



Congressional Papers Section

N E W S L E T T E R

Society of American Archivists

Fall 2019 Edition

Message from the Chair

Greetings Colleagues,

I hope that you are all doing well now that fall has set in. It was a pleasure to see many of you in Austin at CPS Day. In this issue of our newsletter, I would like to highlight several of the decisions made by the Steering Committee at CPS Day, given that they will define much of our work over the next year.

First and foremost, the Steering Committee agreed to continue working with the Committee on Public Policy to revise the SAA statement on the preservation of congressional papers. Our outgoing chair, Hope Bibens, will spearhead this effort. She recently sent out a call for volunteers to assist her with this project, so please let her know if you would like to help! I will continue to keep the membership up to date as this important process moves forward.

Second of all, the Steering Committee expressed its support for key changes to how we approach our newsletter and the work of our Electronic Records Committee. Dina Mazina and her newly appointed co-editor, Jolene Kennah, will work to broaden the range of contributors to the newsletter, so that readers have a better sense of the developments in our section. At the same time, John Caldwell and Robert Lay are leading efforts to reshape the Electronic Records Committee (ERC). Part of their work will involve gauging the interests of our section's membership with respect to electronic records. I encourage all of you to support these efforts by signing up to contribute to the newsletter and by completing the upcoming ERC survey.

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Finally, the Steering Committee decided to pursue the creation of a guide on the processing of committee records. This publication will follow on the successful creation of our Advocacy Day booklet as part of the 2018 CPS Day in Washington, D.C. Members of the panel that presented on the topic of committee records in Austin will assemble the necessary information for this publication. I will be circulating the finished product to our membership sometime before the 2020 CPS Day.

Thank you again for making our day in Austin a lively and rewarding event. We are fortunate to have a dedicated membership and I hope that we can harness your enthusiasm to make this year a successful one!

Nathan Gerth
CPS Chair

Report from the Senate Archivist at CPS Day

Recap by Dina Mazina

On August 2, 2019, during the Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists, members of the Congressional Papers Section met for CPS Day at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History. During this time, Karen Paul, Archivist of the Senate, gave a thorough report on the archiving done by her office. The report focused on five major areas:

- Senator's Records Preservation
- Committee Records Preservation
- The Senate Historical Office Intern
- Digital Archives Initiatives
- Sixth Report of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress

In the past year, the Senate Historical Office (SHO) worked with 14 senate offices that closed in the last congress, focusing on the preservation of electronic records, social media, and the constituent services system. Out of those offices, 13 made arrangements to donate their collections to a repository, and one is planning on donating in the future. In the meantime, the SHO also held an archiving orientation for new senate offices.

Preserving electronic records continued to a major goal for Senate committees, with the SHO reaching out to all committees with active social media accounts to encourage preservation of that information. Ten committees with social media accounts had archived them at the end of the Congress. During the past year, the Senate preserved 3,695.72 GB (= 3.60 TB), in 148 accessions, from 24 committees and offices. Textual records totaled 411 processed accessions equating to 1,406 cubic feet from 25 committees and offices. We also borrowed 132 loans of records back from the Center totaling 260.5 cubic feet, including committee hearings video, and 6 archived committee electronic records.

Ms. Kaitlyn Lichtle, a MLIS student from Indiana University, was funded as the SHO intern for the summer. Her duties included updating older committee transfer sheets, processing

and describing electronic records, and performing data entry on party conference television broadcasts log sheets.

Alison White continues to serve as a digital archives specialist, organizing meetings with committee archivists and helping offices develop digital preservation plans.

Finally, the Sixth Report of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress was made available in December 2018. It makes eight important recommendations and is worthwhile reading for anyone interested.

2019 SAA Meeting-CPS Day Recap

By Dina Mazina

CPS Day was held on August 2, 2019, in Austin, TX, during the Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists. The day began with a Welcome by outgoing Chair Hope Bibens. Following those remarks, Jodi Allison-Bunnell, Shane Redman, and Nathan Gerth presented the first session of the day "Providing Access to CMS/CSS Data through Partnership: Proposal and Discussion." This presentation touched on the America Contacts Congress project, the findings and proposals are how to improve constituent communication data availability to researchers.

Following a short break, a business meeting, and lunch, we began the second session on "Committee Records: How They End Up in Congressional Collections and What to Do When You Find Them." Participants in this discussion included Karen Paul, Alison White, John Caldwell, Dina Mazina, Nathan Gerth, Alison Harris, and Rebecca Johnson Melvin. The panel gave short presentations on the nature of committee vs personal office papers, how to identify them, and what to do if you find them in your collections, then fielded questions from the audience.

Thank you to everyone who attended SAA and CPS Day. We hope you enjoyed it!

Introduction from the Newsletter Editors

Dina Mazina
Archivist
US Senate Committee on Finance

I am happy to continue serving CPS as the newsletter co-editor. I enjoyed meeting everyone at SAA in August and for those who saw me that Friday after I took the Certified Archivist exam, I'm happy to report that I did pass and am now officially a Certified Archivist! My goals for the newsletter this year is to continue foster connection and community in our group, and to shine a light on the work done by Capitol Hill archivists in DC. A new section in the newsletter CHARMed to Meet You, will focus on a different Capitol Hill archivist. I hope you enjoy getting to know them as much as I did!



Jolene Kennah
Archivist & Outreach Coordinator
Ted Stevens Foundation

I'm excited to be the new co-editor of the CPS newsletter! Although I did attend parts of SAA in Austin this year, I showed up too late to attend CPS Day. I did attend the Association of Centers for the Study of Congress (ACSC) meeting in Washington, D.C. last May, however, and met a few of the SAA-CPS folks while there. Hopefully, I'll be able to meet more of you at upcoming events! I hope to expand the newsletter's reach and to help further our goals of keeping SAA and the CPS section members up-to-date and excited about our field. Congressional papers can be very diverse, and I look forward to learning more about this subsection of the archival field and getting to know you other archivists out there! Thanks for having me!



Update from Electronic Records Commission

You may have seen the recent message from the Electronic Records Committee asking for your feedback about digital preservation challenges you've encountered in your work.

Is there a particular tool you've always wondered about, or are you using one that you think might be beneficial to your colleagues? Are you looking for more guidance in navigating the complexity of electronic records?

The committee urges everyone to participate in the survey at: https://delaware.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bOX66FluBpER7Ip.

Your responses will help inform our future content. The committee asks that anyone interested in participating please do so no later than Friday, November 8, 2019.

CHARMed To Meet You

By Dina Mazina

CHARM stands for Capitol Hill Archivists and Records Managers. It's a social group for individuals working in the field of archives and records management in Capitol Hill offices and institutions. Every issue, we'll profile a member of the group so that we can get to know more about them and their work on the Hill!

Sarah Schmitz

Archivist; United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Sarah Schmitz hails from Fort Worth, TX and studied at the University of Texas at Austin. She received her MLIS from the University of Maryland, College Park. Sarah began her archives journey in 2009, while working for the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP). After the death of the Committee's Chairman, Senator Ted Kennedy, Sarah worked closely with Committee Archivist, Will Arthur, to assist in the transfer of the Chairman's records to the National Archives. For several years, Sarah worked in legislative affairs, working at the White House and other organizations. She felt something was missing, so she asked herself a question about each position she held along the way: "What did I enjoy?" She liked working with the Committee records during her time with HELP, and she recognized her skills in getting information into an accessible and comprehensive package. From there, Sarah began to look into positions with the Library of Congress, and found that many of them required a Master's degree. From there, she applied and began classes at the University of Maryland's iSchool. During her time there she interned at the Center for Legislative Archives, the White House Historical Association, and the National Park Service. Just before graduating, she emailed Will Arthur and asked for advice on job hunting. He informed her that a position at the Commerce Committee had just opened up, and the rest, as they say, is history.

As the archivist for the Commerce Committee, Sarah processes all the Committee records and is responsible for the day-to-day records management of the office. When asked about her favorite parts of the job, she mentioned the historic gems she found working in her office, including a ticket to attend a State of the Union Address by the President Bill Clinton, a historic floorplan of the Dirksen Senate Building, and a humorous note from Senator Amy Klobuchar apologizing for accidentally eating another senator's hearing prop. Getting to see those individual glimpses into history makes the job interesting. She also mentioned the satisfaction of getting a large accession processed and sent to the National Archives, a sense of accomplishment I am sure many members of this group can relate to.

When asked what she wishes repository archivists would know about archiving on Capitol Hill, she mentioned how archivists here are also active records managers, interacting with current and former staff regularly and providing guidance on recordkeeping and the archives. She emphasized that repositories processing congressional collections should be wary to not put too much stock in original order or provenance, since staff rarely engage in purposeful arrangement of their own records. Often, custodianship of records moves between staffers with little documentation of that history.

Looking towards the future, Sarah is excited to make progress on her backlog. She recently created a comprehensive spreadsheet of all the Committee holdings and looks forward to continuing to update it and make it into a more accessible research tool for her staff. When not at work, she lives in DC with her husband and one-year-old son, Henry, and sings in a local DC choir, the 18th Street Singers.

Thanks Sarah, we're CHARMed to meet you!

Congress and the 19th Amendment

In recognition of this year's 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, we will be highlighting various stories of archival and repository involvement surrounding the history of women's suffrage.

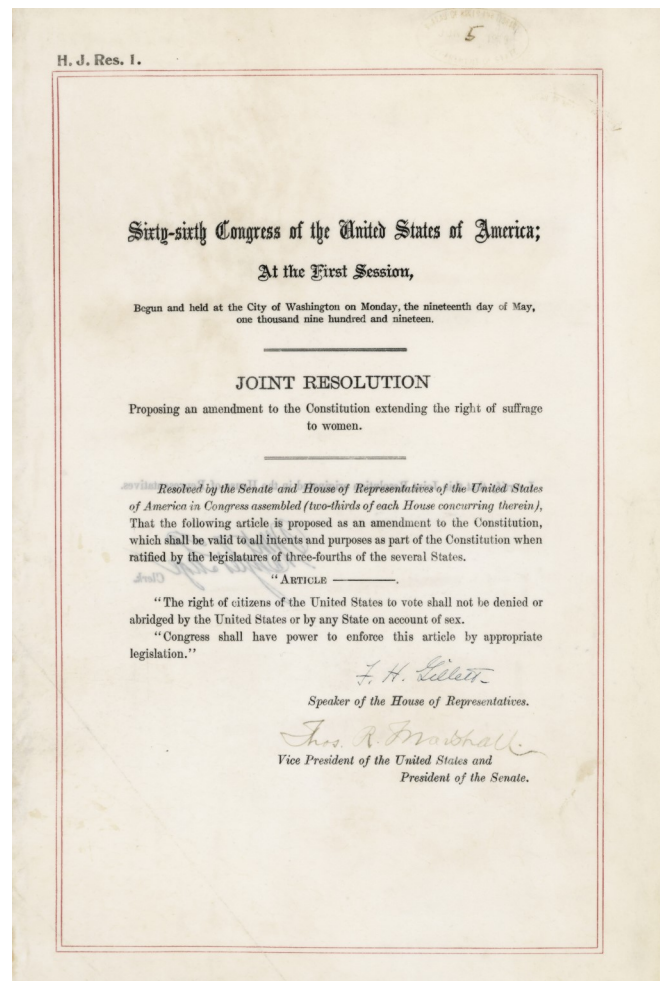
Senate Historical Office Researches the fight for Women's Suffrage

By Dina Mazina

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment. In commemoration, the Senate Historical Office (SHO) has planned a number of related events and a web feature. I spoke with Mary Baumann at SHO about her and the other historians' research process for this project.

It began with a planning meeting to discuss the types of projects the SHO wanted to pursue, what formats and events they wanted to use in order to show the history of women's suffrage. They decided that the commemoration would include several talks, a special tour, and a web feature; and lead into a future oral history project focused on women senators and top female Senate staff. Of course, it was important to utilize the many primary sources available to the public on the history of the 19th Amendment and show the role the Senate played in the amendment's passage.

Baumann and her office began by looking at published Senate materials, such as hearings, reports, and transcripts of congressional debates on the subject. They worked with the Center for Legislative Archives to obtain records from the Select Committee on Women's Suffrage, created in 1882, most of which were petitions from the public submitted to the Committee by various senators. Next, the SHO staff looked at the congressional papers of several senators, including William Borah of Idaho and John Sharp Williams of Mississippi, located at the Library of Congress. These collections consisted of a greater variety of record types, such as correspondence with suffragists, responses from the senators, and speeches. Baumann and her colleagues also found excellent Senate-related records in repositories holding institutional



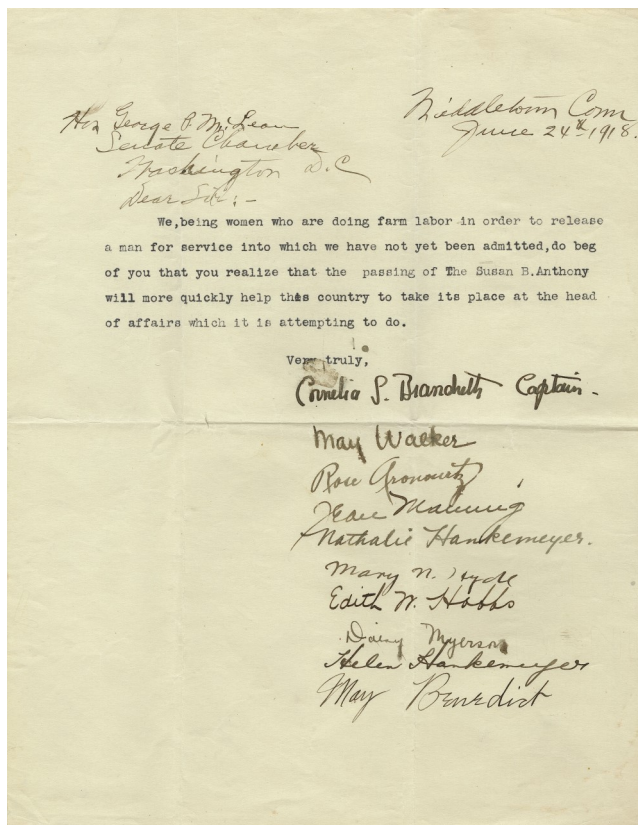
19th Amendment Redline.

collections from suffragist organizations, such as the Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument and the Library of Congress.

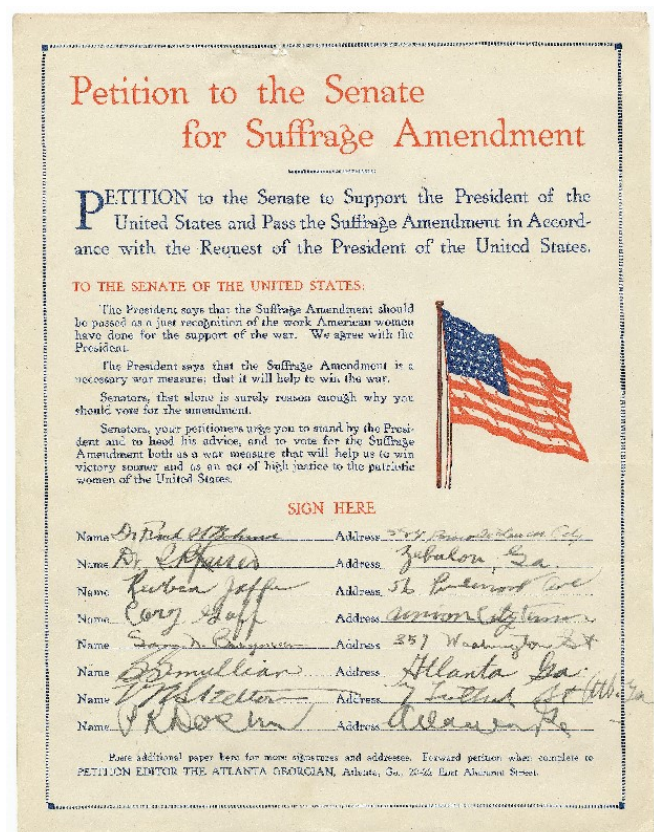
Baumann said what surprised her most about the research was exploring the arguments for and against women's suffrage, particularly the ways that the issue of race became a major component of the debates. It was also surprising

to see anti-suffrage women arguing against their own voting rights, engaging with their senators through their right to petition only to assert that it was not the place of women to engage in political discourse. She was also impressed at the high level of organization the various suffrage organizations developed, and how they honed their lobbying skills and tactics during the long fight for the right to vote.

The Senate Historical Office is far from done commemorating the passage of the 19th Amendment. 2020 will see even more talks, as well as an online feature on "The Women of the Senate."



Petition from Middleton, CT on women doing farm work during World War I, 1918



Petition to the Senate for Suffrage Amendment, 1918

Congress and the 19th Amendment



Suffrage Parade Boat Float, 1900. Photo by Ken Florey Suffrage Collection/Gado/Getty Images. Courtesy of E.M. Kennedy Institute.

Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United State Senate

By Caroline Angel Burke and Miles Halpine

The Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate is pleased to announce a new program illuminating how Americans have influenced the U.S. Senate in order to effect change. The new program, titled *The Citizens' Senate: Women's Fight for Suffrage*, will focus on women's right to vote as secured by the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920. The Citizens' Senate program will explore how women organized, lobbied, and protested the government during the final decade of the suffrage movement (1910-1920). The program will also examine the politics inside the suffrage movement, including the organizational rivalries between--and among--groups involved in the fight to secure women's right to vote.

At the heart of Citizens' Senate is a twenty-minute presentation that will include live performances of historic speeches originally delivered by suffragists and elected officials. The presentation, which includes a short documentary film that blends narration, historic film footage, and archival images, will immerse Institute visitors in the drama and arguments surrounding the issue. Following the film and live performances, Institute staff will facilitate reflection and discussion about the presentation's core messages and themes. The project engages visitors in the question that is fundamental to the social contract: who is allowed to participate in American democracy and why? In the context of Citizens' Senate, this question not only refers to the struggle of women to be treated as full citizens but also the struggle of women of color within the suffrage movement itself to be recognized and heard.

In addition to being added to the Institute's daily program offerings, Citizens' Senate is designed to align with the new history and social studies curriculum framework adopted by the Massachusetts Department of Secondary and Elementary Education. University of Massachusetts Boston Professor Roberta Wollons, Ph.D. is serving as project scholar for the initiative. Archival images and footage will be drawn from the collections of the Library of Congress and various collections archived by the National Woman's Party.

Citizens' Senate will premiere at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute in January 2020 and is made possible through the generous support of Mass Humanities and the Barbara Lee Family Foundation.

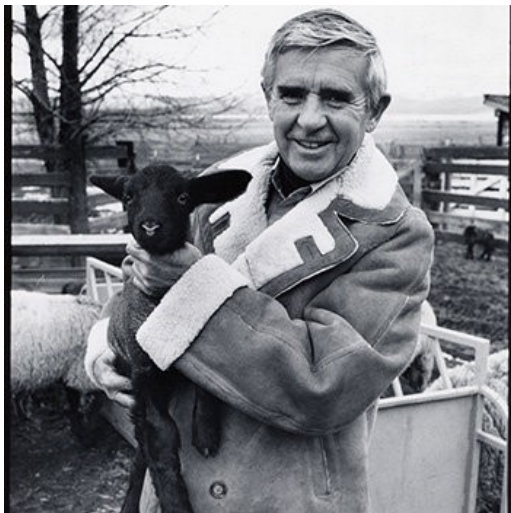
Institutional Updates

University of Nevada, Reno

By Jacque Sundstrand

How was one conservative Republican U.S. Senator from Nevada, which is comprised mostly of public lands, able to work with a majority Democratic Congress to get things done? U.S. Senator Paul Laxalt served two terms in the Senate (1974-1986), the only Basque-American to do so, and chose the University Libraries' [Special Collections and University Archives Department](#) at the University of Nevada, in which to deposit his personal congressional papers of approximately 850 linear feet. Thanks to funding provided by the [Institute of Museum and Library Services](#) through the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the [Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records](#); the Paul Laxalt U.S. Senatorial Papers are now organized and open for [research](#). The papers provide numerous research opportunities for users wanting to understand Laxalt's former legislative role not only in its original context, but also in the context of how it shaped events and issues that this country is still experiencing today.

The Laxalt Papers contain important decisions on issues of public lands in the American West during the 1980s—including the Sagebrush Rebellion and the proposed MX Missile system.



U.S. Senator and Basque-American Paul Laxalt with a lamb during a visit to a Nevada ranch.



Ronald Reagan and Paul Laxalt shaking hands in the Oval Office after Reagan became President in 1981.

Laxalt, a close confidant and informal advisor to President Reagan, was a proponent of the Sagebrush Rebellion, which favored transfer of public lands to state and local control. At the same time, Laxalt opposed an increase of MX Missiles to Western state. Despite his dedication to the president, Laxalt became the leading opposition to the MX project, swayed by the popular opinions of his state's constituents.

The collection also sheds light on the federal legislative processes and decision-making including uses of public lands for such things as: cattle ranching; wild horses and burros; the care and preservation of native and endangered species; land swaps; land claims and uses by Native Americans; mining and power companies; and the use and allocation of water in arid areas. Historically, public land management has been an issue in the West and will continue to be so into the foreseeable future. Recently, the incidents with the Bundy family have reignited debates about who should administer public lands in the West—individual states or the federal government.

Processing of a previous portion of Senator Laxalt's papers, which dealt with his professional

Institutional Updates

University of Nevada, Reno cont.

relationship with Ronald Reagan, was completed by Special Collections and University Libraries in 2016. Funding for this project also came to the University Libraries through the same funder mentioned above.

Laxalt, often referred to as the “First Friend” of President Reagan, assisted Reagan with his campaign and later re-election for President of the United States. With both groups of files now completed, researchers can see the totality of Laxalt’s influence in Washington as well as Republican Party politics within this manuscript collection.

Laxalt’s political life in Nevada goes back to 1951 when he became the District Attorney of Ormsby County. In 1963 until 1967, he was Lieutenant Governor, then became Nevada’s 22nd Governor from 1967-1971. He decided to run for the U.S. Senate and was elected in 1974 for two terms, leaving office in 1987.

Those interested in using or learning more about the Paul Laxalt Senatorial Papers collection can view the University Libraries [finding aid](#) for this collection online. Assistance is also available in-person or by phone. Contact the University Libraries Special Collections and University Archives Department via email at specoll@unr.edu or phone at 775-682-5665.



The Doy Leale McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library University of South Alabama

By Kristina Polizzi

The Doy Leale McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library was created in 1978 at the University of South Alabama in Mobile, Alabama. Since then it has grown to be one of the largest photographic archives on the Gulf Coast. We house over 1.3 million negatives. In 2011 we relieved the McCall Collection (which we were then named after) worth \$3.1 million. This collection follows twelve Alabama families from the early 18th century until the present day. It covers slavery, plantations, industry and more. We also have a large collection of Civil Rights documents, including Brown v. The Board of Education and the Birdie Mae Davis case. We also house university collections, collections on the Civil War, WWII, local community groups and organizations, and three sets of congressional papers. Overall, the photographic collections are our most well-known as they are used in publications around the world; especially our images of Cudjo Lewis from Africatown. The McCall Collection is halfway processed and is used on a regular basis by researchers from around the world.

Our first congressional set of papers was of Jack Edwards. He served in the U.S. House of Representatives, Alabama’s District 1 from 1964 to 1984. The papers span Edwards’ entire twenty-year congressional career, and include: congressional office and subject files; constituent correspondence; departmental documents; files related to the operation of his congressional office; appointment books for 1965 through 1981; and papers related to his district visits.

The material is supplemented by Republican Party and convention materials, as well as by speeches, legislation, news releases, voting records, photographs, and audio and video cassettes. Of particular interest

Institutional Updates

University of South Alabama cont.

are files related to: Edwards' Defense Appropriations Subcommittee assignment; his stint as vice-chair of the Republican Conference; the Vietnam War; school busing and desegregation; George Wallace for President campaign; the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway and other waterways in the First District; and matters related to the Watergate scandal, including the impeachment proceedings and later pardon of Richard Nixon. It also includes a five-volume memoir (typescript) of his life, written by Edwards and a CD containing scanned photos he collected of the aftermath of Hurricane Frederic.

In 2002 we received the records from the Washington, D.C., and Mobile offices of Congressman Herbert Leon "Sonny" Callahan, who served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1985 to 2003. It includes documents on a myriad of subjects. Material includes correspondence, photographs, files related to federal departments, material from the Foreign Operations and Energy and Water subcommittees, newspaper clippings, tapes, etc.

Callahan began his political career in 1970 when he was elected to the Alabama House as a Democrat. He served in that body until 1978 when he was elected to the Alabama Senate. His tenure with the U.S. House of Representatives began on January 3, 1985 when the Alabama Republican Party asked him to run under their banner for the seat being vacated by the retiring Jack Edwards. During his congressional career, he served under four presidents - Ronald Reagan, George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush. His first committee assignments included the Committee on Public Works and Transportation and the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Our final congressional collection came to us in 2013 after it was transferred from the federal government depository in Suitland, MD. Jo Bonner (b. 1959) was born in Selma but reared in Camden. He is the son of Josiah Robins Bonner Sr. and Imogene Virginia Lyons. Bonner received a journalism degree from the University of Alabama in 1982. In 1984 he became the campaign press secretary for former U.S. congressman Sonny Callahan. When Callahan announced his retirement in 2002, Bonner ran for the seat and won.

Last month we received an addendum to this collection. The main problem with this vast collection was it came to us separated into series but without a finding aid. When we received it Bonner was informed that without money donated to expedite the processing of this collection it would be left as-is for the near future. He said that was okay and we have not done any additional processing to it. Our goal here in the future is to create a finding aid and to see what needs to be rehoused.

We recently held an event celebrating one of our newer acquisitions of the Palaemon Press Limited. This unique collection came to us along with twenty photographs taken by Eudora Welty during the Depression. These are currently on display in our library along with two photographic exhibits designed to complement the Welty Photographs. We are slated to receive a large southern writer's collection from a former faculty member and Alabama Poet Laureate, Sue Brannan Walker. We are also hoping to acquire a new photographic collection that will double our holdings, from one of Mobile's premier photographers of the 20th century.

We have a small full-time staff of three: Deborah Gurt our Processing and Digital Archivist; Michael Campbell, a Library Technical Assistant I; and myself, Kristina Polizzi, a Library Technical Assistant II. Like a lot of archives we depend on student workers and volunteers to help us fill in the gaps of coverage. We have been blessed with several great student workers over the years. Currently we have Chris Stanford who has been with us off and on for five years. Chris can handle anything we throw at him and we greatly appreciate his dedication to the archive. We also have Emily Ensor-Gibson who has been instrumental in transcribing our railroad social security cards and creating an index for one of our negative collections. Our final student worker is on an endowment and has been busy digitizing two of our larger negative collections this summer.

Institutional Updates

Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration

The Center for Legislative Archives, a part of the National Archives and Records Administration, preserves and makes available to researchers the historical records of the U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. Senate, legislative branch agencies, and legislative commissions. The records of the House and Senate comprise approximately 180,000 cubic feet (450 million pages) of textual records and 78 terabytes of electronic records and represent the majority of the Center's holdings. The Center works closely with the House and Senate to accession new records; loan records back to the House and Senate; process, describe, and preserve records; and provide reference and outreach services. For more information about the Center, please visit our website: <https://www.archives.gov/legislative>.

The Center recently completed two electronic records projects that we hope will be of broad interest to the congressional records community. The Center completed its seventh capture of congressional websites, adding the 115th Congress web harvest to its archive of congressional websites from the 109th-115th Congress (2005-2018). Partnering with the Internet Archive, the Center preserved over 407 million URLs (i.e. unique webpages) totaling over 61 terabytes of web data from the 115th Congress. The Congressional Web Archive is available for research use at <http://www.webharvest.gov>.

The Center recently hosted two cross-trainees as part of the National Archives' Cross Training Development Program. The cross-trainees helped the Center process and describe over 1,100 Senate hearing videos from the 111th and 112th Congresses (2009-2012) while gaining invaluable experience working with born-digital moving image records. The Senate hearing video descriptions are being added to the National Archives Catalog: https://catalog.archives.gov/search?q=*&f.creatorIds=74236847.

University of Delaware

By L. Rebecca Johnson Melvin

The news from the University of Delaware is that, several times in the past year, we've been able to take advantage of the expertise of our archival colleagues in D.C. to understand the records we work with and to open advisory conversations with members of Delaware's Congressional delegation about current records management and future preservation of their personal papers. This brief report is a reminder to CPS that one of the outstanding benefits of our section is the opportunity to tap into the networks we have with each other, across repositories, and especially with our friends in the Senate, the House, and the Center for Legislative Archives (CLA) at the National Archives and Records Administration.

In one ongoing processing project, we have encountered a substantial amount of suspected committee records. It is standard to repeat to our donors (and to ourselves) the explanation that personal papers of members of Congress exclude committee records. Committee records are part of the official records of Congress and they are governed by Rule VII, Rules of the House of Representatives (overseen by the Office of the Clerk), and Rules XI and XXVI, Senate Standing Rules (overseen by the Secretary of the Senate). The official, noncurrent records of Congress are also governed by federal statutes in the U.S. Code:

- 44 U.S.C. § 2118. RECORDS OF CONGRESS
- 2 U.S.C. § 72a. COMMITTEE STAFFS
- (d) RECORDATION OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS, DATA, ETC.; ACCESS TO RECORDS
- 18 U.S.C. § 641. PUBLIC MONEY, PROPERTY OR RECORDS
- 18 U.S.C. § 2071. CONCEALMENT, REMOVAL, OR MUTILATION GENERALLY

Institutional Updates

University of Delaware cont.

Yet many of us (processing archivists) still end up with collections of personal papers with suspected committee records and uncertainty about what's what and "do we really have to send this back?". Because committee archivists are still not available for every committee, it's not unusual that committee records were not "kept separate and distinct from the congressional office of the Member serving as chairman of the committee." And personal staff have such loyalty to their Member, there is still a strong belief that everything is "personal papers."

Strategy 1: To help identify official records, we have found the Congressional Staff Directory an invaluable source to identify staff members employed by a committee and to reconstruct the Member's subcommittee assignments. It is not unusual to find staff with changing assignments and to find intermixed topical research files that may have supported either the Member's committee work or their office legislative staff assistants. When possible, we've used provenance by committee staff member and dates to make a call on whether we have committee records or office papers.

Strategy 2: We took a series of photographs of representative document types and shared a slide show with our experts on the Hill. Prior to another meeting in Washington, we had a chance to meet in the Senate Historical Office with archivists Karen Paul and Alison White. Their feedback on our selection was very helpful, confirming committee work in some cases and agreeing on Delaware content in other cases.

Strategy 3: We visited CLA to see some bona fide committee records. Richard Hunt, Director of the Center for Legislative Archives, connected us with reference archivist Sarah Waitz. Sarah pulled subcommittee records of interest and in viewing files, we saw familiar document types and information that has reinforced our identification of administrative, correspondence, legislative, subject, hearing, and official communications. The experience of perusing records with Sarah gave us the valuable perspective of being the researcher and this generated a great conversation about her reference support for congressional research. Sarah shared a checklist of her top online resources and we hope to recruit her for a reference workshop for CPS the next time we meet in Washington.

Strategy 4: Related to the first strategy, we've been reconstructing provenance for some of the suspected committee records by reassembling accession records associated with boxes that were transferred from Suitland, MD. Not all boxes contain records from a single desk or staffer, but by re-grouping the sequentially accessioned boxes, we've been able to reconstitute provenance and relationships between files from committee staffers.

CPS programs frequently mention the adage "early and often" in relation to conversations with prospective donors of congressional papers. We are finding that records management conversations are helping us along the way, and we have certainly taken advantage of the groundwork done by our colleagues on the Hill. In the state office, we have met with the home staff and shared a sort of "briefing book" with collected guidelines and glossaries from the Senate, the House, and publications. Most important of all, some of our members' staff met with Karen Paul and Alison White, and they clearly listened. Another member received management advice for House offices from Heather Bourk. The overlapping information and network of support between the Hill and our institution has been really helpful. We've kept our archival colleagues up to date on our advisory meetings, and feel that we are making intermittent but ongoing progress with these records management/potential donor conversations.

So that's some news from Delaware, where we are gratefully taking advantage of expertise from our friends.

Institutional Updates

Albert Gore Research Center , Middle Tennessee State University

By Louis M. Kyriakoudes, Ph.D.

New Acquisitions and Archival Projects

The Albert Gore Research Center <<https://www.mtsu.edu/gorecenter/index.php>> is a political and regional history archive at Middle Tennessee State University named in honor of Senator Albert Gore, Sr., a 1932 graduate of the University. The Gore Center holds seven major congressional collections, including the House and Senate papers of Albert Gore, Sr., as well as other extensive regional collections.

The Gore Center recently acquired the Johnny Hayes Political Memorabilia Collection. Johnny Hayes was a Tennessee businessman who served as a leading fundraiser for the Tennessee Democratic Party from 1976 until his untimely death in 2008. Notably, he chaired the financial committee of each of Al Gore's campaigns from his successful campaign for the House of Representatives in 1976 to the Gore-Lieberman presidential campaign in 2000. Along the way, Mr. Hayes collected a massive collection of other campaign materials documenting 19th and 20th century Tennessee politics, with the oldest materials reaching back to the presidency of Andrew Jackson. The collection is particularly strong in New Deal-era and post-World War II campaign materials. The collection also includes Mr. Hayes's papers documenting his own fundraising and campaign management activities.

The Gore Center's collection mission also extends to collecting the records of nongovernmental human rights and advocacy organizations. Recently the Center acquired the records of OutCentral, an LGBT+ advocacy organization that served the greater Nashville, Tennessee region. The collection contains business records, ephemera, photographs, newsletters, organizational records and other publications documenting the history of Nashville's LGBT+ community in the 1980s and 1990s.

In September, the Gore Center and Middle Tennes-



Tennessee's senior Senator, Lamar Alexander, views Tennessee campaign sheet music in the Johnny Hayes Political Memorabilia Collection with Gore Center Director, Louis M. Kyriakoudes. Photo courtesy of the Albert Gore Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University.

see State University hosted a visit from former Vice President of the United States, Al Gore. He visited the Gore Center and viewed archival materials from his father's papers. He then he joined Prof. Anthony Badger, the eminent political historian and author of *Albert Gore, Sr.: A Political Life* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2018), in a panel discussion about his father's political career. Before a packed house of eight hundred, Badger and Gore discussed the elder Gore's career, his mother Pauline Gore's important role in campaigning and policy formation, Tennessee political history, and the challenges posed by the global climate emergency. In his recollections of his parents, Al Gore shared new stories about how his mother fostered bipartisan cooperation. Keel Hunt, a historian of Tennessee politics, picked up on these revelations and saw in them hope for cooperation across the partisan divide for our current politics.

Institutional Updates

Albert Gore Research Center cont.

You can read his Nashville *Tennessean* Op/Ed here <<https://www.tennessean.com/story/opinion/columnists/2019/09/20/al-gore-howard-baker-pauline-gore-tennessee-politics-keel-hunt/2364244001/>>

You can view the complete program at the Gore Center's YouTube page here: <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Q7xNOGRSD8&t=4791s>>



Former Vice President Al Gore, center, answers a question Monday, Sept. 16, during a public forum at Middle Tennessee State University with historian Anthony Badger, second from left, to discuss Badger's new biography on Gore's father, the late U.S. Sen. Albert Gore Sr. Also participating in the panel were Louis Kyriakoudes, left, director of the Albert Gore Research Center; Mary Evins, history professor and director of the American Democracy Project at MTSU, center right; and Kent Syler, right, MTSU political science professor. Photo courtesy of J. Intintoli, Middle Tennessee State University.

The Gore Center's archivist-scholars, Sarah Calise and Donna Baker, recently authored a National Council on Public History peer-reviewed blog post, "A Redemptive Model of Labor: Documenting Student Activism at Middle Tennessee State" <<https://ncph.org/history-at-work/archives-student-activism-mtsu/>>. Calise and Baker recount their work in "rapid response archiving" during renewed student activism and protest over the University's history of Confederate monuments on campus. Baker and Calise created the Forrest Hall Protest Collection, <<http://digital.mtsu.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/p15838coll11>> a comprehensive digital archive documenting the history of student protest against Confederate and white supremacist imagery at MTSU.

Louis M. Kyriakoudes, Ph.D.

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