

# The Kentucky Archivist

*Newsletter of the Kentucky Council on Archives*

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## Letter from the Chair

With the arrival of fall, I am reminded of the things I love about the season in Kentucky: the cool mornings and evenings with warm “summer-like” afternoons, hot bourbon-spiked cider, the fall foliage as I travel along interstates throughout the Bluegrass region, and my favorite holiday, Halloween. As I look toward October 31st, I have been thinking about hauntings and ghost stories, particularly in relation to archives. Our upcoming fall meeting, “Family Matters: Strategies and Resources for Local History Reference,” has me thinking about what genealogy and family history mean to our users, our reference practices, and even our collections. I am struck by how archives can be haunted places, filled with ghosts of their own, particularly when it comes to genealogical research and family history.

My first encounter with my own family history was during my mid-twenties in an undergraduate history class, where we read Douglas A. Blackmon’s *Slavery By Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II*. I was not prepared to see my surname in print—a description of two Pattillo men who issued bogus warrants to maintain control of and extend exploitative labor contracts between black laborers and white farmers. I set out to prove that they must be a “different Pattillo” family, and turned toward archival sources. As I began to encounter my relatives in an archival space, they rose up from the documents like specters and changed my perceptions of lineage and my own sense of familial kinship. Staring into the eyes of my great-great-great grandfather and his three brothers, all of whom bore a striking resemblance to my own father, wearing their CSA uniforms with pride, I felt the exact opposite feeling grow within me.

As a professional archivist, I wonder, how can my experience guide me to improve my genealogy and family history reference skills? How can I have a better knowledge base of the resources across the commonwealth to assist researchers I encounter? How can I set aside my own hesitation toward genealogy and family history (that is intricately linked to my personal experience) and find the joy in discovery that many encounter when embarking on their own (continued on page 2)

**Rebecca Pattillo**  
**KCA Chair, 2019-2020**



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## Treasurer's Report

**Deana Thomas**  
**KCA Treasurer, 2017-2020**



Fall greetings, fellow KCA members! As of the end of September, we have 62 members.

We had 60 attendees at the 2019 Spring Meeting held at Buffalo Trace Distillery which was an increase of 48%! Thank you to all who attended and presented for making it an engaging and informative event!

Regarding our 2019 finances, our income for the year is \$1,180.63 (excluding interest); non-meeting expenses paid include: \$17.99 for domain registration fees and \$15 for our annual report (for our non-profit status).

Our bank balance as of 9/19/2018 is \$9,468.37, in our PayPal account we have \$699.32, and we have \$230 in cash making our total funds \$10,397.69. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. We hope to see you at the Fall Meeting!

Find additional [KCA Governance](#) information on our website.



"Autumn Scene, Cumberland Falls, Cumberland Falls State Park Kentucky."  
University of Kentucky Libraries, Postcard Collection

## Letter from the Chair, continued

(continued from page 1)

family history (often times a very positive experience)? And most importantly, for me, how can I acquire a set of skills to provide empathetic reference to researchers who may encounter hauntings of their own in the archive? I look forward to exploring and unpacking these themes, along with gaining better knowledge of resources across the state, and think about how I can improve my reference skills in relation to genealogy and family history with fellow KCA members at the fall meeting on November 15th at the Covington Branch of the Kenton Public Library.

Rebecca

## 2019 Spring Meeting Review

Submitted by Kevin Klesta

On the walk between the parking lot and the Elmer T. Lee Clubhouse at the Buffalo Trace Distillery, one cannot help noticing the blackened trees lining the sidewalk. A ubiquitous black stain emblematic of distilleries all over coats the trees' trunks and leaves, darkening the sides of buildings and vehicles. Feeding off the ethanol emissions, or "Angel's Share," that seep from the multitudes of aging bourbon barrels, *baudouinia compniacensis* is a fungus that spreads rapidly and can accumulate up to 2 centimeters deep in some places. Looking like the aftermath of a million exploded ink pens, the fungus is harmless albeit aesthetically off-putting. But at a distillery, it is a badge of honor that only adds to the atmosphere that the Kentucky Council on Archives embraced for their 2019 Spring Meeting held in Frankfort, Kentucky.



Amidst the shrieks and wails of the distillery machinery, over 60 archivists and information specialists gathered in a rustic lodge to discuss a medley of topics ranging from grant writing to corporate archives to compelling collaborations and technologies. With the theme being an Open Bar, the topics were as varied as the bottles lining your favorite watering hole. Kyna Herzinger, the now-past Chair welcomed the gathering with a thought-provoking comparison of archivists as members of a Greek chorus; the archivist's role as one of an intermediary between researcher and record that remains critical to the play that we call History.

First up was a taste of Grant Writing, a panel session moderated by Sarah Dorphinghaus (University of Kentucky). The group of university and non-profit archivists and administrators shared tips on grant writing that covered everything from proper budgeting to advice on making contacts to avoiding jargon in a proposal.



The next two drinks, er- sessions, focused on technology with a fast-paced summary of preservation tools used by Brenna Edwards of Emory University. This was followed by a more detailed session on Scalar, an open source authoring and publishing platform that can be used to showcase archival media. Presented by Beth South of Indiana University East, the session focused on her experience creating a course about faculty and campus history which included a digital "book" full of primary sources.

(continued on page 4)



## 2019 Spring Meeting Review, continued

(continued from page 3)

Post-lunch, four archivists detailed their work with corporate archives. Madison Sevilla and Stephanie Kelley discussed their work with Sazerac Company Archive involving the intersection of collections and brands. Bailey Mazik talked about her experiences with the Louisville Slugger Museum and their outreach projects, and Jessica Kincaid delved into the crossroads of art and hospitality at the 21c Museum Hotel.

The final two sessions involved collaborations. Joseph Coates (Purdue University Northwest) emphasized the importance of partnerships while creating the archives for Barker Mansion and the challenges that followed. Heidi Taylor-Caudill (Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph Archives) spoke on the intersection of music and archives; how archival resources interwoven with hymnal music culminated in a memorial concert.

As many departed for the day, a small group gathered for a historical tour of Buffalo Trace; walking through the Old Taylor House (named after E. H. Taylor, Jr.), the OFC Building where the distillery still ferments mash and into Warehouse C, stacked tall with aging bourbon barrels. The tour ended with a bourbon tasting, a most excellent end to the Kentucky Council on Archives Spring 2019 meeting.



## KDLA and SHRAB News

Submitted by: Jennifer Patterson

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) received a two-year Access to Historical Records: Archival Projects grant to facilitate access to early legal records through the digitization, preservation, and online dissemination of existing volumes, loose papers, and microfilm of Kentucky General Court and Kentucky naturalization records. These collections will offer researchers a path through the changing culture of the Commonwealth of Kentucky from its founding through 1945 and represent a portion of the legal history of Kentucky, addressing major issues such as the settling of the Commonwealth and continued immigration to Kentucky through the World War II era. Digitized records will be processed and ingested into KDLA's digital preservation system, Preservica, using current archival standards and best practices including the addition of descriptive metadata down to the item level. Online access will be provided through the Kentucky State Digital Archives (KSDA) <https://kdla.access.preservica.com/welcome/>.

The General Court collection consists of Equity and Ordinary Case Files and Order Books dating 1799-1850. The Naturalization Records collection spans 1820-1945. The scope of the materials in these collections is united by themes of civic and cultural growth, and illustrates the early westward expansion of the Commonwealth. The birth and rapid evolution of the court system's process for hearing numerous land disputes is historically significant in telling Kentucky's origin story and the setting of legal precedent. The General Court records are important not only because they contain suits involving early prominent landowners, such as Simon Kenton and Christopher Greenup for whom counties were named, but also because the rulings of these cases frequently determined geographical boundaries within Kentucky. Naturalization records provide a wealth of information on the evolution of the cultural fabric of Kentucky from the first few decades of statehood through the 1940s. These records contain specific, unique information useful for genealogical and cultural studies. Items within the naturalization collections such as photographs, depositions, and letters offer color and texture to family narratives, while other documentation traces families back to their ancestral roots.

The digitization of these records will enable access to records for which no index or minimal indexing currently exists. Descriptive and embedded metadata will open possibilities for new avenues of research and study. By digitizing these records and making them available online through the KSDA, KDLA will deliver an efficient, effective platform with which researchers can locate and utilize information that has essentially been hidden. KDLA will implement a volunteer program to engage citizens in the indexing of the newly digitized records.

### Newsletter Available

Check out the latest edition of the [Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. newsletter](#), which includes information on the upcoming Public Archives Symposium, the *Rightfully Hers: American Women and the Vote* display, Local Records Program grants, Electronic Records Day, news updates, and other interesting articles.

### Job Openings

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives posts a listing of job opportunities available across the state. Check out the [KDLA Job List website](#) for more details.

## KCA Membership News

### News from the University of Kentucky Libraries Special Collections Research Center

Submitted by: Daniel Weddington and Jay-Marie Bravent

On Tuesday, September 10, 2019, the University of Kentucky Libraries [Special Collections Research Center](#) (SCRC) celebrated the opening of the new Breckinridge Digital Studio and the redesigned and updated Breckinridge Research Room in the Margaret I. King Library Building.

As part of the opening festivities, faculty, students, and special guests toured the new space and mingled with SCRC Breckinridge Research Room staff and students, followed by light snacks in the adjacent Great Hall.



The Breckinridge Research Room, now features a self-serve digital studio, open to all registered students, faculty, staff and community members wishing to scan personal artifacts and research materials. The studio is equipped with professional-quality imaging technology, including a Bookeye 4 color planetary scanner, a Plustek OpticFilm 8200i SE film scanner and a FotodioX LED Studio-in-a-Box tabletop studio. Several alumni, employees, and classes have already taken advantage of the space.

Additional changes to the Breckinridge Research Room were designed to enhance the user's experience while working with special collections materials and fragile rare books, augment ADA-compliance, and support Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity efforts on campus. Daniel Weddington explains, "even in an increasingly digital world, the very nature of our resources means special collections will always have one foot in the physical world as well. It is our responsibility then to ensure those physical spaces remain relevant, welcoming, and accessible for all of our users. This requires us to not only adapt to ever-evolving user needs and expectations, but to think beyond traditional notions of the types of spaces and services special collections typically provides."

Updates also include a glass entry door with accessibility buttons, new internet portals and high-speed Wi-Fi; new black leather ergonomic seating; additional tables to better accommodate oversized materials and provide added study spaces; a new multi-level service desk with consultation and registration spaces; a new microfilm machine; new exhibit areas and refreshed exhibit content; as well as upgraded electrical and new carpet. A "UK Corner" now consolidates University related materials with an artifacts display. Over the course of the next year, staff and students will be refreshing the Kentuckiana reference collections throughout in the room, with an increased focus on current scholarship.



## KCA Membership News

### News from the University of Kentucky Libraries Special Collections Research Center, continued

Submitted by: Sarah Dorpinghaus

The University of Kentucky Libraries Special Collections Research Center launched a custom digital library for the John C. Wyatt Lexington Herald-Leader (LHL) photographs collection ([lhlphotoarchive.org](http://lhlphotoarchive.org)). The site provides access to over 11,000 digitized images with advanced search features, location mapping, an integrated finding aid viewer, and more. The LHL collection consists of an estimated 2 million unique photographic negatives spanning the years 1939-2001. The collection is an unparalleled source of photographic evidence of the many historical, cultural, and industrial changes that have shaped Lexington and its surrounding region. The scope of the collection highlights the day to day activities of Kentuckians. It follows the changing urban landscape of Lexington, the agricultural, tobacco and horse racing industries, key national events such as World War II and Vietnam, as well as notable regional and national figures. It is the most extensive, single collection of still photographic images documenting Lexington's 20th Century history in existence.



Crowded street near 200 West Main Street in Lexington, 1939.

John C. Wyatt Lexington Herald-Leader (LHL) photographs collection, University of Kentucky Libraries Special Collections Research Center

## KCA Membership News, continued

### News from The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Submitted by: Rae Ann Sauer

#### SAR Digitization Lab Internship Information

Be a part of securing over 130 years of historical records of The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, the largest male lineage society in the country. We are located on Louisville's beautiful Museum Row in the heart of the city's major tourist attractions. We are currently seeking an intern to assist in digitizing the Institutional Archives. These archives range from before the founding of the SAR (1889) to present. Types of materials in the collection include meeting minutes, photographs, meeting pamphlets, correspondence and other miscellaneous records. We are seeking your talents and value your time that once committed with make a lasting impact on the preservation of historical records. This paid internship will take place in our newly-completed, modern digitization lab. This lab is located inside the SAR Genealogical Research Library. This is a great experience as you work to develop a foundation for your career!

#### Details:

Internship for Spring 2020 semester. Intern must be enrolled in or a recent graduate of a university studying history, museum studies, library science, public history, or related field. 10-15 hours per week for a semester. 8:00 am-4:30pm Monday-Friday. We are closed on all major holidays. All work will be done onsite.

#### Duties include:

- Assist in scanning/photographing archive collections
- Perform quality control measures
- Keep statistics on work progress
- Work with SAR staff and volunteers
- Basic image enhancement and digital file organization

#### Requirements & Skills Needed:

Training will be provided for project procedures and how to operate the equipment.

- Intermediate computer skills
- Experience in handling fragile documents
- Experience using a DSLR camera a plus, but not required
- Commitment to keeping institutional information confidential
- Ability to work independently or with a partner
- Interest in history and/or photography
- Attention to detail
- Familiarity with digital imaging technologies

#### Additional Information:

No food or drink is allowed in the digitization lab. A break area and kitchenette is available. Parking reimbursement will be provided by the SAR. More information about the SAR can be found at [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org).

#### Contact:

To express interest or for additional information, please contact Rae Ann Sauer at [rsauer@sar.org](mailto:rsauer@sar.org) or 502-588-6130.



## KCA Membership News, continued

### News from The Filson Historical Society

Submitted by: Jennie Cole

#### New Exhibits at the Filson

Louisville and the art and design world lost a legend when Julius Friedman passed away in July 2017. Over the course of a fifty-year career in art and design, his genius expanded the bounds of both areas. In September 2018, Julius Friedman's sister Carol Abrams donated a cross-section sampling of the work that he had created over the course of his career to the Filson. That collection will now be showcased in an exhibit in the Filson's Nash Gallery: ***A Julius Friedman Sampler - Art, Design, and Innovation Over Fifty Years*** curated by Jim Holmberg and Abby Glogower. From his early black and white photographs to his pit-fired ceramic "Rockopolis" sculptures, visitors will be able to view and enjoy examples of the art, design, and genius of this "Louisville Legend." This exhibit will be on display through March 2020.

In 1959, photographer Ivey W. Cousins captured streetscapes and buildings in downtown Louisville from Broadway north to the Ohio River and the residential district of Third and Fourth Streets in Old Louisville. During this era of transition with urban renewal in full swing, construction of expressways, and the expansion of the downtown medical complex—Cousins documented many of the buildings and streetscapes lost to history. For the 2019 Louisville Photo Biennial running through November 10, the Filson presents ***Louisville, City in Transition***, a display of Cousins' work side by side with some contemporary shots of some of the same areas. This exhibit was curated by Heather Potter with assistance from Carole Crites, Bill Carner, and Cassidy Meurer.



View of 924 S. 4th Street, Louisville, KY being torn down. Ivey W. Cousins Photograph Collection [ICW-491], The Filson Historical Society.

Can't make it to Louisville? You can see some of Cousins' work online in the Filson's new digital exhibit space on Omeka managed by Associate Curator of Digital Projects, Danielle Spalenka: <https://filsonhistorical.omeka.net/exhibits>.

## 2019 Fall Meeting | Program

# Family Matters: Strategies and Resources for Local History Reference

**Date:** Friday, November 15th

**Time:** 10:00 am - 3:00 pm EST

**Location:** Kenton Public Library - Covington Branch  
502 Scott Blvd, Covington, KY 41011

**Costs:** \$12 members / \$18 non-members

Genealogy and family history make up a large part of archival reference services, yet many archivists feel unsure how to navigate resources related to this niche group of patrons. With a wealth of disparate resources and services across the state, it is difficult to know how best to serve our patrons interested in genealogy and family history. This type of reference can be further complicated by the archivist's/librarian's own bias, the inherent bias in records (or absence of records), and lack of strategies on how to provide empathy or expressions of joy when a patron has found something that is highly meaningful or troubling to them. On Friday, November 15th, we invite you to the Covington Branch of the Kenton Public Library, home of Northern Kentucky's largest collection of genealogy and local history materials, for a day of strategies and skill building related specifically to genealogy, family history, and hyper-local reference services.

10:00-10:15	Registration/coffee
10:15-10:30	Welcome from the chair, updates, and other KCA business
10:30-12:00	Intro to activity, break out groups, & discussion
12:00-1:00	Lunch
1:00-2:30	Resource Sharing Panel
2:30-3:00	Tour of Covington genealogy and local history room

## 2019 Fall Meeting | Registration

### Registration

Please register online by **Friday, November 8, 2019** to secure your lunch order.

*Onsite registrations will be accepted, but will not include a lunch order.*

*Online registration and payment is a two-step process, go to this link to begin process:*

<http://www.kyarchivists.com/meetings/fall-2019-meeting>

Step #1: Complete Registration Form

Step #2: PayPal

**(Note: A small service fee is assessed by PayPal)**

\*\*\*\*\*

#### For Registration and Payment by Check and Mail:

Please complete this form and mail along with payment to the address provided below.

*Last minute onsite registrations will be accepted, but will not include a lunch order.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Membership status:

- ☐ Member + Meeting only: **\$12**
- ☐ Non-member Meeting only: **\$18**
- ☐ Meeting + Membership/Renewal: **\$32**
- ☐ Meeting + Student Membership/Renewal: **\$22**

#### Payment Method:

**Check Only**

#### Boxed Lunch Options (please choose one):

☐ Gluten Free   ☐ Vegetarian   ☐ Other Allergies?: \_\_\_\_\_   ☐ No Preference

Do you plan to stay for the tour?   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

**If registering by mail,  
this form and check payment must be received by Friday, November 8, 2019.**

**Mail to:**

**Deana Thomas  
Kentucky Historical Society  
100 W. Broadway  
Frankfort, KY 40601**

Please make checks payable to: Kentucky Council on Archives





## Membership Form

### KCA Dues (May 1, 2019 – April 30, 2020)

KCA membership cycle goes from May 1-April 30 and is **\$20**.

Please fill out this form as if it were a mailing label to you. You can email the form to the KCA treasurer, Deana Thomas, at [Deana.thomas@ky.gov](mailto:Deana.thomas@ky.gov) or you can mail it to the address at the bottom of the page.

**PLEASE DO NOT USE PERSONAL INFORMATION YOU WOULD NOT WANT ON THE KCA WEBSITE!**

We accept membership dues via Paypal, although there is an additional \$1 convenience fee.  
Please see the membership page of the KCA website to pay your dues electronically.

<http://www.kyarchivists.com/membership/>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Include my name and contact information on the KCA website membership directory.

\_\_\_\_\_ Do not include my name and contact information on the KCA website membership directory.

Send dues checks to:

**Deana Thomas  
Kentucky Historical Society  
100 W. Broadway  
Frankfort, KY 40601**

### Make Checks Payable to: Kentucky Council on Archives

The Kentucky Council on Archives, a professional membership organization, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability and provides, on request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in all services, programs, and activities.

Persons requiring special accommodation or auxiliary aids must notify a member of the KCA board thirty (30) days prior to a meeting so that the proper arrangements can be made.