



THE WASHINGTON CONSERVATION GUILD NEWSLETTER

Fall 2010

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From the Desk of the President

Greetings from Charlottesville!!

A common phrase these days is that the only thing you can count on is change. And this year is bringing many changes to WCG. We have four new directors; **Helen Ingalls** and **Steven Pickman** were elected to the board at the May meeting while Ana Alba and Cynthia Silva were appointed over the summer. You've read about Helen and Steven in the newsletter that announced the slate of candidates, but allow me to introduce the newly appointed directors:

Ana Alba is a 2009 graduate of the Buffalo State College Art Conservation Program. She completed her third year internship at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in the conservation of modern paintings. Following her internship, she continued work at the Hirshhorn as the contract conservator for the collection's move to an offsite storage facility. In October she will begin work as a conservation fellow in modern paintings at the National Gallery of Art. Additionally, she has completed conservation internships at Gulf Coast Art Conservation in Bradenton, Florida, and at the Wadsworth Athenaeum in Hartford, Connecticut.

Cynthia Silva is the Director of Architectural Conservation at Tudor Place Historic House and Gardens. She is responsible for the stewardship of all structures built on the 5 ½ acre site including the 1816 landmark house designed by William Thornton for Martha Custis Peter, granddaughter of Martha Washington, and Robert Peter, the son of the first mayor of Georgetown. Prior to this position Cynthia was an Architectural Conservator at Bandelier National Monument, New Mexico, hired to complete a finishes study for the historic CCC district; she served as the Project Conservator for the mural conservation at the 16th-century Iglesia San Jose located in Puerto Rico and was a conservator for Conservation Solutions Inc. She received her MS in Historic Preservation from the University of Pennsylvania.

All four were present at the summer board meeting, participated in the planning for the upcoming year, and will definitely be assets to your board of directors.

Annie Wilker is our new editor for the newsletter and will bring fresh energy and ideas to the position. She is already up and running with the layout software, so stay tuned for a new look to the newsletter. **Anna Friedman** is our new refreshments chair, taking care of all those little details that make our social hour such a fun transition from your work day to the evening's program.

Other changes this year are not so permanent; again as the Guild strives to

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take advantage of opportunities that would be of interest to the membership, we are shifting the days of some of the monthly meetings. We will do our best to keep to the traditional first Thursday, as we will for the October meeting, but our November meeting will be on a **Tuesday** (November 9) in order to take advantage of a program being offered at the Smithsonian American Art Museum. The program will be a panel presentation on the Smithsonian's participation in the recovery of Haitian heritage artifacts after the January 2010 earthquake. The panel will feature WCG's vice president Hugh Shockey among other speakers.

Our ever-popular holiday meeting will be on a **Wednesday** (December 1) in order to take advantage of the availability of our speaker Brian Baade, who will be presenting his findings from his technical study on a painting by Henry Ossawa Tanner; and while the day of the week might have changed, I am sure that meeting will overflow with good cheer as always.

This year is also bringing many opportunities for members to participate in outreach to the general public. In addition to our regular participation in the Festival of the Building Arts at the National Building Museum (**October**) and the appraisers' fairs in Frederick, Maryland, and St. Mary's City, Maryland, we are also taking the outreach booth to the Pioneers of Flight family day (**November**) at the National Air & Space Museum. When you see further details in the newsletter or on our website or appeals for volunteers sent out by the membership secretary, please consider volunteering a few hours of your time to represent the Guild and our profession to the public. The board does much of the prep work to make these days happen, but we do count on the energy and enthusiasm of the membership to make these events a success.

As always I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming meetings, and if you have suggestions regarding venues, speakers, or other opportunities for the Guild, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best,
Eliza Gilligan
President
wcg@washingtonconservationguild.org



WCG summer board meeting attendees:

- (front row, left to right): Claire Peachey, Lisa Young, Eliza Gilligan
- (second row, left to right): Helen Ingalls, Annie Wilker, Catherine Dewey, Joanne Klaar Walker
- (third row, left to right): Cynthia Silva, Ana Alba, Kristin deGhetaldi
- (back row, left to right): Steven Pickman, Patti Favero, Hugh Shockey, Anne Kingery

Upcoming WCG Meetings 2010/2011

Monthly meetings for the 2010/2011 season begin in October 2010 and run through May 2011. The meetings are usually held on the first Thursday of each month. Most meetings begin at 5 p.m. with a reception, followed by the guest speaker's presentation. Please check individual meeting announcements for exact times and locations.

October 7

“RTI @ MCI: Escaping Flatland Using Computational Imaging.” Presenters: Mel Wachowiak, Senior Conservator and Keats Webb, Imaging Specialist at the Smithsonian Museum Conservation Institute (MCI) Museum Support Center.

November 9

“Smithsonian’s Haiti Cultural Recovery Project.” Moderated by Richard Kurin, Smithsonian’s Under Secretary for History, Art, and Culture. Presenters include: Hugh Shockey, Conservator, American Art and National Portrait Gallery’s Lunder Conservation Center; Corine Wagener, President of the U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield; Stephanie Hornbeck, Principal of Caryatid Conservation Services, Inc.; Dr. Diana N’Diaye, Cultural Heritage Specialist/Curator, Smithsonian Institution; and Mike Bellamy, Director, Smithsonian’s Office of Engineering, Design, and Construction. The meeting will be held at the National Museum of American Art. Note: This meeting is on a Tuesday.

December 1

Holiday Party and lecture by Brian Baade. Held at the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Note: This meeting is on a Wednesday.

January 6

Three-Ring Circus. Venue TBA.

February 3

Tips Session (tentative). Venue TBA.

March 3

Intern Talks. Venue TBA.

April 7

Speaker and venue TBA.

May 5

Annual Business Meeting. Venue TBA.

WCG Outreach Booth

Calling WCG volunteers for two exciting opportunities to volunteer at the Public Outreach Booth this Fall! Both events will engage families in conservation activities and provide hands-on, conservation-related projects for children. No prior experience is necessary. We hope you will take this opportunity to volunteer with your fellow WCG colleagues for both of these exciting events.

The booth will be highlighted again this year at the National Building Museum's Festival of the Building Arts (FOBA) on Saturday, October 9, 10:00 am to 4:30 pm. This is a family event, so we need volunteers either to staff the booth handing out literature to the parents or to guide activities for the children. We are looking for 1-2 volunteers at each table for 2-hour shifts from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm. NBM will provide food and beverages and a t-shirt for each participant. Please contact Howard Wellman @ 410-474-1226 or wellmanconservation@comcast.net to sign up.

On Saturday, November 20, the WCG booth will be highlighted at the *Pioneers of Flight* family day at the National Air and Space Museum. This is the first time the WCG booth has been part of a Smithsonian sponsored educational event. This family day will be part of the public opening day for the newly renovated gallery, *Pioneers of Flight*, featuring the Douglas World Cruiser, Amelia Earhart's Lockheed Vega, early Goodard rocketry and much more. Volunteers are needed to help pass out conservation literature at the booth and to help with hands-on children's activities. No prior experience is necessary. We are looking for 6 people to fill 2-hour slots throughout the day. The event will be held in the galleries at NASM from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Volunteers will receive a free lunch and parking in the NASM garage. For more information or to volunteer for this event, please contact Lisa Young, youngla@si.edu or 301-238-1603. All names must be submitted a week ahead for parking. For more information on the event please see www.nasm.si.edu website under "events" for November.



Do you have photographs for the WCG archives?

The WCG archives, held in the Smithsonian Institution Archives, does not have many photographs, so we are appealing to members to provide photographs of people and events from all periods of WCG's history. The archives can accept color and black-and-white prints or digital images. Every photo must have a caption, and ideally every person in the photo will be identified. Please send an email (not the photos!) to wcg@washingtonconservationguild.org if you have photographs to submit.

2010 WCG Angels Project Call for Volunteers

National Park Seminary, Silver Spring, MD

Saturday, November 6, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Please join the WCG and SOS (Save our Seminary) for our annual WCG Angels Day on Saturday, November 6, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The National Park Seminary is located in Silver Spring, Maryland, and is metro accessible. We will be working with a group of dedicated staff and volunteers to rehouse the archives owned by this organization. These include letters, scrapbooks, paper items, books, and some objects. We are looking for a group of volunteers to help for the day. Most of the tasks will include rehousing, sorting, and packing. However, a condition assessment of more complicated items will also be performed. Lunch for volunteers is included, and a tour of the property will be offered if time and weather permits. You do not have to be a paper conservator to help!

Please email Lisa Young, WCG Angels Chair, if you are interested at youngfamilyfour@yahoo.com.

For more information on the Seminary site please see www.saveourseminary.org.

Intern Events

Greetings to all new Fellows, Interns, and Volunteers!

WCG would like to invite you to join WCG and participate in the exciting events that we have planned this year. If you are a student, it's only \$20 to join which you can easily do online on our website, by check, or by showing up to one of our meetings and paying in person. We start our year off with the Williston award ceremony which is a small gathering that we host in your honor. The Sidney Williston Fund provides five to six interns/fellows each year with membership in the Washington Conservation Guild. Membership includes free entry at eight meetings, a quarterly newsletter, and reduced registration on all WCG sponsored workshops and conferences. This past year WCG organized tours at five different conservation labs, four happy hour events, and even a summer barbeque for the benefit of our intern/fellow/student members. Due to the high turnout of members at monthly Guild meetings, the Williston fund recipients will be required to assist the WCG Board of Directors by volunteering at one of the eight monthly meetings. Volunteer tasks may include summarizing the talk for the newsletter, setting up and cleaning up refreshments, and taking donations at the door. We also look forward to seeing some of you at this year's WCG Angels Project at National Park Seminary in Silver Spring to help rehouse archival materials and other objects. Stay tuned for updates on Intern and Fellow events this Fall!

Kristin deGhetaldi
WCG Intern and Fellow Coordinator

Announcements

The following announcements are listed in chronological order in relation to the current date. This list is intended only as a reminder and is not a complete list of available events, grants, or scholarships. For more details please consult the relevant websites. If you know of an upcoming deadline for grants, papers or other events that should be added to this list, please contact the Newsletter Editor.

Lectures, Meetings, and Conferences

The Library of Congress Topics in Preservation Series

Current Preventive Conservation Approach: The UNESCO Chair's Perspective

Prof. Koenraad Van Balen, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, R. Lemaire Int'l Center for Conservation, Leuven, Belgium

Ms. Anouk Stulens, Monumentenwacht Flanders, Antwerp, Belgium

September 20, 2010, 2:00-3:00 pm

Library of Congress, Pickford Theater, Third floor, James Madison building

<http://www.loc.gov/preserv/tops/unesco/index.html>

Friday Gallery Talk: Hirshhorn Conservator Gwynne Ryan on "ColorForms"

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden

Meet at the Information Desk

October 1, 2010, 12:30 pm

<http://hirshhorn.si.edu/calendar/event.asp?key=4&subkey=698>

Interim Meeting of the ICOM-CC Glass and Working Group

Corning Museum of Glass, Corning, NY

October 3-6, 2010

www.cmog.org

The Interim Meeting will be followed by an experts' meeting on enamel on metals conservation at the Frick Collection, New York, NY.

October 8-9, 2010

www.frick.org

Interim Meeting of the ICOM-CC Metal Working Group

Charleston, SC

October 11-15, 2010

www.timetoast.com/timelines/4880 Metal 2010

Forbes Symposia on Scientific Research in the Field of Asian Art: Topics in Ancient Metallurgy

Smithsonian Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Meyer Auditorium

October 28-29, 2010

<http://www.asia.si.edu/visitor/dcsrSymposium.htm>

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<http://www.asia.si.edu/visitor/dcsrSymposium.htm>

2010 NYCF and EAS Conservation Science Annual

Somerset, NJ

November 15-18, 2010

www.eas.org

The Library of Congress Topics in Preservation Series Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (FAIC): Strategic Planning for the Future

Eryl P. Wentworth, Executive Director of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works

January 13, 2011, time to be designated

Library of Congress, West Dining Room, Sixth floor, James Madison building

<http://www.loc.gov/preserv/tops/schedule.html>

AIC 39th Annual Meeting

Pittsburgh, PA

May 17-20, 2011

Special "Preview Rates" valid until December 31, 2010.

<http://www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=710>

Funding and Awards

Conservation Project Support

For conservation and research. For more info go to the Institute of Museum and Library Services website.

Deadline October 1, 2010.

<http://www.imls.gov/applicants/grants/conservproject.shtm>

NEH Grants for Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections

NEH grants are available to plan and implement preventive conservation projects that prolong the useful life of humanities collections.

Planning grants up to \$40,000: These grants can help institutions identify realistic approaches for mitigating risks to collections; examine passive and low-energy alternatives to conventional energy-intensive systems for managing environmental conditions; and analyze existing climate control systems and the performance characteristics of buildings and building envelopes to develop a plan for improved operation, effectiveness, and energy efficiency.

Implementation grants up to \$400,000: These grants can support managing interior relative humidity and temperature by passive methods; installing or re-commissioning heating, ventilating, and air conditioning systems; installing storage systems and rehousing collections; improving security and the protection of collections from fire, flood, and other disasters; and upgrading lighting systems and controls to achieve levels suitable for collections that are energy efficient.

The deadline is November 16, 2010

<http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/SCHC.html>

Please contact the division for more information by emailing preservation@neh.gov or calling 202-606-8570.

FAIC George Stout Grant

The George Stout Memorial Fund offers awards to defray expenses (up to \$1,000) of students who are members of AIC to attend professional meetings. The deadline for receipt of applications is December 15, 2010.
<http://www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=474>

Call for Nominations: Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collection

This award recognizes archives, museums, and libraries that have demonstrated exemplary and sustained commitment to caring for their collections. Nominations must be postmarked by December 15, 2010, and sent to AIC, 1156 15th Street, NW, Suite 320, Washington, DC 20005.
http://www.heritagepreservation.org/awards/aic_nominations.htm

Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program

Includes a conservation component. For more info go to the Institute of Museum and Library Services website:
<http://www.imls.gov/applicants/grants/21centurylibrarian.shtm>
Deadline December 15, 2010.

Conservation Assessment Program

CAP provides a general conservation assessment of your museum's collection, environmental conditions, and site. Conservation priorities are identified by professionals who spend two days on-site and three days writing a report. The report can help your museum develop strategies for improved collections care and provide a tool for long-range planning and fundraising. For more info go to the Heritage Preservation website: <http://www.heritagepreservation.org/CAP>
The CAP 2011 application is currently scheduled to be released in October 2010.

The Maryland Historical Trust Preservation Awards

The Maryland Preservation Awards are presented annually by the Board of Trustees and honor outstanding achievements in the following categories: Heritage Book, Project Excellence, Preservation Partnership, Preservation Service, Stewardship of MHT Easement Properties, Stewardship of Historic Properties by a Government Agency, Educational Excellence, and the Calvert Prize. The awards recognize activities in historic preservation, architecture, archaeology, museums, cultural conservation, education, and related fields and represent the best of preservation in Maryland.

Individuals, non-profit and for-profit organizations or institutions, museums, and federal, state and local agencies are all eligible to receive MHT Preservation Awards. Projects using MHT grant funds are eligible. Self-nominations are accepted.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/awards.html>

Membership

WCG dues are \$30 per year, \$20 for students and interns, payable to the Washington Conservation Guild or WCG.

The membership year runs from July 1st through June 30th. Membership forms can be requested by mail from the Membership Secretary at P.O. Box 23364, Washington, D.C. 20026 or can be filled out and submitted on our website. Changes of address or telephone numbers, corrections to the directory, and dues payments should be sent to the Membership Secretary at the address listed above or to: wcg@washingtonconservationguild.org

The membership schedule is as follows:

- April: Membership renewal notice mailed
- July 1: Beginning of membership year
- September 15: Deadline for membership renewals

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How to reach WCG

Website: www.washingtonconservationguild.org
Email: wcg@washingtonconservationguild.org
Address: PO Box 23364, Washington, DC 20026.

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News
from the
Editor

WCG Newsletter is printed quarterly (Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer). Items for inclusion in the WCG Newsletter should be directed to:

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Tel: 301-837-0507
Email: WCGnewsletter@gmail.com

Email submissions are preferred. Please note that articles should be sent at least two weeks before publication. The editor reserves the right to edit copy to fit available space.

Next issue: Winter 2010

Deadline for submissions: November 15, 2010

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