



Archival Connections

Newsletter of the Catholic Archivist Group

Volume 1, Number 1

From the Chair

By Gayle Desarmia, sp

Greetings to one and all! It was a pleasure to see so many of you at our conference this past June. I trust that each of you had a refreshing summer. Now that fall is here your executive is beginning its work for the year. We had our first meeting on Wednesday, September 29th. At this meeting we reviewed our conference proceedings and set our goals for the coming year. In addition to carrying out the necessary business on behalf of the group, we are looking at the suggestions that you gave at our conference and we will select the ones to work on this year. We will continue to keep you informed. This year we will try a newsletter format for our communications. We will aim for fall, winter and spring mailings. We will welcome submissions of articles and ideas for articles. See the schedule on the last page. If anyone has ideas for our newsletter (format, name, logo), please contact me.



Ensuring the Legacy – June 2-4, 2004

Our annual conference, entitled “*Ensuring the Legacy*” was held at St. Michael’s College in Toronto last June. Sr. Marie Marchand, OSU, from the Regroupement des Archivistes Religieux presented that group’s report on “The Future of Archives”. In a letter to Jacques Monet, SJ, Sr. Marie expressed her appreciation of “our open exchanges concerning our mutual preoccupation – the future of our religious archives...If other inquiries arise or if, on our part, other developments occur, because the Quebec project is stimulating other diocese, I would be pleased to share the available information.”

Following up on the theme, Sisters Juliana Dusel, IBVM, and Rita McGuire, GSIC, gave case studies of their own congregations and Marc Lerman gave practical tips for moving archival collections. This was timely because some religious organizations are now making decisions about their future by downsizing and moving to new locations.

Tom Belton, the Archives Advisor of Ontario gave a short presentation on archives design and Dr. Mark McGowan gave a memorable address at the opening dinner on the church historian and the religious archivist as “Partners in

Preservation". A special thank you goes to Jacques Monet, SJ, for arranging the bus trip to Midland. The tour of the Canadian Martyrs' Shrine and Sainte Marie among the Hurons, the Liturgy at Brebeuf's grave and the dinner at Sainte Marie among the Hurons were truly a highlight.

Of necessity, business matters occupied part of our time together. Members of the Interim Executive reported to the group and presented constitutions for ratification. Conference participants shared ideas for future conferences and elected the Executive and Planning Committee members. Members of the C.A.G Executive are: Gayle Desarmia, SP, Chair (3-year term) Linda Wicks, Secretary (2-year term)

James Mason, CSsR, Treasurer (1-year term)

Members of the 2005 Conference Planning Committee are:

M.C. Havy, Chair/Contact

Tanya Zadow

Eloi De Grace

Mary Perpetua Kennedy, PBVM

Gayle Desarmia, SP, Ex-officio



2005 Catholic Archivist Group Conference

The next Catholic Archivist Group Conference will take place September 19-22, 2005 at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre is a ministry of the Carmelites. Located on 12 acres of park-like land, this retreat and conference

centre overlooks the world famous Niagara Falls. It is a brief 10-minute walk to the Canadian Horseshoe Falls. Visit their website at www.carmelniagara.com.



Be sure to mark your calendars. More details will be available in the New Year.

2005 Membership Renewal – Membership Drive

Membership renewals for 2005 will be due January 31, 2005. Watch the mail for the renewal information.

One of our first goals as your executive is to increase our membership base. A broad membership will enrich our networking and sharing and will assist with our financial stability.

If you know someone who might benefit from membership in the Catholic Archivist Group, please email his/her name and contact information to Linda Wicks. Linda will send the person our membership brochure. When he/she becomes a member, your name will be placed into a draw for \$50.00. You will have a chance at the draw for each new member that you refer, so send those referrals to Linda as soon as possible.

The winner of the \$50.00 draw will be announced in the winter newsletter.

Since our 2004 conference we welcome the following new members:

Member Highlights



- *Rodney Carter* is the new archivist working with Sr. Loretta Gaffney at the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph Archives in Amherstview, Ontario.
- We wish *Eloi DeGrace* well in his new position at the Archdiocese of Edmonton Archives.
- Best wishes to *Larry Dohey*, as he continues as Vice-President of the Archives Association of Ontario Board of Directors.
- Congratulations to *Marc Lerman*, the new President of the Association of Canadian Archivists Board of Directors.
- *Natalie Treboute* is working on a six-month contract to assist Sr. Gayle Desarmia in the Archives of the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul in Kingston, Ontario. Natalie's primary responsibility is the writing of descriptive inventories.
- A word of thanks goes to *Evelyn Collins*, University of St. Michael's College Archivist, and to *Jim Mason*, CSsR for helping to make our CAG better known. Both Evelyn and Jim included information on CAG and our 2004 conference in their respective organization's publications.

Saskatchewan Centennial

100 The province of Saskatchewan will be celebrating its centennial in 2005. One centennial project is the encyclopedia that is being prepared for the province. Some congregations have already submitted an article for this project. As well, a conference is being planned to remember and celebrate the contribution that religious congregations have made and are still making in the province. The conference, entitled "Shaping a Gentle Province: The Contribution of Catholic Sisters in Saskatchewan", is planned for September 9-10, 2005 in Saskatoon. Forty-two religious

congregations that have served in the province are being asked to participate.

Archivists will have a key role in the preparation and presentation of the historical information. The conference planners are asking for presentations, visual displays and listings of names of religious with Saskatchewan connections. This will be an opportunity for archivists to showcase some of the rich resources in their archives and heritage rooms.

Publication Schedule

The newsletter will be published December 1 (Fall issue), February 1 (Winter issue) and May 1 (Spring issue).

Submit your news items, articles and photographs by November 15, January 15 and April 15.

The next deadline is January 15, 2005.

Catholic Archivist Group Executive – Contact Information

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