

**SHAW-OLSON CENTER FOR COLLEGE HISTORY
(ST. OLAF ARCHIVES)**

ANNUAL REPORT: 2004-05

*Gary De Krey, Director
Jeff Sauve, Associate Archivist
July 29, 2005*

I. ARCHIVAL ACQUISITIONS AND COLLECTIONS DEVELOPMENT

Office Statistics:

- Accessioned 250 new collections
- Generated 4487 new electronic records

Major Additions and Accessioning: 115 new boxes received June 1, 2004 to May 31, 2005.

Major additions to the collection

- WCAL records (81 boxes), including photographs, correspondence, recordings, station memorabilia, microphones and many hours of collecting time
- Several boxes of Howard Hong's professional papers and St. Olaf materials
- Signature boards from George Weida Spohn guest bed with numerous St. Olaf student, faculty, alumni, and visitor signatures (including Carl Sandburg)
- Portrait of Ole Fugleskjel (class of 1894), the "lost Ole," by Herbjorn Gausta, received from descendant Ms. Betty Parrott
- Professional and faculty papers from Robert Nichols and David Wee
- A collection of St. Olaf pennants and banners donated by Jon Rondestvedt '61
- Mock court tapes from Charles Umbanhower's Jurisprudence class
- English department distinction papers (1928-present)
- Athletic photos retrieved from Manitou Field House storage by Tom Porter

Major accessioning and databasing projects

- News bureau photos and negatives, 1960-90
- Music department audiocassettes
- Distinction papers from English, History, and Nursing departments
- David Wee papers
- Most St. Olaf publications in collection now in database

II. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Providing Assistance to Patrons

- Major assistance to and ghost writing for *St. Olaf* magazine editor and contributors
- Routine assistance to the Marketing-Communications Office on a variety of historical topics
- Routine assistance to Alumni-Parent Office in responding to historical queries from alumni and parents
- Photographic and research assistance to Tom Porter and Bob Phelps for *The Greatest Game; Football at St. Olaf College 1893-2003* (2004).
- Assistance to Michael Cohen, Harvard graduate student, for article about co-education at St. Olaf and Carleton in late Nineteenth Century.

- Provided ongoing archival and financial support (College History Fund) to Joe Shaw, Prof. of Religion Emeritus, for his biography in progress of President Thorbjorn N. Mohn
- Ongoing assistance to B. J. Johnson and Music Department for such events as the Norway tour and retirement of Robert Scholz.
- Ongoing assistance to Karen Wilson and Theatre Department for digitization of archived theatre images.
- Provided research responses to fifteen or more monthly inquiries from faculty or staff about records in our care (e-mails, attached photos and documents, faxes, telephone calls, letters)
- Provided research responses to five or more monthly inquires from St. Olaf alumni or alumni descendants about family connections to St. Olaf (e-mails, attached photos and documents, faxes, telephone calls, letters)
- Provided research responses to five or more monthly inquires about a variety of subjects from persons not connected to St. Olaf, including the Center for John Dewey Studies (SIU), Theodore Roosevelt Collection at Harvard, the *Encyclopedia of Women and Religion in North America*, and the Dakota County Historical Society (e-mails, attached photos and documents, faxes, telephone calls, letters)

Display, Treatment, and Preservation of Historical Artifacts

- Conservation of Norwegian immigrant trunk provided gratis by James Hanson '55
- Continued reorganization of photo collection in subject books with mylar sleeves in vault
- Preservation of new athletic photos recovered from Field House storage
- Continued transferal of current chapel talks to CDs for archival preservation
- Continued transferal of older recordings to CDs: work done by Language Lab

Exhibits

- Contributed ten images and metadata to “Minnesota Reflections,” the first online project of the Minnesota Digital Library

Public History

Authored by Jeff Sauve

- Historical *Tidbits from the Archives* posted in St. Olaf e-newsletter
- Additional *Tidbits* circulated on campus e-mail

Authored by Maura Dechant, Archives student worker

- “The Heroine of the North: The Works of Sister Anna Huseh,” Historical *Tidbit* circulated on campus e-mail

Presentations made by Gary De Krey:

- “*A St. Olaf Primer*”: new power point show for new faculty and staff, August 30, 2004
- “*Forming St. Olaf, 1874-1942*” (slide show):
 - Area Coordinators, August 16, 2004
 - Am Con 201, Sept. 27, 2004
- *Chapel talk* on 50th anniversary of retirement of Sir Winston Churchill: April 5, 2005
- Luncheon talk for class of *1950 reunion*: May 28, 2005
- Historical and architectural tour of Holland Hall for family reunion group

Presentations made by Jeff Sauve:

- *Chapel talk* about Elise Ytterboe and death of Ytterboe child, March 1, 2005 (version published in July 2005 *Metro Lutheran*)
- “*Hats off to St. Olaf*” (power point show)
 - ✓ Northfield senior citizens: June 22, 2004
 - ✓ Academic Administrative Assistants: May 3, 2005
- “*The Roscoe Giant,*” a talk about a local historical topic presented three times in Zumbrota, MN, and noticed in local papers with attention to St. Olaf Archives (Sauve)

Historical Consulting

- Wrote Nygaard grant application on behalf of College Archives, Luther College Archives, and NAHA to fund establishment of an online collection of Norwegian-American photographic images (application unsuccessful).
- Visited with Luther College and Vesterheim Museum archival staff in Decorah, Iowa about Norwegian-American digital photographic collection.
- Visited Concordia College (Moorhead) Archives and Center for Western Studies (Augustana College, Sioux Falls) to talk about Norwegian-American digital photo collection.
- Participated in on-campus discussions with Paddy Dale, Roberta Lembke, Bryn Geffert, Todd Nichol, Dan Dressen, and others about the creation of a campus digital consortium for Norwegian-American projects
- Co-hosted (with NAHA) visit of Tzianeng Vang (Interim Director of Hmong Archives, St. Paul) and associates
- Assisted PBS researcher with photographs for documentary about Norwegian Americans
- Met with director of Northfield Historical Society and planning committee for Northfield Sesquicentennial
- Prepared list of St. Olaf students killed in American wars for Northfield war memorial
- Assisted Susan Hvistendahl with St. Olaf images and details for Northfield Sesquicentennial calendar.
- Assisted Joan Olson and others preparing a Northfield Sesquicentennial cookbook.
- Provided Dean’s Office with list of faculty names to honor with possible endowed chairs
- Provided historical information to Northfield Historic Buildings Commission
- Advised Cora Scholz about archiving records of Northfield Youth Choir
- Zumbrota Area Historical Society Board (Sauve)

III. ENCOURAGING STUDENT, STAFF & ALUMNI USE OF THE CENTER

- Meetings with Registrar’s staff to facilitate archiving of material
- Assisted with projects for Gen Ed 111I(Fall), First-year writing, taught by David Wee
- Assisted with projects for American Conversations 201 (Fall), taught by Mathew Rohn and Judy Kutulas
- Assisted with projects for Environmental Studies 270 (Fall), taught by Mathew Rohn
- Assisted with projects for Theatre 270 (Fall), taught by Karen Wilson
- Assisted with projects for Art and Art History 271 (Interim), taught by Nancy Thompson
- Assisted with projects for American Conversations 102 (Spring), taught by Mary Titus and Eric Fure-Slocum
- Assisted with projects for Gen Ed 111B (Spring), First-year writing, taught by Jan Allister
- Archives open house for Celebration weekend
- Assisted Micki Hemstad and 50th reunion committee for class of 1955
- Provided assistance and materials for ROTC reunion during Celebration Week-end
- Continuing assistance to *The Manitou Messenger*, and the *Viking* yearbook.

IV. PROVIDING ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO NAHA & THE CENTER/ARCHIVES

- Expansion of Archives database to 51,765 records and about 70% of the collection
- Brought *Leif*, the new electronic finding aid for NAHA manuscript collection, online
- Introduced *Leif* at NAHA triennial members' meeting.
- Brought total of scanned NAHA images up to 1500
- Brought total of NAHA data-based records up to 1160, about 80% of that collection
- Scanning project for *St. Olaf* alumni magazine completed through 1960: fully searchable text of all scanned articles now available on the Archives web site, with plans to continue, as budget permits

V. ORAL HISTORY

- Continued the rerecording on CDs of older voice recordings as detailed above.
- Downloaded all Chapel talks on CDs from WCAL web site.
- Recorded stories with Class of 1955 as part of their 50th reunion
- Recorded Bob Nichols's reminiscences about the history of the History department

VI. ENDOWMENT FOR THE CENTER FOR COLLEGE HISTORY

- Received gift from David Granskou, class of 1950
- Sought outside funding for restoration of President Mohn's desk, the kind of project that an endowment could support