



Since 1967

Washington Conservation Guild

Annual Report

May 1, 2008 to

April 30, 2009

And the “short year”

May 1 to June 30, 2009

**Submitted by Claire Peachey, President
May 2009**

Contents

Introduction.....	2
Message from the President.....	2
Highlights of the Year.....	4
Historical Background.....	4
2008/2009 WCG Board.....	5
Bylaws/Fiscal Year Change	6
Membership.....	7
Meetings	8
Finances.....	12
Committees	14
Intern Activities	14
Public Outreach	15
Angels Project.....	15
Outreach Booth.....	15
Public Lecture Coordinator	16
Publications.....	16
Newsletter	16
<i>Conservation Resources for Art and Antiques</i> , Second Edition (2004)	17
Website	17
Workshop Plans	18
Special Funds	18
Sidney Williston Fund.....	18
Kendra Lovette Fund.....	19
Acknowledgments.....	19
Contact Information	19

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, 2008, and ending on April 30, 2009, plus the “short year” of May 1 through June 30, 2009 (explained below). This annual report is made available to our membership on the WCG website at the end of the fiscal year, and some highlights from the report are presented at the May 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

I am always amazed by how much WCG accomplishes in a year. We hold eight membership meetings that each include a fun reception and a professional, informative talk (...or nine talks, in the case of the Three-Ring Circus meeting); we support local interns through our Williston Fund, monthly intern events, and an annual intern meeting; we organize and volunteer at numerous public outreach events; we keep an up-to-date website; we publish a quarterly newsletter,...and do so many other things that make WCG the active and friendly organization it is. We are a relatively small organization but we really have a lot of good energy and are maintaining WCG’s long tradition as a gathering “place” for the area’s conservators and allied professionals.

It has been a pleasure to be part of all this while serving my term as WCG’s President. I believe 2008/2009 has been a successful year, during which WCG has embarked upon a few initiatives that will be beneficial for the organization moving forward.

WCG unveiled its new website at the May 2008 meeting, and it looks great. This redesign is part of an update WCG has undertaken over the past few years to modernize our interface with our membership and the rest of the world. The new website serves as a benefit to our members and is a good communication medium that reflects the organization well. It offers online membership services, online sales of *Conservation Resources for Art and Antiques*, local job openings, a photo gallery of our activities, and much more. The brilliant blue color of the site might look familiar to many of you. You’ll have to read the Website section of this report to find out why...

One important, though perhaps not too exciting, administrative undertaking by the board this year was amending WCG’s Bylaws to change our fiscal year. Following a membership vote at the November meeting, we changed the fiscal year to begin on July 1 instead of on May 1, so that it coincides more closely with our operating cycle. WCG’s Treasurer Steve Mellor worked hard to enact this change, as it requires special reporting to the IRS, including a report on the “short year” of May 1 through June 30,

2009—the gap between the end of this “old” fiscal year and the beginning of the new one. This Bylaws change is described in more detail on page 6.

One result of the fiscal year change is that the membership year also begins on July 1 now. However, members are still encouraged to renew at or before the May business meeting, while WCG is fresh in everyone’s minds. A related change is that the membership directory will be mailed out earlier, by the end of September, to be more useful to members.

WCG has not held a workshop in a number of years, so another initiative of the board this year was to begin planning one. The board has prepared a survey to send to members soon to gather opinions on what topics are most of interest, and with the results in hand, the 2009/2010 board will move ahead with the project.

The monthly membership meetings continue to be the main focus of the WCG, and this year as in other years, we had a varied and interesting offering of talks and meeting locations. We are fortunate to be welcomed by so many museums and other institutions in the area. This year we met at three new (or long-missed) venues: Pyramid Atlantic Art Center, where we also had a tour of their papermaking and printmaking studios; Dumbarton Oaks, where we were included as part of their public lecture program; and Case[werks] in Baltimore, where we were treated to an elegant and delicious reception by our hosts. Four of our meetings were sponsored by conservation businesses, and our “mini trade show” at the Three-Ring Circus meeting was especially busy. The full list of this year’s meeting venues, speakers, and sponsors is in this report.

WCG continued to have active intern and public outreach programs. Our Angels project at the Historical Society of Washington, DC, was supported by a generous FAIC grant and supplier donations. The word seems to be getting around about our good works, and we have received a couple of requests for Angels assistance, so we are already planning for next year’s project. We took our Outreach Booth to several events this year, and perhaps the most fun was had at the National Building Museum’s Festival of the Building Arts, where WCG volunteers broke giant flower pots and helped kids put them back together again. We have also continued to sell *Conservation Resources for Art and Antiques* at outreach events, in bookstores, and online.

We end the year in good shape financially—thankfully not reflecting the state of the global economy. WCG attracted 18 more members than last year, which helps our dues balance, and our income was supplemented from several sources: we received generous refreshments sponsorships from several companies, donations from members, income from the sale of CRfAA, donations in the kitty at meetings, and some \$5 donations from non-members at the meetings. We were able to just about cover our extra costs for the “short year” and the website redesign with our operating income, going into the red by less than \$100. We had hoped to receive some donations through our website Supporters page, but the timing has not been good, with the downturn in

the economy. The board has worked to cut costs significantly by increasing the use of electronic publication, and will continue to look for other efficiencies.

I have enjoyed my term as president of the Washington Conservation Guild and would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all the members of the WCG board, who bring in fresh ideas and work with enthusiasm to make our events and accomplishments possible. WCG is a great organization, and I hope members will continue to get involved in the many activities and will encourage other colleagues to join in as well. I look forward to all the good things to come.

Claire Peachey, WCG President and Chairman of the Board

Highlights of the Year

The main achievements of the last year include:

- Unveiled the redesigned WCG website, and instituted online membership application and renewal.
- Held meetings at three new/long-missed venues: Pyramid Atlantic Art Center, Dumbarton Oaks, and Case[werks].
- Awarded four free WCG memberships to interns through the Williston Fund.
- Received an FAIC Angels Project grant and held a successful Angels Project on behalf of the Historical Society of Washington, DC.
- Displayed the Outreach Booth at five public outreach events and four WCG meetings.
- Sold 50 copies of the second edition of *Conservation Resources for Art and Antiques*.
- Began planning a conservation workshop.
- Phased out printed meeting announcements, which will save WCG approximately \$1000 a year.
- Received refreshments sponsorships from seven conservation businesses.

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.

2008/2009 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: Joanne Klaar Walker
Recording Secretary: Amber Kerr-Allison

DIRECTORS

Directors are responsible for organizing the monthly 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: Mary Coughlin
Director: Sunae Park Evans
Director: Patricia Favero
Director: Susan Peckham
Director: Hugh Shockey
Director: Connie Stromberg (Appointed)
Director: Morgan Zinsmeister

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. Any WCG member interested in joining a committee is welcome to contact the board.

Angels Project Coordinator: Joanna Dunn

Archivist: Sarah Stauderman

CRfAA 2nd Edition Sales: Michele Pagan

Intern Coordinator: Kristin deGhetaldi

Newsletter Editor: Jayne Girod Holt

Nominating Committee Chair: Lisa Young

Committee Members: Edward McManus, Michelle Savant, E.D. Tully Rambo

Outreach Booth Coordinator: Nancy Pollak

Public Lecture Coordinator: (vacant)

Refreshments Chair: Genevieve Bieniosek

Web Site Guru: Erin Blake

Bylaws/Fiscal Year Change

This year, the WCG board proposed, and the membership voted on, an amendment to the WCG Bylaws, Article I, Section C, Fiscal Year. The wording was changed from “The fiscal year of the WCG shall be from May 1 to April 30” to “The fiscal year of the WCG shall be from July 1 to June 30.” The result is that WCG’s new fiscal year and membership year are now July 1 to June 30. This change does not affect the meeting dates, elections, or other activities of the WCG.

The board proposed this change in WCG’s fiscal year so that that all the activities and expenses of one WCG operating cycle would fall within a single fiscal year. Each year, we hold the summer meeting of the new board in July, the first membership meeting in October, and the annual business meeting in May; in addition, the June newsletter traditionally reports on the activities of the previous March through May. So the WCG operating year is July through June, but the fiscal year was May through April. With the new fiscal year dates, all our related activities fall within the same year, instead of crossing over into two fiscal years. The change will make accounting much easier, and will allow more accurate budgeting and comparison of expenses from year to year.

The board notified the membership of the proposed change and the scheduled vote in an announcement mailed together with the November meeting announcement. The vote was taken by a show of hands at the November 6, 2008, meeting. The required quorum of 10% of the membership was present for the vote; 23 members would have composed

a quorum, and 54 people were present. A clear majority of those present raised their hands when asked who was in favor; nobody raised a hand in opposition.

WCG will now file a change of accounting period with the IRS, and will begin to operate on the new schedule starting on July 1, 2009. The two-month period between that date and the end of the present fiscal year, that is, May 1 to June 30, 2009, is considered a “short year” by the IRS and requires a special tax filing, described in the Finances section of this report.

Membership

WCG had 235 members during 2008/2009. This was up by 18 members from last year, and included 38 new members, 28 student/interns, 5 honorary members, and 17 complimentary memberships. Total revenue from memberships was \$6456. Dues are \$30 for Regular Members, \$20 for Student Members, and \$35 for International Members. WCG’s members are mostly in DC, MD, and VA, but are also in 17 other states, Canada, and the United Kingdom. We are truly a geographically diverse group.

Beginning in May 2008, WCG instituted online membership application and renewal via our updated website. Sixty-eight members took advantage of this new benefit, paying by Paypal. Paypal fees are approximately 3%, and totaled \$72. We encountered a few problems with our online membership form, so designed and uploaded a new one in time for the 2009 renewal season (see Website section below).

WCG’s honorary members are W.T. Chase, M. Lebwohl, E. McMillan, R.M. Organ, and M.K. Weidner. The complimentary memberships were awarded to E.P. Wentworth from AIC, E. Pourchot from AIC, Chicago Area Conservation Group, McKeldin Library, Midwest Regional Conservation Guild, National Archives and Records, New England Conservation Association, Textile Conservation Center, Western Association for Art Conservation, Western New York Conservation Guild, Association for Preservation Technology, G.R. Girod, Heritage Preservation, and the four Williston Award winners.

Joanne Klaar Walker began her term as the Membership Secretary this year. 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, the membership directory, and other correspondence.

Joanne coordinated and streamlined the process of sending out all these regular membership publications, and also sent out special electronic notices of local lectures

and other events as they came up. She also welcomed new members, answered any membership questions, and kept the Membership Secretary handbook updated.

The Membership Secretary compiles an annual membership directory, and an addendum when necessary. The cost for the directory and addendum this year was \$970 (\$630 for printing and \$340 for postage). This year, the addendum was mailed in the same envelope as the March newsletter to save postage costs. The membership directory again included, for the second year, geographical and specialty indexes. The board decided this year to begin sending out the directory earlier than late October, so that it will be more of a benefit to the membership. Starting in 2009/2010 the directory will be sent to members in late September, with a September 15 deadline to be included. This is still nearly three months after the beginning of the membership year, but the board wanted to be sure to allow enough time for interns to be included.

WCG bought much-needed updated FileMakerPro software this year at a cost of \$204. Membership mailing labels cost \$29.

The Membership Secretary coordinates the mailing of all meeting announcements and newsletters. At the summer 2008 board meeting, the WCG board voted to discontinue postal mailing of meeting announcements as a cost-saving measure, starting after May 2009. More than 70% of members were already choosing to receive announcements by electronic mail only (70% in 2007/2008, 76% this year). Throughout this year we have notified the membership of this impending change. It will save WCG approximately \$1000 a year in printing and mailing costs. WCG continues to offer members the choice of receiving newsletters by postal mail or by electronic mail, though we may consider the pros and cons of going to an all-electronic newsletter in the future. This year, 34% of members (79) received newsletters by postal mail.

Meetings

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 an intern/fellow reception were held during the 2008/2009 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, together with the Refreshments Chair. 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 were low, totaling \$266. Our refreshments costs (including the summer board meeting) were \$2160. We allot \$200 per reception, and it is 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 encourage people to put a few dollars in the kitty at each meeting. Refreshments contributions from our members and sponsors, including vendors at the Three-Ring Circus, totaled \$851.

WCG members receive an announcement for each meeting by postal mail or electronic mail 10 days before the meeting. The cost of producing and mailing the printed meeting announcements was \$1106 (\$743 for printing and \$363 for postage). As noted above, this is the final year we will provide printed announcements; we will send only electronic announcements from now on, so will no longer have this expense.

The locations, speakers, talk titles, refreshments sponsors, and attendance numbers for the 2008/2009 meetings are listed below; all venues are in Washington, DC, unless noted.

► Thursday, May 1, 2008 at **Hillwood Museum and Gardens**

Business Meeting, Raffle, and Tours of the House (guided) and Gardens (self-guided)

Attendance: 35

► Thursday, September 11, 2008 at the **Smithsonian American Art Museum**

Intern tour and reception, announcement of Williston Fund recipients

Attendance: 22

► Thursday, October 2, 2008 at **Pyramid Atlantic Art Center**, Silver Spring, MD

Contemporary Printmaking and Hand Papermaking

Gretchen Schermerhorn, Artist and Pyramid Atlantic Director of Artistic Collaboration, Outreach, and the Papermill

Attendance: 50 (estimated)

Summarizer: Sharon Norquest, Winterthur/Univ. of Delaware Art Conservation Program

► Thursday, November 6, 2008 at the **Smithsonian American Art Museum**

The Basics of Image File Management

Dawn Heller, Paper Conservator in Private Practice and Supplemental Faculty, Winterthur/University of Delaware

Attendance: 73

Summarizer: Katrina Bartlett, intern in paintings conservation, National Gallery of Art

► Thursday, December 4, 2008 at the **National Trust for Historic Preservation**
Holiday Party and Tips Session

Tips by **Nora Lockshin, Connie Stromberg, Courtney Shimoda, Jennifer Perry, Sean Habgood, Eliza Gilligan, and Lilli Steele**

Attendance: 63

Summarizer: Ana Alba, Paintings Conservation Intern, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden

Refreshments Sponsor: Ernie Robertson of Invisium

► Thursday, January 8, 2009 at the **S. Dillon Ripley Center, Smithsonian Institution**
Three-Ring Circus, hosted by the National Museum of African Art

Attendance: 87

Vendors: University Products, Hollinger Metal Edge, Bessant Studio, Testfabrics, and American Institute for Conservation

Ring 1:

- Michelle Delaney, National Museum of American History, *The Hillotypes: Early Experiments in Color Photography*
- Lynne Gilliland and E.D. Rambo, National Museum of American History, *Cleaning House: Conserving and Cleaning the Faith Bradford Doll's House at NMAH*
- Jia-sun Tsang, Museum Conservation Institute, *A Bug Story: Journey from Plastics to Music Recordings*

Summarizer: Danielle Fraser, Pulitzer Conservation Fellow, Library of Congress

Ring 2

- Cathy Zaret, pre-program intern, National Museum of African American History and Culture, *Re-housing the Black Fashion Museum Collection for the National Museum of African American History and Culture*
- Michele Pagan, private practice, *Minimally Intrusive Upholstery Treatment for a Diamond Tufted Victorian Chair*
- Elizabeth Shuster, 3rd year intern, Museum Conservation Institute, *Gently Vacuumed*

Summarizer: Elizabeth Shuster, 3rd year intern, Museum Conservation Institute

Ring 3

- Justine Posluszny Bello, Conservation Solutions, Inc., *The Monumental Night Doors at the US Department of Justice: Conservation of Decorative Aluminum in the Federal Triangle*
- Carol Grissom, Museum Conservation Institute, *Examining Potential Acquisitions for the Smithsonian's New National Museum of African American History and Culture: Slave Shackles; a Charleston Slave Badge; a Madam C. J. Walker Pin*
- Howard Wellman, private practice, *Conservation Concerns for Historic Cemeteries*

Summarizer: Lauren McMullen, intern in objects conservation, Walters Art Museum

► Thursday, February 5, 2009 at **Dumbarton Oaks**

The Music Room Ceiling at Dumbarton Oaks: Integrating Recreated Artwork into a Conservation Project

John Lippert, Foreground Conservation and Decorative Arts, LLC

Attendance: 75

Summarizer: Ashley Jehle, Intern, National Museum of the American Indian

► Thursday, March 5, 2009 at the **National Archives**

Intern Talks

Attendance: 45

Summarizer: Britney Dolph, objects conservation technician, National Gallery of Art

- Simona Cristanetti, Mellon Fellow in Objects Conservation, National Gallery of Art, *A Riddle in High Relief*
- Danielle Fraser, Pulitzer Conservation Fellow, and Emily Rainwater, Harper-Inglis Conservation Fellow, Library of Congress, *Mending Meggendorfer's Movable Mule, or a Case Study in Conservation Decision Making and Treatment* ,
- Katrina Bartlett, Paintings Conservation Intern, National Gallery of Art, *A Closer Look at the Materials and Techniques of Eugene Boudin*

► Thursday, April 2, 2009 at **Case[werks]**, Baltimore, MD

Update: Early Intelligence from the Green Collections Care and Archives Management Front

Sarah Brophy, LEED-AP, co-author with Elizabeth Wylie of *The Green Museum: A Primer on Environmental Practice*

Attendance: 30

Summarizer: Louise Orsini, painting conservation intern, Walters Art Museum

Refreshments sponsors: Case[werks], Invisium, and Tru Vue Inc.

► Thursday, May 7, 2009 at **Hillwood Museum and Gardens**

Annual Business Meeting, Raffle, and Tours of Hillwood

Attendance: 54

Refreshments sponsor: Tru Vue Inc.

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 Third Symposium on the Corrosion and Preservation of Historic Artifacts. This year, the meeting was a half-day. In March, WCG board member Sarah Stauderman organized a talk for WCG members and the local community on the preservation of the stained glass windows at the Lutheran Church of the Reformation on Capitol Hill.

Finances

Steve Mellor continued his term as Treasurer this year. The Treasurer is responsible for keeping the books for WCG (with QuickBooks software) 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.

As part of WCG's fiscal year change (described on p. 6), the Treasurer has to file IRS Form 990-N and associated documents indicating the change in the tax year and the "short year" of 1 May to 30 June 2009; this must be filed between 30 June and 15 November 2009. (This is in addition to the regular 990-N e-postcard that he must file by 15 September 2009 for the fiscal year 1 May 2008 to 30 April 2009.) Next year's treasurer will be the first to file for the new fiscal year of 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010; the standard 990-N e-postcard must be filed no later than 5 ½ months after the end of the fiscal year, that is, 15 November each year from now on.

This year, Steve bought updated QuickBooks Pro software at a cost of \$180. Also this year, we closed WCG's money market account to avoid recurring fees for inactivity. The money is deposited in a savings account, to be moved into an interest-bearing account in the near future.

The chart below summarizes our income and expenses for the 2008/2009 fiscal year. Our **overall expenditures totaled \$9860**, while our **overall income was \$9775**, for a net loss of \$85. However, this expenditure total includes an unbudgeted \$300 payment for the June 2009 newsletter as well as the costs for the May 2009 meeting, both of which normally would have come out of next year's funds; so we were able to cover our "short year" expenses and our final invoice for the website redesign almost completely with this year's operating income. (In our budget, we had projected a profit of \$225, so the bottom of the third column in the chart shows we overstepped our projected budget by \$310 – but again, this includes the extra \$300 newsletter payment and other costs.) Our dues do not cover all our expenses, but sales of CRfAA and donations for refreshments provide the supplementary income that helps us keep our budget balanced.

Income 2008/2009

	Actual	Budgeted	▲/▼ Budget
Dues Received	\$6,456.02	\$6,000.00	\$456.02
Refreshment Contributions	\$626.00	\$1,000.00	(\$374.00)
Other: 3-Ring vendors, donations, booth sale	\$595.09	\$225.00	\$370.09
CRfAA2 Income	\$990.32	\$1,500.00	(\$509.68)
Checking Account Interest	\$0.92	0	\$0.92
Money Market Interest	\$128.70	0	\$128.70
FAIC Angels Grant	\$978.00	0	\$978.00
TOTAL	\$9,775.05	\$8,725.00	\$1,050.05

Expenses 2008/2009

	Actual	Budgeted	▲/▼ Budget
Membership Directory	\$969.70	\$1,175.00	\$205.30
Announcements	\$1,106.02	\$1,100.00	(\$6.02)
Newsletter	\$1,427.82	\$1,300.00	(\$127.82)
Refreshments	\$2,160.33	\$2,300.00	\$139.67
Meeting, speaker costs	\$266.36	\$400.00	\$133.64
Membership/Subscription	\$233.09	\$425.00	\$191.91
Heritage Preservation membership	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$0.00
Public Outreach (Angels, Public Lecture, and Booth). Includes spending \$978 FAIC grant.	\$1,209.37	\$600.00	(\$609.37)
Board Member Handbook	\$65.11	\$175.00	\$109.89
Office/Misc.	\$414.45	\$300.00	(\$114.45)
Insurance	\$271.00	\$275.00	\$4.00
Paypal fees	\$80.01	\$0	(\$80.01)
CRfAA2 postage, brochure	\$43.35	\$150.00	\$106.65
Bank charges	\$119.86	0	(\$119.86)
Tax filing fees	\$48.46	\$150.00	\$101.54
Website redesign, balance of payment	\$1,295.00	0	(\$1,295.00)
TOTAL	\$9,859.93	\$8,500.00	(\$1,359.93)

TOTAL INCOME plus EXPENSES	(\$84.88)	\$225.00	(\$309.88)
-----------------------------------	------------------	-----------------	-------------------

Committees

Intern Activities

Intern Coordinator **Kristin deGhetaldi** organized an active agenda for WCG's intern/fellow/student members this year, putting on an event every month. These included a September welcome reception, laboratory tours, and happy-hour get-togethers. WCG is grateful to all the laboratories who hosted the tours. Kristin also helped to coordinate intern activities at the monthly meetings by asking interns to write summaries for the Newsletter, speak at the March intern meeting, and assist at the membership table and outreach booth. 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 11, 2008 Tour, reception, and presentation of Williston awards at the **Lunder Conservation Center**. Attendance: Tour 9, Reception 22.
- October 15, 2008 Social hour at Vapiano's, Dupont Circle. Attendance: 12.
- November 13, 2008 Tour of the **Museum Conservation Institute**, Smithsonian, Suitland, MD. Attendance: 6.
- December 10, 2008 Social hour at Austin Grill, Gallery Place/Chinatown. Attendance: 7.
- January 22, 2009 Tour of the **Freer and Sackler Galleries** laboratories. Attendance 12.
- February 16, 2009 Social hour at McCormick & Schmick's, Gallery Place/Chinatown. Attendance 5.
- March 19, 2009 Tour of the **National Gallery of Art** laboratories. Attendance: 8.
- April 10, 2009 Social hour at Matchbox, Gallery Place/Chinatown Attendance: 7.
- May 12, 2009 Tour (planned) of the **Library of Congress** laboratories.

Public Outreach

Angels Project

Joanna Dunn continued in the position of Angels Project coordinator, organizing this year's volunteer work day at the Historical Society of Washington DC (HSW), at 801 K Street, NW (Mount Vernon Square) on October 25, 2008. Twenty WCG members volunteered their time and expertise to rehouse the HSW's textile collection, which consists largely of historic costumes from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. One of the stars of the collection is a dress purchased by Marian Hooper Adams from the noted Parisian designer Worth in 1879. The textiles were lightly dusted, padded with unbuffered tissue, wrapped in muslin, and placed in archival textile boxes. In one day, WCG members rehoused the entire collection of nearly fifty textiles. A generous grant of \$978 from the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (FAIC) provided the funds for most of the supplies. The supplies not covered by the grant were donated by University Products, and shipping costs were donated by Testfabrics and Conservation Resources. HSW provided lunch for the volunteers. The Angels Project has an annual budget of \$200 that is usually used for supplies, publicity, and any other items related to the event.

Joanna will step down this year as the Angels project coordinator, but has been helping to plan next year's project.

Outreach Booth

Nancy Pollak continued on for her fifth year as Outreach Booth Coordinator, bringing the booth to five public events and four monthly WCG meetings. The Outreach Booth is WCG's way of spreading the conservation message at antiques shows, historical society events, and any other events where people have an interest in conservation and preservation topics.

The booth was displayed at the May 2008, January, April, and May 2009 meetings. It was also the fifth year that Nancy brought the booth to the **Historical Society of Frederick County Treasured Heirlooms event** (Nov. 1), and the third year at the **Appraiser's Fair at St. Clement's Island Museum** (Jan. 24). At both of these events, people who brought in their personal items for appraisal were able to talk to WCG conservators about caring for their objects. This year we returned to the **National Building Museum's** wonderful Festival of the Building Arts (Oct. 11), and went to two new events, **Big Flea** in Chantilly, VA (Sept. 20–21) and **Antiques in Alexandria** (March 6–8). 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 \$271 this year. Other expenses for the booth included registration to participate in Big Flea

and reproduction of brochures and other handouts, totaling \$226. WCG advertised and sold our former booth and associated equipment for \$300.

Nancy is stepping down as the Outreach Booth Coordinator, but will continue to volunteer at booth events.

Public Lecture Coordinator

This position remained vacant for the 2008/2009 season, 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. 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 2008/2009 fiscal year: June 2008, September 2008, December 2008, and March 2009. Due to our fiscal year change, a fifth issue, the June 2009 newsletter, is also being accounted for in this fiscal year's expenses (in the past, this June newsletter was thematically related to the "previous" year, but paid for in the "following" year – part of the reason we elected to change our fiscal year date to begin on July 1). This June 2009 newsletter will be published during our interim "short year" of May 1 to June 30. In the 2009/2010 fiscal year, the four newsletters will be the September 2009, December 2009, March 2010, and June 2010 issues.

The newsletter is now published both as a black-and-white print version and a color electronic pdf version posted to the WCG website. The 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. Back issues from 2004 are archived on the website.

The cost of producing the five print newsletters was \$1428 (\$990 for printing and \$438 for postage). This was \$128 over budget because it included the fifth, unbudgeted, issue. Sixty-six percent of members chose to receive the newsletter as electronic-only this year; if that number increases in the future, costs may slowly decline.

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

Michele Pagan continued to oversee the sales, marketing, and accounting for the second edition of CRfAA this year. Sales of CRfAA2 are an essential part of WCG's income, since membership dues alone do not cover all our expenses. Several familiar bookshops continued to carry the books, including The Corcoran Gallery of Art, The American Association of Museums catalog, University Products, George Washington's Mount Vernon, the Library of Congress, the Trover Shop (Capitol Hill; on consignment), and The Renwick Gallery. Michele added two new venues this year, the National Museum of American History, and Politics and Prose (Conn. Ave NW; on consignment). We also sold copies of the book at several outreach events: The Big Flea, Treasured Heirlooms, St. Clement's Island Museum, and Antiques in Alexandria. This year we also began selling the book online at the WCG website, where buyers can pay by Paypal; we sold 7 books online. We sold 50 copies total this year for an income of \$990, with \$43 in postage expenses and \$7 in Paypal fees. There are approximately 500 books remaining in stock. Michele is stepping down as the CRfAA Sales Coordinator this year.

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. Website guru **Erin Blake** keeps our website up to date with information on WCG meetings, events, publications, job postings, workshops, and other news.

Last year we undertook a complete redesign of the website and unveiled it at the May 2008 meeting. 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. Quick-click buttons on the home page link to Next Meeting, Join/Renew, Support Us, and Buy Our Book. At the top of every page is a Visit our Supporters link.

Throughout 2008/2009, we have added and updated content, and Erin has kept track of use statistics. Some problems were encountered with the membership join/renew form, requiring many members to submit their filled-in form more than once, so we asked Vico Rock Media to design a new membership join/renew page that would be easier for members and for the membership secretary. This revised page went live in April 2009.

The new website has a Supporters page on which we have begun to post (with permission) the logos of companies that have repeatedly supported our Angels Projects and meetings over the years. In the future, we hope to raise funds for WCG by

requesting donations from companies that have not yet supported us but would like to be posted on this page.

This year WCG paid the balance of the website redesign cost to Vico Rock Media: \$1095 (\$2555 was paid in 2007/2008). The cost for the new membership form page was \$200. What is special about the blue color of the site? It is Pantone 285, reputedly the same color as Marge Simpson's hair.

Workshop Plans

At the 2008 summer board meeting, WCG made plans to host a workshop in 2009. We originally looked into hosting one on the topic of performing Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) surveys, but in February 2009 we began planning for an alternate. To get input as to what kind of workshop will most appeal to the WCG membership, we have created a brief online survey through SurveyMonkey that we will send to all members in mid-2009. Based on the results of this survey, the board will move forward with planning the workshop, which will likely take place in 2010.

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, we received a donation of \$35 directed to the Williston Fund, from **Robert Organ** (WCG's first president). WCG awarded four free 2008/2009 memberships to the following interns in honor of Sidney Williston:

- Ana Alba, from the Buffalo State College Art Conservation program, intern in paintings conservation at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden.
- Katrina Bartlett, from the Buffalo State College Art Conservation program, intern in paintings conservation at the National Gallery of Art.
- Louise Groll, from the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation, intern in paintings conservation at the Walters Art Museum.
- Lauren McMullen, from the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation, intern in objects conservation at the Walters Art Museum.

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. This fund contains \$350.00 and will be used to support a WCG-sponsored workshop in the near future.

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 in 2008.

WCG would like to thank the **Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation** for awarding us an Angels Project Grant this year; **University Products**, **Testfabrics**, and **Conservation Resources** for their support of the Angels Project; all the institutions who hosted our monthly meetings; those who sent in donations: **Robert Organ**, **Page Conservation**, and **Joyce Hill Stoner**; and all those who supported our meeting receptions: **Bessant Studio**, **Case[werks]**, **Hollinger Metal Edge**, **Invisium**, **Testfabrics**, **Tru Vue**, and **University Products**.

Contact Information

Address: Washington Conservation Guild
P.O. Box 23364
Washington, DC 20026

Website: www.washingtonconservationguild.org
or <http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/wcg>

E-mail: wcg@washingtonconservationguild.org