

Sequoyah National Research Center

Newsletter

Spring 2015

ANCRC awards Grant to SNRC

The Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council awarded the Sequoyah National Research Center with a grant of \$56,000 for the preservation of the Garrard Ardeneum Collection. The grant will provide archival supplies for the rehousing of the collection and for the hire of a project archivist to process the 100 cubic feet collection.

The Garrard Ardeneum Collection was donated to the Center by Francine Locke Bray on behalf of the Garrard Ardeneum in McAlester, Oklahoma. The collection was amassed by Allece Locke Garrard, a Seminole/Choctaw woman interested in preserving the history of Oklahomans. She was very active in society, politics, the arts, and education. In 1945, she established The



American Way Army Special Services Club in Munich, Germany.

In the above picture, Allece is standing in front of an upright giraffe piano, possibly from the 18th century. Also pictured are two French harps, one said to have been played by Marie Antoinette around 1770. These instruments were part of an exhibit of musical instruments on display at The American Way Club.

Three Native Students Selected for Summer Internship

Three American Indian students have been chosen for this year's Summer Internship Program at the Sequoyah National Research Center: Lance Turner, Lora Paz, and Nancy Tell Hall. Lance Turner (Comanche) is enrolled at the Comanche Nation College in Lawton, Oklahoma, where he is pursuing an Associate's degree in Native American Languages and a Bachelor's degree in American Indian Studies. Lora Paz (Ysleta del Sur Pueblo) attends San Diego State University, where she is a double major in American Indian Studies and English. Nancy Tell Hall (Muscogee [Creek]) is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in History with a minor in Race and Ethnicity at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

These interns will begin their internships June 1st and will work with us through the end of July. We look forward to working with these bright students on various archival projects.

Native Authors Poetry Reading, a Success

On Friday, April 24th, Native poets Allison Adelle Hedge Coke and Casandra Lopez gave a poetry reading in the Center as part of The Arkansas Literary Festival's Writers in The Schools Initiative. Lopez read selections from her chapbook *Where Bullet Breaks*, a collection of poems dealing with the grief and loss of her brother. Hedge Coke shared from her collections *Off-Season City Pipe* and the newly published *Streaming*. The reading was well-attended by UALR students and faculty.

SNRC extends generous appreciation to Professor Nickole Brown of the Department of English for planning the event.

Fehr to present at NAISA

Erin Fehr will present "Selling Indians: Native American Stereotypes in the Hirschfelder-Molin Collection" at the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association conference in Washington, D.C., June 4-6.

Her talk will focus on images and objects from the Hirschfelder-Molin Collection that showcase stereotypes of Native peoples used in advertising. Some of the highlights will include Red Man tobacco, Calumet baking powder, and Crazy Horse malt liquor.

Art News



Lone Mountain Turquoise Beaded Bracelet Todd Lone Dog Bordeaux (Rosebud Lakota)

Director speaks across State

Director Dr. Littlefield proudly represented SNRC across Arkansas this spring, speaking in Leslie, at the Southwestern Regional Rendezvous in March. On May 4th, he spoke at the US Marshals Museum in Fort Smith, for their Guest Lecture Series: Frontier Marshals, where he discussed how the forced relocations of tribal peoples to Indian Territory led to the increase of federal law enforcement in the Western District of Arkansas and federal jurisdiction in Indian Territory.

Upcoming events

May 14—Jul. 2—Native American Jewelry & Adornment

May 25—Closed

Jun. 1—Summer interns arrive

Jun. 4-6—Native American and Indigenous Studies Conference, DC (Fehr speaks)

Jul. 3—Closed

Jul. 9-12—Native American Journalists Association, DC (Sanderson attending)

Jul. 31—Summer interns depart

Dr. J.W. Wiggins judged the Diversified Arts Category at the Heard Museum's Indian Art Market in Phoenix, Arizona, in

March and the 44th Annual Trail of Tears Art show hosted by the Cherokee Heritage Center in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, in April.

Several acquisitions have been added to the art collection from donors in Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Minnesota.

"Inuit Sculpture From the Top of the World" closed on April 27th. Due to a scheduling conflict, the next exhibit will be "Native American Jewelry and Adornment" instead of the originally scheduled "Pottery Back From Crystal Bridges." The exhibit, featuring Southwestern and Plains jewelry, will open Thursday, May 14th, and run through July 2nd. The gallery is open Monday-Friday 8:00 am—5:00 pm. Dr. Wiggins will be available most afternoons for tours and can be contacted at 501-658-6360 for scheduling.

Student Research at SNRC

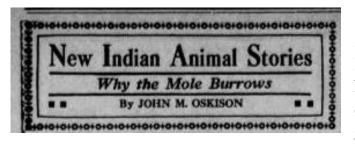
Spring semester 2015 saw lots of exciting research projects being conducted in the Center, two of which concern a well-known Cherokee writer of the early 20th century, John Milton Oskison (1874-1947).

SNRC's graduate assistant **Heather McPherson**, graduate student in Secondary Education, worked on four main projects during the Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 semesters. Heather continued work on the Osage bibliography, originally started by previous graduate assistant Ashley Heath with donations from John T.

Moncravie, whose vision for SNRC was to become the primary repository to conduct Osage research. Currently, the bibliography contains over 100 pages with books, journal articles, newspaper articles, art, film, microfilm, etc. Heather updated the microfilm collection with new labels and new, archival boxes. Additionally, she created a digital database of obituary information that interns



have gathered from the newspaper collection over the past three years that includes over 2000 names with information such as residence, tribal affiliation, and living relatives. Her most recent project has been to create a chapbook of John Oskison's "From John Paul Jones to Dewey," a critical history of the U.S. Navy published in 1914.



Intern **Hunter Parham**, graduating senior with a Bachelor of Arts in English, along with Professor Jeremy Ecke, have collected the animal stories of John Oskison and have begun subject analyses. While Oskison's work has received a good bit of scholarly attention, no attention has been given to his more than one hundred animal stories that he

syndicated in American newspapers, primarily from 1913 to 1915. Expected results from the project include presentations at professional conferences as well as a modern edition of Oskison's stories.

Cody Berry, graduate student in the Public History program, continued his work on the Francine Locke Bray Collection as a volunteer. He read and organized hundreds of letters, newspaper articles, and per-

sonal writings created by members of the Locke family, ancestors of Mrs. Francine Bray. He is creating a detailed finding aid for the collection while placing each item in acid-free folders. Additionally, he is working with Francine Bray and Dr. Daniel Littlefield on an anthology of writings by Captain Benjamin Davis Locke (1883-1928), a Choctaw officer during the Mexican-American Border War and in World War I. The anthology will consist of Captain Locke's writings but will include an introduction, preface and historical commentary by Cody assisted by Dr. Littlefield and Francine Bray.



Captain Benjamin Davis Locke (pictured in front) with Company L, 1916 from the Francine Bray Collection

Congratulations to our Interns

Antonia Frydman (2011) is currently working at the Gottesman Libraries at Teachers College in New York and co-edited *Library Services to Indigenous Populations: Case Studies* with Dr. Loriene Roy.

Ashley Heath (graduate assistant, 2012-2014) successfully defended her thesis *Uncouth Skeletons, Jagged Alligators, and Comets: The Representation of Cuvierian Catastrophisim in the Cancelled Cycles of Percy B. Shelley's PROMETHEUS UNBOUND* and graduated with a Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies from UALR.

Kelly Kraemer (2012, *Oneida*) graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in December 2012 with a Masters of Library and Information Studies. She is currently employed as the Business Information and Outreach Librarian at the College of St. Benedict / St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota.

Hunter Parham (2015) earned his Bachelor of Arts in English at UALR this May and will be a Graduate Teaching Assistant at Washington State University, where he will pursue a Masters in English in the fall.

Shannon Spears (2013, *Red Lake Ojibwe*) has been offered a graduate assistantship at the University of Kansas, where she plans to pursue a Ph.D. this fall.

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Contact us: (501)569-8336 or ehfehr@ualr.edu



Collections and Archives

2801 S. University Avenue Little Rock, AR 72204-1099

