



**Celebrating 40 Years
1967–2007**

Washington Conservation Guild

**Annual Report
May 1, 2007 to
April 30, 2008**

**Submitted by Claire Peachey, President
April 2008**

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Introduction

This Annual Report of the Washington Conservation Guild (WCG) summarizes the activities and finances of the WCG for the fiscal year beginning on May 1, 2007 and ending on April 30, 2008. The purpose of this annual report is to communicate to our membership the activities that the WCG has undertaken during the 2007–2008 fiscal year; it is made available on the Washington Conservation Guild website in advance of the annual business meeting, held in May. Highlights from the report are presented at the business meeting. Annual reports since 2003/2004 are available on the website, where members and other interested people may access them to learn about the Guild's activities.

Message from the President

The Washington Conservation Guild celebrated its 40th year in 2007/2008, and it has been a pleasure to serve as president during this anniversary year. Forty years is quite a milestone and it has been fun and informative to look back at the impressive origins, traditions, and accomplishments of the Guild, at the same time that we have been looking forward by updating our look, our outreach, and our direction. This year I have tried to continue the momentum established by the presidents and board members over the past few years.

We commemorated WCG's 40th anniversary with a party and discussion panel of past board members in December, and by publishing four newsletters dedicated to WCG's history. At the beginning of the year, we called up the WCG Archives from storage, and over the course of this year, many people have accessed that material to write articles and develop perspectives about WCG's development. The WCG Archives is a wonderful resource and we are fortunate that it is part of the Smithsonian Institution Archives.

One of the board's major undertakings this year was the update of the WCG website. Over the past few years, WCG has been updating its public face, first by redesigning the logo in 2006, followed by the stationery and business cards, and then the Outreach Booth last year. This year we redesigned the website to incorporate our new logo, to make WCG information more easily accessible both to members and to the public, to make membership and donation payments easy, and to allow us to highlight (and show off) our many activities. The site is modern and attractive, and I think everyone will be pleased when it is unveiled on May 1.

Monthly membership meetings continue to be a major focus of the WCG, and we direct much effort toward holding them in venues of interest to the membership and attracting

good speakers on a range of topics. This year we were hosted by three new (or long-missed) venues: the Smithsonian American Art Museum/National Portrait Gallery, open again after a magnificent restoration; the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, unknown to many of us, but which has a museum and spacious meeting area; and The Phillips Collection, which included WCG as a co-sponsor of one of their Artful Evenings programs. We were also fortunate to be welcomed by other venues that host us year after year. The full list of this year's meeting venues and speakers is in this report.

In addition to our regular meetings, in October we co-sponsored with the National Association of Corrosion Engineers (NACE) and the Smithsonian Museum Conservation Institute (MCI) the Second Symposium on the Corrosion and Preservation of Historic Artifacts. This is the second year we have held this day-long meeting, and it has been well attended, so we hope to continue it in the future. We also hope to forge other such partnerships in order to offer other professional events and workshops on a regular basis.

WCG continued its support of local interns and its active public outreach program, two of our great strengths. WCG members really stepped forward to help the Georgetown branch of the DC Public Library (DCPL) after it suffered a fire in late April 2007. In addition to on-site support after the fire, WCG donated the proceeds from our May raffle to the DCPL, and held our Angels project in support of the library. We are already planning the next Angels project to assist another local heritage organization. Our new Outreach Booth had a lot of exposure this year, and we have made plans to attend more antiques and book fairs to further increase our visibility, make *Conservation Resources for Art and Antiques* (CRfAA) available for purchase to a wider audience, and engage more people in conservation and preservation. In a time of national and personal budget crunches, it is more important than ever to gain public support — public demand, even — for preservation of our cultural resources.

Financially, WCG is in good shape. We used some of our assets to invest in the updates that I have described because we feel they will provide an important return. While dues do not fully cover our expenses each year, we receive additional income from the sale of CRfAA, we encourage members to drop a few dollars in the kitty at meetings to cover refreshment expenses, we have received generous refreshment sponsorships from friends and members, and we ask for a \$5 donation from non-members at the meetings. We have begun to look at expenses over the past five years to find trends and identify areas for cost savings; in the discussions below, I have noted the average annual cost for each major expense category based on the past five years of records. Considering that WCG dues were \$3 in 1967 and are only \$30 now, I think we have managed to keep things very reasonable over these 40 years!

The WCG board is dedicated to making WCG an active and vibrant organization, and I would like to acknowledge their hard work and enthusiasm. I would also like to thank the

many members who volunteer at the Outreach Booth, present their research at the monthly meetings, attend the monthly meetings, and participate in other WCG activities. I look forward to another year as president and I invite all members of WCG to get involved, voice their opinions, and help steer the organization.

Claire Peachey, WCG President and Chairman of the Board

Highlights of the Year

The main achievements of the last year include:

- Held meetings at three new venues (or ones not visited in many years): the Smithsonian American Art Museum/National Portrait Gallery, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and The Phillips Collection.
- Awarded six free WCG memberships to interns/fellows, sponsored by the Sidney Williston Fund.
- Held a September welcome reception for WCG intern/student/fellow members, this year at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.
- Donated \$1900 to the Georgetown branch of the DC Public Library for post-fire recovery and conservation assistance.
- Held a successful Angels Project on behalf of the DCPL/Georgetown branch.
- Displayed the WCG Outreach Booth at five meetings and three outreach events.
- Co-sponsored with NACE and MCI the Second Symposium on Corrosion and Preservation of Historic Artifacts.
- Sold 120 copies of the second edition of *Conservation Resources for Art and Antiques*.

Historical Background

The Washington Conservation Guild is a local non-profit organization, founded in 1967 and dedicated to the conservation of cultural property in our area. The goal of the WCG is to provide for the exchange of information among our members who are conservators, curators, collectors, framers, architects, students and others interested in the conservation, restoration, preservation and protection of objects of historical importance. We organize and hold monthly meetings that include social activities and talks on a variety of conservation-related topics. In addition, we sponsor specialized seminars and workshops for our members and the community. As part of our public education programs we participate in local art and antiques fairs and cultural events. We provide conservation information to the public through our website, a quarterly newsletter and our publication *Conservation Resources for Art and Antiques*. WCG membership is open to everyone and is a great local resource for learning about

preserving your own artifacts, discovering what is happening behind the scenes at local museums, and providing a valuable network for conservation professionals.

2007/2008 WCG Board

The WCG board is a combination of elected and appointed members; details of positions and terms are in the WCG Bylaws. The WCG board usually meets from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the day of our monthly meetings; for a full day in the summer; and at other times as deemed necessary.

OFFICERS

President: Claire Peachey
Vice President: Eliza Gilligan
Treasurer: Steve Mellor
Membership Secretary: Patricia Favero
Recording Secretary: Julia Sybalsky

DIRECTORS

The Directors are responsible for organizing the individual meetings. Their job includes all contact with the speakers and host site; setting up for the meeting; bringing refreshments; cleaning up; finding someone to summarize the meetings; and creating the written meeting announcement. Each Director is assigned at least two meetings a year. In addition, many directors take on other projects. Five directors are elected, with two-year terms that can be extended by one year. The Past President automatically becomes a Director for two years to help continuity and is Chair of the nominating committee. The President may appoint up to two additional Directors during his or her term.

Director: Lisa Young (Past President)
Director: Julia Brennan
Director: Mary Coughlin
Director: Jane Norman
Director: Sunae Park Evans
Director: Susan Peckham
Director: Larry Shutts (Appointed)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Committee Chairs are responsible for organizing events or activities related to the committees listed below. They recruit members for their committees when needed. Committee chairs and other committee members are not elected members, nor voting

members, of the Board. They are appointed by the President and have no term limits. More information about their activities may be found starting on page 13. Any WCG member interested in joining a committee can contact the board.

Archivist: Sarah Stauderman

CRfAA 2nd Edition Sales: Michele Pagan

Intern Coordinator: Joanne Klaar Walker

Newsletter Editor: Jayne Girod Holt

Nominating Committee Chair: Lisa Young

Committee Members: Edward McManus, Michelle Savant, Connie Stromberg

Angels Project Coordinator: Joanna Dunn

Public Lecture Coordinator: (vacant)

Outreach Booth Coordinator: Nancy Pollak

Web Site Guru: Erin Blake

Refreshments Chair: Genevieve Bieniosek

Membership Summary

The total number of WCG members during the 2007/2008 year was 217. Of these, 23 were student/interns, 5 were honorary members, and 11 memberships were complimentary, mostly to other conservation organizations. We had 31 new members this year. The total revenue from memberships was \$5990.00. Dues are \$30 for regular members, \$20 for students and interns, \$35 for international members.

WCG's members are mostly in DC, MD, and VA, but are also in AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IL, MA, MN, MO, NJ, NY, PA, RI, WA, WV, Canada, and the United Kingdom. We are truly a geographically diverse group.

Patti Favero served for her second year as the Membership Secretary. The Membership Secretary is responsible for processing membership forms, keeping the membership database (FileMakerPro) up to date, distributing WCG announcements to the membership, and depositing all membership dues payments. The Membership Secretary is also the main contact with our printer, Beaver Press, and supplies them with mailing labels for all announcements, newsletters, and other correspondence mailed to our membership. WCG continues to offer members the choice of receiving newsletters and meeting announcements by postal mail or by electronic mail, or both; we encourage email format to help save on printing and postage costs. This year, approximately 70% of members received meeting announcements by email only, and 50% of members received newsletters by email only.

The Membership Secretary sends out renewal notices and reminders to our members and undertakes membership drives, when necessary. This year the cost to produce and mail membership renewal notices, reminders, and election absentee ballots was

\$743.80, which was \$593.80 over budget. This is not quite as drastic as it looks, as it includes payment of \$211 in expenses carried over from last fiscal year (which reported 70% under budget), and expenses that in previous years were sometimes put into different budget categories. The average annual cost over the past five years for this category is about \$300. With the update of the WCG website to include online membership renewal and payment, we anticipate that the cost to send renewal notices will decrease, although the fees associated with online renewal will offset some of those savings. We will strongly encourage members to renew at the May business meeting, to avoid having to send out late renewal reminders.

The Membership Secretary also compiles an annual membership directory and supplies an addendum when necessary. The cost for the WCG membership directory and addendum this year was \$1156.72 (\$787.85 for printing and \$368.87 for postage), which was over budget by \$306.72, but almost the same as last year's cost. This year's directory included a specialty index and a geographic index as an added benefit to members. We printed a few more copies this year, as well as an addendum (\$276.53 of the above cost, the same as last year's), to accommodate later renewals. Next year the Membership Secretary will cut costs by using a smaller font for the directory (resulting in fewer pages) and by mailing the addendum in the same envelope as a newsletter. The average annual cost over the past five years for the directory is \$1058.

Patti coordinated and streamlined the process of sending out all these regular membership publications, and also sent out special electronic notices of local lectures, job openings, and other events to the membership as they came up. She also welcomed new members and answered any membership questions. She kept the Membership Secretary handbook, which explains how to use the database and describes the membership secretary job duties, updated as necessary. This year she proposed several cost-saving ideas that the board will implement next year.

Meeting Venues and Speakers

WCG membership meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month from October through May. Each meeting generally includes a reception with light refreshments, followed by a lecture on a conservation-related topic. Eight meetings and a student/intern reception were held during the 2007/2008 membership year. Vice President **Eliza Gilligan** secured the venues and made all general arrangements. Each meeting had two assigned Directors who were responsible for all other details of the meeting. Most venues graciously host us at no cost, but we do sometimes have costs for guards, audiovisual, or other needs. WCG does not offer an honorarium for speakers, but we generally either take the speaker out for dinner or buy them a small token of our appreciation. Occasionally when a speaker travels from out of the Washington, DC area, we will cover their travel costs. This year, meeting and speaker costs totaled \$683.17, which was \$183.17 over budget, as we paid the travel expenses

(\$450.05) of speaker Tom Chase for the December 40th anniversary meeting. The five-year average for meeting and speaker costs is \$622. Our refreshments costs (including the summer board meeting) were \$2419.64, \$319.64 over budget, but just about the same as last year's costs. We allot \$200 per meeting, and it is getting increasingly difficult to buy food, drink, and supplies with this amount, but we have not raised the budget for next year. We will continue to look for meeting sponsors and to put out the kitty at the meetings. Refreshments contributions from our members and sponsors totaled \$967.00 this year.

WCG members receive an announcement for each meeting by postal mail or electronic mail 10 days before each meeting. The cost of producing and mailing the meeting announcements totaled \$1060.12 (\$824.70 for printing and \$235.42 for postage), which was \$406.12 over budget. The apparent over-spending for announcements is actually due to a low projected budget based on anticipated, but not fully realized, savings to be made by increased use of email. The five-year average for this category is \$1157. We will continue to encourage more members to receive announcements by email.

The locations, speakers, talk titles, and attendance numbers for each meeting are listed below; all venues are in Washington, DC, unless noted. (Because WCG's membership and fiscal year runs from May 1 through April 30, the first meeting of our year is the May business meeting, which "feels" like the final meeting of the year, since we then have a long break until October.)

► Thursday, May 3, 2007 at Hillwood Museum and Gardens

Business Meeting and Raffle

Self-guided tour of the Museum and Gardens

Attendance: 60

► Friday, September 21, 2007 at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

Intern tour and reception, announcement of Williston Fund recipients

Attendance: 30

► Thursday, October 4, 2007 at the Smithsonian American Art Museum/National Portrait Gallery

Emergencies, Public Advocacy, and Fund Raising for Collections Care: Responding to the Heritage Health Index Eight Days a Week

Debbie Hess Norris, Chairperson, Art Conservation Department, University of Delaware

Attendance: 62

Summarizer: Kristin deGhetaldi, Painting Conservation Intern, National Gallery of Art

► Thursday, November 1, 2007 at the National Postal Museum
Professional Certification for Conservators: Just the Facts
Terry Drayman Weisser, Director of Conservation and Technical Research,
The Walters Art Museum
Attendance: 58
Summarizer: Colleen Snyder, Objects Conservation Intern, The Walters Art Museum

► Thursday, December 6, 2007 at the National Trust for Historic Preservation
WCG 40th Anniversary Party and Panel of Past Board Members
Tom Chase, Eleanor McMillan, Nikki Goodman, Ed McManus, and Arthur Page
Attendance: 55
Summarizer: Chris Watters, Objects Conservation Intern, National Gallery of Art
Refreshments Sponsors: Ernie Robertson, Preservation Glazing Inc.;
Conservation Solutions Inc.; and Eleanor McMillan

► Thursday, January 3, 2008 at the S. Dillon Ripley Center, Smithsonian Institution
Three-Ring Circus (speaker details below)
Attendance: 95
Vendors: Heritage Preservation; American Institute for Conservation

Objects Session:

- Nina Owczarek, National Museum of African Art, *Skin-Covered Masks from the Cross River Region of Nigeria and Cameroon*
- Connie Stromberg, Stromberg Conservation LLC, and Diane Fullick, Fullick Conservation LLC, *Lichen or Not: Conservation of a Privately Owned Sarcophagus Destined for Outdoor Display*
- Jia-sun Tsang, Museum Conservation Institute, *Early Detection of Cellulose Acetate Objects Degradation*

Summarizer: Rose Daly, Pre-Program Intern, National Museum of the American Indian

Paintings Session:

- Katherine Moog, Page Conservation, *Saving Face: The Conservation of Ravishankar Raval's Portrait of Ramdas Mehta*
- Amber Kerr-Allison, Lunder Conservation Center, Smithsonian American Art Museum/National Portrait Gallery, *Public Murals: Materials, Advocacy and Conservation*

Summarizer: Amber Kerr-Allison, Smithsonian American Art Museum

Textiles and Paper Session:

- Richard Barden, Preservation Services, National Museum of American History, *7000 Uniforms, \$600,000, 5 Contractors, 4 Years, 3 Grants, 2 Divisions, and a Large Military Uniform Rehousing Project*
- Nora Lockshin, Smithsonian Archives, and Rosemary Fallon, Lunder Conservation Center, Smithsonian American Art Museum/National Portrait Gallery, *Which cracked first: the Inkin' or the Egg? Analysis and Treatment of Ink Deterioration in the William Bache Silhouette Album*
- Catalina Hernandez, National Museum of American Indian, *The Uses of Surgical Fabrics in Textile Conservation*

Summarizer: Elizabeth Schuster, University of Delaware/Winterthur Program in Art Conservation

► Thursday, February 7, 2008 at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Fire Suppression Technologies for Heritage Properties

Jack Mawhinney, Hughes Associates, Inc. Fire Science and Engineering

Summarizer: Steven Pickman, Intern, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

Attendance: 30

► Thursday, March 6, 2008 at the Charles Sumner School Museum

WCG's Intern Talks

Attendance: 62

- Tonia Grafakos, Paper Conservation Intern, and Kaori Uchida, Book Conservation Intern, Library of Congress, *Repair Techniques for Japanese Books: A Collaborative Effort between Book and Paper Conservation*
- Linda Owen, Mellon Fellow in Paper Conservation, National Gallery of Art, *Fire and Paper: An Examination of the Materials and Techniques of Lee Bontecou's Soot Drawings*
- Steve Pickman, Neukom Family Foundation Intern, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, *The Hidden Life of Everyday Objects: From a Toy Chair to Silverware*

► Thursday, April 3, 2008 at The Phillips Collection

Conservator's Perspective: Edgar Degas' Dancers at the Bar

Elizabeth Steele, Head of Conservation, The Phillips Collection

Summarizer: Rose Daly, Pre-Program Intern, National Museum of the American Indian

Attendance: 117

Co-sponsored with The Phillips Collection as part of their Artful Evenings series

Financial Highlights

Steve Mellor began his first year as Treasurer. The Treasurer is responsible for keeping the books for WCG and issuing all checks for payments and reimbursements. The Treasurer provides our accountant with information for the completion of various tax forms. He makes sure that the appropriate sales tax forms are filed for our sales of *Conservation Resources for Art and Antiques*. Steve presented summaries of current income and expenses for every board meeting. The Treasurer makes sure that the budget is being adhered to and creates a budget for the coming year for board approval.

The chart below summarizes our income and expenses for the 2007/2008 fiscal year. Our actual **overall expenditures totaled \$11,461.21**, while our **overall income was \$9,204.06**. The loss of **\$2257.15** is due to the cost of updating the website (\$2555.00, with a final invoice of \$1095.00 to be paid next fiscal year when the site has gone live), and we hope to recover these expenses next year through website sponsor donations. Without the cost of the website, we would have had an income surplus of about \$300. We did exceed our projected budget in a number of categories, mostly related to printing and postage costs, but this was not due to greatly increased spending, it was due to optimistic projections of savings that were not fully realized. With increased use of electronic publishing and correspondence, we can expect these costs to go down slightly or remain steady over the next year. Our dues do not cover all expenses, but income from sales of CRfAA continues to supplement dues income, and refreshments donations help to cover meeting costs.

Income 2007/2008

	Actual	Budgeted	▲/▼ Budget
Dues Received	\$ 5,990.00	\$ 5,500.00	▲ 490.00
Refreshment Contributions	\$ 967.00	\$ 500.00	▲ 467.00
Other Income / display rental	\$ 117.59	\$ 300.00	▼ 182.41
CRfAA2 Income	\$ 1,727.00	\$ 960.00	▲ 767.00
Checking Account Interest	\$ 2.86	\$ -	▲ 2.86
Money Market Interest	\$ 399.61	\$ -	▲ 399.61
TOTAL	\$ 9,204.06	\$ 7,260.00	▲ 1944.06

Expenses 2007/2008

	Actual	Budgeted	▲/▼ Budget
Member Directory	\$ 1,156.72	\$ 850.00	▲ 306.72
Meeting costs	\$ 112.89	\$ 300.00	▼ 187.11
Speaker costs	\$ 595.28	\$ 200.00	▲ 395.28
Announcements	\$ 1,060.12	\$ 600.00	▲ 460.12
Newsletter	\$ 1,342.34	\$ 1,020.00	▲ 322.34
Membership Renewal Mailings and others	\$ 743.80	\$ 250.00	▲ 493.80
Office/Misc.	\$ 200.04	\$ 480.00	▼ 279.96
Refreshments	\$ 2,419.64	\$ 2,100.00	▲ 319.64
HP Membership	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	
Public Outreach	\$ 517.44	\$ 600.00	▼ 82.56
Handbook for Board	\$ 169.35	\$ 150.00	▲ 19.35
Insurance	\$ 238.00	\$ 400.00	▼ 162.00
CRfAA2 postage	\$ 37.38	\$ 60.00	▼ 22.62
Bank charges	\$ 10.00	\$ -	▲ 10.00
Tax Filing fees	\$ 153.21	\$ 150.00	▲ 3.21
Website redesign	\$ 2,555.00	\$ -	▲ 2555.00
TOTAL	\$ 11,461.21	\$ 7,310.00	▲ 4151.21

▲ = over budget

▼ = under budget

Committee Activities

Intern Activities

Intern Coordinator **Joanne Klaar Walker** organized several events specifically geared toward WCG's intern/fellow/student members this year. These included a September welcome reception, laboratory tours, and happy hour get-togethers. WCG is grateful to the laboratories who hosted the tours. Joanne also helped to coordinate intern activities at the monthly meetings by asking interns to write meeting summaries for the Newsletter, assist with refreshments setup and cleanup, assist at the membership table and outreach booth, and generally help as needed, especially at the larger meetings such as the 3-Ring Circus. There is no budget line for the Intern Coordinator, as all but one event takes place at no cost to WCG. The exception is the September reception, which over the past few years has become a regularly scheduled meeting, including a board meeting, and has therefore been budgeted the regular \$200 for meeting refreshments.

September 21, 2007 Tour and reception at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC. Attendance: Tour 16, Reception 30.

October 24, 2007 Social hour at Austin Grill, Washington, DC. Attendance: 16.

November 15, 2007 Tour of the National Museum of the American Indian laboratories, Suitland, MD. Attendance: 6.

December 11, 2007 Social hour at La Tasca, Washington, DC. Attendance: 8.

January 30, 2008 Tour of the National Gallery of Art laboratories, Washington, DC. Attendance 13.

March 31, 2008 Tour of the National Air and Space Museum laboratories, Suitland, MD. Attendance: 4.

Archives

WCG's archivist **Sarah Stauderman** saw the WCG Archives get a lot of use this year as members did research to write contributions for the 40th anniversary special newsletters. She called up the records from storage and she and her interns wrote thematic articles and found other items of interest to include. The WCG Archives is part of the Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 7577. A finding aid is online at <http://siarchives.si.edu/findingaids/FARU7477.htm> Members are encouraged to submit photographs of WCG people and events to the board to be included in the archives.

Public Outreach

Angels Project

Joanna Dunn began in the position of Angels Project coordinator this year. This year's Angels Project assisted the Georgetown Branch of the DC Public Library (DCPL), and was held at the Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Library on October 13, 2007. The Georgetown library was chosen for this year's project due to WCG's close involvement with the library after a fire took place there on April 30, 2007. WCG members retrieved paintings, documents, and other collection items from the burned building and offered other assistance as needed. WCG subsequently raised more than \$2000 in donations (including a major donation from Preservation Glazing Inc.) to help with conservation of the collection. \$267.41 of this fund was used to buy supplies for the Angels Project.

DCPL staff and 15 WCG members volunteered for the October 13 event. Conservators examined and wrote condition reports for 40 objects from the library's Peabody Room. The volunteers also rehoused and surface cleaned more than 25 of the objects, so that they can be safely stored, handled, and transported. University Products donated conservation supplies, and WCG members also donated supplies and loaned equipment. At our January meeting, the Angels presented a notebook of condition and treatment reports to the DCPL staff along with a donation of \$1900 to the DCPL Foundation.

This year, WCG funded lunch for the volunteers, at a cost of \$240.16. The Angels Project has an annual budget of \$200 that is usually used for conservation supplies, publicity, and any other miscellaneous items related to the event. The board voted to use this budget for the lunch this year.

Joanna's article describing this year's Angels Project is featured in the December 2007 WCG Newsletter. Highlights from this and other recent WCG Angels projects are also on the WCG website.

Outreach Booth

Nancy Pollak continued on for her fourth year as Outreach Booth Coordinator, bringing the new booth to five monthly meetings and three public events. The Outreach Booth is WCG's way of spreading the conservation message to the interested public at art and historical events, and any other venues where people have an interest in conservation and preservation topics. The new booth is very flexible in both structure and content, so can be tailored for each event. The structure is modular and so can be arranged in different sizes and configurations, from tabletop to full-size. The many new photographs and keywords can be chosen to emphasize any combination of fine arts, scientific analysis, personal heirlooms, outreach, archaeology, and the like. Since this year was

WCG's 40th anniversary, we added a banner to the booth announcing "Celebrating 40 Years! 1967–2007."

The booth was displayed at the May, November, December, January, and March meetings. It was also the fourth year that Nancy brought the booth to the **Historical Society of Frederick County Treasured Heirlooms event** in November, and the second year at the **Appraiser's Fair at St. Clement's Island Museum** in January. At both of these events, people who brought in their treasures for appraisal were able to talk to WCG conservators about caring for their objects. The booth also marked its fourth year at the **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Heritage Week**, February 2–10. NOAA holds an annual exhibit and lecture series showcasing milestones of their history, including scientific instruments and other artifacts. This year's exhibit was called "Shipwreck," focusing on underwater archaeology and exploration. The WCG booth was set up at the entrance to the exhibit. Conservators were on hand to answer visitors' questions during the lunch hour each weekday and during two weekends. WCG is grateful to the many members who devoted their time to volunteer at these events.

WCG carries general liability insurance and insurance for the booth at a cost of \$238.00 this year. Other expenses for the booth, which included reproducing brochures and other handouts, and purchasing the banner and a spare set of hardware, totaled \$277.28.

Public Lecture Coordinator

This position remained vacant for the 2007/2008 season; the board did not actively seek anyone to fill it, and there were no new requests to WCG for speakers. Through this position, the WCG arranges lectures, demonstrations, and lab tours for the public. Our purpose is to connect with other allied organizations interested in conservation and to provide speakers who will tailor presentations to the needs and interests of those groups. In this way, we hope to increase knowledge about the conservation profession and develop closer ties with allied professions and the public. We have a page on our new website that explains the availability of WCG speakers, and we hope to recruit someone to take up this position again. There is a budget line of \$200 allocated to support this effort.

Publications

Newsletter

Jayne Girod Holt continued in her position as Newsletter Editor, producing four newsletters in the 2007/2008 season: September 2007, December 2007, March 2008, and June 2008 (the June newsletter is published in the following fiscal year, but thematically belongs to the 2007/2008 year). **40th Anniversary Newsletters:** During this

40th anniversary celebration of WCG, each newsletter of the 2007/2008 season celebrated one decade in the history of WCG. The center portion of each newsletter was dedicated to articles and remembrances of WCG people and events, research from the WCG Archives, and an overview of WCG accomplishments and themes each decade. The four main themes were founding, professionalism, regional character, and public outreach. This year, black and white photographs were also included in the newsletters. An electronic pdf version of the newsletter is now available on the WCG website and is archived back to 2004. This color version includes the same information as the paper version, but has added photographs and graphics. Members who choose to receive the electronic version are emailed a link to the file when the newsletter gets posted online.

The total cost of producing the four newsletters was \$1342.34 (\$960.61 for printing and \$381.73 for postage), which was \$322.24 over budget, but essentially the same as last year's cost of \$1357.42. If more members choose to receive the newsletter electronically, costs may slowly decline (50% of members now receive it electronically). The five-year average cost to produce the newsletter is \$1274. We encourage all members to submit articles and other materials to the newsletter.

Conservation Resources for Art and Antiques, Second Edition (2004)

Michele Pagan took over the sales, marketing, and accounting for the second edition of CRfAA this year. Sales continued at a good pace, with some familiar bookshops carrying the books, including The Corcoran Gallery of Art, The American Association of Museums catalog, and University Products. Michele added four new venues this year: George Washington's Mount Vernon, the Library of Congress, the Trover Shop (Capitol Hill), and The Renwick Gallery. Sales were very successful at the Lyceum Antiques Forum, and we plan to attend other local antiques and book fairs in the future. We sold 120 copies for a total income of \$1727.00, with \$37.38 in postage expenses. There are 516 books remaining in stock.

Website

The WCG website is hosted by Conservation On-Line, a project of the Preservation Department of Stanford University Libraries, at <http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/wcg>. It can also be reached by typing www.washingtonconservationguild.org. This alias was added in 2004/2005 to create an address that might be easier to remember. Website guru **Erin Blake** keeps our website up to date with information on WCG meetings, events, publications, job postings, workshops, and other news.

In 2007/2008, **Eliza Gilligan** headed a committee to oversee the complete redesign of the website. After considering three proposals, the committee chose Vico Rock Media, Alexandria, VA, to perform the redesign in coordination with Walter Henry at Stanford University Libraries. The new design and architecture make information easy to find.

The site incorporates the new WCG logo and colors, includes a photo gallery, highlights WCG's Angels projects and Outreach Booth, allows online membership renewal and payment (through Paypal), and allows online purchase of *Conservation Resources for Art and Antiques*, to name just a few features. The main drop-down menus are News and Events, About WCG, Membership and Meetings, WCG Publications, Professional Opportunities, and Outreach. The new website will be unveiled at the May 2008 meeting. The cost of the redesign is \$3650.00; \$2555.00 was paid this year, and \$1095.00 will be paid next year.

Refreshments Chair

Genevieve Bieniosek became our new Refreshments Chair this year. She ensured that each monthly reception went smoothly by bringing the drinks, cups, paper supplies, containers, ice, cooler, and other sundries. She sometimes ordered and brought the food as well. She coordinated with the Directors in charge of each meeting to set up and clean up the food and drink, usually also assisted by a Williston Fund winner.

Special Funds

Sidney Williston Fund

This fund was started in honor of Sidney Williston, a private conservator in Washington, DC, for over forty years. His studio, Mario's Conservation Services, provided training for dozens of conservators, many of whom head their own labs today around the country. Sidney was a Fellow in the AIC and was an honorary member of the Washington Conservation Guild. The Williston Fund was created after his passing in 2000 to recognize his contributions to the Washington area conservation community and to the Guild in particular. This year, WCG awarded six free memberships to the following fellows and interns in honor of Sidney Williston:

AWARD WINNERS FOR 2007/2008

Kristin deGhetaldi is a third year student in painting conservation at the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation. Previous internship experiences include the Getty Museum, Rijksmuseum, and a private studio in Florence. Kristin is currently an intern in Painting Conservation in the National Gallery of Art under the supervision of Catherine Metzger.

Amber Kerr-Allison is a third year student in painting conservation at the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation. Prior experience has included the Richmond Conservation Studio, North Carolina Museum of Art's Regional Conservation Center, and the private studio of Ruth Barach Cox in Raleigh. Amber is interning this year at the Lunder Conservation Center, Painting Conservation Lab, Smithsonian American Art Museum under Ann Creager.

Steven Pickman is a third year student at the UCLA/Getty Conservation Program specializing in archaeological and ethnographic conservation. He has worked in Objects Conservation at LACMA, Cultural Preservation and Restoration in Newton, NJ, and the South Street Seaport Museum in New York. Steven is currently the Neukom Family Foundation intern at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum under the supervision of Jane E. Klinger.

Colleen Snyder is a third year student in objects conservation at the Buffalo State College conservation program. Among her conservation experiences are an archaeological dig in Sardis and a conservation and rehousing project in Colonial Williamsburg. Colleen is currently working in the Objects Lab at the Walters Art Museum under the supervision of Terry Weisser.

Catalina Vasquez is a third year student in painting conservation at the Buffalo State College conservation program. Prior to her arrival in the D.C. area, Catalina worked at the National Museum in Warsaw, the Hispanic Society in New York, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and on murals in a monastery in Peru. She is currently interning in the Painting Lab at the Walters Art Museum under the supervision of Eric Gordon.

Chris Watters is a third year student in objects conservation at the Buffalo State College conservation program. His prior internship locations include Kaman-Kalehoyuk, Turkey, and the Brooklyn Museum of Art. Chris is interning at the National Gallery of Art in the Objects Lab under the supervision of Shelley Sturman.

Kendra Lovette Fund

This fund was started in December 2003 to honor Kendra Lovette, a long-time Washington area conservator. In 1977, she began working at the Library of Congress where she was the conservator in charge of treatment for the architectural drawings for the U.S. Capitol. Later she worked as a paper conservator at the Baltimore Museum of Art, and then was in private practice until the mid-1990s when ill health forced her into early retirement. Kendra died March 6, 2003, after a prolonged struggle with multiple sclerosis. Donations will be used to sponsor continuing education activities in her honor. At the beginning of the 2007/2008 year, this fund contained \$350.00 and the board decided to award the fund this year. An announcement in the form of a call for applications was distributed in February 2008, with a due date of April 1, 2008. WCG received no applicants, so decided to use this fund to support a WCG-sponsored workshop during 2008/2009.

Contact Information

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Acknowledgments

WCG would like to thank our pro-bono lawyer **Gayle Girod**, of Reed Smith, LLP, who volunteers her time to assist WCG with many different legal matters. We also thank our accountant **Gail Eisner**, of Schwartz, Weissman & Co., who leads us through the array of paperwork that we are required to fill out each year. Both of their efforts help to ensure that we retain our non-profit status, are cost-efficient, and are compliant with current laws. We are also indebted to **Walter Henry** and **Stanford University** for their generosity in hosting the WCG website, and helping with our transition to a new design this year. WCG sends appreciation to **AIC** for helping to celebrate our 40th year with an ad in the annual meeting program.

WCG is grateful to all the institutions that hosted our monthly meetings this year. Finally, we would like to thank **Conservation Solutions Inc.**, **Preservation Glazing Inc.**, **Eleanor McMillan**, and **Heritage Preservation** for their financial support of our meetings and refreshments.