

PALMCOP BOARD MEETING

12 April 2005

The second quarterly meeting of 2005 for the Palmetto Archives Libraries and Museums Council (PALMCOP) was called to order by Chair Grace Cordial on Tuesday, April 12 at 4:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the South Carolina Department of Archives and History Center in Columbia, SC. Members in attendance were Grace Cordial from Beaufort County Library; Sarah Murray, Preservation Officer of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History; Kendra Wilson from the Charleston Library Society; Nic Butler representing the Charleston County Public Library; Alan Burns of Clemson University; and Felicia Yeh from the South Carolina State Library.

The minutes from the board meeting on January 25, 2005 were reviewed and approved. Attention was then focused on the success of the mock disaster workshop that had just taken place at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History Center. The program was offered in collaboration with SCLA. Twenty-seven individuals signed up for the workshop, and only three people did not attend. Sarah Murray informed the Board that refunds would only be given to those individuals who specifically ask for one. The initial feedback from members who attended the workshop was very good. The Board recognized the hard work of the presenters, Sharon Bennett and Harlan Greene, and also thanked Sarah Murray and Grace Cordial for their countless efforts coordinating the event. While no final financial figures were reported, the workshop was deemed a financial success. The experience of working with SCLA overall was a very positive one, and members of PALMCOP enjoyed the opportunity to collaborate with them. The Board also decided not to schedule too many concurrent programs with other organizations in the immediate future in order to keep PALMCOP's own identity separate. Grace Cordial recommended that the organization should not plan a program or workshop for the summer months due to the great amount of work that went into the mock disaster. This request was fully supported.

The next order of old business focused on the desire to create a regular PALMCOP newsletter. No contact with current members of the newsletter committee had been made since the last Board meeting. Members agreed that it would be financially worthwhile to create an electronic issue that could be shared. This method was considered most cost effective. Agreement was reached that the newsletter should be published twice a year. Sarah Murray and Felicia Yeh suggested that the Board check with Gloria Kelley, the chair of the newsletter committee, to ask if she still has the software needed to produce the newsletter and then proceed from there.

Attention then focused on the need to purchase five additional data loggers for distribution to each remaining district so that the data loggers can then be shared. The first data logger and software was awarded to Tally Johnson of Chester County Library. Sarah Murray informed us that she had not received a final answer regarding the legality of sharing the data logger software. She will report her findings to the Board when she has a definitive answer regarding this subject.

The first order of new business was the need to generate topics for the upcoming fall conference. The Board was aware of the possibility that NCAA and SCAA might have a joint conference this year. As a result, the Board may need to wait to make a decision until that event is finalized. Grace Cordial recommended a format for the PALMCOP fall conference. The conference could start with a meeting in the morning followed by a presentation, then offer a break, and end with another presentation. Grace encouraged everyone to think creatively when looking for presentation topics for PALMCOP's fall conference.

Nic Butler then gave the treasurer's report. He informed the Board that membership checks were still coming in from the December mailing. Furthermore, he anticipated that receipts from the workshop would be received soon. The Board also discussed the fact that Harlan Greene and Sharon Bennett did not request compensation for presenting the workshop. It was decided that a payment should be made to each of them in appreciation of their generosity.

Discussion then returned to possible topics and speakers for the fall conference. Nic Butler suggested the topic of music preservation. He also said that he would be happy to volunteer his services if needed. His background as a music historian could be helpful. Rick Zender from the Rivers Communications Museum at the College of Charleston was also mentioned as a possible speaker. He gives highly informative and enjoyable presentations on the topics of visual and sound media. Alan Burns agreed that a presentation on issues regarding intellectual property rights and copyright issues might also be a well received presentation that would lend itself to this subject. In addition, the Board discussed the need to learn more about putting these types of collections into a digital database to increase availability. Another idea was exploring the question regarding how many institutions have manuscript record files. Members of the Board agreed to continue to think about these and other possibilities and to share more ideas through email correspondence.

Sarah Murray presented the final order of business. She announced that the Board might want to consider moving the annual membership meeting to October rather than November due to the fact that she and her husband are expecting a baby on November 7, 2005. Sarah expressed her concern that she might be unavailable to provide assistance to PALMCOP during its regularly scheduled November meeting. The Board agreed and congratulated her on the wonderful news!

With no other business to address, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kendra C. Wilson
Secretary