



Sequoyah National Research Center Newsletter

Summer 2016

Summer Interns make Lasting Contributions



L-R: Daniel Littlefield, Jacey Lamar, Traci Young, & Donald Kompkoff III

created an inventory of the Center's duplicate tribal newspapers. We have received donations of newspapers and periodicals that are duplicate issues of what is already in our collection and keep them for possible later use or donation. Donald was able to complete an inventory for over half of the duplicates so that we can contact tribal archives, libraries, and museums to offer the issues back to the communities from where they originated. His work has already proved useful; we sent our duplicate issues of *The Chickasaw Times* back to their Communications Department for internal use after sending a list of available issues to the Chickasaws for review.

Jacey Lamar (Wichita), an undergraduate Native Studies student at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas, continued cataloging begun by one of last summer's interns on the Native Writers Files in our online catalog to make them more accessible for researchers to use. She was able to add 831 new records to the catalog that are now searchable for anyone with internet access. Names added to the catalog include Dewitt Clinton Duncan (Cherokee) and George Copway (Ojibwe).

Lastly, Traci Young (Cherokee), a graduate student in the Library and Information Studies Program at the University of Oklahoma, cataloged our collection of maps and posters to provide better access to the materials. She added 902 records to the online catalog, which included a collection of posters from the Trail of Tears Art Show and Cherokee language posters produced by the Cherokee Nation's Language Technology Program. The students were a pleasure to work with, and we wish them well in their future endeavors.

Our summer interns completed the Native American Summer Internship Program at the end of July after arriving at the Center on June 1. They diligently worked on their individual projects for the summer greatly reducing the Center's backlog.

Donald Kompkoff III (Alutiiq), an undergraduate business student at the University of Arkansas—Cossatot,

Research Ideas to Pursue in SNRC's Collections

The SNRC holds the James W. and Sallie E. Frazier Trust Collection, which consists of more than a thousand documents covering the period 1811 to 2010 related to the Gideon Morgan family, who were members of the Cherokee Nation, and their allied families named Ivey, also Cherokee, and Yeatman. Examination of the collection indicates that it, along with other resources of the Center, will support research for a number of book-length and article-length scholarly works.

For example, it will support the writing of a biography of Gideon Hazen Morgan (1851-1936), Cherokee public figure and entrepreneur, and the patriarch of a large progressive Cherokee family. He was a direct descendent of John Sevier, first and third governor of Tennessee and of Gideon Morgan, who led the Cherokee warriors against the Creeks at Horseshoe Bend of the Tallapoosa River in Alabama in 1814.

Morgan began his business career at Fort Smith, Arkansas, where he operated the ferry between Fort Smith and the Cherokee Nation. He moved to Tahlequah, the Cherokee capital, and entered hotel and home construction enterprises. He was elected to the Cherokee National Senate and, after Oklahoma statehood in 1907, served in the Oklahoma State Legislature. In 1917, he established Morgan's Inn, a hotel and fishing spa on Grand River, north of present-day Salina, Oklahoma. His life demonstrates the kind of progressive thinking that helped wind down Cherokee affairs during the period of the region's transition from Cherokee nationhood to Oklahoma statehood.

The Frazier Trust Collection and other resources of the SNRC will support research for article-length studies about Augustus Ivey and Thomas Yeatman. Ivey was a newspaper publisher and public official in the Cherokee Nation and a deputy U. S. Marshal, assigned to the Western District Court of Arkansas. The Frazier Trust Collection contains documents related to his marshal service and his publishing and other business enterprises, and the press history resources of the Center can document his newspaper Career. The Cherokee Nation records will be useful in documenting his public career. In addition to manuscripts that support the study of Morgan and Ivey, the SNRC holds copies of a number of newspapers published in the Cherokee Nation during their careers.

Thomas Yeatman and his family were steamboat operators and businessmen in Nashville, Tennessee, and New Orleans, whose boats plied the waters in between. One, named for Yeatman himself, was used in the Choctaw removal. The Yeatman family papers in the Frazier Trust Collection date from 1811 until the end of the Civil War and contain business records, slave documents, and a few Civil War items.

A book on Gideon Morgan's life should be of interest to presses such as the University of Oklahoma, the University of Tennessee, or the University of Nebraska and, perhaps, the University of Arkansas. Article-length studies of Ivey and Yeatman should be of interest to regional historical journals such as the *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, or the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*. We invite interested scholars to come to the Center and delve into the James W. and Sallie E. Frazier Trust Collection, a veritable seedbed of good ideas for publishable books and articles. For inquiries, contact Daniel Littlefield at dflittlefiel@ualr.edu.

Staff Activities

Director Daniel Littlefield co-wrote an article with Ottenheimer Library's Research and Community Engagement Librarian Karen Russ entitled "How do I do research about my possible Indian ancestry? Recommendations from the Sequoyah National Research Center at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock." The article can be found in the *Arkansas Family Historian's* Fall 2016 issue.

Archivist Erin Fehr will be representing the Center at the Native American Journalists Association annual conference being held in New Orleans, Louisiana, September 18-20. She hopes to make contact with tribal editors and publishers to increase momentum on the newspaper digitization project with Adam Matthew Digital. Fehr will also be presenting at the International Conference of Indigenous Archives, Libraries and Museums in Phoenix, Arizona, October 10-12.

Our mission is to acquire and preserve the writings and ideas of Native North Americans by collecting the written word, art and other forms of expression by Native Americans and creating a research atmosphere that invites indigenous peoples to make the Sequoyah National Research Center the archival home for their creative work.

Garrard Ardeneum Collection Update

Hello, everyone! I am currently in the final stages of processing the Garrard Ardeneum Collection. All of the material in the collection has been described and re-housed, and I am checking the description for errors, clarity and consistency. The plan is to have an online finding aid for the collection by the end of August, and I have been working feverishly toward that end.

As I was going through the last of the material in the collection, I came across some pretty interesting items. These items included a cache of letters from John C. Storey and his family. Storey was a surgeon for the Confederacy during the Civil War. After the war, he moved to Dallas, Texas, and was the first dentist in the city. Storey's wife was the daughter of E.E. Wiley, the second president of Emory and Henry College in Virginia, and there are letters from him. Also included are letters from John L. Buchanan, president of several universities, including the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Last but certainly not least, I discovered a group of letters written to Alice Brown Davis. These letters are mostly from her children, but there is also a letter from Victor Locke, Jr., Governor of the Choctaws, inviting her to a social event put on by the Choctaws and Chickasaws. The letters provide insight into the position Alice Brown Davis held among her family and the events that were occurring in the lives of her children during the early 20th century.

When the finding aid goes live you'll have a guide to the material I just mentioned and to everything else in the collection. Thanks for reading! – Zack Whitaker



Alice Brown Davis with children and grandchildren on the day of her induction as Chief of the Seminoles. Alleece Locke Garrard is in the lower left, 1922.



Actress Ruth Roland with Edwin Carewe at Arrowhead Springs, c. 1920-30s

UALR Intern Projects

In addition to our Native summer interns, we had three interns from UALR's English Department. William Watson continued his project from the Spring semester locating materials on the Chickasaw Fox Brothers—Finis, Jay (Edwin Carewe), and Wallace— engaged in writing, directing, and producing films in the early 20th century.

Lance Huckabee compiled a list of current Native American entertainers and sent solicitation letters to them requesting photographs and other items to be donated to the Center. This project has already received interest from recipients that will hopefully result in new acquisitions.

Jakob Cumper worked on a research project that involved surveying Native newspapers to locate and create bibliographic records for published political cartoons and comic strips. Jakob began with the *Navajo Times* since it represents the longest tribal newspaper run in the archives from 1959 to the present.

Call for Tribal Newspapers

Our goal is to acquire the most comprehensive collection of tribally-published newspapers and newsletters. To that end, we rely on the generosity of our donors. We have begun an acquisitions push to fill in the gaps of newspapers already in our collections. Each issue, we will list some of our needs and ask that our readers donate any issues they may have and are willing to part with.

This quarter, we are looking for issues of *Menominee Nation News*. We are missing several issues prior to 2003, but these years are missing the most: 1976-1981, 1991-1993, and 2000-2002.

We are also seeking the *Fort Belknap Camp Crier*, issues April 1973-March 1975, July 1977-June 1978, and any issues after April 1979.

We are missing the following issues of the *Blackfeet Tribal News* published in Browning, Montana: May-September 1982, all issues after March 1985.

If you have questions or would like to know how to send donations to the Center, contact Erin Fehr at 501-569-8336 or ehfehr@ualr.edu. We look forward to hearing from you!

Become a Friend of the Sequoyah National Research Center

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This newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Sequoyah National Research Center at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, edited by Erin Fehr.

Hours of Operation:
Monday—Friday
8:00am—5:00pm

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COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

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