Summer 2007

Newslett

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Renewal

COLLECTION MANAGERS COMMITTEE Texas Association of Museums

TAM 2007 Session Review: The Hidden Danger of Hazardous Materials

by John Spencer

Chair:

Amy Hooker, Director of Collections & Archives, The Petroleum Museum, Midland

Speakers:

Lori Benson, Collection Specialist, Texas Natural Science Center, The University of Texas at Austin Annelore Robertson, Preservation Director, American Airpower Heritage Museum, Midland

Working with your museum's artifacts can be a threat to your health and others! This session at the 2007 TAM annual meeting would be highly recommended for any employee working directly with collections. The main focus of the session was the identification of hazardous material and methods of protection for those who come into contact with this material.

Hazardous material can be defined as a poison, corrosive agent, flammable substance, explosive, radio-active chemical, or any other material which can endanger human health or well-being if handled improperly. There are two main categories of hazardous materials. The first is Biological/Geological material or those dangers that occur in nature. Mold, bacteria, botanicals, and rodents are biological threats. Geological material such as radioactive minerals or rocks such as Uranium can be a health The second category is human manufacturing or treatment of an object. This category includes things made or modified by man. The most obvious example of hazardous material in this category is weaponry such as guns, ammunition, and explosive devices. Man-made chemicals found in pesticides or taxidermy are always suspect. Radioactive devices found in medical collections can sometimes be overlooked, but constitute a problem area.

There are a multitude of steps that can be taken to identify potential threats. Documenting problem areas and proper labeling are essential. Routinely

check for infestations or growth of any kind to prevent a large scale contamination. The key is to research and create solutions for long-term prevention.

Protection from hazardous materials requires the development of a strict set rules and procedures for institutions to follow. Hazardous materials should never be handled with bare hands. One of the most important things discussed in the session was the use of latex or nitrile gloves for protection from direct exposure to hazardous materials. Keeping a clean and sanitary building is a must for the prevention of biological hazards. Another good measure requires an investment in specialized storage units to separate dangerous or hazardous artifacts from the rest of the collection and decrease the amount of exposure.

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation by Annelore Robertson is available at:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CollectionManagers/files/

Additional information is available at:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (800) 887-6063

www.epa.gov

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

(800) 321-7642

www.osha-sic.gov





From the Chair...

Once again back at our desks working hard after a wonderful TAM conference in Austin. I hope everyone enjoyed seeing colleagues and the opportunity to learn new things. I thank all of you who joined us at the CMC business meeting on Wednesday afternoon. The meeting, as always, was busy with updates on workshops, finances and several other reports. But I hope you enjoyed the little twist of having several door prizes. My sincere gratitude goes to Bruce Murphy of McCollister's Moving & Storage of Dallas for the gift of a tool bag and a cordless drill. I also want to thank Jennifer Cook for procuring the fun gifts from Mary Kay Cosmetics, Inc., and for the cool bags we handed out at the CMC booth. We also thank Gaylord for their \$100 gift certificate. My personal thank you to Megan Bryant for helping to donate the copy of Museum Registration Methods. And for the extra cool gift of a hand-held DVD player we thank Unified Fine Art Services of Dallas.

If you have any ideas on what else we should do or talk about in our annual business meeting – please let me know. Nothing is set in stone, and we always welcome your innovative ideas to keep the meeting useful and interesting. And fun, so I also want to thank Jennifer Cook and Kathleen Koonce for providing us with refreshments!

Kathleen Koonce and Tricia Dixon will be hard at work this summer presenting the session ideas for the next annual meeting. Although the Program Committee meets in May and June, if you have any ideas for sessions – **please let us know**. Two people are in the committee working on collections related sessions, but it takes everyone's input to make it successful.

We look forward to seeing you in Houston this coming July 21 for the next CMC workshop!

Have a fun Summer, Gabby

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meganb@jfk.org

CMC Newsletter

Is a quarterly publication of the Collection Managers Committee, a nonprofit affinity group of the Texas Association of Museums. Submissions are due to the Editor by the first of March, May, August and November.

Electronic Newsletter

The CMC Membership is growing and we are pleased to have each and every one of you as members. A growing membership also means growing costs. With over 150 members it costs CMC nearly \$100 to print and mail the quarterly CMC Newsletter. With the cost of postage going up, it may be time to consider following the lead of the Texas Association of Museums and switch from a printed newsletter to an electronic one.

We want to hear from you. How do you feel about switching to an electronic newsletter?

Contact Amy Fulkerson at: amyfulkerson@wittemuseum.org or 3801 Broadway, San Antonio, TX 78209.

Benefits of an electronic newsletter:

- Monthly updates instead of quarterly
- · Color photos and graphics
- Can be as long or short as we want
- Post job openings
- Provide links to workshop handouts
- Save money

For the past four years the cost of the CMC Newsletter has been underwritten by the past newsletter editor, Jennifer Cook, and the Mary Kay Museum to whom we express our gratitude.



Both AAM and TAM have phased out paper newsletters in favor of electronic newsletters.

Join the CMC E-Group

To join the CMC E-Group visit our homepage at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CollectionManagers/and Yahoo! Will guide you through the process.

Choose how you want to receive messages:

There are two ways that you can choose to receive e-mails from the group. You can change your preference at any time.

- Individual e-mails—If you choose this option you will receive all new postings via e-mail as soon as they are sent.
- Daily Digest—In this option a digest of all
 postings for a single day is sent as a single e-mail.
 You will be able to follow the thread of topics,
 but may not be aware of discussions as they
 occur.

How to post a message:

E-mail CollectionManagers@yahoogroups.com to send a message to the entire group.

To change your preferences:

If you need to change any of your personal preferences (i.e. the e-mail address at which you receive postings, switch from individual e-mails to daily digest, etc.), you may click on "Edit My Membership" link in the upper right side of the home page.

To unsubscribe or leave the group:

Send an e-mail to CollectionManagersunsubscribe@yahoogroups.com and your name will be removed from the group.

Additional features:

If you visit the home page at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CollectionManagers/ you can use these additional features:

- Calendar
- Membership List
- Chat Polls
- Photos
- File Sharing

Have a question?

We've got the answer!

Keep in touch with

your peers on the

CMC E-Group.



Around the State

Introduction to Preservation Issues and Practices

Texas State Library and Archives Commission

Ozona National Bank

Ozona, TX

June 5

Contact:

Chris LaPlante, 512-463-5467,

chris.laplante@tsl.state.tx.us

Grant Writing Workshop

Texas Historical Commission

Hogg Foundation Library

Austin, TX

June 25-27 and June 27-29

Contact:

Mae Zapata, 512-463-6092, mae.zapata@thc.state.tx.us



Know of a good professional development opportunity?

Contact Amy Fulkerson at

amyfulkerson@wittemuseum.org or (210) 357-1868.

Care & Handling of Collection Materials

Amigos Library Services

Amigos Training Room

Dallas, TX

June 27

972-851-8000

972-991-6061 fax

Interpreting Historic Resources

Texas Historical Commission

July 13, McAllen

July 16, Nacogdoches

July 18, Granbury

July 19, Salado

July 20, Uvalde

August 3, Cuero

August 6, San Angelo

August 7, Monahans

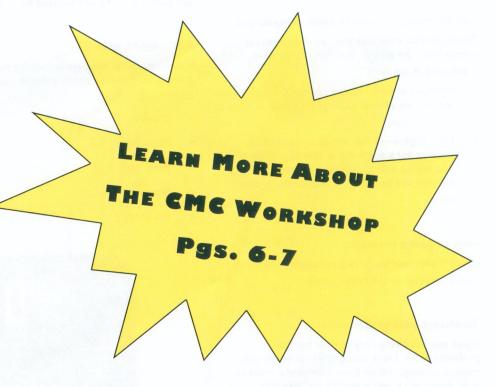
August 8, El Paso

August 10, Borger

Contact:

April Garner, 512-463-2630

april.garner@thc.state.tx.us



June

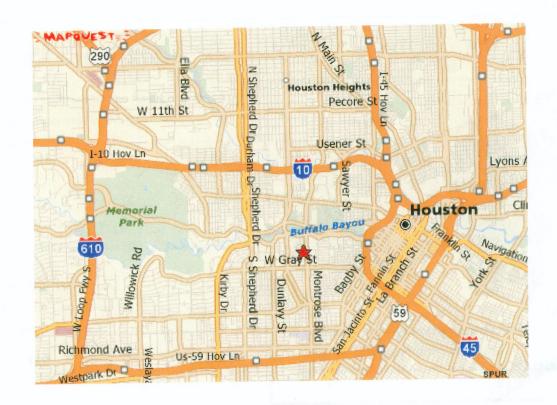
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					I	2
3	4	51 ntroduction to Preservation	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Grant Writing	26 Grant Writing	27 Grant Writing / Care &	28 Grant Writing	29 Grant Writing	30

July

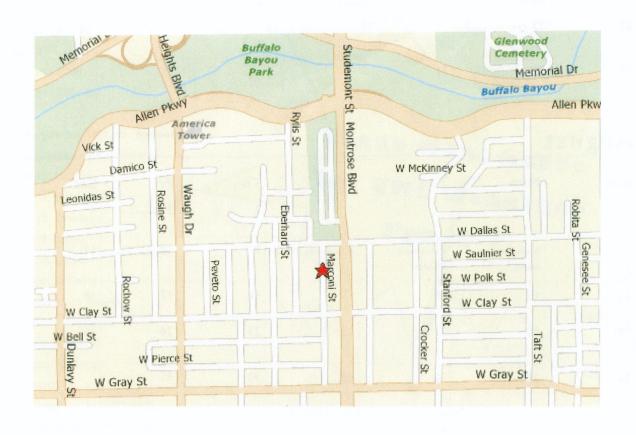
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	П	12	13 Interpreting (McAllen)	14
15	16 Interpreting (Nacogdoches)	17	18 Interpreting (Granbury)	19 Interpreting (Salado)	20 Interpreting (Uvalde)	21
22	23 CMC Workshop	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Interpreting (Cuero)	4
5	6 Interpreting (San Angelo)	7 Interpreting (Monahans)	8 Interpreting (El Paso)	9	10 Interpreting (Borger)	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



HMNS Collection Facility
110 Marconi, Houston, TX 77019



WORKSHOP ALERT! WORKSHOP ALERT!

You want me to send what? Where?!?

The imports and exports of complex shipping issues

In the fast paced world of ever growing traveling exhibition programs and loan requests, do you have the knowledge and experience necessary to send your objects anywhere? Between the restrictions of your insurance policy, dealing with the university system, or trying to stay in budget, there is a lot to consider when you want to send a small tea set from El Paso to Houston, or a big sculpture from San Antonio to Chicago. The laws are ever changing, the objects get more and more complex and the forms and requirements can be difficult to find let alone complete. No one wants to hear that their object made it through customs, but the crate didn't, or worse their sculpture was impounded because of the feather that was part of the piece. Learn the rules, regulations and forms necessary for shipping objects, when to contact a customs broker and how to talk to shippers. If you need to ship anything across the city or across the world, then this workshop is for you!

Susan Newlin, Licensed Customs Broker, Masterpiece International
John McAlpin, Houston Museum of Natural Science

When:

Monday, July 23, 2007, 9:00am - 3:00pm

The Houston Museum of Natural Science's new collections facility

I I 10 Marconi, Houston, Texas 77019

Cost:

\$25 for CMC members, \$30 for non-members (make checks payable to CMC)

Additional charge for lunch \$10

Kim Osborn, Inspector, US Fish and Wildlife Service

To register, fill out the form below and send by MAIL, FAX, OR E-MAIL to:

Megan Bryant The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza 411 Elm Street, Suite 120 Dallas, TX 75202

Phone: 214-747-6660 X 6619 Fax: 214-747-6662 Email: meganb@jfk.org

PLEASE REGISTER BY July 16, 2007 (limited to 25 attendees)

Name:Institution:	
Address:	
E-mail/Phone (for confirmation):	AND
Registration CMC Members \$25.00 each / Non-members \$30.00 each CMC Dues (JOIN TODAY for \$15 per year)	\$ \$
Lunch Box lunch \$10	\$
Please select: Chicken Salad Smoked Turkey Ham and Swiss Pimiento _	
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:	\$

For more information contact:

Featured Speakers:

John McAlpin, Houston Museum of Natural Science; phone 713-639-4675; email imcalpin@hmns.org

MEMBERSHIP FORM

\$15.00 yearly dues

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	Send check and fo	orm to:		
Kim Cupit	, Denton County Museums, 110	W. Hickor	y, Denton, TX 76201	



c/o Witte Museum 3801 Broadway San Antonio, TX 78209 *(15 91 U.S. POSTAGE PB 2 2 3 6 3 0 4 * 0 3 8 1 * 0 0 . 800 JUN 07 07 * 65 61 FROM ZIP GODE 78 2 0 9 *

Jana Hallmark Smith Fort Bend Museum 500 Houston Street Richmond, TX 77469

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