

# *The Official Word* – The Government Records Section Newsletter

The membership of the Government Records Section is made up of individual Society of American Archivists (SAA) members who are concerned with the administration, organization, and care of the records of government.

<http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/gov/index.asp>

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## **From the Chair**

Another year has gone by, and like most chairs, it is amazing how time flies. We've had a productive year with endorsements for government records-related sessions, a bylaws revision, an upcoming program for the 2008 annual meeting, and of course a pending election. I want to thank the Steering Committee and past chair Lucy Barber for their support and help throughout the year.

John H. Slate, CA

## **Annual Meeting and Program**

Please join your colleagues at the Section's annual meeting August 29, 2008 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM. After a brief business meeting, including election of Steering Committee members, **Sarah R. Demb**, Hub Records Management Advisor to the London Museums, will present on museum records as government records and the impact of Freedom of Information and Data Protection legislation in the UK. Museum records within public entities are an overlooked public resource, but increasingly come under scrutiny in the global, post-Enron environment.

## **Section Bylaws Revision**

The following revisions to the GRS bylaws will be presented to the membership for adoption at the annual meeting, August 29, 2008 9:00 AM:

### II. Officers

#### b. *Vice Chair*

~~The Steering Committee shall choose the vice chair from among the Steering Committee members in office after the annual elections.~~

### III. Steering Committee

The Steering Committee shall consist of the officers and four at-large members. **Only members of SAA and the Government Records Section may serve as at-large members of the Steering Committee.**

### IV. Election of Officers and Steering Committee

Any member of the Section who is unable to attend the Annual Meeting may request an absentee ballot from the chair of the Nominating and Elections Committee; such ballots must be received by the chair of the Committee at least seven days prior to the Annual Meeting. Voting at the Annual Meeting shall be by secret ballot if there are more nominees than can be elected; only members of the Section may vote. The Nominating and Elections Committee shall be responsible for tabulating and announcing the results of the election. In the event of a tie, the Nominating and Elections committee shall do an immediate recount. If that recount verifies the tie, the election will be decided by the flip of a coin, with one of the candidates choosing heads or tails. **The candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the election shall be the vice chair. In the event that the candidate declines to serve as vice chair, the steering committee will choose a vice chair from among the elected candidates.** Elected officers and Steering Committee members shall assume office at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting of the Section.

# GRS ELECTION

Election of incoming Steering Committee members will occur at the Annual Meeting. Any member of the Section who is unable to attend the Annual Meeting may request an absentee ballot by August 8, 2008 from Lucy Barber, chair of the Nominating and Elections Committee: 1811 Vernon St NW #301, Washington DC 20009, 202-357-5306, lucy.barber@nara.gov. Such ballots must be returned to the chair of the Committee by August 18, 2008.

## Nominees for Steering Committee

The Steering Committee's Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following candidates for your consideration. We appreciate all of you who contacted us and appreciated the interest in improving the Section. Best, Lucy Barber, Bill Carpenter, Jeanie Childs, Scott Sackett.

*Candidates for Federal Representative on Steering Committee (two candidates, one position)*

**Robynne Dexter**, Archivist for the US Army Women's Museum. I'm 31, married, and live on Fort Lee, VA. My education is in American history, with a focus in Military History. The opportunity to be involved in the Government Records section, as a leader, would bring me the opportunity to develop professional relationships with other archivists and be involved with the industry on a more professional level. In return, I would hope to bring a positive presence and lend my strengths, mostly in organization and editing, especially to the newsletter and the meeting coordination. While I have not always worked in the industry, the skill set for Human Resources (my previous employment) would transfer well to serving on the board.

**David Miller**, Senior Records Analyst, National Archives and Records Administration. A graduate of Macalester College (B.A., French) and the University of Pittsburgh (M.L.S.), I spent seven years as an archivist and records manager for the City of Philadelphia's Records Department. In that capacity I wrote records schedules and advised city officials on proper recordkeeping practices and technologies. Since 2001 I have been a Senior Records Analyst at NARA's Office of Regional Records Services, where — among other projects — I helped develop the federal records management certificate curriculum. Currently I serve as the primary point of contact for several federal agencies, including a law enforcement intelligence center and offices responsible for health and social welfare programs. I've been an SAA member since the mid-1990s.

*Candidate for Local Representative on Steering Committee (one candidate, one position)*

**Eleanor Kidd**, Archivist and Record Management Analyst, Salem County, NJ. I have been working for Salem County New Jersey as an Archivist and a Records Management Analyst for fifteen years. I am experienced in Archives Management, Records Management and Electronic Records Document Management. I am currently serving on the membership committee for Mid Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) and am on the Board of Directors for Liberty Bell Chapter of Association of Records Managers and Administrators (ARMA). I have obtained a Federal Records Management Certification and am a graduate of the Modern Archives Institute. I am expecting certification soon from the Institute of Certified Records managers. I am passionate about my work and want to help other people who are also "in the business". I have wanted to be involved with the Society of American Archivists for a long time, and I feel this is a great way to begin my involvement. I have much to share, and much to learn. I would love to see the Government Section become more active. Please let me become involved!



## **Web Liaison Needed !**

The Government Records Section would like to offer sincere thanks to **Wayne Everard** for his time and patience in keeping our officers list updated. Wayne has retired from his longtime post at the collections of the New Orleans Public Library and we wish him the very best in his future activities. If you would like to help with the website, please contact Kelly Eubank, Vice Chair/Chair-elect.

### **2007 – 2008 GOVERNMENT RECORDS SECTION STEERING COMMITTEE**

<b>Federal</b>	<b>Local</b>	<b>State</b>
<p>Sharmila Bhatia National Archives and Records Administration Center for Electronic Records, Room 5320 8601 Adelphi Road College Park, MD 20740 Tel: 301-837-1519 Fax: 301-837-3681 <a href="mailto:Sharmila.Bhatia@nara.gov">Sharmila.Bhatia@nara.gov</a></p>	<p><b>Chair</b> John H. Slate, CA Dallas Municipal Archives City Secretary's Office 1500 Marilla Street 5D South, City Hall Dallas, TX 75201 Tel: 214-670-5270 <a href="mailto:John.slate@dallascityhall.com">John.slate@dallascityhall.com</a></p>	<p><b>Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect</b> Kelly Eubank North Carolina State Archives 108 Village Mill Place Raleigh, NC 27608 Tel: 919-833-5308 <a href="mailto:Kelly.eubank@ncmail.net">Kelly.eubank@ncmail.net</a></p>
<p>William Carpenter Program Analyst National Archives and Records Administration Information Security Oversight Office 700 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington , DC 20408 Phone: (202) 357-5466 Email:william.carpenter@nara.gov</p>	<p>Jeanie F. Child Assistant Archivist Circuit Court of Cook County 4843 N California Avenue Chicago , IL 60625 Tel: (312) 603-6628 Email: pocockj@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Scott Sackett Asst Regional Archivist Washington State Archives 2414 N Wheaton Ct Ellensburg , WA 98926-5424 Tel: (509) 963-2136 Email: sacketts@cwu.edu</p>
<p><b>Web Liaison</b> Wayne Everard (Retired) New Orleans Public Library <a href="mailto:weverard@bellsouth.net">weverard@bellsouth.net</a></p>	<p><b>Newsletter Editor</b> Patrick Kelley Massachusetts Water Resources Authority 2 Griffin Way Chelsea, MA 02169 Tel: 617-305-5643 Fax: 617-371-1621 <a href="mailto:patrick.kelley@mwra.state.ma.us">patrick.kelley@mwra.state.ma.us</a></p>	<p><b>SAA Council Liaison</b> Bruce I. Ambacher University of Maryland College of Information Studies College Park , MD 20742 Phone: (301) 405-2043 Email:bambache@umd.edu</p>