



WASHINGTON CONSERVATION GUILD NEWSLETTER

December 2006

Volume 30 No. 4

ISSN #0886-1323

From the Desk of the President

The 2006-07 season has already gotten off to a great start! The first meeting of the season took place at a new venue, the Historic Congressional Cemetery in Washington, DC, which was the site of two recent WCG Angels Projects. Tours of the cemetery restoration efforts were well attended despite the damp weather. We would like to thank Catherine Dewey and Patrick Crowley for leading the tours. The second meeting of the year, at the U.S. Capitol, was overwhelming with 90 people in attendance. A special thank you goes to Davida Kovner for arranging the meeting, giving a great presentation along with husband and partner Bill Lewin and organizing the tour of the Rotunda as a special bonus. A great presentation on the restoration of the benches in the Capitol was presented by Bruce Schuettinger and refreshments were generously sponsored by Peter Sepp of Sepp Leaf Products of New York. I'm looking forward to the December Holiday Meeting where Kristen Overbeck Laise, of Historic Preservation, will be presenting a lecture on the newly published Heritage Health Index. A very big thank you goes to Ernie Robertson from Preservation Glazing, Inc. who has generously donated the wine for the December holiday party and meeting.

We look forward to a very exciting year ahead, with our annual 3-Ring circus in January to be held at the Smithsonian's Ripley Center. Although we already have several great presentations lined up, we are still looking for one or two speakers for the paintings and paper sessions. If members have suggestions or would like to present a paper on their research or projects, please email Vice-President Claire Peachey at peachey.kling@verizon.net with your suggestions ASAP. We hope to have the WCG booth and vendors available this year again during refreshments where the members can browse products and information before the meeting. The refreshments for this meeting are being sponsored by Conservation Solutions, Inc.

I wanted to welcome back Intern Coordinator Joanne Klaar from Scotland. She will be completing a fellowship at the National Gallery of Art on contemporary paintings. Joanne was previously the WCG intern coordinator in 2005. She returns with great enthusiasm and has already planned a social hour for WCG interns. If you are not on her list and want to receive information about special intern events, please email Joanne at j-klaar@nga.gov

The WCG got off to a very busy start this season, with the Intern event in September and the annual Angels Project in October. These events will be highlighted in this newsletter. A call to WCG in October tested our chain of command and organization even more. A fire was reported at the Folger Shakespeare Library and President Lisa Young got a very early wake up call on a Monday morning asking

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for WCG conservators to contact the disaster recovery company involved to assist them. After making several calls and sending out emails to the membership (thank you Patti!), several WCG conservators stepped forward and were ready for battle, only to find out they were not needed. Our contact, Erin Blake, was away on holiday and we were not sure what to do. So, we all waited by the phone throughout the day "just in case." Although the damage was minimal (as Erin discusses in this newsletter) the test of our system and willingness of our members should not go unnoticed. Thanks to everyone for responding, and I hope in the wake of a "real" disaster things go as smoothly as they did for this one.

This will be a busy year for WCG. We are really looking forward to making a great impression at the upcoming American Institute for Conservation meeting in April 2007 in Richmond, VA. Our neighboring regional group, the Virginia Conservation Association, is the local arrangements chair for that meeting, and we will be teaming up with them to help out at the meeting. A newly revised WCG booth will be displayed at the meeting, and we need everyone to think about volunteering for just a few hours at the booth so that we can distribute information about the Guild and sell the 2nd edition of Conservation Resources for Art and Antiques. This upcoming year also marks the 40th anniversary of the Washington Conservation Guild. We are forming a committee to help commemorate this event in some way, and to acknowledge all the past members of the Guild who helped make it such a successful organization. If anyone is interested in helping out with either of these projects, we need more volunteers. The WCG Board cannot do it alone, so please send a message to WCG at wcg@washingtonconservationguild.org so that we can plan ahead and make this a year to remember.

Once again, I look forward to seeing all of you at the upcoming Guild meetings. I want to thank everyone for continuing to support the Guild and making a donation of \$2.00 at the meetings for refreshments. With many of our meetings reaching maximum capacity, it is even more important that we continue to support the refreshments through donations so the Guild will be able to continue to provide a wonderful spread at all its meetings. You can always email the Guild as well and be sure to check the WCG website for updated information regarding meetings, events and volunteer opportunities. Have a safe and wonderful holiday season!

All the best,
Lisa Young, WCG President
wcg@washingtonconservationguild.org

Please update your WCG email address. The hotmail account is no longer valid. The correct email address for the Guild is:

wcg@washingtonconservationguild.org

October Meeting

Tours and reception at Congressional Cemetery

The October meeting was held at Washington's Historic Congressional Cemetery. Inspired by the Guild's recent Angels Projects, the meeting was planned to introduce the broader WCG membership to this treasure of a historic site. This respected and hallowed burial ground is a fabulous walk through the local Federal story, military history, and 19th century cemetery architecture. Moreover, it poses huge conservation challenges. Overlooking the Potomac, it must have commanded a spectacular view in 1820. Full grown hollies and oaks shade many grave plots, and a majestic slate walkway avenue transects the oldest part of the site. A Washingtonian on and off for the last 40 years, this was my first visit to the cemetery. I was truly moved by our tours and the stories revealed. Established in 1807, these 33 acres are the burial home to many of Washington's movers and shakers of the 1800's.

Nineteen Senators and seventy-one Representatives who died in office are interred here. Three major architects - William Thornton, Benjamin Latrobe and Robert Mills (the first native born professional architect) are all buried here. The Public Vault temporarily held Presidents John Quincy Adams, Zachary Taylor, and William Henry Harrison. There are memorial cenotaphs for Senators Henry Clay and John C. Calhoun. Vice President Elbridge Gerry (from whence we get the term "gerrymandering" and the only signatory of the Declaration of Independence buried in the mid-Atlantic region) is in this resting place. William Prout, an early "founder" of the city, Mary Hall, who ran a popular upper-ten brothel in the mid 1800's, and, more recently, J. Edgar Hoover are also buried here. There are thirty six gravesites of Indian chiefs who died in Washington during the 1800's, including Choctaw Chief Push Ma Ta Ha. Many foreign diplomats, military generals, privates, and admirals, as well as men who served in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, The Mexican War and The Civil War are found here. It is a veritable who's who of political power in the 1800's.

There are almost 60,000 burials, 30,000 gravesites, and 14,000 headstones. Some of the most unique gravesites are the cenotaphs, designed by Benjamin H. Latrobe for the members of Congress. They have a distinct architectural form, echoing his work and designs on the Capitol. The 185 cenotaphs - literally meaning "empty tombs" - are constructed of Aquia Creek Sandstone. They are washed dark black and streaked with acid rain and pollutants. The sandstone is chipping off, and huge chunks are missing. Other monuments include Colonial - style tablets, Egyptian / Greek / Gothic revival sites, table monuments, tombs and vaults. Entire families are buried here, the etched names and inscriptions washed off due to the harshness of climate and lack of care. This hallowed ground has struggled for almost a hundred years. 1872 marked the last Congressional support until recent years. By the 1960's it was run down; stones fallen, and gardens unkempt. In 1976 a nonprofit was established to preserve the cemetery. Through the work and efforts of neighborhood volunteers, like Patrick Crowley, and groups like the WCG, times are turning it around again. Conservation surveys and limited treatments and cleanings have improved and saved many important gravestones. Once a month from April to October, a group of volunteers works to manually clean slabs and tombs and upright fallen stones. There are a total of about 400 volunteers a year.

The WCG meeting featured simultaneous tours of the cemetery given by two local experts: architectural conservator Catherine Dewey and Patrick Crowley, historian and board member of the cemetery. Patrick's tours wound through the oldest and most prominent areas of the grounds, illuminating the various notables and styles of gravesites. He is a marvelous raconteur and extremely knowledgeable about the inhabitants of the cemetery. If you are lucky enough to have a tour with Patrick, the personalities come alive. Catherine used various vaults and cenotaphs to describe recent conservation work (since 2004), conducted by Conservation Solutions, Inc. and volunteer teams. The main work focuses on cleaning and stabilizing the

various sandstones, marble, brick and metal. They face many challenges in their work - wet and flooded vaults, corroded metal, severely flaking sandstone, sugared marble, intense environmental staining, and structural damage. A conservation master plan has been drawn up and work continues following these guidelines. Simple cleaning methods mentioned included the anti-microbial D-2 and Triton X-100; and consolidation with OH-100. A new project next year may involve the technique of laser cleaning, with the famed Latrobe cenotaphs being the focus of work.

All who missed this unusual meeting to the Historic Congressional Cemetery should visit. It is located at 1801 E. Street, SE (Capitol Hill). It is open from sun up to sun down. And don't be surprised by all the dog walkers. Their membership helps support all the annual grass cutting fees and many are devoted volunteers and supporters. Thanks to Patrick and Catherine for their tours!

Check the website for tours, special events, and over 22,000 obituaries and death notices, plus an entire interment index.

www.congressionalcemetery.org

Volunteer contact: patrick.crowley@ferc.gov

Julia M. Brennan, Textile Conservator

Upcoming WCG Meetings 2006/2007

Monthly meetings for the 2006/2007 season begin October 2006 and run through May 2007.

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.

January 4

Three-Ring Circus, held at Smithsonian's Ripley Center, 1100 Jefferson Drive, SW, Washington, DC. Refreshments sponsored by Conservation Solutions, Inc.

February 1

Margaret McLean, U.S. Dept. of State, will speak about "Heritage Conservation as Public Diplomacy: The Role of the Dept. of State in Protecting Archaeological and Ethnological Heritage around the World." Venue TBA .

March 1

Intern Talks held at the Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA (Metro stop: Orange line, Virginia Square/ GMU).

April 5

Catherine Williams, of Silver Lining Art Conservation, Austin, TX, will speak about efforts to provide sustained recovery and conservation assistance to cultural institutions affected by Hurricane Katrina. Held at the Banneker-Douglass Museum, 84 Franklin Street, Annapolis, MD.

May 3

Business Meeting, Wine Tasting, Silent Auction, and more! Held at the Hillwood Museum and Gardens, 4155 Linnean Avenue, NW, Washington, DC (Metro stop: Red line, Van Ness/UDC).

November Meeting

“Conservation on the Hill, 2004-2006” by Davida Kovner, Bill Lewin and Bruce Schuettinger

The Washington Conservation Guild November meeting was held at the U.S. Capitol building and consisted of two excellent presentations of conservation treatments from the U.S. Capitol Rotunda and House Chambers.

The first presentation, “Treatment and Analysis of the Gilded Frames in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda,” given by Davida Kovner and Bill Lewin, highlighted their onsite conservation treatment of eight gilded frames mounted into the curved walls of the Capitol Rotunda. In 1817 Charles Bullfinch, the Capitol building architect, commissioned eight monumental frames, four of which would be filled with paintings by John Trumbull. In 1826 the eight gilded frames of pine wood with neoclassical decorations were gilded and anchored into eight niches around the Rotunda walls. Two subsequent restoration campaigns in 1889 and 1905 were identified in archives and confirmed by visual examination and cross section analysis. The tone of the 1905 restoration has become severely degraded in the last century.

A pilot phase was approved to test possible treatment options. An ammonium citrate solution with a pH 8 was tested for cleaning the gilding, discolored by pollutants and years of handling by the public. The interior surfaces cleaned beautifully while the outsides remained discolored.

The chosen treatment began with an overall dusting and then cleaning the surface with the ammonium citrate solution. Loose or friable areas were consolidated with B-72 in acetone. Areas of loss were filled with a 6% polyvinyl alcohol gesso. The areas that needed to be regilded were first coated with a matte blonde shellac sealer and then water gilded and oil gilded with 23-K gold leaf. The rosettes in the corners of all of the frames were easily removed for treatment offsite in the conservation studio. The bronze powder on the rosettes was chemically removed and missing leaves were replaced with micro ballooned epoxy castings made from molds of the intact rosettes.

Large areas of original gilding were visible under the corner rosettes. The gold leaf has a high silver content giving it a slightly green tint. Correlating archival information and coating analysis, Bill and Davida attribute four frames to Isaac Cooper, an original carver and gilder. The remaining four frames fall into two groups of similar materials and application methodology. Records identify Ephraim Gilman and Thomas Palmer as the carvers and gilders of the frame. During the treatment of the frames, the public nature of the Capitol Rotunda had to be kept in mind and only nontoxic materials could be chosen. The Rotunda was both cold in the winter, limiting the amount of work that could be accomplished in the evenings after visiting hours, and humid in the spring and summer, which lengthened the time needed for the oil size to dry. The light conditions within the Rotunda were constantly changing as the sun passed over the Capitol’s dome creating great challenges while matching new tone with the 1905 tone. Despite all of these challenges, the conservation treatment was extremely successful and brings a new light to the Rotunda that was clearly visible during our tour after the lectures.

The second lecture of the evening was presented by Bruce Schuettinger entitled, “Treatment of 16 Benches for the House Chambers.” On March 3, 1859, Congress ordered forty eight benches for the House chambers. The benches were arranged in aisles and rows emanating from the speaker’s podium. The sides

of the benches were designed by Constantino Brumidi and cast in New York by Janes, Beebe and Company. The platforms, drawers, seats, and backs of the benches were made in the Capitol cabinet shop directed by Pringle Slight. The benches were decorated as directed by Capt. Montgomery Meigs in a Florentine bronze, which was carried out by the Capitol paint shop directed by John Davis. The benches were in use by December of 1859 in the House Chambers, but by August 1869 Congress had ordered them removed and dispersed to a number of locations, including St. Elizabeth's hospital for use in their chapel. Since this point, 14 benches have been returned to the U. S. Capitol. Eight were returned in 1929; six in 1974 and two more were fabricated in 1975. The following conservation treatment focuses on these sixteen benches.

The treatment of the benches was divided into three phases. The first phase involved conducting coating analysis and research in order to determine whether the specified Florentine bronze presentation surface was present on the benches and to what extent it remained, what it was composed of, and if there were any specific decorative patterns in the application. The second phase addressed the structure of the wood and cast iron elements and their joinery, which was complicated by four underlying issues. The foremost issue was that the benches were no longer in their original form. Other issues included non-acceptable previous repairs, fractures and losses to the cast iron and wood elements, as well as the benches physical usage and handling protocols. The final phase was to uncover, where possible, the original 1859 presentation surface on the benches and replicate it on the cast iron and wood elements.

The current use and form of the benches has been altered from their original intention. They were first meant to be fixed to the floor of the House chambers. Today the benches are moved often and used daily by the public. To increase the stability of the benches CNC machined 6061 aluminum blocks were designed and fabricated. These stabilized the existing joints between the upper and lower castings on the sides and where required between the wood and cast iron joinery. Existing fractures, dislodged metal fragments, and infills on the cast iron were adhered with Araldite 2015 epoxy and Araldite 2013. On two of the benches, the severe multi-fractured arms of the sides were reinforced by injecting into the stopped cavities Smooth-On PMC 790 liquid rubber. The wood elements were treated with both traditional and non-traditional materials and systems.

The Capitol Archives house historical documents that include correspondence between the supervisors and workmen and supply orders for the construction of the benches. These orders state that the

Fire in Folger Theatre Safely Extinguished Collection Remains Safe and Undamaged

A fire on Saturday, October 14, at the Folger Shakespeare Library was safely contained and extinguished. It was discovered by a theater electrician at 9:35am in a costume storage area on the third floor, above the Folger Theatre. The collection was not harmed, though the exhibition temporarily came down so cleaning crews could work in the area.

Unfortunately, a series of miscommunications meant that WCG members received e-mail the following Monday morning implying that the Folger needed a disaster-response team. In fact, the message originated within 90 minutes of the fire from a private company hoping to help, before they'd heard help wasn't needed. Just to make things seem more ominous, the Folger's website happened to be down that Monday morning (not an unusual occurrence) and e-mail from our director to WCG saying that all was well went to the wrong address.

As for me, I was in Scotland, and didn't know any of this until I got back two weeks later! It's a testament to my colleagues' generosity that although they had my private e-mail address, no one said a word about the fire, leaving me to enjoy my holiday in blissful ignorance.

Erin Blake
WCG Website Chair and
Curator of Art & Special Collections
Folger Shakespeare Library

cast iron elements of the benches were to be “painted a Florentine Bronze.” They record which materials were ordered for the decoration of the benches and how they were to be applied. This information was compared with the analytical data for verification and interpretation. The original orders for 25 papers of Florentine bronze, brass, and copper bronzing powder were discovered. Unfortunately, no specific Continental or American recipe for the Florentine bronzing of cast iron during this period could be located.

Multiple forms of coating and elemental analysis were conducted, including microscopic examination, cross sectional fluorescence microscopy, portable XRF, and SEM-EDS. These analytical studies proved useful in isolating the original Florentine bronze coating materials, which consisted of a black priming layer, a red ground layer, an oil size layer, the bronzing powder, and a toned oil top coat. This data was compared with visual examination of numerous reveals or coating windows that exposed the 1859 surface. These windows were uncovered with the use of specifically designed solvent and mechanical systems and taken down to an original surface that could be replicated during the current conservation treatment. Other period decorated elements within the Capitol building were examined in order to prove that the American interpretation of the Florentine bronze surface was composed of a warm reddish brown and that the recessed areas on the cast iron were in fact a deep mono-chromatic red which complimented the original red plush upholstery.

For the replication of the original Florentine bronzed surface on cast iron many different metallic specialty pigments were obtained. They were combined in several formulations that included mica powders, Reflects powders, and Merlin Sparkle powders supplied by Engelhard. To compensate for the different refractive and reflective properties of the bronzing powders, the powder combinations included glass micro spheres of 4-10 microns. This allowed the particles to arrange themselves at different angles on the oil sizing. The effect was enhanced further by tinting the natural resin and oil varnish glazing with ground natural pigments. Nine exposed reveals/coating windows were isolated with Incralac and 3% Ciba CGL 777 MPA D UV absorber/stabilizer. The two different generations of the wood elements within the group of 16 benches were coated to match the dark reddish brown identified in the exposed reveals and microanalysis. The conservation treatment of the benches successfully created a surface reminiscent of the 1859 surfaces, while stabilizing the structure to provide resting spots for the many visitors that come to the US Capitol every day.

Corey Smith, Kress Fellow in objects conservation, MCI

Attention:

To WCG members who have opted not to receive e-mail meeting announcements:

WCG occasionally sends additional e-mails about special WCG events, upcoming conferences, job openings and other conservation news of interest. If you have opted not to receive meeting announcements by e-mail, you will not receive these additional e-mails. We recommend that you to check our website (www.washingtonconservationguild.org) frequently to remain abreast of all WCG news.

If you would like to change your e-mail status please contact Membership Chair Patricia Favero at wcg@washingtonconservationguild.org.

“Heritage Health: Strategies toward the Preservation of America’s Collections”

The above was the title of Heritage Preservation’s 2006 annual meeting, held at the Donald Reynolds Center for American Art and Portraiture, Smithsonian Institution, on November 15. The title refers to the organization’s recently published Heritage Health Index, and the action spurred by it. As an institutional member of Heritage Preservation, Washington Conservation Guild members received reduced registration for the meeting, and students and interns attended at no cost. This was quite an inspiring meeting, with presenters who were hopeful, practical, and forward-looking, speaking of vision and collaboration.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Anne-Imelda Radice, Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, who spoke of her desire to reposition conservation firmly in the public eye. She wants to make collections care as much a part of public awareness as protection of the natural and built environments. She wants the public to know that caring for collections is an investment in the future, with exponential returns: “Conservation offers the opportunity for legacy.”

As part of this effort, Radice announced a new IMLS conservation initiative, “Connecting to Collections.” The program will begin with a national summit in Washington, DC, in June 2007, followed by regional summits in 2007 and 2008. These will be attended by invited conservation professionals, including Native American and African American communities, two groups often underrepresented in conservation.

Another component of Connecting to Collections is the Conservation Bookshelf, in which IMLS will distribute core texts in collections care to 1000 museums, libraries, and archives. Finally, IMLS will award \$500,000 in state planning grants to address issues raised in the Heritage Health Index.

The text of Dr. Radice’s speech is available on the IMLS web site, and I recommend it for a dose of inspiration: <http://www.imls.gov/news/speeches/111506.shtm>

James Reilly, Director of the Image Permanence Institute, spoke about “Environmental Control: The Heritage Health Index’s Call to Action on Collection Environments.” Rather than feel hopeless about the poor environmental conditions of many of our collections, we can work with what we have and make significant improvements. Reilly stressed the importance of measuring your conditions (“environmental metrics”), so you know your true risks; this allows for mitigation strategies that are realistic and specific to your collection, and may allow wider latitude in conditions. Also, learn about the mechanical systems you have in place, and work collaboratively with facilities staff and others to get the maximum returns from a system. This can lead to a better environment and significantly lower utility bills.

The Latest on Our Logo!

We’re not the only ones who like it! Carolyn Crowley, the graphic designer who revised our logo, submitted the redesign of WCG’s logo for a book called “Identity Crisis”. Out of many, many submissions, we were one of 100 projects chosen to be included in this design book. No word yet on the publishing date. But we will let you know if we get a copy!

Marjie Gowdy, Executive Director of the Ohr-O’Keefe Museum in Biloxi, Mississippi, spoke of “The Future, Saved: Restoration and Conservation on the Mississippi Gulf Coast after the Storm of 2005.” After sharing the heartbreaking estimate that 80% of the coast’s art and history collections were lost forever, she spoke of the many people and institutions that rallied to help after

Hurricane Katrina. The aftermath of the storm was unanticipated – less public safety, limited communications, difficulties with insurance, and museum trustees and employees dealing with their own

2006 Angels Project

Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, October 14, 2006

On Saturday, October 14, 2006, the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum was the recipient of the latest WCG Angels Project. Organized by archaeological conservator and WCG member Howard Wellman, the focus of the annual pro-bono work day was a massive cleaning and re-storage effort. Twenty WCG members and graduate interns participated.

Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum is a State of Maryland museum, located in St. Leonard, Calvert County, and is devoted to the preservation of historical and archaeological cultural resources. The core collections of JPPM are the buildings, tools, and implements used by Mr. Jefferson Patterson to run the Point Farm property, a 512 acre cattle farm that he created in the 1920's. After the property was donated to the State of Maryland in 1983, this collection has been augmented by local landowners and farmers who have donated farm tools and household implements from the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries.



Broken into 2 teams, eighteen volunteer Angels relocated over 100 small tools and household implements from their current non-climate-controlled storage areas, removed accumulated dust by vacuum cleaning where appropriate, rehoused them in archival polyethylene bags padded with Ethafoam (with desiccated silica gel where appropriate), and re-stored

them in the climate-controlled rooms of the JPPM Farm Exhibit Building. All conservation materials, the work site, and the collections were organized in advance by JPPM staff members Wellman, Betty Seifert, and Gareth McNair-Lewis.

The Cleaning/Vacuuming Team, wielding vacuum cleaner hoses and soft bristle brushes, included WCG members Eliza Gilligan (Conservator, Smithsonian Institution), Marei Hacke (Post-Doc Fellow, MCI), Stephen Chadwick (Visiting Professional), and Amanda Frisoski (Graduate intern). They often didn't know the name of the farm implement they were cleaning, but they gamely continued onwards!

Working alongside the vacuuming team, and on an adjacent table surface, the Re-Wrapping/ Bagging Team included Jennifer Cruickshank (Conservator, Maryland State Archives), Akiko Matsuoko (Graduate Intern), Kerith Koss (Graduate Intern), Melody Chen (Graduate Intern), and Garreth Lewis (JPPM conservation

technician)

In another part of the barn/storage area, the Movers/ Packers Team unpacked two complete rooms full of boxed small tools and individually wrapped implements. They were Supervised by Senior Conservator and Chief Curator Betty Seifert , and Howard Wellman (Staff conservator, JPPM), and included ow Jane Norman (Object conservator, private practice), Krista Pack (Graduate Intern), Beth Rydzewski (Graduate intern), Claire Peachey (Naval Research Lab), Annie Wilker (Graduate Intern), Rachel Penniman (Graduate Intern), and Kyoichi Itoh (Conservation Technician in private practice).

Working as a completely separate team, Ann Hitchcock and Lynne Gilliland prepared 2 metal storage cabinets to receive a collection of vintage hand tools, which will now serve as a study collection.

Michele Pagan, AIC and WCG Angels coordinator and conservator in private practice, also served as the Recording Angel for the event.

The coordination between JPPM, WCG, and AIC worked well. It was critical that the staff at JPPM was prepared in advance with materials and work spaces so that the Angels didn't lose time on the morning of the event. Having a clear plan of attack, stations for various tasks with staff oversight was also important, and was the only thing that allowed so much work to be accomplished.

A total of 98 boxes of objects were unpacked, rehoused and placed in storage. Additionally, 10 boxes of vintage farm tools, a total of 167 objects, were sorted and placed in 2 storage cabinets as a study collection. Thirteen boxes were pulled aside for treatment, 4 boxes were placed in the antique auto maintenance area, 87 objects were cleaned and vacuumed, then placed in sealed bags for storage.

231 wrapped objects, which includes the 87 newly packaged objects, were placed in storage, and an up to date inventory of the collection was also created.

A terrific catered lunch of soup, salad, desserts and drinks was supplied by the Friends of JPPM, in their Visitor's Center meeting space. Before returning to work, many of the participants enjoyed a short walk to the MAC Lab, where Howard gave a guided tour of these premises and described the conservation activities which take place there.

After lunch, the cleaning and wrapping teams finished up their work and joined the movers/packers, to help them finish their job of re-packing the contents of cardboard boxes into Coroplast boxes. All items previously removed from storage rooms in the morning were returned to those shelving units before the teams dispersed for the day. All boxes had registration cards attached, and shelf lists had been created for all shelves in these 2 rooms.

As Betty Seifert reflected at the end of the one-day effort: "As one can see, an incredible amount of work was performed. We are deeply indebted to the dedication of each participant."

And an incredibly good time was enjoyed by each participant, Betty!

Michele Pagan
Angels Project Coordinator
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202-546-5439

Sidney S. Williston Memorial Fund for Interns

The WCG is still accepting donations to the Sidney S. Williston Memorial Fund to benefit DC area interns and fellows.

WCG is pleased to present the following interns with the Sidney Williston Fund Award. These interns were nominated by their supervisors and will receive free membership in WCG for the 2006-2007 season.

Annie Wilker

Is doing an advanced paper conservation internship at the Library of Congress beginning in September 2006. She has a degree in Conservation and Library Science from the University of Texas at Austin. She specialized in the study of disaster relief and served as a Katrina volunteer.

Sophie Lewincamp

Is doing an advanced paper conservation internship at the Library of Congress ending in the Fall of 2007. She has a degree in conservation from the University of Canberra in Australia. She specialized in the analysis of Islamic ink documents and parchment disaster recovery.

Amanda Frisosky

Is currently undertaking an internship in paintings at the National Gallery of Art. She is undertaking a Masters of Arts in Art History with an advanced certificate in conservation at New York University. She has worked at Harvard with the Cornell Archaeological projects, the National Academy of Design and with the Fine Arts Conservation Group.

Corey Smith

Is a Kress Post-Graduate Fellow in Objects Conservation at the Museum Conservation Institute, Smithsonian Institution. She is working on a research project titled "Hydrogen Sulfide permeability in Organic Coating Materials for Silver".

Crista Pack

Is beginning a pre-program internship with the Objects conservation laboratory at the National Museum of the American Indian. She is taking chemistry courses and recently moved to DC to pursue conservation after deciding not to further her studies in Art History.

WCG Intern Reception at National Postal Museum

WCG's annual intern reception was held at the National Postal Museum on September 21. Interns were treated to a tour of the collections by curator Cheryl Ganz, and of the conservation lab by conservator and former WCG president Linda Edquist. Five interns received Williston awards, and several signed up to help at this season's monthly meetings. If you are an intern or fellow, be sure to get involved by contacting WCG's Intern Coordinator Joanne Klaar at j-klaar@nga.gov. Joanne has numerous laboratory tours and social gatherings planned.

Upcoming Deadlines

The following deadlines are listed in order in relation to the current date. For more details about the individual grant or scholarship funding organizations, please consult their websites. This list is intended only as a reminder and is not a complete list of available grants, scholarships or events. 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.

The Maryland Historical Trust Board of Trustees 2007 Preservation Awards

Nomination forms may be found at www.marylandhistoricaltrust.net under "What's New." Complete nominations must be post marked by **Dec. 15, 2006**. Questions? Contact Scott D. Whipple at 410.514.7635 or swhipple@mdp.state.md.us.

AIC Annual Meeting Early Bird Registration Rates

Rates for the AIC Annual Meeting registration go up after **December 31**.

FAIC Carolyn Horton Grant

The Carolyn Horton Fund is used to support continuing education, including attendance at meetings, seminars, workshops, or to conduct research or special projects by members of the AIC Book and Paper specialty group. The deadline for receipt of applications is **February 1**.

FAIC Christa Gaehde Grant

The Christa Gaehde Fund promotes study and research in the conservation of art on paper for members of AIC. Its scope is broad; projects may involve individual study, attendance at workshops, conferences, or other events, purchase of materials for research projects, or other activities in keeping with this goal. The deadline for receipt of applications is **February 1**.

FAIC Individual Professional Development Scholarship

The Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation (FAIC) offers scholarships up to \$1000 to help defray professional development costs for members of AIC. Proposed projects may include seminars, courses, research, or other continuing education endeavors that support the professional development of AIC members. This award is not available to support expenses for attending the AIC Annual Meeting, with the exception of workshop fees. Deadlines for receipt of applications are **February 15** and September 15.

FAIC Lecture Grants

The Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation (FAIC) provides funds toward the presentation of public lectures to help advance public awareness of conservation. Up to \$500 may be used to help defray lecturer travel costs, honoraria, site fees, and publicity costs. These awards are not intended to be used for lectures associated with the AIC annual meeting. Deadlines for receipt of applications are **February 15** and September 15.

FAIC Regional Angels Grants

The Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation (FAIC) offers grants of up to \$1000 toward the development and implementation of Angels Projects not associated with AIC annual meetings. Funds are to help defray organizational costs, necessary materials and supplies and other expenses such as marketing and publicity. Materials and supplies should also be augmented through donations outside of FAIC. Deadlines for receipt of applications are **February 15** and September 15.

How to reach WCG

Web site: www.washingtonconservationguild.org

Email: wcg@washingtonconservationguild.org

Address: PO Box 23364, Washington, DC 20026.

People

Head of Conservation at the Folger, **Frank Mowery**, and his team have a new space in which to assess and treat the collection. The state-of-the-art laboratory, named for former director Werner Gundersheimer, was dedicated on October 5 as part of the Renaissance Circles gathering.

Staff of the Smithsonian's Museum Conservation Institute (MCI) examined, analyzed, and conserved the Mace of The United States House of Representatives. The project was featured in the revised version of the C-SPAN documentary "The Capitol," broadcast in November. C-SPAN filmed the project at the Museum Support Center, including segments with MCI scientists **Lynn Brostoff** and **Walter Hopwood**, and conservators **Mel Wachowiak** and **Vicky Karas**. In addition, the details of the complete conservation treatment as conducted by MCI's Senior Furniture Conservator **Don Williams** and Postgraduate Conservation Fellow **Corey Smith**, will be part of both the broadcast and DVD boxed set edition available in early 2007.

MEMBERSHIP

WCG dues are \$30 per year, \$15 for students and interns, payable to the Washington Conservation Guild or WCG.

The membership year runs from May 1st through April 30th. Membership forms can be requested by mail from the Membership Secretary at P.O. Box 23364, Washington D.C. 20026 or can be downloaded from our web site. 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:

- Early March: membership renewal notice mailed
- Mid-April: 2nd and last renewal notice mailed
- May 1st: New membership year begins (verify your status)
- July 1st: Deadline for membership renewals**
- Aug/Sept: Publication of membership directory

*Members who join after July 1st will not be included in the membership directory, but in an addendum to be mailed out in December.

Disclaimer: The Washington Conservation Guild (WCG) does not recommend particular individuals, businesses, products, services or conservation treatments. WCG's Newsletter and Web site are simply vehicles for presenting information from various sources. The publication of such information in either medium should not be construed as an endorsement of it by WCG. All opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of WCG, its Board of Directors or membership.

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Attention:

To WCG members who have opted not to receive e-mail meeting announcements:

WCG occasionally sends additional e-mails about special WCG events, upcoming conferences, job openings and other conservation news of interest. If you have opted not to receive meeting announcements by e-mail, you will not receive these additional e-mails. We recommend that you to check our website
(www.washingtonconservationguild.org) frequently to remain abreast of all WCG news.

If you would like to change your e-mail status please contact Membership Chair
Patricia Favero at
wcg@washingtonconservationguild.org.

News from the Editor

WCG Newsletter is printed quarterly (September, December, March, June). Items for inclusion in the WCG Newsletter should be directed to:

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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. Special thanks to proofreaders Brett Holt and Emily Jacobson.

Next issue: March 2007

Deadline for submissions: February 15, 2007

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