



VIEWS: *The Newsletter of the Visual Materials Section Society of American Archivists*

Volume 16, Number 1

December 2001

IT'S POLITICS AS USUAL IN WASHINGTON
Visual Materials Section Minutes, Annual Business Meeting
August 31, 2001
8:00 a.m.

On the platform: James K. Burant (National Archives of Canada), Laurie A. Baty (U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum), John Slate (City of Dallas), Miriam Meislik (University of Pittsburgh)

Before Jim Burant called the meeting to order, he called upon Richard Pearce-Moses (Arizona Department of Library, Archives, and Public Records) to make a report from SAA Council. Pearce-Moses appealed to members to propose session ideas for the 2002 program. Also called upon everyone to get involved with SAA-level committees during their Wednesday-before-meeting-starts meeting by just showing up!

Burant called the meeting to order at 8:16 a.m. with additions/approval of the agenda and approval of the minutes from last year's meeting. [*like we could remember anything from last year. It's just way too d**n early.*—Diana]

Complaints were lodged about the five visual materials-oriented sessions on Saturday morning. Due to the number of international speakers, those sessions were given priority for earlier session slots. Reduced number of sessions by one this year. The Program Committee had sent along regrets from jamming the VM sessions together.

Jim had no formal report, so he passed the floor to Miriam. She explained the deal with the t-shirts. Then she presented the update on the three-year plan. Core activities:

- newsletter and annual meeting
- proposed links to member sites
- scanning newsletters for the VM Web site
- t-shirts: have one person to train the next person

so that one doesn't get stuck with the burden. Perhaps VM can contract with the same vendor every year. City Wide Tees in Maryland will ship free anywhere in the US. Choosing the design is usually by fiat. This year's design was from a cabinet card from a major 19th century photographer in D.C. Color burgundy and gold.

● Cooperative: Develop session proposals. Miriam called for ideas to come to her to be developed. Will work with AMIA and VMCar.

**The 2001-2002 Leadership Roster
is on page 2.**

● Publications: Think of publications to review for newsletters. Create an index of reviews of publications in *Views*. Coordinate with digitization of *Views* on Web site.

Connie Schultz (University of South Carolina) told us about a printer in the Exhibit Hall for photo-related books—Charles Gershwin.

Miriam encouraged everyone to subscribe to the VISMAT listserv. Need volunteers for Web site. Good links on the Web site for info, but would like to post web policies for everyone's perusal.

Newsletter submissions always necessary and welcomed.

Jim introduced Program Committee liaison, Dale Patterson (United Methodist Church, General Comm. on Archives & History). Dale promised committee would try not to have VM sections at same time. Can use SAA Web site to submit program proposal. Next year's theme is "Archival Roots: Our Foundation & Our Future." Looking for things have been done and looking to where we are going. Techniques in past and what do we need to do in the future; what do we need to cover, collect in the future.

Moved into Committee & Roundtable reports:

Bibliography—no one available to report.

Advanced workshop—Tim Hawkins (Freshwater Photos) not at the meeting.

Descriptive Standards—Marcy Flynn (Silver Image Management). Was a light year. Museum archives section guidelines were upgraded. Diane Vogt-O'Connor (National Archives and Records Administration) is the incoming chair. Advanced technical committee and legal issues committee will be created.

Publications—Laurie Baty. SAA Publications Board is still considering a new edition of Ritzenthaler. Contract has been sent, but not signed. Have over 300 members receiving *Views*. SAA sent out the ballots/t-shirt order form first class; profit from t-shirts goes back to SAA as a thank you for extra pages in the newsletter. Call for volunteers to contribute to the newsletter. Peter Roberts at (Georgia State University) posts the newsletter very soon after receiving copy from Laurie, about a month ahead of the hard-copy delivery. Send submissions about exhibits, meetings, original articles to Laurie. Laurie is working next issue, but not finished yet.

ACA exam—no report.

Architectural Records Roundtable—Beth Biederbeck (University of South Carolina)—meets tomorrow morning. Everyone welcome to attend for the guest speaker, Sherry

**The Visual Materials Section Web page will
be found at:
<<http://www.gsu.edu/~libpjr/vm.htm>>**

VISUAL MATERIALS SECTION LEADERSHIP ROSTER

<<http://www.gsu.edu/~libpjr/vm.htm>>

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Elections/Nominating

Jim Burant

Newsletter

Laurie A. Baty

Program (new this year)

Vacant - Contact Miriam if you're interested

Publications

Laurie A. Baty

Three-Year Plan

Laurie A. Baty

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Miriam Meislik

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Birk, Director of Collections, The Octagon, the Museum of the American Architectural Foundation, on "Collaborative Approaches to Collecting American Architectural Records," and the selection of co-chair. Several new resources on architectural records came available during the past year. The proceedings from the conference, "Architectural Records: Preserving and Managing the Documentation of Our Built Environment," are available on the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts (CCAHA)'s website: <www.ccaha/>. Hard copies of these proceedings are not available.

Available through SAA are *A Guide to the Archival Care of Architectural Records, 19th-20th Centuries* by Maygene Daniels, et. al., and published by the International Council on Archives, which offers a comprehensive archival approach for the care of modern architectural records, and *Blueprints to Bytes: Architectural Records in the Electronic Age* published by MassCOPAR, which looks at CAD and its impact on record keeping. This publication is available also directly from the MassCOPAR (Box 425129, Cambridge, MA 02142-0004)—see Beth for that contact information.

Waverly Lowell and Kelcy Shepherd of the Environmental Design Archives at UC-Berkeley have published *Standard Series for Architecture and Landscape Design Records: A Tool for the Arrangement and Description of Archival Collections*. Ordering information will be found at <www.ced.berkeley.edu/cedarchives/>. Waverly Lowell and Tawny Ryan Nelb have joined forces to write a manual on Managing Design and Construction Records to be part of SAA's basic manual series.

Tawny Ryan Nelb is the roundtable liaison to the Standards Committee.

VM Cataloging Roundtable—Sue Kriegsman (Colorado Digitization Project) invited everyone to the meeting on Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m.

Association of Moving Image Archivists—Mary Ide (WGBH, Boston)—Next conference will be November 6-10 in Portland, OR, on small gauge film. Next venues will be 2002—in Boston; 2003—in Vancouver; 2004—in Minneapolis. There are 600 members in AMIA now. Basic and intermediate workshops. Copyright workshop taught by LOC staff. Gave run-down on some of the sessions. The new journal, *Silver Light*, edited by Jan Chris Horak (International Museum of Photography and Film at George Eastman House), and published by the University of Minnesota, came out this year. Got a great review.

Announced the awarding of Kodak Fellowships: 6 week internship at Kodak in LA worth \$4000 and free meeting fee. Plus, three scholarships worth \$4000.

AMIA Local TV project—NHPRC project promoting access to local TV heritage. Surveys of local TV collections. Contact AMIA and will have a symposium. Hiring a project archivist for it. Location of project to be determined.

NHPRC project fellowship award of \$10,000 from Boston-area organization for working archivists to write the paper you've always wanted to write. Only thing is that you must intend to publish it. NE Region will manage the award and symposium for 3 years. Will then move to another region to be managed by a consortium. [See related article, p. 3—Ed.]

VM/VMCAR listserv—James Eason (Bancroft Library) reported there are 125-50 members. Had subscription information on a handout.

Jim Burant announced tour to Prints & Photographs, Library of Congress, in afternoon. Education staff of SAA wants to know if VM wants more workshops and asked if anyone was interested in serving as liaison with SAA. One participant wanted workshop on film and video. Other topics were about the SAA raffle; Laurie Baty announced SAA Publications Board was looking for manuscript readers.

Elections—John Slate (City of Dallas) of the Nominating Committee did not have an official ballot, so everyone scrambled for scraps of paper.

Guest speaker: Robin Seagal of National Geographic Society gave a wonderful presentation on NGS illustration library and image collection, storage of the images, access and cataloging systems.

Afterward, John announced new incoming chair would be Laurie Baty.

Session proposals

- Miriam and John—discussed their proposal on housing/storage issues, proper materials and conditions, "When Housing is not a Home."

- Jim Cartwright (University of Hawaii)—scanning project with mistakes. How about a session about how to avoid scanning mistakes.

- Connie Schultz (University of South Carolina)—international digital projects.

- Steve Green (Elkins, NV)—delivery of images of staff and media. Why do media still prefer slides and photo images over digital.

- Intro history of photographs session.

- Health hazards on handling deteriorating photo materials

Anyone else with ideas encouraged to email Miriam.

Web development people were asked to meet briefly following the meeting.

Jim Burant thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting at 10:06 am.

Blearily submitted,

Diana Sanderson [And we thank you for your annual support of the section!—Ed.]

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Miriam Meislik, University of Pittsburgh
<miriam+@pitt.edu>

This year's Annual Meeting was full of activity and excitement. Our speaker, Robin Siegel, was excellent and provided us with a wonderful inside look at National Geographic. Jim Burant and I had a brief meeting with Bill Landis, our Program Committee Liaison, while we were in DC to discuss the issue of concurrent visual materials related sessions. As many of you know, this year we had as many as three sessions at one time. We have been assured that this will not happen again, at least to this degree. I will try to stay on top of this issue this year and will have a clear idea as to how everything is going to shape up before the annual meeting.

Thanks to everyone who proposed a session for the DC meeting and those that presented. All of our sessions were well attended. In particular, congratulations to Jim Burant, who chaired a standing-room-only session on photograph

albums and scrapbooks! Other speakers at that session included a representative of the Reuther Library in Detroit standing in for Douglas M. Haller, Rebecca Johnson Melvin, and Gillian C. Boal.

As you will see by the minutes from the meeting, the Section has been quite busy. This year is also proving to be quite busy.

We are in the process of moving the section website to the SAA server with the help of Brian Doyle, the SAA Webmaster. Look for the move and other changes in January. By moving to the SAA server, we won't have to worry about using someone's personal account space. Since we are part of SAA, it only made sense to do it this way. We have complete FTP access to the site, so updates will not be a problem. Updates to the Web site should be submitted to our Web site committee chair, Peter J. Roberts. We have already added our Three Year Plan (it's also published in this issue of *Views*) to the site with other significant changes debuting in the next year including the addition of links to member sites and image collections. Please contact Susette Newberry if you have not already submitted your information. We also would like to have the oldest issues of *Views* scanned and placed on the site. Please let me know if you would like to volunteer for this task.

Mark Martin has graciously accepted the position as chair of the Bibliography Committee. It is hoped that we can complete work on an index of all the reviewed books, articles, and journals that have appeared in *Views*. The idea is that this would be a helpful research tool.

T-shirts were a big success. I am proud to announce that we have selected the "official" Visual Materials Section t-shirt vendor. In the past, we used a vendor in the city where the annual meeting was being held, which, as you might guess, can be a difficult task at times. Based on this year's success and the ease with which we were able to work with the vendor, we will now use City Wide Tees in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. They are absolutely wonderful to work with and produced very nice, quality shirts. Even better, they ship free for non-profit organizations to anywhere in the country. Selecting a vendor to produce our shirts will assure us that we will have quality shirts for as long as we want to produce them. At the present time, I will continue to coordinate t-shirt orders. We are already working with the Birmingham host committee to come up with ideas for next year's shirts. The design for next year's shirts will be available in the April issue of *Views*.

We are still looking for someone to be the chair of the newly created Visual Materials Section Program Committee. This committee a replacement/enhancement of the Advanced Workshop Committee. It will also work closely with VMCAR. We intend for this committee, working with the members, to develop workshop and program ideas for the annual meeting. We want to try to have some solid ideas long before the annual meeting instead of scrambling so close to the deadline. By making this a year-long process, we should be able to have our session proposals completed by the Annual Meeting and then submitted shortly after the annual meeting closes. It would be great to get a jump on proposals to be discussed at the Birmingham meeting.

Speaking of Birmingham and session proposals. . . we had many wonderful suggestions this year. Next year we hope to see sessions that include topics such as proper

storage and housing and integrated catalogs for visual materials and a workshop on film.

Thanks to everyone who helped make this year's meeting a success and to those who have already put in great efforts to make next year's meeting even better. Laurie Baty and I will be working together to achieve the goals of the three year plan and for developing a strategy to keep the Section moving toward meeting those goals.

FROM THE CHAIR-ELECT

**Laurie A. Baty, US Holocaust Memorial Museum
<lab0254@aol.com>**

Miriam and I look forward to continuing to position the Visual Materials Section as one of the leaders in the Society. In addition to moving forward with the excellent ideas and goals of our predecessors, we have some new ideas that we hope to initiate in the next two years. If you have any ideas that you would like to see considered, please feel free to call either Miriam or me to discuss them.

In the meantime, please continue to support your Section and Society by being an active member.

ARCHITECTURAL RECORDS ROUNDTABLE

**Beth Bilderback, University of South Carolina
<bilderbk@gwm.sc.edu>**

The Roundtable had a successful meeting in Washington, beginning with a reception at American Institute of Architects Library and a behind-the-scenes tour of the archive by Sarah Turner and Sherry Birk. The main business was to elect a new co-chair, as Mary Woolever is stepping down. Beth Dodd, Architecture Library at University of Texas at Austin, agreed to serve, with Sarah Turner at AIA continuing as co-chair. Sherry Birk, The Octagon, gave an interesting presentation on "Collaborative Approaches to Collecting American Architectural Records" and Bruce Laverty, The Athenaeum of Philadelphia, shared information about The Philadelphia Architects and Buildings Project.

Members also shared information about current projects. The Art Institute of Chicago has a Mellon grant to process their backlog, create finding aids in EAD, and digitize a selection for their web site. The Texas Architecture Resources is an online attempt to bring together legacy finding aids of Texas institutions with architectural records. The Park Service is working to create an Olmstead Research Guide online that will bring together resources available on Frederick Law Olmstead. The Environmental Design Archive at UC-Berkeley has a NEH grant to process three collections and put finding aids on the web with images embedded. EDA also has a Getty grant to create a virtual archive of images and finding aids from three sites relating to the work of Greene and Greene; they are working on preliminary metadata standards as well. Principia College has a web site with buildings and other information regarding Bernard Maybank's involvement with the college. And Library of Congress has several projects: Frank Lloyd Wright drawings, work of Charles and Ray Eames, and HABS/HAER drawings.

Many thanks to Mary Woolever for her work over the past few years, and we look forward to a good year under Sarah and Beth's leadership. If you want to become involved

in the roundtable, contact Sarah at <sturner@aia.org> or Beth at <dodd.beth@mail.utexas.edu> If you have news of collections, exhibits, or projects, please let me know at <bilderbk@gwm.sc.edu>.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Marcy Silver,
Silver Image Management
 <silverim@mindspring.com>

During this year's annual meeting the Standards Committee discussed the possibility of adding more specialized subsections to the committee to expand it beyond its traditional realm of descriptive standards. Subgroups under consideration include preservation, electronic records, records management, and legal issues. The Museum Archives Section guidelines were reviewed and endorsed. There was also extensive discussion about the Open Archives Initiative (found on the Web at <<http://www.openarchives.org/>>).

Standards for Archival Description: A Handbook by Victoria Walch is available from SAA in hard copy and on the Web at <<http://www.archivists.org/catalog/stds99/>>. The Standards Committee may try to update this resource to include a variety of other standards, including those relating specifically to visual materials, to EAD and preservation. In the future, they may enlist our Section's help in the visual materials standards category.

Following the meeting, the Technical Subcommittee on Descriptive Standards (TSDS) began working on a project to review encoding standards. The Standards Committee is also reviewing Image Permanence Institute documentation and updates to ANSI/ISO imaging standards. Doug Nishimura's 18 October 2001 update on the standards is available from the Conservation DistList at <<http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/byform/mailling-lists/cdl/2001/1264.html>>.

NEW ARCHIVAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS AVAILABLE:

A new, non-residential archival research fellowship program, funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, will award five fellowships of \$10,000 each in 2002 and 2003 for archivists to conduct research on a topic of importance to the archival profession.

To be eligible, applicants must be U. S. citizens working under a 12-month contract in the archival, manuscript, historical, library, records management, information science, or other related discipline.

Proposals concerning electronic records will be given highest priority. Collaborative proposals will be accepted. The fellowship program is managed by the Massachusetts Historical Society, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northeastern University, Schlesinger Library at the Radcliffe Institute, and the WGBH Educational Foundation.

Application deadlines is March 1, 2002. For more information visit the SAA Web site at <<http://www.archivists.org>> or contact Brenda Lawson, Project Director, NHPRC Archival Fellowship Program, Massachusetts Historical Society, 1154 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02115, <blawson@masshist.org>, (617) 646-0502.

COLORADO DIGITIZATION PROJECT'S NEW WEB SITE

The Colorado Digitization Project (CDP) has made available through it's Web site *Heritage: the gateway to Colorado's Digitization Projects* <<http://coloradodigital.coalliance.org/>>. Heritage is a Dublin Core based database that provides access to the Web sites and digital objects created by Colorado's archives, historical societies, libraries and museums. The database operates on the OCLC SiteSearch software. CDP participants can create records online using the DC Builder software developed by the CDP or by sending files from local library systems, local museum databases, etc. The CDP developed crosswalks to support the merging of the metadata into a single database. Links connect with the images that are managed by each project.

In addition to being able to access the collections through Heritage, the Heritage database is also accessible via the Colorado Virtual Library <<http://www.aclin.org/>>. Under the "create your own group," the Heritage database is offered as one of the options. It is also available under the Section Digital Collections.

They welcome comments and questions regarding Heritage, DC Builder, and how they put it all together.

For more information, contact Liz Bishoff, Project Director, Colorado Digitization Project, University of Denver, Penrose Library, Denver, CO 80208, (303) 871-2006 (voice), (303) 871-2990 (fax), <bishoffl@concentric.net> (e-mail), <<http://coloradodigital.coalliance.org/>>.

VISUAL MATERIALS CATALOGING AND ACCESS ROUNDTABLE

Sue Kriegsman, Colorado Digitization Project,
 <Sue.Kriegsman@Colorado.edu>

First I would like to welcome the new Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of VMCAR, Peggy Appleman, Photo Librarian, Washingtoniana Division, District of Columbia Public Library, Martin Luther King Memorial Library. Peggy was unanimously elected at the VMCAR meeting during SAA. And a thank you to Carolyn Texley, the out-going Chair of VMCAR, for all of hard her work during this past year.

Despite the early hour, there were 42 attendees of the VMCAR meeting during SAA. Bravo to those brave souls. The meeting opened with a report from the Chair—reporting that it was quiet year for the roundtable except for a few email questions. Richard Pierce-Moses followed with a report from Council and an encouraging word about getting involved with SAA. Introductions were done around the room followed by the election for Vice-Chair. The meeting then opened to some general discussion of project updates, issues, and questions. And of course, session proposals for next year. There were several good suggestions including Digital on Demand and Format Integrated Catalogs. I hope to see these and other proposals come to fruition for the next meeting.

One of the session ideas that was left behind was the cataloging of scrapbooks. Everyone seemed to nod their head in agreement to indicate that this was a problem in their organization. But when it came time to for someone to take responsibility and plan a session proposal, everyone backed down. It appears to me that cataloging scrapbooks is a big problem. They are strange beasts that often have—

and have had—a life of their own. For those of you who like to plan ahead please consider tackling this topic for the SAA 2003 meeting. If you have experience working with scrapbooks and feel you have something to share, please don't be shy, the rest of us need your advice.

Mark Martin, Louisiana State University, has agreed to continue to work on the VMCAR Web site. Look for some changes during the next year as the VM Web site committee and VMCAR try to unify the look and feel of the two sites. The site will be found at <<http://www.lib.lsu.edu/vmcar/vmcar.htm>>.

IN PRINT

The Reviews

- *Nuevo Mexico Profundo: Rituals of an Indo-Hispano Homeland*. Santa Fe: Museum of New Mexico Press, and Albuquerque: National Hispanic Cultural Center of New Mexico, 2000. 156 p. ISBN 0890133484 \$50 (cloth); ISBN 0890133492 \$29.95 (paper).

Reviewed by Alan Conant, Indiana Historical Society

This book includes four essays and photography which explain current dance celebrations and other cultural events enjoyed by the Indian and Hispanic people along the Rio Grande River in New Mexico. Essays are by Enrique R. Lamadrid, Ramon A. Gutierrez, Lucy R. Lippard, and Chris Wilson; photographs are by Miguel Gandert. The book includes an introduction statement by Lamadrid, "The Poetics of Mestizo Identity," which describes the pressures on the cultural landscape brought by independence from Spain and inclusion in the United States.

Lamadrid presents the background of rituals and dances as folklore; Gutierrez examines this Rio Grande culture and its migration up and down the river, crossing international borders; Lippard discusses the social relationships among the subjects of Gandert's photographs and the interplay with the photographer; and Chris Wilson discusses the career, training, and focus of Gandert's work. Each essay concludes with an excellent list of sources.

Gandert has been photographing these scenes of his native New Mexico for over 20 years. He is currently an associate professor in the Department of Communication and Journalism at the University of New Mexico. His work has been exhibited at the Whitney Museum of American Arts, the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, as well as other museums and galleries around the world.

Gandert's photography of these and other subjects is covered well, with illustrations on nearly every page, with clear explanations. The photography is presented well, in a matte finish on sturdy paper. The black and white photography is a versatile tool in Gandert's hands.

Perhaps a selective use of color would be appropriate; especially when looking at the photograph of the dancer with headdress on page 42, the cover, and colorful costumes mentioned on pages six and 80, and 81. Author Chris Wilson, however, is correct when he describes black and white's ability to capture qualities of light given off by dust, sand or dirt, or strong sunlight. Perhaps special filters would lend complimentary effects on subject with use of color; to eliminate any garishness. The described tradition of black and white documentary photography has a counterpart in early color photography.

One of my favorite historical topics is the persistence of a cultural artifact, such as an ancient, "All Saints" to the recent custom of Halloween. This phenomenon is well illustrated in this book by the description of a culture transfer: the introduction and continuing celebration of the Spanish conquering and removal of the Moors from their homeland of Spain which is still celebrated in New Mexico hundreds of years after their arrival, in the drama of *Moros y Christianos*. Celebrations created later include the Treaty with the Comanches of 1786 marked with a performance known as *Los Comanches*. Other popular religious activities described include treks to the sacred hill at Tomé, a site kept alive through regular devotions. This hill has had access preserved for many years, despite nearby development pressure.

I work in central Indiana, far removed from New Mexico, and somewhat removed from history of the Southwest. This book brings to mind further scholarly study and photography that might be accomplished in the Midwest with Native Americans and related ethnic groups.

From an archival standpoint, one wonders what museums hold, or what materials might be preserved, from these cultures. Are there videotape or film of these dances? Is there an archives collecting song sheets? Do any of the churches or the subjects themselves collect materials?

The book is of a nice size, not unwieldy for a photo book; made up of sewn binding. The book would perhaps have been helped with a glossary of terms, with translation to English. A year-long calendar, with important annual dates would be very useful. There is one map which appears on page 12. Perhaps a map for each essay would help: overlaying modern maps which show modern towns and cities. These are minor criticisms of a handsome publication of an important photographer's work, accompanied by interesting essays on the politics and history of the Indo-Hispanic culture of Nuevo México.

- Palmquist, Peter E., and Kailbourn, Thomas R. *Pioneer Photographers of the Far West A Biographical Dictionary, 1840-1865*. Foreword by Martha A. Sandweiss. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2000. 679 p. ISBN 0-8047-3883-1 \$125 (cloth).

Reviewed by James Eason, Archivist for Pictorial Collections, The Bancroft Library.

This recent work by Peter Palmquist and Thomas Kailbourn is not only an indispensable reference source on photography in the American West, it is also a source of countless hours of fascinating and amusing reading. Impressive in scope and thoroughness, it is clearly the result of a lifetime of research.

The work contains approximately 1,500 biographical entries for photographers working in the West prior to 1865. The geographic scope is limited to states on or west of the Continental Divide, and also includes western Mexico, Central America, British Columbia, Alberta, Alaska, and Hawaii. Although activity prior to 1865 is a requirement for inclusion, individual careers are followed to their end whenever possible, often bringing the reader up to or beyond the turn of the twentieth century.

Some 250 illustrations are present; chiefly portraits of photographers, views of their studios, or advertisements for their work. This is by no means, however, a "coffee table book." The images are interesting and informative, but reproduction quality is merely adequate, rather than beautiful—an understandable economic necessity for a book of this size

and scope. The indisputable value of the work is in the wealth of information provided, and in the thorough notes and citations.

Entries range from single paragraphs on obscure photographers to six or more pages on major figures such as Eadweard Muybridge, or daguerreian Robert Vance. All known business addresses are cited, along with dates of activity at given locations. Each entry is concluded with notes citing sources as well as notes on institutions holding examples of the subject's work. Appendices provide cross-reference lists to photographic partnerships and corporate names, to known public "performances" such as panoramic travelling shows, to women photographers or workers in photography, and to names by geographic region.

These are the elements that make the dictionary a valuable tool, but the chief joy for the reader comes from the entertaining gems found in the biographies. The number of stories seems endless, encompassing colorful figures such as California photographer turned Canadian politician Amor de Cosmos (born William Alexander Smith), the teenage Epifania Vallejo whose amateur daguerreian efforts are the earliest documented in California, and John Wesley Jones, whose travelling "Pantoscope" show was based on an ambitious series of daguerreotypes taken across the western frontier. What details are available regarding the more obscure operators have been meticulously ferreted out of newspaper announcements, city directories, and similar publications, as well as from extensive study of imprints on card mounts.

Pioneer Photographers will doubtless be considered the authoritative work of its kind on early Western American photographers. It suffers somewhat from the lack of a comprehensive general index, and some may find the type to be on the small side or the reproduction quality of illustrations to be inferior, but these points seem petty in the face of this truly monumental work. The amount of information presented is astounding. It is a "must" for any collection supporting research in nineteenth-century photography or for anyone with an abiding interest in the topic.

The Books

Golden, Catherine J., ed. *Book Illustrated Text Image, and Culture 1770-1930*. New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Books, 2000. 334 p. ISBN 1-58456-023-1 \$39.95 (cloth).

Selborne, Joanna. *British Wood Engraved Book Illustration 1904-1940*. New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Books, 2001. 458 p. ISBN 1-58456-059-2 \$59.95 (paper). (Reprint of the 1998 Oxford University Press edition.)

Suriano, Gregory R. *The Pre-Raphaelite Illustrators*. New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Books, 2000. 336 p. ISBN 1-58456-021-5 \$49.95 (cloth).

Tattersfield, Nigel. *John Bewick. Engraver on Wood 1760-1795*. New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Books, 2001. 192 p. ISBN 1-58456-053-3 \$75 (cloth).

Watts, Jennifer A. and Bohn-Spector, Claudia. *The Great Wide Open: Panoramic Photographs of the American West*. London: Merrell, 2001. 160 p. \$50.

[**Views** welcomes additions to this column documenting visual-material publications. If you know of such an additional publication, please send relevant bibliographic information to the editor.—Ed.]

VISUAL MATERIALS SECTION THREE YEAR PLAN 2001

I. Core Activities

- A. Newsletter (Laurie Baty, Editor)
- B. Annual Meeting

II. Special Projects/New Initiatives

A. Independent

1. Create a Web development committee to produce a better and more informative Vismat Web Site by filling in the links to members archives, special projects, announcements, etc.
2. Move Vismat Site and other Section created sites to SAA servers in coordination with Brian Doyle of the Society of American Archivists.
3. Scan and OCR past newsletters not currently available online and mount on Web site
4. Section t-shirts for annual meeting

B. Cooperative

1. Develop Session Proposals/Educational Initiatives. Possible session proposal on "When a Housing is not a Home" about proper storage and enclosures which will cover digital images as well as traditional images.
2. Maintain our continued cooperation with ACA, AMIA
3. Maintain our continued cooperation with roundtables and committees through our liaisons

C. Publications

1. Continue review of publications on Visual Materials
2. Create an index of publications reviewed in the last 5 years
3. Solicit for new publications (not necessarily book length) on visual issues. Past suggestions have included, "A Catalog of Sheet Film Notch Codes," "Visual Ephemera," "Establishing Photographic Lab and Digital Imaging Services."

WHAT'S UP

opened November 4. *Best Impressions: 35 Years of Prints and Sculpture from Gemini G.E.L.* National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC.

through December 2. *The Armenian Gospels of Gladzor*. J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles.

through February 10, 2002. *Dream Street: W. Eugene Smith's Pittsburgh*. Carnegie Museum of Art, Heinz Galleries, Pittsburgh, PA.

through February 17, 2002. *Manuel Alvarez Bravo: Optical Parables*. J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles.

through January 30, 2002. *Posing for Posterity: Portrait Drawings from the Collection*. J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles.

[**Views** welcomes additions to this ongoing column documenting visual-materials exhibitions around the world. If your institution is having such an exhibition, please send the relevant information to the editor. To keep this column timely, please remember that **Views** is in print three months after the deadline posted on the last page—Ed.]

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**TIME-DATED MATERIALS
PLEASE EXPEDITE**

ARTFUL DODGING: Things Heard, Enhanced, and Passed On

Denver, CO. This just in! On November 9, Peter Palmquist's book was the recipient of the Caroline Bancroft award for history books on the West, from Denver Public Library. Congratulations, Peter! [See **In Print**, p. 4—Ed.]

The Association for Information and Image Management (AIIM) along with Eastman Kodak Company and Lockheed Martin have launched a community-based portal providing information and resources for the digital preservation marketplace. The address is: <<http://www.digitalpreservation.org/>>.

Pasadena, CA. The VM Section's own Jennifer Watts recently co-curated an exhibition entitled *The Great Wide Open: Panoramic Photographs of the American West* at The Huntington Library, San Marino, Calif. Although the exhibit came down in early September, a beautiful exhibition catalog was produced. The book includes 47 color reproductions of Western panoramic photos—many of them fold-out plates. The photographers range from Muybridge and Jackson to contemporary artists such as Marc Klett and Catherine Opie. Formats run the gamut from multi-plate albumen mammoth prints to images produced with popular

20th century panoramic cameras such as the Kodak Cirkut or Panoram. The Huntington's Web site for the exhibit is still up: <<http://www.huntington.org/LibraryDiv/Panoramic/Photographs.html>>.

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Your comments and suggestions for improvements will always receive a cordial hearing. The next deadline is February 1, 2002. Opinions expressed are those of the authors.

**The Leadership Roster for 2001-2002
will be found on page 2 of this issue.**

**Section information will be found at
<<http://www.gsu.edu/~libpjr/vm.htm>>**