virginia Museum of Nat History
1001 Douglas Avenue
Martinsville, VA 24112
703-666-8600

Joe Cavanaugh
Refugio County Museum
102 W. West St.
Refugio, Tx 78377
512-526-5555

Maria Cicciarelli
12322 Limerick Lane
Austin, Tx 78758

MEMBERSHIP LIST OF THE COLLECTION MANAGERS COMMITTEE

Letha Hooper
Art Institute for the Permian Basin
4909 E. University
Odessa, Tx 76762
915-368-7222

Sherry Humphries
Star of the Republic Museum
P.O. Box 317
Washington, Tx 77880
409-878-2461

Katie Johnson
San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts
P.O. Box 3092
San Angelo, Tx 76902
915-658-4084

Reba Jones
Amarillo Art Center
P.O. Box 477
Amarillo, Tx 79178
806-371-5050

Glenda Knutson
Michelson-Reeves Museum of Art
P.O. Box 8290
Marshall, Tx 75671
903-935-9480

Irit Lev

711 W. 32nd St., no. 225
Austin, Tx 78705

Frankie Markham
Carson County Square House
P.O. Box 276
Pan Handle, Tx 79068
806-537-3118

Ellen Maschino
Fort Worth Museum of Sci & Hist
1501 Montgomery
Fort Worth, Tx 76107
817-732-1631

Kara McAtee
Stark Museum of Art
P.O. Box 1897
Orange, Tx 77530
409-883-6661

Prince G. McKenzie
El Paso Museum of Art
1211 Montana Ave
El Paso, Tx 79903
915-541-4040

Lolisa Moores
Heritage Farmstead
163 Moonlight Drive
Plano, Tx 75075
214-424-7874

Patricia Murphy
Corpus Chrisit Museum of Sci & Hist
1900 Chaparral
Corpus Chrisit, Tx 78401

John C. Neilson

3212 Green Ridge Drive
San Angelo, Tx 76904-6426
915-657-4441

Kit Neumann
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, Tx 78711
512-463-6100

Cathy Nordstrom
Huntington Art Gallery, UT Austin
23rd and San Jacinto
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512-471-7324

Kim Peel
San Antonio Museum Assoc
P.O. Box 2601
San Antonio, Tx 78299-2601
512-226-5544

Lisa Rebori
Houston Museum of Nat Science
One Hermann Circle Dr.
Houston, Tx 77030
713-526-4273

Kathy Roland
Fort Concho National Hist Lndmk
213 E. Ave. D.
San Angelo, Tx 76903
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MEMBERSHIP LIST OF THE COLLECTION MANAGERS COMMITTEE

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Sam Daleo
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1906 North St.
Beaumont, Tx 77701
409-832-1906

Jane Deisler-Seno
Corpus Christi Museum
1900 N. Chaparral
Corpus Christi, Tx 78401
512-883-2862

Stella Dobbins

1636 Bonnie Brae, No.2
Houston, Tx 77006
713-527-4815

Renee M. Erwin
Fort Worth Museum of Sci & Hist
1501 Montgomery Street
Fort Worth, Tx 76107
817-732-1631

Peter Farnham
Dallas Co Heritage Society
1717 Gano Street
Dallas, Tx 75215
214-421-5141

Larry Francell
Fine Arts Express SW Inc
7440 Whitehall
Fort Worth, Tx 76118
817-589-0855

Dr. Richard W. Fullington
Dallas Museum of Natural History
P.O. Box 26193
Dallas, Tx 75226

Sammie Funderburk
Cowboy Artist of Am Mus Fnd
P.O. Box 1716
Kerrville, Tx 78029
512-896-2553

Floyd Geery

ATTN: ATZC-DPTM-M
Fort Bliss, Tx 79916-5300
915-568-2804/4518

Jean Graham
Laguna Gloria Art Museum
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Elaine Harmon
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Linda Harral
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915-336-2400

Kathleen Hartt
Houston Museum of Fine Arts
P.O. Box 6826
Houston, Tx 77265-6826

Susan K. Harwell
Institute of Texan Cultures
P.O. Box 1226
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512-226-7651

Catherine Hastedt
Texas A&M Art Exhibitions
P.O. Box J-3
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409-845-8501-1515

Martha Lynn Hill
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Corpus Christi, Tx 78401
512-883-2862

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Mary K. Shannon
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915-226-2167/7106

Sally Shelton
Materials Conservation Lab
10100 Burnet Rd.
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512-471-6090

Carolyn Spears
Stone Fort Museum
P.O. Box 6075, SFASU
Nacogdoches, Tx 75962
409-568-2408

Jennifer Stafford
Biblical Arts Center
P.O. Box 12727
Dallas Tx 75225
214-691-4661

Elaine Sullivan
Texas Memorial Museum
2400 Trinity
Austin, Tx 78705
512-471-1604

Howard J. Taylor
San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts
P.O. Box 3092
San Angelo, Tx 76902
915-658-4084

Melissa Thompson
Amon Carter Museum
P.O. Box 2365
Fort Worth, Tx 76113
817-738-1933

Gregory A. Tipton
Abilene Fine Arts Museum
801 S. Mockingbird
Abilene, Tx 79605
915-673-4587

Winnie Trippet
21901 FM 762
Needville, Tx 77461

Mildred Walker
Dr. Pepper Museum
300 South 5th St
Waco, Tx 76701
817-757-1024

Lita Watson
Wichita Falls Mus & Art Ctr
#2 Eureka Circle
Wichita Falls, Tx 76308
817-692-0923

Beth Anne Weidler
Northen Foundation
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Galveston, Tx 77553
409-765-9770

Eve Williams
Jourdan-Bachman Pioneer Farm
11418 Sprinkle Cut-Off Road
Austin, Tx 78754
512-837-1215

Steve Williams
Museum at Texas Tech
NSRL, Box 4499
Lubbock, Tx 79409
806-742-2442-2498

Adah Leah Wolf
Collin County Farm Museum
Rt 4 box 149C
McKinney, Tx 75070

Janis Ziller
Stark Museum of Art
P.O. Box 1897
Orange, Tx 77530
409-883-6661

Review of
PERMITS AND REGULATIONS WORKSHOP
November 2, 1991

The Permits and Regulations Workshop was held at the Stephen F. Austin Building Austin, Texas on November 2, 1991. Elaine Sullivan and Jane Deisler-Seno organized the list of speakers including, Barto Arnold of the Texas Antiquities Commission, Bob Mallouf of the Office of the State Archaeologist, Camille McKeever with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Raenell Silcox with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Thanks go to Roberta McGregor, Associate Curator of Anthropology of the San Antonio Museum Association, and Raymond W. Neck and Doug Stine, of the Houston Museum of Natural Science for preparing workshop summaries.

Barto Arnold of the Texas Antiquities Commission in Austin spoke on Antiquities Committee and the Antiquities Code. The Committee is a small group made up of 9 members. The purpose of the Committee is to protect cultural resources that are publicly owned. When it is publicly owned it is held in trust for everyone. The Committee is a sister agency of the Texas Historical Commission but has a separate board of directors. The THC usually works with private property and has no misdemeanor capabilities. The Antiquities code is a regulatory law, a misdemeanor offense. The code was passed in 1969 because of treasure hunting on Padre Island. The area is tide land and is therefore public property. To receive material prepared by the Texas Antiquities Commission, write P.O Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711.

Mr. Arnold (512-463-6098) discussed the SAL, or State Archaeological Landmark. This designation for a site is achieved by nomination with the Committee. The Committee will then have 60 days in which to comment on the nomination. For endangered sites, private citizens may file a restraining order to stop any work while the Antiquities Commission goes through the proper procedures. This is an important point for local advocates.

Cultural Resource Management reviews major construction projects that are going to take place on public property. One outcome of this is archaeological sites plotted on a master map. Permits applications must include the following information: 1) Describe the property, 2) Describe applicant, and who is paying for the survey, etc., 3) What kind of work is to be done? and 4) Outline the locations of the artifact repositories. According to the Council for Texas Archaeology a small museum may not be a repository, but a repository may loan to small museums for exhibits.

Bob Mallouf of the State Archaeologist's Office (512-463-6090) spoke on repatriation issues and human remains. According to Mr. Mallouf, the problems are more emotional than logical. There is a small segment who are fighting hard for repatriation; however, this group is growing and is making gains on the Federal level. A law has passed in congress allowing repatriation from museums.

The primary targets are professional archaeologists, physical anthropologists, and museums. While it is easy for Native Americans to target these groups, it is ignoring the main source of destruction - looters.

According to Mr. Mallouf, the loss by reburial of a scientific collection that attests to a high level of sophistication of native people eliminates access to the very things that will change attitudes toward Native American cultures. Another important issue in reburial is the protection of repatriated burial sites. How will repatriated materials be

protected from looting?

The scientists' point of view, says Mr. Mallouf, is that repatriation represents a potential loss of a data base that is ever-increasing in importance as looters rob the remaining material, that repatriation is an infringement on scientific inquiry, and philosophical gaps are being created.

The legislation will provide protection from looters regardless of ethnic affiliation, allows for continual recovery of burials in reports to the state archaeologist when a burial is uncovered, and legal recognition of remains and grave goods. Enforcement will continue to be a problem, however. Mr. Mallouf considers education of the problems of looting, involvement by tribal groups, and enforcement of antiquity laws are the key factors in preserving what is left of the scientific collections at risk.

(reviewed by Roberta McGregor)

Texas Parks and Wildlife attorney, Raenell Silcox, discussed state permits that reflect site legislation and department regulations. State permits are issued to individuals, not to organizations. A permit is needed by any person who possesses all or any part of a regulated species. Regulated species in Texas include furbearers, game animals, Endangered and Threatened plants and animals, all birds (except for house sparrow, rock dove, and starling), alligators, freshwater mussels, and commercially regulated species (shrimp, crabs, etc.). Species that fall under the permit laws and regulations of the State of Texas must occur naturally in Texas and be included on a list of protected species.

Recent changes in State regulations simply made the rehab permit a separate permit; regulations have not yet been adopted. Permits are now valid for a period of three years. The education requirements for holding a permit have been removed - no class 1, 2, or 3 permits exist. Caging requirements have been removed. New proposals for scientific permit regulations will be presented at a spring 1991 TPWD Commission meeting. Discussion at the workshop revealed need for the term, "under direct supervision," to be defined more succinctly.

One of the problems with permits in the past has been the designation of "primary" and "assistant" permit holders. Selection of the primary permit holder appeared at times to be at random. The current recommendation is that each person hold a permit for the specimens that they hold or maintain. Any non-museum person who "salvages" specimens for a museum more than three times a year should apply for a salvage permit.

At the present time, Raenell Silcox (512-389-4633) is responsible for falconry and rehab permits with most of her time being consumed by other legal work responsibilities. Other permits are being handled by Steve Schwelling (512-389-4997).

Camille McKeever of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service discussed federal permits for the acquisition of any species listed under the Threatened or Endangered Species Act. A permit is required for specimens acquired after the listing of a species, even if the specimen was field collected prior to listing. No permit is required for specimens acquired prior to listing of that species. Possession permits are necessary under the Eagle Act and for interstate transport of specimens of Endangered or Threatened species. There is no possession permit required under the Endangered Species Act. The federal government will begin to limit the number of "non-releasable" animals allowed under rehab permits. Species protected under CITES are regulated under the laws of the country of origin. If exempt, schools and other educational institutions can trade specimens of regulated species if they are not eagles or threatened and

endangered species. However, both organizations must hold a valid permit. Camille McKeever (505-766-2091) is available to answer specific questions regarding federal permit requirements.

Federal regulations will soon be simplified by the institution of uniform nationwide regulations. Two federal law enforcement agents who attended the workshop stated that they wished to assist public repositories of specimens for education purposes. Both State and Federal personnel are available to answer questions, and asking a question before a particular incident occurs could save much time and problems.

(Reviewed by Raymond W. Neck and Doug Stine)

COLLECTION MANAGERS COMMITTEE

WINTER 1992 WORKSHOP ON CONSERVATION

DATE: February 22, 1992

PLACE: Institute of Texan Cultures, San Antonio, Texas
Hemisphere Plaza, corner of Bowie and Durango Streets
(512)-226-7651

TIME: 9:30AM-4:30PM

SCHEDULE: 9:30-12 Discussion of preventative conservation measures
12-1:30 lunch on your own
1:30-4:30 Discussion of problems caused by macrostructures

For more information, contact Sally Shelton at Texas Memorial Museum
Conservation Lab, 10100 Burnet Road, Austin, Tx 78758; 512-471-4515.

CONSERVATION WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM FEBRUARY 22, 1992

Name:
Title:
Address:

Registration fee
CMC member or ITC member \$15
non-member \$20

Make checks payable to the
Collection Managers Committee, and
mail to Lisa Rebori, Houston Museum
of Natural Science, #1 Hermann
Circle, Houston, Texas 77030.

Total enclosed \$