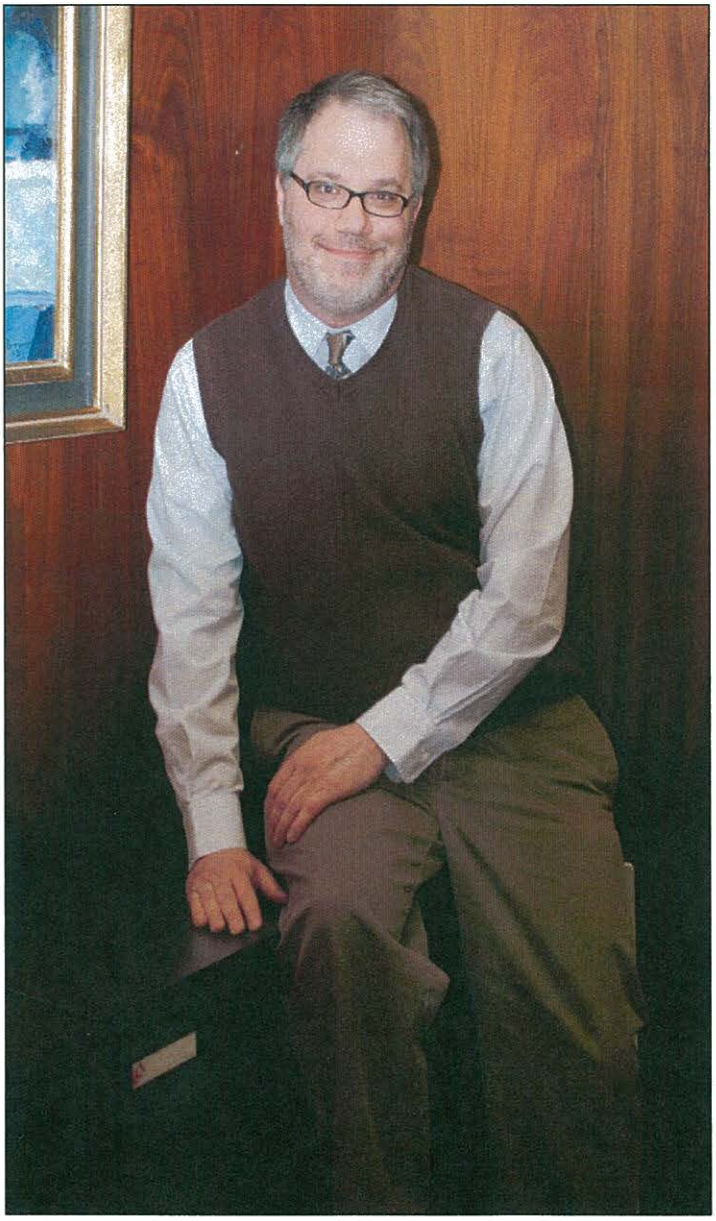
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ANNUAL REPORT

2013

Looking Back: Highlights

Special Collections enjoyed another successful year in 2012–2013. Numerous researchers were served by Special Collections through programming, research assistance, instruction, exhibits, digital projects, online research tools, and publications. A leadership change occurred after the retirement of Tom Dillard in early 2012. Assistant Special Collections Head Timothy G. Nutt served as interim head, and in September 2012, he was selected for the permanent position after a national search.



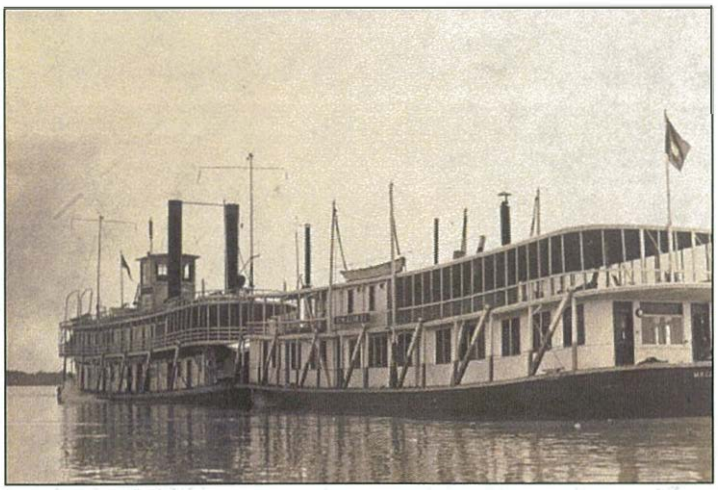
Timothy G. Nutt, Head of Special Collections.

Special Collections received a planning grant from the Arkansas Humanities Council to inventory and assess the physical condition of two important collections related to Arkansas music: the Florence Price Papers Addendum (MC 988a) and the Inspiration Point Fine Arts Colony Records (MC 1949), also known as Opera in the Ozarks. Special Collections is collaborating with the Department of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures on a grant project to translate, transcribe, and digitize materials from the Core Family Papers (MC 1380) pertaining to Arkansas Post, the first French settlement west of the Mississippi established in 1686.

Queen of the night from Mozart's *Magic Flute*, Opera of the Ozarks, Inspiration Point Fine Arts Colony Records (MC 1949).

Manuscripts Unit

Thirty-five manuscript collections, totaling 623.65 linear feet, were added to Special Collections' holdings. Twenty-seven manuscript collections were processed, totaling 1,174.35 linear feet. The Department added 560 books to its holdings, including the Margaret Smith Ross book collection that focuses on genealogy and Arkansas history. This collection of over 300 titles provides invaluable

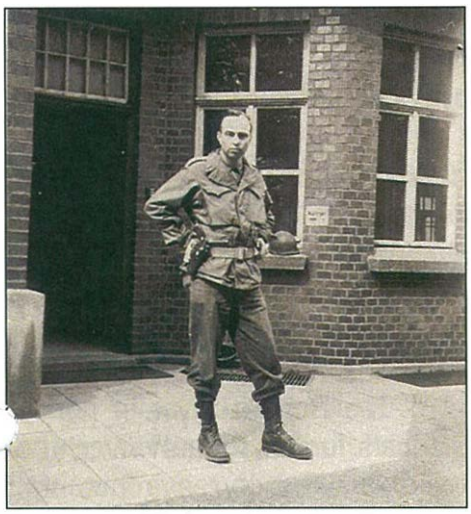


Steamers *Inspector* and *Summer Girl*, 1927, from the Harold Denton Albrecht photographs (MC 1695).

information. Ross was the librarian for the *Arkansas Gazette* and was well known in genealogical circles.

A few examples of significant collections opened for research include the Harold Denton Albrecht Photographs (MC 1695), the George D. Walker Papers (MC 1802), and the Trulock Family Collection (MC 1965). Harold Albrecht was a native of Dermott, Arkansas, a University of Arkansas alumnus, and an engineer with the Merchant Marines and the Radio Corporation of America (RCA). He invented radio transmitters to aid the Resistance during the Spanish Civil War and narrowly evaded capture by Franco's forces. The Albrecht photographs include two albums with photographs of paddle boats and scenes on the Mississippi River, the University of Arkansas campus and students, as well as scenes of Europe, ca. 1925-1937.

The Walker collection chronicles an Eastern Arkansas lawyer's involvement in the United States Army Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) tracking down Nazis in newly liberated areas.



George D. Walker, from the George D. Walker Papers (MC 1802).

The Trulock collection contains correspondence, deeds, financial materials, and photographs chronicling the history of this legendary southeast Arkansas family and documenting Antebellum Arkansas plantation life.

Vera Ekechukwu, Catherine Wallack, Todd Lewis, and Krista Oldham, along with our student employees, worked diligently to organize our archival materials. The Honors College once again generously funded three intern positions that allowed those students to work closely with archival materials.

Research Services Unit

Research services served 3,778 researchers, including 130 faculty members, 112 graduate students, and 140 undergraduate students from the University. University students, faculty, staff, and alumni comprised 40% of patrons served; 11% were from businesses, media, government agencies, libraries, museums, etc.; and 28% were from the general public. The unit conducted 1,094 research consultations. Staff made 14,879 photocopies and prepared 289 digital scans for patrons. These averaged 1,240 photocopies and 24 scans per month. Additionally, staff helped patrons scan or photograph 18,284 items with their own equipment.

The Special Collections' website was accessed more than 130,000 times. In addition to the main page and manuscripts index page, the Fay Jones project page and finding aid and the Daisy Bates finding aid were the most heavily trafficked pages. The ContentDM digital collections, including *40-50-100: Milestones in Arkansas's Environmental History*; *A Calm Voice in a Strident World: Senator J.W. Fulbright Speaks*; *Land of (Unequal) Opportunity: Documenting the Civil Rights Struggle in Arkansas*; and many others, received 71,695 page views.

Researchers accessed more than 4,000 archival boxes, 2,000 items in the Arkansas Collection, and 1,200 maps and photographs. Our patrons represented 14 countries, 1 U.S. territory, and 42 of the 50 United States. This year, the most heavily-used manuscript collections were (in rank order):

1. Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (MC 468)
2. Council for International Exchange of Scholars, CIES Records (MC 703)
3. Fay Jones Papers (MC 1373)
4. J. William Fulbright Papers (MC MS/F956/144/Fulbright)
5. Edward Durrell Stone Papers (MS St71/236

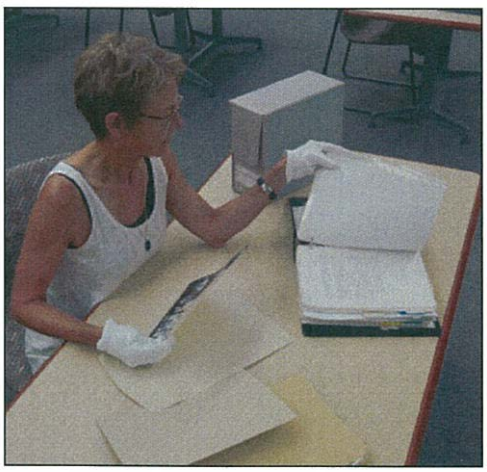
Stone and MC 340)

6. Orval E. Faubus Papers (MC MS/F27/301/FAUBUS) tied with the William Grant Still and Verna Arvey Papers (MC 1125)
7. University of Arkansas Folklore Class Reports (MC F16)
8. WPA (Works Progress Administration) Historical Records Survey (MSH 62)
9. Washington County Historical Society Papers (MC 1368)
10. Margaret Smith Ross Papers (MC 1587) tied with the Daisy Bates Collection (MC 582)

Researchers used and cited Special Collections' materials in at least six books, two papers and presentations, one book chapter, seven journal and periodical articles, four websites, one public event, one audio publication, three exhibits outside of the library, six exhibits in the Department, three on the lobby level of the Libraries, and three in the Walton Reading Room.

The number of classes on campus remained the same, at twenty-one, but more students were reached. An increase in the number of speaking engagements off campus brought Special Collections resources and archival instruction to hundreds of members of the community. The Department also began offering more training for Special Collections and Libraries' staff.

A number of researchers spent considerable time working in Special Collections, including Patsy Watkins, Jerry Hogan, Linda Jones, and the family of Bruce Neal Choate—just to name a few.



Patsy Watkins, professor of journalism at the University of Arkansas.

Patsy Watkins, chair of the University's Department of Journalism, researched photograph collections for a project sponsored by Special Collections to develop an index of Arkansas photograph collections. Jerry Hogan is a familiar figure in Special Collections, pursuing his passion for local and state history. Linda Jones and her associates from the Department of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures were frequent visitors to Special Collections in conjunction with a project to translate, transcribe, and digitize materials in the Core Family Papers. The daughters of Bruce Neal Choate discovered the existence of their father's papers in Special Collections by searching Google. During their visit, they were visibly moved reading his letters concerning his wartime experiences, including his captivity and involvement in the Battle of Bataan.

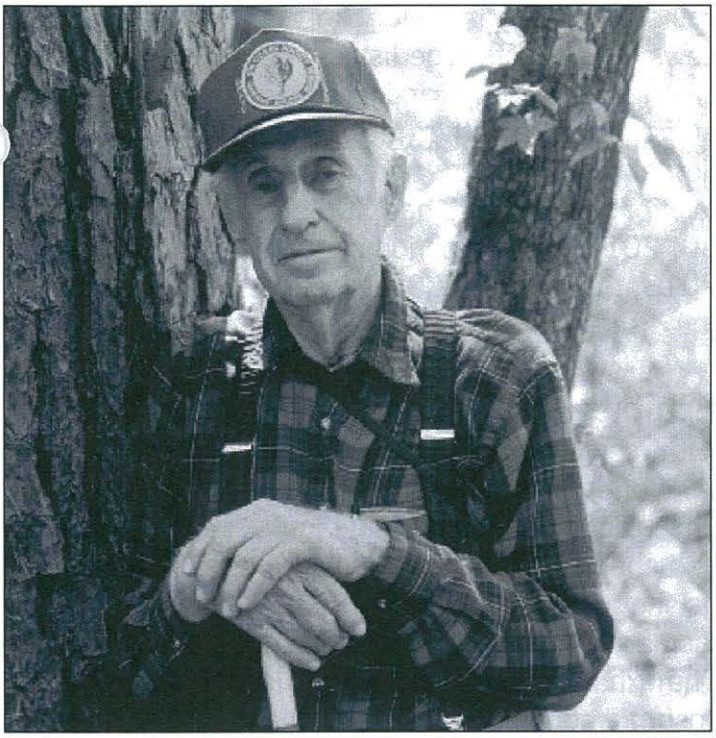
Special Collections Head Timothy G. Nutt assists the daughters of Bruce Neal Choate, as they view their father's letters for the first time.

Index Arkansas, an online index of Arkansas publications sponsored by the Special Collections Department, was brought online in 2004-2005 and is continually updated. A record number of researchers consulted *Index Arkansas* this year. *Index* searches totaled 46,862, a 44% increase over the previous year.

Digitization Projects

Special Collections has a number of ongoing digitization projects. Those completed in 2012-2013 include:

40-50-100: Milestones in Arkansas's Environmental History contains nearly 40 images and documents regarding three anniversaries, including the 1972 establishment of the Buffalo River in northern Arkansas as America's first "national" river; the 1962 creation of the Ozark Society environmental group; and the 1912 birth of Dr. Neil Compton, the founding president of the Ozark Society. This project



Neil Compton, from the 40-50-100 digital collection.

was undertaken in conjunction with a program held in Mullins Library and a similar exhibit at Compton Gardens in Bentonville.

Fruit-full Arkansas: Apples was the result of a collaboration between Special Collections and the library at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. This digital collection contains 69 items related to apple production in Arkansas, such as folklore, souvenir booklets, poetry, photographs, speeches, and other documents. It also includes images of apples from color plates in historic nursery catalogs held by the Crystal Bridges library.

Janet Parsch led the Special Collections digital projects. Martha Parker (Librarian in Residence) served two rotations in Special Collections and contributed greatly to our successful digital projects, among her other duties.

Programming and Outreach

The Department celebrated American Archives Month in October 2012 with an open house and program featuring Ernie Dumas, journalist and editor of *Dearest Letty: The World War II Love Letters of Sgt. Leland Duvall*. American Archives Month, a collaborative effort by professional organizations to raise awareness of the value of archivists and archival materials, is celebrated nationally each October. The Trulock family of Pine Bluff attended the event to donate the family archive of antebellum letters that documents plantation life in southeast Arkansas in the 1850s and 1860s.

Approximately 100 people enjoyed a reception

David Trulock (left) and Jeff Trulock (right), descendants of James Trulock and Amanda Beardsley Trulock, donated antebellum letters (MC 1965) documenting Arkansas plantation life at the October 2012 Archives Month event.

and program at Mullins Library on September 19, 2012, titled "40-50-100: Milestones in Arkansas's Environmental History." The occasion celebrated the 100th anniversary of Neil Compton's birth, the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Ozark Society, and the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Buffalo River as the first national river.

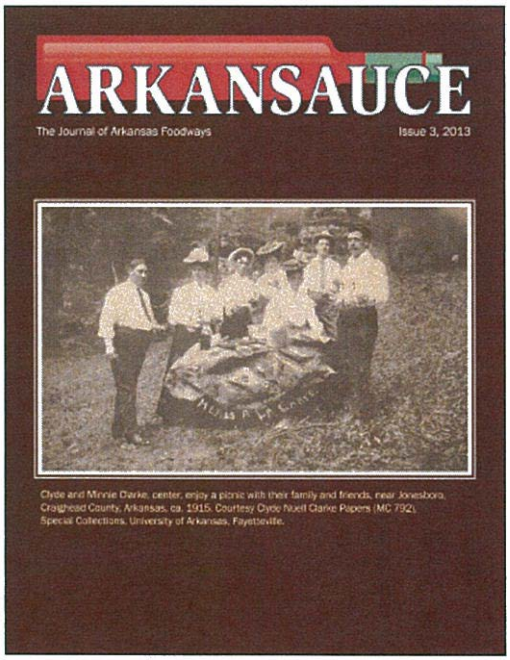
Special Collections greatly assisted Compton

Swimmers on the Buffalo River, ca. 1965, Neil Compton Papers (MC 1091).

Gardens with their August 2012 event celebrating Neil Compton's life by providing materials for a permanent exhibit. Special Collections employees who worked on the project included Catherine Wallack, Janet Parsch, Ellen Compton, Tim Nutt, Joshua Youngblood, Jordan Johnson, Geoffery Stark, and Megan Massanelli.

The Department published an issue of its newsletter, *The Arkansian*, an Arkansas history publication launched in 2007. *The Arkansian* features Special Collections news, significant collections, upcoming events, notable books, interesting researchers, historic photographs, and an Arkansas history quiz. The newsletter generates much interest and positive publicity for the Department. Diane Worrell serves as editor.

In early 2013, Special Collections published its third annual issue of *Arkansauce: The Journal of Arkansas Foodways*. Tom and Mary Dillard served as guest editors. The popularity of this publication continues to grow. Each time an issue of *Arkansauce* is published, people from all walks of life contact the Department with praise or requests for subscriptions. Numerous readers described the journal as "wonderful" or "outstanding." Carol Gruensburg, editor of the online magazine, *American Food Roots*, said *Arkansauce* was a "delight" and would be featured in the online magazine's "Good Reads" column. "You and your colleagues deserve a heapin' helping of praise," said Gruensburg. Diane Worrell serves as managing editor of *Arkansauce*.



Cover of *Arkansauce*, issue 3, 2013.

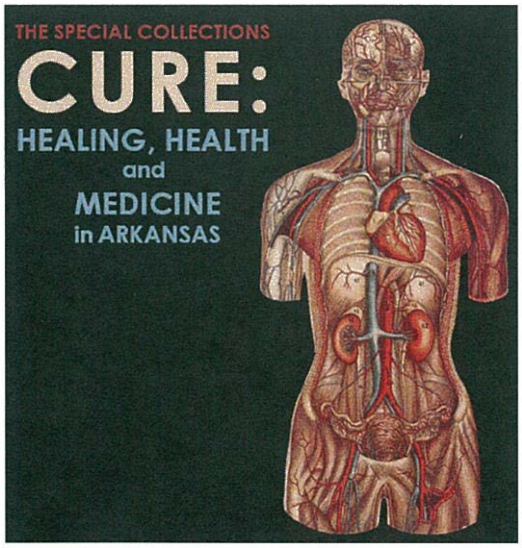
One of the most important initiatives of Special Collections has been the 2006 establishment and continued sponsorship of the Arkansas History Discussion Group (AR-HIST-L), an online listserv devoted to Arkansas history topics, announcements, news, and events. The listserv generates discussion among professional and amateur Arkansas history buffs as well as other researchers seeking information about Arkansas. An excellent avenue for public relations, AR-HIST-L had 306 subscribers as of June 30, 2013. For the period of July 1, 2012–June 30, 2013, there were 17,975 postings and responses to the discussion group.

Exhibits

The Special Collections' exhibit committee has done an extraordinary job of creating exhibits and changing them on a regular basis. These exhibits showcase the holdings of Special Collections and increase our visibility across campus and the state. The exhibit committee includes Catherine Wallack, Joshua Youngblood, Krista Oldham, Valerie Robertson, and Megan Massanelli. Some of the exhibits this year included:

Internment and Heroism: Images of Japanese Americans during World War II from Special Collections (Special Collections Hallway, 5/15/2012-Present)
During World War II, more than 20,000 Japanese Americans were involuntarily interned in camps in Arkansas under the War Relocation Authority. The exhibit includes images, government documents, camp newsletters, school yearbooks, and more.

CURE: Healing, Health and Medicine in Arkansas (Special Collections Entry, 4/1/2013-8/30/2013)
This exhibit explored the ways attitudes toward medicine have evolved in Arkansas over the last two centuries and presented an assortment of documents, photographs, and rare books.

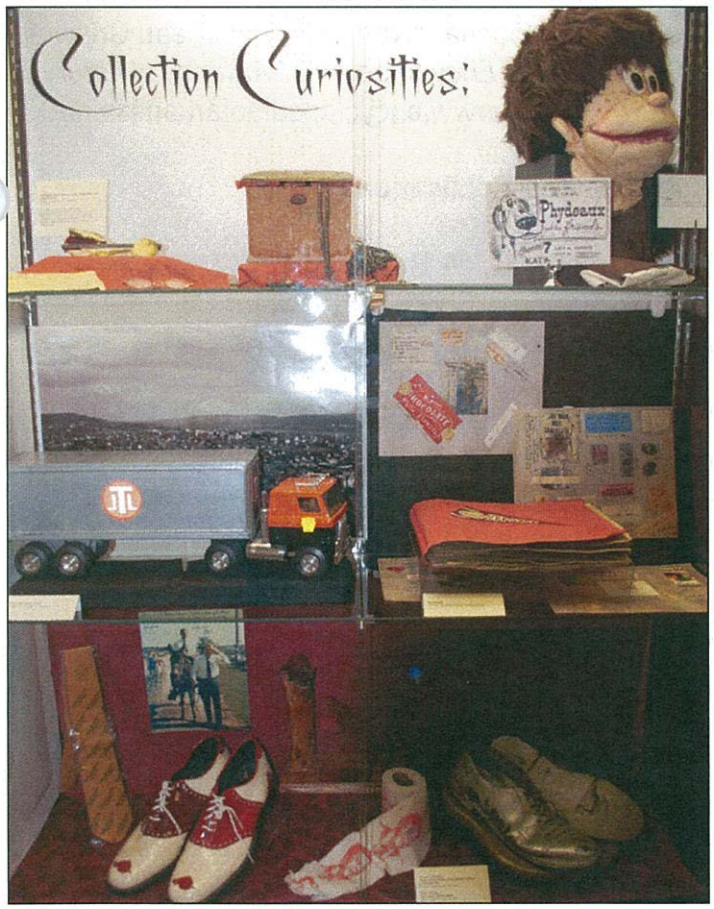


Special Collections' *CURE* exhibit.

Out of the Closet (2nd Level Vitrine, 5/31/2013-9/30/2013)
In commemoration of LGBT Pride Month, Special Collections presented this exhibit of rare journals, pamphlets, posters, and other materials exploring the history of homosexual, and transgender Arkansans.

Collection Curiosities: Strange and Unlikely Items in the Archives (Special Collections Hallway, 2/18/2013-Present)
This selection of curiosities and odd holdings from Special Collections highlights the variety of materials available in the archives.

Celebrating the University of Arkansas Press (Special Collections Reading Room, 6/15/2005-Present)
This exhibit highlights titles published by the Press from its establishment in 1980 to the present.



Special Collections' *Collection Curiosities* exhibit.

North American Indian: Photos by Edward S. Curtis (Main Lobby Area, Mullins Library, 11/1/2012-4/30/2013)
This exhibit featured the work of Edward S. Curtis, who shaped the fields of photography and anthropology with *The North American Indian*, a 20-volume series published in 1930 that represents his experiences documenting nearly 100 tribes in the United States and Alaska. Special Collections holds these important works in its Rare Books Collection.

Gerstaecker's Arkansas (2nd Level Vitrine, 10/10/2012-12/31/2012)
This exhibit showcased editions of the works of Friedrich Gerstäcker held in Special Collections. It was presented in conjunction with the "The Legacy of Friedrich Gerstäcker: Arkansas and the Wild West" symposium, held on the University campus.

New Acquisitions in Special Collections 2011-2012 (Special Collections Entry, 10/5/2012-5/1/2013)
Notable recent acquisitions to the holdings of Special Collections were highlighted in this exhibit.

40-50-100: Milestones in Arkansas's Environmental History (Walton Reading Room, Mullins Library, 9/19/2012-11/1/2012)
This exhibit featured items representing three important milestones in Arkansas's environmental history: 40 years since the creation of the Buffalo National River, 50 years since the founding of the Ozark Society, and 100 years since Dr. Neil Compton's birth.

Alice Ghostley: Actress, Comedienne (2nd Level Vitrine, 8/21/2012-10/9/2012)
Photographs, playbills, and other memorabilia were among the items in this exhibit that celebrated the life and career of Alice Ghostley, Arkansan and award-winning actress. (MC 1846).

Sidney Sanders McMath: A Man for Arkansas at 100 (Special Collections Hallway, 7/15/2012-2/15/2013)
This Special Collections exhibit featured materials documenting the life of Arkansas's 34th Governor, Sidney Sanders McMath.

Sidney Sanders McMath (McMath Library, Central Arkansas Library System, Little Rock 6/1/2012-6/30/2012)
This Special Collections exhibit featured materials documenting the life of Arkansas's 34th Governor, Sidney Sanders McMath in conjunction with a symposium held in Little Rock.

War and Reflection: Selection of Rare Books Related to the Civil War from Special Collections (2nd Level Vitrine, 5/1/2012-8/20/2012)
Rare books relating to the historical themes of the American Civil War were showcased in this exhibit. The Rare Books holdings of Special Collections include more than 2,000 titles.

Looking to the Future

An important digital asset management project is underway. Special Collections is identifying ways to manage digital files more efficiently and provide quicker access to these items. Digital assets comprise much of our work in Special Collections, including computer files connected with digitization projects, databases, finding aids, Encoded Archival Description, patron scans, etc. Special Collections continues to encode all new finding aids in Encoded Archival Description (EAD), with the goal of converting all older finding aids to EAD. Work continues to digitize and preserve the nationally significant Mary Parler Folk Song collection.

The Dale Bumpers Papers processing project is nearing completion and should be opened for research next year. Special Collections continues to look for funding to make its holdings more accessible. One priority is the Geleve Grice Photograph Collection, one of the largest African American photograph collections in the nation, containing more than 60,000 images.

Enhancing and expanding the Rare Books collection will be a major focus in the coming years. This collection will augment the Arkansas Collection by adding accounts detailing early exploration into the Mississippi River Valley, as well as supporting the curriculum and exposing students to these rare historical treasures.

The past year was a busy and rewarding one for the Special Collections Department. Our goal for next year is to continue the forward momentum of the past year's accomplishments.

Selected Personnel Accomplishments

Refereed Publications

Massanelli, Megan. "Women's Library," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*. (http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net).

Nutt, Timothy G. "Little Rock Censor Board," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*. (http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net).

____. "Bigelow (Perry County)," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*. (http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net).

Wallack, Catherine. "Neil Hamill Park," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*. (http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net).

Youngblood, Joshua. "Nathaniel Robadeau Griswold (1901-1991)." *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*. (http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net).

Non-Refereed Publications

Nutt, Timothy G. "A Battle for the County Seat Settled by Supreme Court," *Petit Jean Country Headlight* (April 10, 2013): p. 8.

Worrell, Diane. "University of Arkansas Libraries Acquire Papers of Acclaimed Actor, Director, Producer and Playwright," *Southwestern Archivist* 35 (3): August 2012, p. 22.

Worrell, Diane. "Here She Comes, Miss America: The Donna Axum Whitworth Papers." *Southwestern Archivist*, February 2013: p.15.

____. "New Member Profile: An Interview with Connie Manning." *Southwestern Archivist*, February 2013: p. 17.

Youngblood, Joshua. "Mary Dengler Hudgins." *Women of Library History*, a Women's History Month project from the American Library Association Feminist Task Force. http://womenoflibraryhistory.tumblr.com/post/46327700911/mary-dengler-hudgins. 26 March 2013. Blog addition.

Presentations

Allen, Amy with Joshua Youngblood. "Archival Record Keeping—Best Practices." Presentation to UA Municipal Clerks Institute, University of Arkansas Global Campus, Fayetteville, Arkansas, September 20, 2012.

Nutt, Timothy G. with Janet Parsch. "Images from the Opera in the Ozarks Collection." Central Region of the National Federation of Music Clubs, Inspiration Point Fine Arts Colony, Eureka Springs, Arkansas. July 19, 2012.

____. "A History of St. Patrick's Irish Catholic Colony in Perry and Yell Counties." Perry County Historical & Genealogical Society, Perryville, Arkansas. August 14, 2012.

____. "Digital Archives to Support the ELA Common Core." Technology Information Conference for Administrative Leadership (TICAL), Little Rock, Arkansas. February 12, 2013.

____. "Bigelow vs. Perryville: The Battle for the Perry County Courthouse." Perry County Historical & Genealogical Society, Perryville, Arkansas. March 12, 2013.

____. "How to Preserve Your Family Photographs." Max Milam Library, Central Arkansas Library System, Perryville, Arkansas. May 14, 2013.

____. "Historic Structures of Perry County," Perry County Historical & Genealogical Society, Perryville, Arkansas. May 14, 2013.

____. with Diane Worrell. "Voices of the African-American Southwest: Challenges and Successes of Archival Representation." Society of Southwest Archivists, Austin, Texas. May 23, 2013. Presentation and panel discussion.

____. "Now, What Exactly Do You Do? Promoting Special Collections and Archives to Library Colleagues (and Administrators)." Society of Southwest Archivists, Austin, Texas. May 24, 2013. Presentation.

Parker, Martha A. "Let's talk about it! Best Practices for Cultural Competencies." 2012 Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC) Conference. Kansas City, Missouri. September 15, 2012. Presentation.

____. "2012 Diversity Standards for Academic Libraries." San Jose State University Library 2.012 Virtual Conference. Online. October 3, 2012.

____. "Another look at the ACRL's Diversity Standards: Where from here?" 2013 Midwinter American Library Association Conference. Seattle, Washington. January 26, 2013. Presentation.

____. "A Practical Guide to the ACRL's Diversity Standards." 2013 San Jose State University Spring Colloquia. Online. March 13, 2013.

____. "Diversity Dialogue-Now that we have a standard what are we going to do with it?" 2013 Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Conference. Indianapolis, Indiana. April 11, 2013. Presentation.

____. "The Minority Report: An open discussion on the recent 'Diversity Counts' study and how to foster momentum towards inclusion in our libraries. 2013 Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Conference. April 12, 2013.

____. "Libraries Building Bridges: Best Practices and Advice for Serving Your Latino Communities." 2013 Annual American Library Association Conference. Chicago, Illinois. June 29, 2013.

____. "Make it Happen: DIVERSITY in your library." 2013 Annual American Library Association Conference. Chicago, Illinois. June 30, 2013. Presentation.

Parsch, Janet H. with Timothy G. Nutt. "Images from the Opera in the Ozarks Collection." Central Region of the National Federation of Music Clubs, Inspiration Point Fine Arts Colony, Eureka Springs, Arkansas. July 19, 2012.

Worrell, Diane with Timothy G. Nutt. "Voices of the African-American Southwest: Challenges and Successes of Archival Representation." Society of Southwest Archivists, Austin, Texas. May 23, 2013.

Youngblood, Joshua. "Using Special Collections at the University of Arkansas for History Day: Instruction for Arkansas History Coordinators." Northwest Arkansas Community College, Bentonville, Arkansas. July 12, 2012.

____. "Preserving the History of the Natural State." Butterfield Retirement Village, Fayetteville, Arkansas, August 16, 2012.

____. and Amy Allen. "Archival Record Keeping—Best Practices." Presentation to UA Municipal Clerks Institute, University of Arkansas Global Campus, Fayetteville, Arkansas. September 20, 2012.

____. and Willow Fitzgibbons (Fayetteville Public Library). "Genealogy with Archival Images." Fayetteville Public Library, Fayetteville, Arkansas. November 10, 2012.

____. "Using LOC.gov and Other Online Sources for History Day Research." Northwest Arkansas Community College, Bentonville, Arkansas. November 17, 2012. Presentation for Northwest Arkansas middle school students.

____. Beth Juhl (Web Services), and Sarah Spiegel (Reference). "Usability Testing on Another Dime (and $100)." 2012 Arkansas Library Association Annual Meeting. Springdale, Arkansas. November 17, 2012.

____. "Daisy Bates and the Moment of Action." Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fayetteville, Fayetteville, Arkansas. February 3, 2013.

____. "Tin Can Tourism in Florida and Engaging the Public through Digital Exhibiting." Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference. Washington, D.C. March 27, 2013.

____. "'Broke of Sucking Eggs': The Murder of Hugh Johnson, Race, and Law in Post-War Pulaski County, Arkansas." Arkansas Historical Association Annual Conference, Helena-West Helena, Arkansas, April 12, 2013.

____. "Gleaning Clues from Archival Images." Northwest Arkansas Family History Conference. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Johnson, Arkansas. April 13, 2013.

____. "Genealogical Research with Photographs." Washington County Genealogical Society. Fayetteville Public Library, Fayetteville, Arkansas. May 18, 2013.

____. "Gleaning Clues from Archival Images." Northwest Arkansas Genealogical Association, Bentonville Public Library, Bentonville, Arkansas. June 24, 2013.

Special Collections staff, February 2013. Back row, L to R: Andrew Donovan, Krista M. Oldham, Valerie Robertson, Vera Ekechukwu, Joshua Youngblood, Cat Wallack. Middle row: Cody Hackett, Amy Allen, Tim Nutt, Janet Parsch, Diane Worrell. Front row: Jonathan Browning, Keleigh Hibbard, Megan Massanelli, Janelle Pacheco, Todd Lewis. (Not pictured: Case Miner, Lauren Hayes, Stewart Pence, Karsten Powers, Grant Bodiford, Krista Casada, Martha Parker and Geoffery Stark.)

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