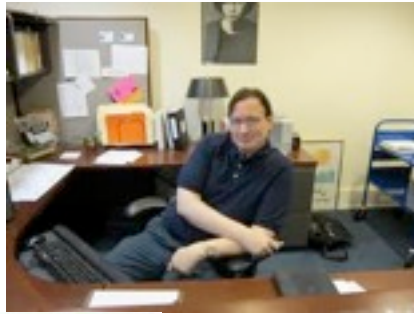


# SPECIAL COLLECTION'S FROM THE VAULT

Fall/Winter 2011/12

Volume 2



## Whaddayahave?

By Katherine Pope and Daniel Brown

Special Collections has had a very productive summer and fall, and we are now heading into winter at full-speed! Let's hit the highlights, shall we? First, the Keeler family recently donated a large amount of new materials to add to the very popular Keeler collection. Second, oral histories with John Lounsbury, Rick Bialic, and John Sallstrom were collected and will allow researchers greater insight into Georgia College and Milledgeville history.

Without the help of individuals from Baldwin County, Milledgeville and of scholars from all over Georgia, the nation and internationally, we

would not be able to acquire, preserve, and provide access to our historically rich and significant collections.

We collect materials pertaining to the histories of the University, the Milledgeville and Baldwin County areas, as well as surrounding counties, along with prestigious collections such as the Flannery O'Connor Collection and the papers of United States Senator Paul D. Coverdell.

We actively seek new collections to aid the research of current and future scholars, and we take seriously our mission to preserve and care for our donated materials.

Please contact us today to schedule a research appointment or to assist in preserving your personal, family or organization's papers.

**Nancy Davis-Bray**  
(Associate Director)

**Joshua Kitchens**  
(Archivist)

**Katherine Pope**  
(Archival Associate)

**Student Assistants:**  
Chad Halvorsten  
Mary Kay McBrayer  
Daniel Brown  
Callie Wiley



Trio of Books on the Cuna Natives, from the Clyde Keeler Collection

## Civil War with the Old Capital Museum and Online Exhibit

By Daniel Brown and Katherine Pope

Milledgeville and the Civil War are so closely connected that it is hard to imagine one without the other. It was in Milledgeville that Georgia decided to secede from the Union, and it was in Milledgeville that Sherman and his troops came through in November of 1864. In remembrance of the sesquicentennial (150th) anniversary of the Civil War, Special Collections and the Old Capital Museum in Milledgeville, Georgia teamed up in an effort to bring this rich and relevant history to the public conscience. The story of the war will be told through the voices of those who lived it, from the ladies who made homespun, to the men with muskets, and their voices long silent on the page, will once again be called upon to give testament of a time when the future of this nation was hanging in the balance of war. Photographs, letters, diaries, and other documents have all been compiled to form a complete picture of the war and what it meant to those who fought at the front and those left at home. This exhibit will be on display through September 2012 and it is located in the Barbara Chandler Education Room at the Old Capital Museum (201 E. Greene Street, Milledgeville Georgia).

Special Collections also created an online exhibit entitled, "Think Not For A Moment That My Silence Is Intentional" (viewable at <http://exhibits.gcsu.edu>).

This exhibit contains original Civil War materials and boasts lesson plans using the exhibit, specifically tailored to meet the Georgia Performance Standards for eighth grade and high school students. Special Collections encourages teachers and homeschool instructors to use the exhibit and lesson plans in conjunction for an engaging learning experience."

*"The story of the war will be told through the voices of those who lived it, from the ladies who made homespun to the men with muskets...to give testament to a time when the future of this nation was hanging in the balance of war"*

*--Daniel Brown, Undergraduate Assistant*



Daniel B. Sanford circa 1860's, part of the James C. Bonner Collection.



The 57th Georgia Regiment, circa 1860's, part of the James C. Bonner Collection.

## Viral Special Collections Chat and Video

By Katherine Pope

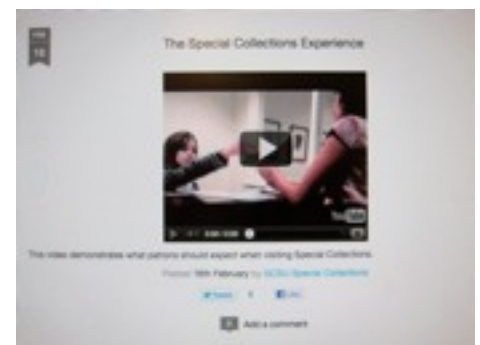
Special Collections is now viral! Special Collections and staff have created a departmental You Tube page and first video, "The Special Collections Experience." In this three minute and 16 second clip, Arti Patel (student assistant) acts as a researcher and Kate Pope (Archival Associate) assists Arti in finding materials and in following Special Collections' regulations. Archives, by their very nature, can seem overwhelming or intimidating. At Special

Collections, we pride ourselves on our customer service. We hope this video allays fears and gives a glimpse into the comfortable process of researching with us.

In other news, patrons can now chat online and ask questions from our website. Technical guru Joshua Kitchens (Archivist) has installed this software for your communication convenience. When you need a quick answer or simply want to say hello, send a message and we will be with you shortly. To stay updated, check us out on our In the Vault blog (Blogger.com) and Georgia College Special Collections Facebook page!

*"Archives by their very nature can seem overwhelming or intimidating.. We hope this video gives a glimpse into the comfortable process of researching with us"--Katherine*

*Pope, Archival Associate*



# Special Collections:

## The Low-Down

By Mary Kay McBrayer

At Special Collections, located in the LITC, I (Mary Kay McBrayer) work with three other student assistants: Callie Wiley, Daniel Brown and Chad Halverson. On a regular basis we all handle tasks like shelving books, answering questions by email and phone, pulling manuscripts for our researchers, finding our Flannery O'Connor Quotes of the Month, and updating our Special Collections blog post, but we all have our specialized projects, too.

One project visitors might have seen the Women in Literature Alumni exhibit. After researching the published alumni of Georgia College & State University (and all of the university's previous names), Special Collections staff pulled manuscripts, books, scrapbooks, and other artifacts from the archives to display in the case—always keeping detailed notes of where each artifact is located at the moment, and for how long it is on exhibit. In this exhibit, Special Collections staff displayed several of Flannery O'Connor's cartoons from the *Colonnade*, a set of Dictaphone scrolls, a typewriter, and published work by such alumni as Nelle Womack Hines and Julia A. Flisch, just to name a few.

The next exhibit focused on Paul D. Coverdell and his time as the Director of the Peace Corps and his outreach program, "World Wise Schools". This program was designed to connect Peace Corps volunteers to schools in the United States so that the volunteers could share their experiences of foreign countries in order to encourage volunteering abroad. For example, classrooms might have had a pen pal abroad who could answer questions involving their daily lives in volunteering and thereby spur the student to follow in the footsteps of their pen pals. In our exhibit outside Special Collections, we have artifacts like the Ashanti Royal Stool given to Paul Coverdell from Ghana, photographs of him meeting with various world leaders, as well as documents related to the founding of World Wise Schools and the mission of the Peace Corps.

Another exhibit that Special Collection's staff created was the "Archivists' Tools" Exhibit, that was located at the top of the stairs on the second floor of the LITC, in honor of Georgia Archives Month in October. The staff included the tools that archivists use on a daily basis for processing collections as well as the proper equipment used to store and preserve them. Visitors could view a spatula for removing staples, acid-free folders and boxes, magnifying glasses, white gloves for touching fragile artifacts, a page snake for holding down pages of books to avoid touching it with soiled fingers, a thermo hygrometer to measure temperature and humidity, and more.

Special Collections uses most of the tools that were featured in the exhibit on a regular basis, particularly when receiving a new collection that has to be processed. The most recent collection Special Collections has acquired is that of the Nancy Hart Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. We went through each of the files and processed very carefully, removing staples and paperclips as needed (so as not to damage the paper long-term), unfolding any creases for preservation, and ultimately storing the documents in acid-free folders and acid-free boxes. Photos and newspaper clippings were removed and placed in Mylar sleeves to preserve them and other papers from acid contamination. The Georgia Music Educators Association has also donated their collection of tapes, documents, sheet music, concert competitions, and more, to Special Collections. We are currently in the process of digitizing this information for them in order to preserve it for both the Music Educators, and for any researchers looking to access this information.

In accordance with these processing elements and in the spirit of Georgia Archives Month, Georgia College Special Collections developed a clinic concerning the proper maintenance and preservation techniques of paper manuscripts. This was developed in an effort to educate the public about basic preservation practices and also as a means of forming a bond with the community itself. The event took place at Digital Bridges during the First Friday festivities of October and consisted of various examples from Special Collections in varying states of preservation. The public was invited to bring their own items so that they could be instructed on how to properly care for them and thus increase their longevity. Approximately twenty-one community members participated by bringing items ranging from tin-type photographs to 19<sup>th</sup> century handwritten manuscripts.

Graduate assistant Chad Halverson has recently completed a physical inventory of the University Archives (which is one of the many collections exclusive to Georgia College) to note the location of resources to match finding aids. The basic thought behind this is that once we know where they physically are, we can conduct a very coordinated and efficient system for locating the information for timely retrieval, especially concerning researchers. We are also trying to include any press releases or internet articles published by Georgia College or involving Georgia College.

*Continued on page four...*

Chad has worked diligently to update Special Collections' current computer-based archival systems to keep Special Collections up to date with trends concerning current information storage. Special Collections will be transferring collection information (finding aids, location indexes, keywords, etc.) into Archivist Toolkit, an electronic database that will in the future allow researchers to do much of their preliminary inquiries online before coming to Special Collections.

One individual project that Daniel Brown has been doing in accordance with the digitization process is detailed research on the African American materials in our archive. He is preparing a report about African American history in Baldwin County to help us learn what we are lacking in materials, but also as a way to engage the community. He is going through our Small Manuscripts collection, rare books collection and the Bonner Collection carefully, to highlight the archives that pertain to African American culture of their corresponding times. He also looks forward to researching in other archives to create a comprehensive version of African American history in Baldwin County.

In addition, one student assistant, Callie Wiley, has undertaken the semester-long project of scanning and digitizing school yearbooks; entitled the *Spectrum*. Although right now the pictures are all saved onto the hard drive and an external hard drive, in the future they will be put online for easy access. As you can see, Special Collections staff have been busy and are excited to reveal new services and products in the spring! Stay tuned...

*“Approximately twenty-one community members participated by bringing items ranging from tin-type photographs to 19<sup>th</sup> century handwritten manuscripts.”* -- Joshua Kitchens, Archivist



# New Events and Resources

## The Victorian Traveling Trunk

By MaryKay McBrayer and Katherine Pope

One of Special Collections' most recent projects is assembling the Victorian Traveling Trunk Resource Center. Typically, traveling trunks include an assortment of cultural artifacts and replicas from a bygone era. Historical societies or museums assemble the items to lend to area schools, and the teachers use the trunks to supplement learning and to fulfill Georgia Performance Standards.

Our trunk consists of original and reproduction Victorian artifacts, spanning the Gilded Age (1878-1889) and Progressive Era (1890-1913). We have tried to include much information about all socio-economic classes, but the portrait most accurately painted is of the urban middle-class. Our compendium will include fashion elements such hand-crocheted lace tea gloves or table runners that ladies would have used at tea time, a Battenberg parasol for ladies to avoid freckling, and an embroidered linen handkerchief. For men's fashion, we will have a vaudevillian top hat and perhaps even a set of suspenders. More commonplace items such as a daguerreotype, a chunk of homemade lye soap and various literature will be available. The items are also accompanied

by lesson plans for the fourth, fifth and eighth grades and additional resources are also available online at <http://libguides.gcsu.edu/victorian>.

*“Our trunk consists of original and reproduction Victorian artifacts, spanning the Gilded Age (1878-1889) and Progressive Era (1890-1913).”--Mary Kay McBrayer, Graduate Assistant*



# What's Coming Up...

## Alumni Weekend

By Katherine Pope

As our war veterans and Baby Boomer population grows older, we realize how important their stories and memories are to our current and future generations. It is imperative that we make the effort to record and preserve the lessons life has taught them.

In an effort to accomplish this, Special Collections has initiated the Legacy Project, an undertaking to capture these memories. The Legacy Project at Georgia College is an effort by Special Collections to document the experiences of alumni, retired faculty and staff, and to collect the memories of community members. Throughout the lifetime of this project, we expect to collect photographs, manuscripts, memorabilia and oral histories that will help current and future generations understand how the collegiate and local experience has changed- and yet stayed the same- throughout our history.

### Who can contribute?

Alumni and retired faculty and staff of Georgia College are encouraged to submit photographs and other memories from their time at the school and community members are asked to donate materials pertinent to the history of Milledgeville and surrounding areas. If you do not have materials to digitally donate, we encourage everyone to take our Legacy project alumni survey or to set up an oral history interview by contacting Special Collections.

Special Collections is currently accepting photographs, documents, and conducting oral

history interviews. For the Legacy Project, you are not required to physically donate materials. Special Collections is soliciting what we call “digital donations.” We will take your memorabilia and scan it so we will have copies of your memories for research purposes. For your generous donation, we will give you a copy of the digital files we create. If you do not have materials to digitally donate, we encourage you to take our Legacy Project Alumni Survey or to set up an interview. This survey will help us gather the thoughts and experiences of our former students, faculty, staff and community members.

<http://www.gcsu.edu/library/sc/legacy.htm>



After all of these years...

Not too long ago, an alumnus from GMC, requested the assistance of Special Collections to help with a curious situation. The requestor contacted Special Collections in an attempt to discover the identity of a person who kept sending emails with only their initials. The sender claimed to know our requestor from a time way back, and it was suggested to the requestor that this individual might possibly be an old “love interest”. Upon hearing this, our requestor, who apparently had gone on more than a few dates, said it could be just about anyone. Well, with the senders initials and some approximate dates to follow, Special Collections was able to consult our collection of Spectrums, the college yearbook, and deduce who this mystery person was. The requestor recognized the sender instantly and was happy to be reacquainted with an old friend. Score another one for Special Collections!

### Legacy Project interview and Materials

From Left to Right:

Katherine Pope, Catherine Penn Chastain, and Joshua Kitchens.

Family photograph digitally donated by Johnnie S. Wilson.



...If you had one thing that you would want to say to a student on campus today....

***“I would say enjoy yourself. That you’re in college to embrace a new opportunity to expand your knowledge, and if you’re not interested in doing that, you might want to consider a junior college to get just what you need to have a skill. But if you want to have a good liberal arts education, you have to embrace the whole concept. And you should have some fun too...”***

**Ann Jane Parr, Alumni**

## How Can You Help? Collect Your History

By Katherine Pope

If you would like to be a part of preserving history, Special Collections is the place for you!

TIME AND TALENT Special Collections appreciates volunteers throughout the year. Volunteers can engage in outreach and promotion material creation, archival acquisition and processing or in many other archival tasks. Help us report your history and the history of our communities by volunteering or by participating in an oral history interview today.

**DONATIONS (Physical)** Special Collections preserves and reports history through the donation of papers, scrapbooks, photographs, oral history interviews, etc. Digital donations are also accepted. A Special Collections staff member can scan a photograph or paper material. This allows researchers to use the digital copy while the donor keeping the physical material while receiving a digital copy as a gift for participation.

**DONATIONS (Monetary)** Financial donations are always appreciated. The cost of preserving, processing and providing access is a costly but vital venture. Your generosity will allow for the purchase of preservation, programming, or other materials which help us serve the public. Most donations are tax-deductible. We thank you for your assistance.



Your assistance helps us better serve the communities of Georgia College and central Georgia, as well as the state, national and international communities of researchers.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**Campus Box 043**

320 North Wayne Street  
Milledgeville GA, 31061

[scinfo@gcsu.edu](mailto:scinfo@gcsu.edu)

(478)445-0988

<http://library.gcsu.edu/sc>