

Louisiana Historical Records Advisory Board

Thursday, March 13, 2014

10:00 a.m. Archives Conference Room

~AGENDA~

~Welcome and Introductions~

Carrie A. Fager, Records Manager Statewide

Tammy Foster, Clerk of Court

Jon A. Gegenheimer, Clerk of Court

Judith F. Gentry, Member at Large

Florent Hardy, Jr., Ph.D., State Archivist

Jacqueline L. Jones, Member at Large

Tara E. Laver, Archivist

Brian S. Lestage, Clerk of Court

Emilie "Lee" Leumas, Archivist

Brenda B. Parsons, Member at Large

Member Comments

Current Exhibit

Black History Month

Upcoming State Archives Exhibits

Louisiana Watercolor Society

East Baton Rouge Parish Talented Arts Exhibit

Southern University Centennial Display

Recent Interesting Research

Archival OUTLOOK article

Letter to President Lincoln

~Adjournment~



Tom Schedler
Secretary of State

Florent Hardy, Jr., Ph.D.
State Archivist

Louisiana Historical Records Advisory Board Meeting
Louisiana State Archives
Thursday, March 13, 2014

Present: Judith Gentry, Michael Wynne, Emilie "Lee" Leumas, Dr. Florent Hardy, Jr., Freddie DeBlieux
Absent: Carrie Fager, Jon Gegenheimer, Jacqueline Jones, Tara Laver, Brian Lestage, Brenda Parsons, Tammy Foster

Tara is in Ireland.

Dr. Hardy opened the meeting and informed the group that he had heard from Ms. Parsons and Ms. Jones and that they would not be able to make the meeting.

Dr. Hardy presented the LHRAB's Strategic Plan (2008). Informed the Board that Archives Outreach staff member Dawn Abraham had resigned. He then updated the Board about some of the activities at Archives—Natchitoches is preparing for its Tri-Centennial and is expecting a call from the contact person to assist with the celebration. Lectures about Iberville, Bienville, Tonti, Clementine Hunter, etc.

Mr. Wynne mentioned that Natchitoches has its act together: media, etc. through the year.

Dr. Hardy mentioned the presentation about the book Italian Louisiana. Author continues his research on his next book about serial killers in Louisiana and expects to conduct research at State Archives.

Ms. Leumas spoke about Creoles on Cane River. Indicated that Gregory Wilbert, author living in Chicago, was a good source about Natchitoches. Extensive research. Possible Archives Month lecture.

Dr. Hardy mentioned the recent letter from the Governor of New York to President Lincoln (dated 1862) requesting a promotion of a Union soldier.

Ms. Gentry has written a book about New Iberia resident and Prisoner of War, Johnny Moore entitled I Cannot Forget. She is lecturing on the book on March 20th and April 8th. Observation, men don't want to talk about the war they experienced until they are grandparents. She mentioned that she has retired.

Ms. Leumas's office is located at 1000 Howard Avenue, South, 6th floor. The Walmsley office is located behind the Notre Dame Seminary which houses the curated records, arsenal and museum collections. Spoke briefly about the Orleans Archdiocese Bishop, Phillip Hannan. Since Archbishop Hannan gave the Eulogy at the JFK funeral, the Archdiocese holds a comprehensive collection in his name, including many Kennedy family letters. Most of her work is off her Ipad. She sits on several boards, including the International Council of Archives. Besides the Vatican, Catholic University and the University of Notre Dame hold the largest religious archives. She will be going to Paris and Ireland for archival research and consultations.

Mr. Wynne, although an employee of the Louisiana Department of Collections, spends much time collecting Louisiana documents. In fact, he presently has an inventory of some 11,000 documents, including NOLA political documents, and many LA history documents.

Dr. Hardy mentioned the success of the State Archives exhibit on the World's Fair which included many of Mr. Wynne's collection...items from 83 of the 97 countries, 6500 inventoried items 5 years ago. He started collecting when he was 7 years old. The 1984 World's Fair in N.O. produced 6500 souvenir items...the Vatican booth had 300. Although the Vatican prices were exorbitant, Mike has the largest collection. Most Vatican items were sent most back overseas.

Ms. Leumas questioned if the LA Legislature would take more notice of the activities of the LHRAB if there was funding? Possibly reimbursement for gas, food, hotel which may indicate that the LHRAB members are not step-children.

Mr. Wynne mentioned that money could not be any tighter....we should be paid more interest....as important as history is....not up/down....not ever changing.....volunteer time.

Dr. Hardy asked how we could best promote Louisiana history. FRIENDS of the State Archives may be a source of support. Possibly providing lunch or giving a flat stipend per member attending the meetings. This may increase interest and participation. Possibly \$150.00 each which would show appreciation in the efforts of Board members. Proposal will be made to the FRIENDS Board for their possible approval.

Ms. Gentry mentioned the NHPRC grant proposals could be better advertised; however, Ms. Leumas responded that all eligible agencies are familiar with NHPRC proposals/grants.

Hopefully more members will attend the July 7th meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.