

AIC

AMERICAN
INSTITUTE FOR
CONSERVATION
OF HISTORIC AND
ARTISTIC WORKS

THE ARCHITECTURE SPECIALTY GROUP (ASG) of AIC is hosting a STUDENT SESSION

at the AIC Annual Meeting
in Philadelphia, PA
May 31 through June 3, 2011

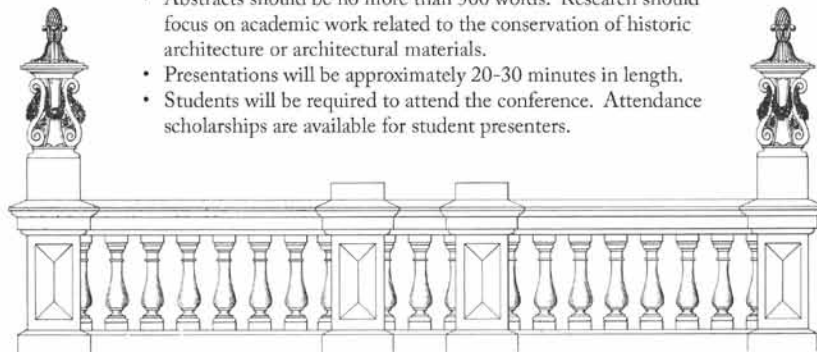


The ASG Student Session will highlight recent academic research by current students and recent graduates of programs in architectural conservation, historic preservation, conservation science and related fields.

Submit your abstract today!

visit the ASG website for more information:
<http://cool.conervation-us.org/coolaic/sg/asg/index.html>
or
<http://www.conervation-us.org/architecture>

- Students and recent graduates must be sponsored by a faculty member or advisor who is a member of AIC and ASG.
- Abstracts should be no more than 500 words. Research should focus on academic work related to the conservation of historic architecture or architectural materials.
- Presentations will be approximately 20-30 minutes in length.
- Students will be required to attend the conference. Attendance scholarships are available for student presenters.



Architecture Specialty Group (ASG)

AAIC 2011 Annual Meeting: Registration for the Conference Has Begun—Please Register Now!

The location for the 2011 annual conference has been changed to Philadelphia, PA, and the dates are now May 31—June 3, 2011. The theme this year is *Ethos, Logos, Pathos : Ethical Principles and Critical thinking in Conservation*. In addition to our normal ASG session there will also be an **Architecture/Research and Technical Studies Joint Session**. The joint session will include research, applied specific methods, techniques or instruments for the investigation, documentation, conservation treatment and storage of any historic fountain or any structure, object or artifact in a wet or damp environment. The ASG board has selected the papers for the specialty group session and an announcement with the full program will be circulated soon, in addition to news about ASG conference tours, special events, and the annual business lunch. We will have an ASG dinner, details to come soon. Please send any suggestions about restaurants or tours to Program Chair **Patty Miller** ([patty.miller\[at\]conservationsolution.com](mailto:patty.miller@conservationsolution.com)).

And the awesomeness does not stop there—we are continuing the success of the student session and there will be another student session at the 2011 Philadelphia conference. Please take a look at the flyer below for all of the information you might need:

Also in the works is a young professional session to be held after the ASG session. We want to hear from both recent graduates and those farther along in their careers about how they have dealt with

issues like professional development and ideas about how to maintain and encourage involvement in AIC as well as the ASG in the post-graduate years. Thoughts and suggestions on the program are welcome and should be sent to **Leslie Friedman** ([friedman.la\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:friedman.la[at]gmail.com)).

Additionally, we are looking for both corporate and individual sponsors for the sessions, business lunch, and ASG dinner, and student attendance to those events. Please notify **Patty Miller** ([patty.miller\[at\]conservationsolution.com](mailto:patty.miller[at]conservationsolution.com)) if you are interested in becoming a sponsor.

ASG—Wikipedia

We desperately need to be more involved in editing the Wikipedia page on architectural conservation, which can be found here: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Architectural_conservation.

We are looking for people to contribute to the conservation-restoration page, the main page describing the field of conservation. The AIC Publications Committee has been working on this entry for several years in an effort to make sure that this public source of information portrays what we do accurately and efficiently. The current entry relies heavily on information about art conservation, though it now includes some information about the work of other specialties:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conservation-restoration>

The goal of the project is to expand information about architectural conservation and the role of architectural conservators. Volunteers can elect to work on one or both of the websites. Collaboration with other members through online communication will be required. If you would like to participate in the project or have any questions, please email **Jenn Cappeto** at jcappeto@yahoo.com.

If you have any news, information, or photographs you would like included in the next ASG column, please send me an email. Thanks.

—Leslie Friedman, ASG Secretary/Treasurer
[friedman.la\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:friedman.la[at]gmail.com)

Books & Paper Specialty Group (BPG)

2011 AIC Annual Meeting

At our annual meeting, there are two excellent discussion groups planned to which I want to draw to your attention. The first is the Archives Conservation Discussion Group, co-chaired by **Laura O'Brien-Miller**, Conservator, Lewis Walpole Library, Yale University and **Melissa Tedone**, Conservator, Parks Library, Iowa State University. The session focuses on the process of collections digitization. This process has changed how many of us work in terms of treatment and priorities and is a timely and worthwhile topic for looking at in-depth. The keynote presentation is being given by **Andrea Knowlton**, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill,

and is entitled, *Grappling with Treatment Decisions for Large-Scales Digitization of Archival Materials*. Participants are still being finalized at this time.

The Library Collections Conservation Discussion group is also focused on a timely and important topic – the training of library and archives conservators now that the Texas program has so changed course. Co-chairs, **Werner Haun**, Collections Conservator, New York Public Library, and **Justin Johnson**, Conservator, Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens are the co-chairs. The panel, *Models for Educating Library and Archives Conservators*, will be moderated by **Michele V. Cloonan** from the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Simmons College. The tentative format is five speakers for about ten minutes each with at least 30 minutes for discussion. The other panelists are **Margaret Holben Ellis**, **Ellen Cunningham-Kruppa**, **Lois Price**, and **Judith Walsh**. Be sure to come be part of the conversation about a topic of such importance to the field of conservation. We would love to have this be a lively and participatory event.

If there are questions or if I can be of service or assistance, please let me know.

—Penley Knipe, BPG Chair
[Penley_Knipe\[at\]harvard.edu](mailto:Penley_Knipe[at]harvard.edu)

Conservators in Private Practice (CIPP)

Happy New Year to All

Hopefully, you all are aware that the annual meeting has changed date and venue, and now will be held in Philadelphia, May 31–June 3. Plan on coming and participating in the CIPP presentation on insurance, “*Claiming Your Piece Of The Insurance Pie: Working with Adjusters, Agents and Insurance Companies.*” **George Schwarz** and **Rick Vogt** are planning this session, and they would like your input. Please send any comments or suggestions to George ([george\[at\]conservart.com](mailto:george[at]conservart.com)) or Rick (fcvco@verizon.net) as soon as possible.

They would also like to hear about any experiences that you have had in dealing with insurance companies. Send us your stories (with your permission to share and we will print them up for participants, and will post them on our [CIPP website](http://www.cipp.org)).

Below is a condensed outline of the presentation:

- I. Why insurance companies should hire a conservator?
- II. Conservators need to be perceived as experts.
- III. Who is the Client?
- IV. How to get work?
- V. After the casualty, time is of the essence.
- VI. Selling ourselves as a service provider.

Running our conservation businesses in this economic climate is a challenge. Some of you have been in business for some time. What tips or suggestions do you have for the rest of us? How do you cut costs? How do you market your businesses?

Any questions, suggestions for CIPP? Just send them to me,

—Susan Lunas, CIPP Chair
[bookbinder\[at\]preserveyourtreasures.com](mailto:bookbinder[at]preserveyourtreasures.com)

Electronic Media Group (EMG)

2011 AIC Annual Meeting

EMG Program Chair **Joanna Phillips** is putting together a very full and interesting day of professional presentations from both, US colleagues and international speakers. Sessions will focus on:

- The Conservation of Computer based Art
- The Information Carrier: Obsolescence and Migration
- Complex Media Installations: Documentation, Acquisitions, Loans
- Obsolescence in Electronic Art

For further program details on the EMG session and a full list of speakers and titles please visit: http://cool.conservation-us.org/coolaic/sg/emg/meetings/2011-philadelphia/emg_aic_schedule_2011.pdf

The **EMG Business Meeting** will take place on Friday morning, June 3, in the session room from 7:45–8:45 a.m. This free event will segue directly into the morning talks. Please plan on attending the EMG Business Meeting and EMG session. Registration information can be found at: www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.ViewPage&PageID=1067
 We are looking forward to see you in Philadelphia.

EMG Board Nominations

We are now accepting nominations for two open positions on the EMG Board beginning in **June 2011**. EMG—like all specialty groups—relies solely on member involvement to shape the direction of programming and other activities. Are you interested or do you know of someone who might want to be part of the EMG board? Please consider joining current EMG Board members **Christine Frohnert** (*Chair*), **Jeffrey Martin** (*Program Chair*), and **Sarah Norris** (*Website Director*) in one of the following open positions:

Assistant Program Chair

(one year term followed by one year as Program Chair)

- Maintain the EMG membership database
- Interface with the AIC office
- Plan and coordinate logistics for the annual business meeting

Secretary-Treasurer

- Maintain electronic or written records for the EMG
- Prepare and manage the EMG budget
- Work with the Webmaster to provide up-to-date content on the EMG Website.

A more detailed description of the positions is included in our Rules of Order, found here: <http://cool.conservation-us.org/coolaic/sg/emg/about/rules.html>.

As a board member, you will meet new colleagues, share your experiences and contribute to a growing body of knowledge on electronic media preservation. Any EMG member is eligible for the board, provided you have not served in the last four consecutive years. Recent graduates or new members of EMG are always welcome, as are more experienced members.

Please contact one of the Nominating Committee members by Tuesday, February 1, 2011. The committee includes: **Michelle Barger** ([mbarger\[at\]sfmoma.org](mailto:mbarger[at]sfmoma.org)), **Mona Jimenez** ([mona\[at\]materiamedia.com](mailto:mona[at]materiamedia.com)), **Sarah Stauderman** ([StaudermanS\[at\]si.edu](mailto:StaudermanS[at]si.edu)), and **Jeffrey Warda** ([jwarda\[at\]guggenheim.org](mailto:jwarda[at]guggenheim.org)).

Membership and EMG listserv

The EMG membership grew to about 180 in 2010, which is great news. Don't forget to renew your membership! If you are not a member yet, please consider becoming part of the **EMG Specialty Group** and join for only \$20 and support of our initiatives and programs. With membership, you will receive the new upcoming EMG periodic publication. The first issue will be based on EMG's 2009 and 2010 Annual Meeting program. This will be the first periodical publication that internationally focuses on electronic media art conservation! As a new EMG member, you will also receive the EMG Optical Pen for proper labeling of optical media. The EMG listserv is available for posting questions and comments. If you are an EMG member and would like to be included in the EMG listserv, please check the EMG website <http://cool.conservation-us.org/mailman/listinfo/emg-membership> for details.

TechFocus

TechFocus II is in the planning phases and will focus on the topic of the conservation of film and slide art. A grant application has already been submitted to organize a workshop in fall 2011 in Washington. Further information will be made available as soon as the tentative date and location is confirmed.

Call for Wiki Participation

Our EMG Website Director **Sarah Norris** has started to create the EMG WIKI. If you are interested to co-author new content that is unique to our wiki please contact **Sarah Norris** at [ssnorris\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:ssnorris[at]gmail.com).

—Christine Frohnert, EMG Chair,
christine@verizon.net

Objects Specialty Group (OSG)

2011 Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting in Philadelphia is rapidly approaching. The OSG Business Meeting will start at 7:30 am on Friday June 3. To make the early morning more manageable, there will be coffee, tea, and food provided. If there are any topics you feel should be discussed at the business meeting, please let me know and I will add them to the agenda.

Dues Increase

One topic that I will be bringing forward for a vote at the business meeting is a small increase in the OSG dues. There hasn't been an OSG dues increase in many years, so I'm hoping that a \$5 increase will be acceptable to all. If you have any concerns about increasing the dues to \$30 (\$15 for students), please bring them to my attention. We will be voting on the topic at the business meeting.

Elections

The nominating committee will be notifying any OSG Program Chair nominees this month. The elections will take place online from April 1 to May 1. Look for upcoming e-mails from AIC on this topic.

—Carolyn Riccardelli, OSG Chair,
carolyn.riccardelli@metmuseum.org

Photographic Materials Group (PMG)

2011 PMG Winter Meeting

The 2011 PMG Winter Meeting will be held in Ottawa, Canada February 2–5, 2011. For more information about the meeting, including registration, general schedule, lodging details, please check the PMG page on the AIC website: <http://www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=485&parentID=476>

A very full (hence fitting the Business Meeting into the latter part of the time for lunch) and exciting program is lined up, and we look forward to seeing everyone there! A draft agenda for the PMG Business Meeting will be emailed to the PMG membership in the next few days, perhaps before you even see this column, noting some of the topics to be discussed. See you soon in Ottawa!

PMG Luncheon at the AIC Annual Meeting

The AIC Annual Meeting will be held in Philadelphia, PA, May 31 through June 3, 2011. PMG will have a luncheon on Friday, June 3, at which Paul Messier will be presenting an update on the FAIC-Mellon Hermitage Project. Any PMG business will be covered briefly at the end of that session. The luncheon is open to anyone who is interested, for one ticket price, whether or not a member of PMG. We look forward to seeing you in Philadelphia!

Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation

The next FAIC Collaborative Workshop in Photograph Conservation will be on 19th Century Photographic Negative Processes, hosted by the George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film, June 20–24, 2011.

This week-long, intensive workshop will delve into all aspects of the earliest forms of photographic negative: the paper negative and wet plate collodion on glass negative. Participants will create their own images using historic techniques under the direction of Mark Osterman, as well as other teachers / presenters. Variants of each negative type will be discussed and/or demonstrated, reflecting the evolution of these processes during their brief histories.

Practica will be complemented by lectures on the chemistry, conservation treatment, preservation, display, history, and aesthetics of these nineteenth century image-making techniques. Examples from the George Eastman House collection will be available for viewing and discussion.

Due to the hands-on nature of the parts of the workshop, enrollment will be limited to 14 people. Financial assistance for participants is available through the FAIC Professional Development fund; the grant application deadline for this is February 15, 2011.

More detailed information on this workshop, including how to apply, will be available and posted online very soon.

As always, if there are questions or if I can be of assistance or service, let me know.

—Barbara Brown, PMG Chair,
bnbrown@mail.utexas.edu

Paintings Specialty Group (PSG)

PSG Catalogue Inpainting Volume

In November we learned that the **Kress Foundation** awarded a grant to FAIC in support of the publication of the inpainting volume of the *PSG Catalog*. The galleys are currently with the designer for final proofing. The volume is expected to be ready for distribution by the time of the **2011 Annual Meeting**.

Carol Christensen went to great effort to write the grant that will cover the final publication costs for the inpainting volume. Carol, together with the *PSG Catalog* editorial board, and all of the PSG members who contributed to the volume deserve special thanks for their efforts to bring this project to fruition. Like the volumes that preceded it, the inpainting volume is sure to become an invaluable contribution to the literature of the field.

IAG Meeting

On November 13, 2010, I represented PSG at the **AIC Internal Advisory Group Meeting** in Washington, D.C. This meeting takes place once a year. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet with the AIC staff and with other colleagues who are involved with the specialty groups and the AIC committees. Topics

covered included planning for the Annual Meeting, organization finances, outreach, and specialty group governance.

My presence in Washington also allowed me to meet with PSG Program Chair **Patti Favero** and PSG Secretary/Treasurer **Dawn Rogala**. We took the opportunity to do additional planning for the PSG events for the upcoming Annual Meeting.

2011 Annual Meeting PSG Sessions

The 2011 annual meeting will take place in Philadelphia, PA., May 31–June 3, 2011. Program Chair Patti Favero has put together a superb program of eighteen talks, including a joint session with the Research and Technical Studies specialty group. The business meeting will take place over breakfast on Thursday morning. And for the first time, PSG will host a reception at AIC which will incorporate an open-mic tips session. For more details, please see the [Paintings Session](#) page.

<http://www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=1205>

Join us in Philadelphia!

—*Laura Rivers, PSG Chair*
[lrivers\[at\]getty.edu](mailto:lrivers[at]getty.edu)

Research & Technical Studies Group (RATS)

Happy New Year, RATS membership! As you can see, we've got a lot planned this year...

Rules of Order

The Executive Committee recently presented RATS members with the promised “new and improved” RATS Rules of Order in a special email blast. We hope you will take some time to look over the revised [Rules of Order](#), which are available for download from the [RATS website](#), and we remind you to make your voice heard in the upcoming online vote to ratify the document, scheduled to take place February 7–21. A second email blast with instructions on how to participate in the online vote will be sent out to members on February 7, so make sure to check your inbox for that important notice!

Many thanks go to Terry Drayman-Weisser and Gregory Smith for their hard work in drafting the revised Rules. We also extend thanks to Ruth Seyler and Ryan Winfield for their help in organizing this special vote.

Elections

The Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for the following offices up for election in 2011:

Vice-Chair/Program Chair (2011–2012)

Secretary/Treasurer (2011–2013)

Communications Officer (2011–2014)

is also tentatively up for election pending ratification of the revised Rules of Order.

For detailed descriptions of the duties of each office and the requirements for candidacy, please consult the revised [Rules of Order](#) available from the [RATS website](#). While all RATS members in good standing are eligible for any office, an effort is made to alternate the position of Vice-Chair between a conservator and a conservation scientist each year. This year we are seeking a conservator to fill the office of Vice-Chair.

We hope that you will encourage your colleagues to run for office, and request that you submit the contact information of willing nominees to any member of the Nominating Committee by February 21, including members Christina Cole ([colect\[at\]udel.edu](mailto:colect[at]udel.edu)), Jim Druzik ([jdruzik\[at\]getty.edu](mailto:jdruzik[at]getty.edu)), Gregory Smith ([gdsmith\[at\]imamuseum.org](mailto:gdsmith[at]imamuseum.org)), or Joe Swider ([jswider\[at\]mccrone.com](mailto:jswider[at]mccrone.com)). **Self-nominations are also welcome!**

2011 AIC Annual Meeting

You are invited to attend the **RATS Annual Business Meeting & Luncheon** at the annual meeting in Philadelphia on Friday, June 3, 2011. After a quick update on RATS activities and a delicious three-course meal, we will enjoy the keynote presentation given by Brunetto Brunetti, director of Cultural Heritage Advanced Research Infrastructures ([CHARISMA](#)). Highlights of the talk will include advancements in conservation research made with the project's mobile analytical lab (MOLAB), as well as a description of the kind of support the European Commission offers to researchers in conservation. It will undoubtedly be an interesting discussion! Tickets are \$10 for members, \$35 for non-members. Hope to see you there!

RATS is pleased to be able to contribute to the list of excellent workshop opportunities available at the AIC annual meeting with the workshop entitled, *Understanding Microclimates: the Practical Implications of Assessing Materials, Design, and Performance*. Available in both a half-day and a full-day format, the workshop will take place on **Tuesday, May 31, 2011**, and should synergize well with our afternoon session on Wednesday, featuring new research on the museum environment and the role of microclimates in preservation. Co-instructors Fenella France and Rachael Perkins Arenstein have developed a comprehensive curriculum that should appeal to a wide audience, so make sure you register early! For details, check out the [AIC website](#): www.conservation-us.org/annualmeeting.

Online Annual Meeting Postprints

At the **Internal Advisory Group (IAG)** meeting in November, RATS was encouraged to begin work on developing and publishing online **Postprints**. Unlike most other specialty groups, RATS has no history of offering members **Postprints** from the annual meeting in either print or CD form. RATS has the unique opportunity to develop our **Postprints** specifically for an electronically born publication format.

We are still looking for an adventurous soul to work with the Executive Committee, the AIC Publications Committee, and individual authors towards creating a process and document that describes best practices for electronic publications, as well as for compiling and publishing an inaugural issue of the RATS Online Annual Meeting Postprints. Discussions are ongoing regarding

possible formats for author submissions, and work is underway in the development of a template for the conversion of PowerPoint presentations to PDF. If you are interested in working on this new project, please contact Stephanie Porto.

Our Past Communications Officer

The Executive Committee is happy to announce that our former Communications Officer, **Jennifer Wade**, has recently accepted a new position as Program Director at the National Science Foundation, in the [Earth Sciences Division of Geoscience](#). While she will no longer be actively carrying out preservation research, she will continue her advocacy of conservation science as a member of AIC, and hopes to get involved with the NSF's [SCIART Program](#). Because of this new direction in her career, Jenn has decided to step down as RATS Communications Officer; however, she has agreed to remain a part of RATS as moderator of our Listserv. We wish Jenn all the best in her new job, and we offer our heartfelt thanks for her service to RATS and her friendship!

—*Stephanie Porto, RATS Chair, [sporto\[at\]cogeco.ca](mailto:sporto[at]cogeco.ca)*
Catherine Stephens, RATS Vice-Chair, [chs2\[at\]andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:chs2[at]andrew.cmu.edu)

Textiles Specialty Group (TSG)

Membership Renewal/Request for Donations

If you have not already done so, please renew your AIC and TSG memberships—and while still full of good New Year's cheer, consider an additional contribution to FAIC. Every small amount helps immensely, and granting agencies and foundations look for strong evidence of donations as a display of organizational commitment and participation.

Call for Nominations

The TSG nominating committee is looking for candidates to fill the positions of Secretary and Program Chair. Both positions are held for two years, with the Program Chair becoming Chair the following year. Candidates must be current members of the TSG and be able to attend the annual meetings. Please contact a member of the nominating committee: Christine Giuntini ([christine.giuntini\[at\]metmuseum.org](mailto:christine.giuntini[at]metmuseum.org)), Esther Methe ([emethe\[at\]textilemuseum.org](mailto:emethe[at]textilemuseum.org)), or Maria Fusco ([meafusco\[at\]aol.com](mailto:meafusco[at]aol.com)) if you are interested in running or would like to recommend a colleague.

AIC 2011 Annual Meeting

Plans have been finalized for the upcoming AIC Annual meeting and it is not to be missed. Each half-day session will be divided between talks and panel discussions. In the first, moderated by **Kathy Francis**, conservators from outside the textile specialty will join us and offer their perspectives and approaches. The following day, **Patricia Ewer** and **Frances Lennard** will lead contributors to their book in a discussion about ethics and decision-making. For further information and more program details, please go to the specialty group page and click on the [Annual Meeting link: \[www.conservation-us.org/annualmeeting\]\(http://www.conservation-us.org/annualmeeting\)](#).

Special Thanks

The TSG board would like to extend a huge thank you to **Gwen Spicer** for her outstanding lead article in the November issue of the *AIC News* that traces the history and use of rare earth magnets in conservation. A tremendous thank you also goes out to **Robin Hanson** and members of the TSG Catalogue Committee: **Deborah Trupin** reports that the adhesive chapter will soon be distributed electronically as a PDF (another excellent reason to renew your membership promptly).

Wishing you all a happy new year and hoping to see you in Philadelphia.

—*Denise Migdail, TSG Chair*
[dmigdail\[at\]asianart.org](mailto:dmigdail[at]asianart.org)

Wooden Artifacts Group (WAG)

Greetings, WAG Members, with the first column of the new year!

AIC 2011 Annual Meeting

There is no much to report since last issue's column, except that planning is proceeding apace for the WAG session in Philadelphia this spring. **Alex** has the program all laid out, and we're just narrowing down where to have the WAG dinner. We've got a great team of Philadelphia specialists working on it.

On the subject of WAG providing registration fees for speakers, I will be drawing up a series of possible proposals in the next several weeks, which I will send out to the members via WAG announce. We will then have the opportunity to vote on these proposals at the next business meeting in Philadelphia.

Publications

I hope you all have received your post prints for 2007 and 2008 by now. If there is anyone who has not received it and believes they should have, please contact me and we will try to correct the problem.

Other News

In other news, I wanted to let everyone know that after nearly five really great years at Historic New England, I'll be moving to New York City to join Art Preservation Services, **Steve Weintraub's** company which provides preservation and conservation services in the New York Area. My partner **Peggy Fogelman** moved to New York over a year ago to become chairman of the education department at the Metropolitan Museum, and it's time I joined her. The opportunities to move in new directions for me by working for Steve Weintraub are very exciting, although I'll be very sad to leave Historic New England, which has been both a challenging and rewarding place to work.

That's all for now, but I hope to see you all in Philadelphia!

—*John Childs, WAG Chair*
[jchilds\[at\]historiconewengland.org](mailto:jchilds[at]historiconewengland.org)