

RECORD

Summer 2005

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The newsletter of the Virginia Association of Government Archives & Records Administrators

Should the *Public Record* go digital?

AS MENTIONED in the President's message on page 2, VAGARA needs your input! The *Public Record* has always been a print publication. It has been suggested that VAGARA publish new issues of the *Public Record* available electronically **via email as a special, members-only** way of disseminating VAGARA's news to its members. The VAGARA board wanted to poll the membership about this proposed step before taking any action.



Are you ready to go **digital**? A fan of the "old school" paper-based approach instead? If you are undecided, give it some thought.

When you are ready to cast your ballot, visit the homepage of the VAGARA website, <http://www.gmu.edu/library/vagara/index.html>, and take the poll. The question you will find at the poll form is: "Do you want the to receive the VAGARA newsletter, the *Public Record*, via an 700KB email?"

After you complete your answer to the brief online survey form, you should be able to view the preliminary survey results. The final results will be announced later this year.

Thanks for your input!

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Message to the members

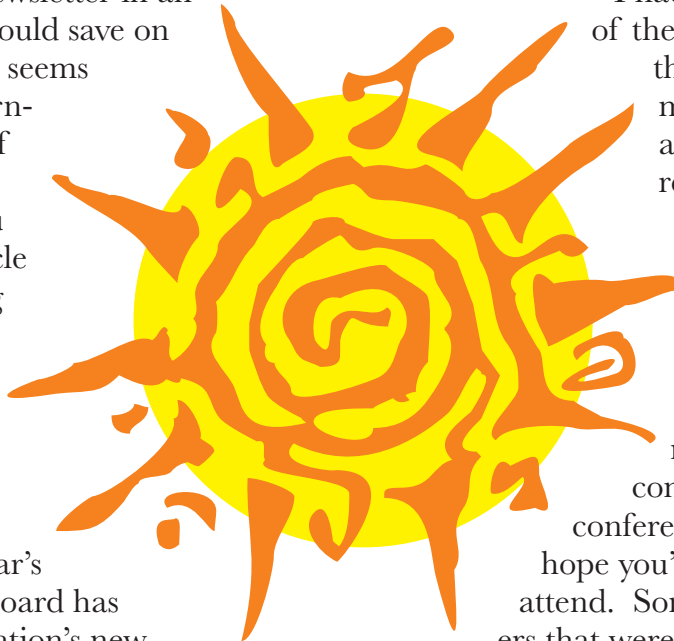
Summer 2005

GREETINGS, during this hot-enough-to-melt-the-ink-off-a-record summer. I hope you and the records in your charge are staying cool, and in a consistent, relatively low humidity.

Something that your board members have been kicking around for a few meetings is the idea of sending out this newsletter in an electronic format. This would save on the cost of postage, plus it seems most organizations are turning to this new medium of delivery. We'd like your thoughts on that, so if you would please find the article in this newsletter directing you to VAGARA's website, and let us know your opinion, we would appreciate that.

You will notice in this issue the update of last year's conference logo that the board has voted on being the Association's new logo. The board contracted Manuel Timbreza, a graphics designer and Asst. Director of Communications for the Virginia Municipal League, to redesign the conference logo and to offer his own designs. After a review of both, the board voted to accept his update of the conference logo. Thanks go to Nancie Laing for finding Manuel.

As a follow-up, the Nominating Committee is being organized, and will soon be in search of a new slate of officers for the 2006 – 2007 term. Would you give thought to serving your association in this way? If you have any questions, or suggestions for nominees, please let one of the current board members know.



I had the chance to be a part of the NAGARA conference that was held in Richmond, July 21-24, and by all counts of the feedback received, it was a successful series of meetings.

There were several other VAGARA members in attendance, and we had the chance to catch up. There were more than a few parting comments of "see you at *our* conference in November." I hope you're making plans now to attend. Some of the industry suppliers that were exhibiting there are also regulars at "our" conference and indicated that they are looking forward to seeing familiar, as well as new, faces. Will yours be one of them?

Have a great summer. Here's to a lower mold count and less humidity.

VAGARA BOARD MEMBERS

News from the members

SEAN C. BILBY OF THE NORFOLK PUBLIC LIBRARY passed the Academy of Certified Archivists' certification exam last year and received his Certified Archivist designation. For the past year, Sean has been with NPL as the assistant manager of its central library, Kirn Memorial Library. Recently, he was named the collection development librarian for Norfolk Public Library. Congratulations Sean!

For more information about the ACA certification process, see <http://www.certifiedarchivists.org/>.

Please feel free to contact the VAGARA editor at ahakes@gmu.edu or by phone at 703-993-2201 if you have any news that you would like to share with your fellow VAGARA members.

Reporting of toxic release

VIRGINIA WILL BE ONE OF THE STATES participating in a pilot program to streamline and consolidate the annual reporting of dangerous chemical releases. The other two states are Illinois and South Carolina. The EPA's Central Data Exchange (CDX) is the point of entry on environmental submissions of dangerous chemical releases and under the pilot program, will receive industry reports into a data warehouse that will feed directly to the participating states. Single reporting eliminates the need for states to submit their own

versions of the reports and improves reconciliation

among the inventory data. It also helps to

reduce possible errors that can skew results when states submit

their own versions of the reports. For more information about the EPA CDX, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/cdx/>.

Submitted by Dick Harrington

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Outstanding Member Award and Outstanding Vendor Award

PART OF OUR ASSOCIATION'S MISSION is to recognize members who have made substantial contributions to the fields of archives and/or records management, as well as to the association itself. The criteria for a person receiving an outstanding member award fall under the categories of leadership, participation in VAGARA activities, scholarship, original contributions, and working contributions. The nominee should have demonstrated abilities and/ or accomplishments in at least three of these categories. For details on each of these criteria, please visit the VAGARA website and click on *Membership*.

Also, if you work with or know of a vendor that has contributed in a significant way to the fields of archives or records management, VAGARA would like to help you recognize them. An outstanding vendor nominee should have contributed to the advancement VAGARA's mission, as well as promoted and contributed to our two fields of endeavor.

Should you have a candidate for either one of these awards, act immediately; the deadline is fast approaching. Please mail a letter of nomination to Cindy Sims, VAGARA Vice President. Her address is:

Fiscal Director
 Culpeper Human Services
 219 E. Davis Street, Suite 10
 Culpeper, VA 22701
 Email: cls047@northern.dss.state.va.us

Deadline for application submissions is **Friday, September 9, 2005.**

Connis O. Brown Scholarship

THE CONNIS O. BROWN SCHOLARSHIP fund was established by the Virginia Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (VAGARA) in February 1989 to recognize and support those individuals who desire to advance their knowledge of the records management profession and the principles of VAGARA.

An applicant for the Connis O. Brown Scholarship must be a member in good standing of VAGARA and must have professional affiliation in the archives, records management, or information systems field.

The scholarship can consist of the following: *either*

- a Basic Scholarship: One (1) year paid membership and paid registration for the VAGARA Annual Conference, *or*
- a Full Scholarship: Paid registration for the VAGARA Annual Conference and basic hotel room costs (2 nights – based on need). The number and type of scholarships to be awarded each year will be determined by the VAGARA Board, based on the funds available that year.

Continues on next page

Applicants must not have been awarded the Connis O. Brown scholarship for the previous two years to be eligible for the award for the current year. Awards will be given priority based on financial need, professional development and continuing education.

Applications for scholarship must be submitted on the designated VAGARA form (*see page 6*) no later than **Friday, September 30, 2005**.

For more information contact:

Paige Neal

Phone: (804) 692-3751

Fax: (804) 692-3603

E-mail: pneal@lva.lib.va.us

Completed application forms are to be returned to:

J. Paige Neal

State Archival Records Manager

The Library of Virginia

800 E. Broad Street

Richmond, Virginia 23219- 8000



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2005 Application for

VAGARA / Connis O. Brown Scholarship

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Initial: _____

Home Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Title: _____ Email: _____

Name of Employer: (Indicate if Federal State or Local Government)

Business Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

VAGARA Member? Yes No Months: _____ Years: _____

Professional Services? Yes No Months: _____ Years: _____

Education: (Circle highest number of years attended)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23

Does your employer pay for: Membership? Yes No Conference? Yes No

If your conference fee is paid by scholarship, would your employer pay for your hotel expenses? Yes No

At the beginning of the conference, does VAGARA have your permission to announce your name as being a scholarship recipient? Yes No

State your reason for requesting this scholarship and what it would mean if you were awarded the VAGARA/Connis O. Brown Scholarship. *(Please write on a separate page)* Application date: _____

Mail to: J. Paige Neal
State Archival Records Manager
The Library of Virginia
800 E. Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219-8000

Application deadline:
September 30, 2005

This page may be photocopied

Webmaster wanted

Who: A web-savvy VAGARA member

What: Responsible for the operation and maintenance of the VAGARA website: <http://www.gmu.edu/library/vagara/>. The webmaster is an ex-officio member of the VAGARA board.

Why: Long-serving Webmaster and perpetually busy **Bob Vay** has decided to pass the torch so he can spend more time with his family as his daughter heads into the highly mobile toddler years.

Interested? Contact **President Glenn Smith** at GSmith@lva.lib.va.us.



- Bob Vay -

Archival theft in the news

STAFF VIGILANCE REMAINS A KEY component in theft prevention. A dealer in antique maps, E. Forbes Smiley III, was arrested this summer for the theft of several rare, antique maps belonging to Yale University's Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library. Beinecke staff became suspicious when an X-acto knife was found on the floor of the reading room. Using their surveillance technology and working with both the library and campus security personnel, they apprehended the suspect, who had in his possession seven maps from the Beinecke and other map collections. The seven purloined maps, including a 1614 colonial print by Jamestown founder Captain John Smith, together were valued at approximately \$878,000. Police are working with several other repositories with rare map collections to verify that their map collections were not affected by the suspected thief.

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VAGARA logo redesigned

THIS ISSUE MARKS the debut of the new VAGARA logo. It is based upon the logo originally developed for the 2004 Annual Conference, which celebrated VAGARA's twentieth anniversary. The new logo contains all the components that make it compatible with all forms of publication.



Mark your calendars!

THE 20TH ANNUAL VAGARA Conference will be **November 2-4 2005**. The location is Virginia Beach, Virginia, at the Sheraton Oceanfront Hotel. Conference registration information and forms are available at the VAGARA website. Watch for the program in the next edition of this newsletter.



PUBLIC RECORD

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