

### *Architecture Specialty Group (ASG)*

#### **ASG Business Meeting**

We would like to report on a few items covered at the annual ASG Business Meeting held at the 2011 conference in Philadelphia.

#### *Electronic Voting*

Chair **Joshua Freedland** brought to our attention that the ASG Rules of Order is without a provision for electronic voting and electronic communication. In order to enable a larger percentage of our membership to participate in the future via electronic voting, the ASG Rules of Order should be updated, if this is favored by a majority of the membership. Other specialty groups within AIC have successfully amended their Rules of Order to accommodate electronic voting. Therefore we are using this column to officially notify ASG membership that a vote will take place at the 2012 Annual Business Meeting to amend the Rules of Order. The proposed addition is below:

“Section IX, A. These Rules of Order may be amended, added to or repealed by an electronic vote of a majority of the members provided that notice of such changes has been provided in writing, including electronic communication, to said membership at least 30 (thirty) days in advance of the vote.”

#### *ASG List-Serve*

Molly Lambert reported on the status of the ASG List-Serve. As of July 2011, the ASG List-Serve has been moved to the CoOL server. Only ASG members in good standing are allowed to take part in the list. If your ASG membership has lapsed you may have received email notification that you were removed from the list. Please note that as an ASG member you are not automatically signed up for the list. You can sign up by following the link provided on the [AIC web page](#). We encourage all ASG members to sign up, ask and give advice, share news, and participate in lively discussions.

#### *PA and Fellows*

The Membership committee reported that Professional Associate membership in ASG is up. Congratulations! Committee member **Shelly Sass** would like to encourage eligible ASG members to apply for status as [Professional Associate or Fellow](#). The next deadline for application is October 1.

#### *JAIC*

The *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation (JAIC)* is our professional journal and as our membership grows and our specialty matures we should be represented within its pages.

Many excellent papers have been presented at the Annual Meeting over the last few years and we encourage members to submit their recent work and research to the JAIC for publication. The ASG officers are available if you have any questions or concerns about a recent or future submission to JAIC. Let us help you get your research and ASG noticed.

In conclusion, we greatly appreciate the participation of members who attended the Annual Business Meeting this year.

#### **2012 AIC Annual Meeting**

Looking ahead, we are very excited about the 2012 Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The theme of this annual meeting will be **Outreach and Advocacy in Conservation**, an exploration of how conservation connects with allied professionals, the press, our clients and the general public. We believe that your remarkable experiences can contribute great ideas on this theme. **Stephanie Hoagland**, ASG program chair for 2012, is looking forward to receiving abstracts on the conference theme. She is also soliciting abstracts for a session on modern materials in architecture, sculpture and objects. ASG members, AIC associates, student members, and members of other specialty groups with papers to offer on the subject of modern materials are encouraged to submit an abstract for this special ASG session. If you have any questions about the conference theme or specialty session topic please contact Stephanie by email: [Shoagland\[at\]jbconservation\\_\\_com](mailto:Shoagland[at]jbconservation__com).

On a final note, my contact information is changing. As of September 2011, please send all emails regarding ASG matters to: [pmm34\[at\]caa.columbia\\_\\_edu](mailto:pmm34[at]caa.columbia__edu).

—Patty Miller, ASG Chair  
[pmm34\[at\]caa.columbia\\_\\_edu](mailto:pmm34[at]caa.columbia__edu)

### *Book and Paper Group (BPG)*

#### **BPG Philadelphia Business Meeting**

#### *Minutes*

The minutes from the 2010 annual meeting in Milwaukee were accepted by the membership as written and have been posted on our website. The minutes from the 2011 annual meeting in Philadelphia should be posted in draft form soon. Not everything from the BPG Business Meeting can be reported here for space reasons, so please do review those minutes.

#### *George Stout Fund*

We reviewed our annual contribution to the George Stout Fund. In 2009 we contributed \$2,000 but our more usual contribution

is \$1,000. **Penley Knipe** proposed this amount again, especially as our reserves are shrinking. However, in part because of the poor economy and in part because travel to Albuquerque will be expensive, it was decided to give \$2,000 this year.

### *Budget*

The 2010 budget was closed out and the 2012 proposed budget was approved as prepared. These can also both be reviewed on our [website](#).

### *Annual Meeting BPG Sessions*

**Jo Anne Martinez-Kilgore** reported on the Philadelphia program of presentations and again related how papers are reviewed and chosen by committee. Forty-three papers were submitted for 17 spaces, so it was a competitive year. The BPG officers urge you to consider submitting an abstract for our next meeting, and especially to consider topics that are treatment oriented or are directed towards the theme of outreach and advocacy. However, proposals on any topic will be considered and are welcome.

### *Gettens Award*

**Shannon Zachary** has received the Rutherford John Gettens Award for her many years of service. Congratulations, Shannon!

### *BPG Annual*

**Jim Hinz**, editor of *Book and Paper*, announced he is stepping down. He will serve as editor for the *2011 Book and Paper Group Annual* and he will also work with incoming editor **Renee Wolcott** to make sure the transition is smooth. Since the meeting, the long awaited *2007 Book and Paper Group Annual* has come out. **Shannon** worked very hard to get this extra large volume finished. Thank you, Shannon and thank you to the membership for your patience.

### *Discussion Groups*

Some good exchanges took place about the current discussion group sessions. Concerns voiced included the expression that the format had drifted away from discussion to presentation. Another suggestion was that speakers' biographies be projected rather than read so as to save time for discussion. An additional concern was the potential need for a Museum/Art on Paper focused discussion group, since the topics of many BPG session papers are now about books and bindings and libraries or archives. The BPG officers are working on a proposal concerning this need and will be communicating more in the near future.

### **2012 AIC Annual Meeting**

Plans are shaping up for the annual meeting May 8–11 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. There is still time to submit a paper so make plans to come to the 2012 Annual Meeting!

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)*

Back to work after a long hot summer. I would like to congratulate and welcome the new Directors to the CIPP Board. Included here is the roster of officers for the current year:

1st Year Director	<b>Sher Goodson</b>	<a href="mailto:artrestinc[at]aol.com">artrestinc [at] aol .com</a>
2nd Year Director	<b>Mark Bynon</b>	<a href="mailto:mark[at]bynonartservices.com">mark [at] bynonartservices .com</a>
3rd Year Director	<b>Rick Vogt</b>	<a href="mailto:fcvco[at]verizon.net">fcvco [at] verizon .net</a>
Treasurer	<b>Marc Williams</b>	<a href="mailto:artconservation[at]cox.net">artconservation [at] cox .net</a>
Secretary	<b>Maria Sheets</b>	<a href="mailto:mvsheets[at]verizon.net">mvsheets [at] verizon .net</a>
Vice Chair	<b>Judith Tart</b>	<a href="mailto:judithtart49[at]gmail.com">judithtart49 [at] gmail .com</a>
Chair	<b>George Schwartz</b>	<a href="mailto:george[at]conservart.com">george [at] conservart .com</a>
Chair Emerita	<b>Susan Lunas</b>	<a href="mailto:bookbinder[at]preserveyourtreasures.com">bookbinder [at] preserveyourtreasures .com</a>

I think I speak for all of us, when I say that we are all excited and stand ready to serve the CIPP Membership. Please contact us on the CIPP List or privately with any concerns, questions and suggestions. Our aim is to make belonging to CIPP a valuable experience.

### **CIPP Web Presence**

Visit the CIPP corner on the AIC website for general information about [CIPP](#). There are usually lively exchanges and debates on a variety of topics, and you can read announcements pertaining to CIPP. I encourage all CIPP members to actively participate and contribute to your [discussion list](#).

Thanks to the efforts of **Scott Haskins** a comprehensive blog posting about the seminar at the 2011 AIC Annual meeting may be viewed [online](#), complete with video interviews recorded with some of the participants.

Visit and explore the [CIPP website](#) and log into the “Members Only” section, where you’ll find a great deal of useful information and archived records of past seminars. In the “Members Only” section of the CIPP website, look for a link to the actual PowerPoint presentation used in the seminar that was given at the 2011 AIC Meeting in Philadelphia, as well as a link to a complete transcript of the seminar proceedings. Another reason to be a Member of CIPP!

### **CIPP Rules of Order**

I want to remind all CIPP Members about the upcoming vote regarding a proposed small change in the CIPP Rules of Order. Look for an email in your archives from [info \[at\] conservation-us .org](mailto:info[at]conservation-us.org) sent on July 5, 2011 that describes this change. You’ll be receiving another email on September 7—sixty days following the Notice of Change to Rules of Order, with instructions for voting. Please make your voice heard.

2012 AIC Annual Meeting

Work has already begun on the program for next year's seminar in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The focus of the seminar will echo the general theme of the 2012 AIC Meeting: outreach and advocacy. The topic sparked a lively exchange during the last teleconference of the CIPP Board. More news as ideas crystallize. Stay tuned!

—George Schwartz, Chair CIPP  
[George \[at\] conservart .com](mailto:George[at]conservart.com)

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## Electronic Media Group (EMG)

### AIC Guide to Digital Photography and Conservation Documentation

The second edition of the successful *AIC Guide to Digital Photography and Conservation Documentation* is now available for sale at the AIC office at \$60 for AIC members (\$75 for non-AIC members).

To order the publication please visit the [AIC website form](#).

A very big note of appreciation to the whole *Digital Documentation Task Force Group* and in particular to **Jeffrey Warda**, the editor of the first and second editions of this extremely valuable and successful publication.

### TechFocus I: Caring for Video Art

The documentation of *TechFocus I: Caring for Video Art* is now online. For summaries and images of the content of *TechFocus I* please follow [this link](#).

### JAIC Special Issue

The EMG Board received formal approval from the AIC publication committee for a special *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation* issue to publish selected talks of the conference *TechFocus I: Caring for Video Art*. Submitted papers will travel through the review and editing processes for the *Journal* as a group so that they can be published together.

### TechFocus II: Caring for Film and Slide Art

TechFocus II is in the planning phase and will cover the topic of the conservation of film and slide art. The conference is already partially funded and plans are being made to hold it during the spring of 2012 in Washington, DC. Further information will be made available as soon as all funding is covered and the tentative date and location are confirmed.

### Call for Wiki Participation & WIKI Training

As you may already know, our EMG Website Director **Sarah Norris** is in the process of creating the EMG Wiki. Please consider becoming an author to help get our EMG wiki content off the ground. If you are interested to author or co-author new content that is unique to our Wiki please contact Sarah Norris [ssnorris \[at\] gmail .com](mailto:ssnorris[at]gmail.com).

—Christine Frohnert, EMG Chair  
[c.frohnert \[at\] Verizon .net](mailto:c.frohnert[at]Verizon.net)

## Photographic Materials Group (PMG)

### AIC's Online Store

#### *AIC PhotoDocumentation Targets (AIC PhD Targets)*

The AIC PhotoDocumentation Targets (the former digital reference plates on the old PMG site) are available (already assembled!) and can be ordered now from AIC's online store at the following link, where you will find more information about the targets: [www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.viewpage&pageid=1520](http://www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.viewpage&pageid=1520).

Many, many thanks from the conservation community to **Juan-Juan Chen, Luisa Casella, Dan Kushel**, and to **Robin Myers Imaging** for all of their time and efforts spent on this project!

#### *Photographic and Digital Print Sample Sets*

Also available through AIC's online store are: the *Photographic Print Sample Set Number 1*, which includes an example of each of the following print processes: Salted Paper Print, Albumen Print, Glossy Gelatin Silver Printed-Out Print, Matte Gelatin Silver Developed-Out Print, made using the same negative, allowing one to compare the similarities and differences of the different processes. For more information and ordering see [www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Store.viewProduct&product\\_ID=19023&prod\\_cat\\_ID=7](http://www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Store.viewProduct&product_ID=19023&prod_cat_ID=7).

*Digital Print Sample Set*, compiled by the Mellon Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation, consists of 25 digital and traditional print samples all made from digital files. They are useful as a research tool or for educational purposes. For more information and ordering see [www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.viewPage&pageID=1193&nodeID=1](http://www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.viewPage&pageID=1193&nodeID=1).

#### *Coatings on Photographs: Materials, Techniques, and Conservation*

This book, edited by Constance McCabe, is a major contribution to, and benchmark publication in, the field of photograph conservation, thanks to vision and efforts of the editor, and the work from all of authors. The volume is made possible by the generous support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and Samuel H. Kress Foundation. For more information about the chapters and contents, and to order go to the "Coatings on Photographs" page on the AIC website.

### 2011 AIC Annual Meeting

Even if you were able to attend the **2011 Annual Meeting** in Philadelphia, you may not have been able to get to every presentation you wanted to hear. You can follow up on all the presentations at the Annual Meeting via the AIC Blog at [www.conservators-converse.org](http://www.conservators-converse.org) (where one can search by category). And if you didn't have enough time to read the posters that were presented, almost all of them are now available online at the AIC web site. Click on Past Meeting in the top right corner of any page on the site or go there directly with [this link](#).

### 2012 AIC Annual Meeting

**2012 AIC Annual Meeting** will be held in Albuquerque, NM, May 8–11, 2012. This will be the 40th anniversary of AIC! The

theme of the meeting is *Connecting to Conservation: Outreach and Advocacy*. This subject will include an exploration of how conservation connects with allied professionals, the press, our clients and the general public. As PMG Program Chair **Monique Fischer** ([mfischer \[at\] nedcc \\_\\_ org](mailto:mfischer[at]nedcc.org)) noted in her call-for-papers email to the AIC-PMG listserv, please follow the instructions for submitting an abstract on [AIC's website](http://aic.org).

Abstracts can be submitted online or emailed directly to Ruth Seyler, Membership and Meetings Director, at [abstracts \[at\] conservation-us \\_\\_ org](mailto:abstracts[at]conservation-us.org). Please send an abstract of **no more than 500 words** by **Tuesday, September 20, 2011**. The deadline for posters is **Tuesday, September 20, 2011**.

More information about this will appear elsewhere in the AIC News, print and online versions, and in emails from Ruth Seyler to the AIC membership. If you have any questions concerning the PMG program, please contact **Monique Fischer**, PMG Program Chair at [mfischer \[at\] nedcc \\_\\_ org](mailto:mfischer[at]nedcc.org). More details will be coming in the next news columns and on the AIC website, as well as via the AIC-PMG listserv: [aic-photographic \[at\] cool \\_\\_ conservation-us \\_\\_ org](mailto:aic-photographic[at]cool.conservations-us.org).

As always, if there are questions or if I can be of assistance, please contact me.

—*Barbara Brown, PMG Chair*  
[bbrown \[at\] mail \\_\\_ utexas \\_\\_ edu](mailto:bbrown[at]mail.utexas.edu)

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## Paintings Specialty Group (PSG)

### PSG Board News

At the 2011 PSG Business meeting, the membership unanimously supported changes to the PSG Rules of Order that will allow us to create a new PSG Board position—an Assistant Program Chair. The Assistant Program Chair will serve two years, becoming the Program Chair during the second year of service. We are in the midst of submitting this change to the AIC Board for approval. Once the AIC Board approves the change, we will sponsor a special election for an Assistant Program Chair, hopefully in early September.

### 2011 Annual Meeting Postprints

By the time this column appears, all presenters from the 2011 annual meeting in Philadelphia should have submitted their papers to our Publications Chair, **Barbara Buckley**. The deadline was August 8, 2011. If you have not yet submitted your paper, please do so as soon as possible. Guidelines for authors may be found on the [PSG website](http://psg.org).

### 2012 AIC Annual Meeting

The 40th Annual Meeting will take place May 8–11, 2012 in Albuquerque, New Mexico at the Albuquerque Convention Center. By the time you read this column, the call for papers will have already gone out. Please consider submitting a paper for the general session or for the PSG session. The 2012 theme will be *Connecting to Conservation: Outreach and Advocacy*. PSG will once again host a breakfast with the business meeting and an evening reception for our members in addition to the talk sessions. We are considering opportunities for joint sessions with

other groups. Program Chair **Katrina Bartlett** is already hard at work putting together the 2012 program. If you have ideas, a paper in mind, or a tip, please contact Katrina at [kbartlett \[at\] menil \\_\\_ org](mailto:kbartlett[at]menil.org).

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

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## Research and Technical Studies (RATS)

### 2011 AIC Annual Meeting

In addition to the brief summary of the meeting that was provided in the last newsletter, we would like to mention a few additional points. First, according to the AIC survey almost half of respondents attended a RATS session! We thank all the speakers who made our sessions such a hit and **Dr. Catherine Stephens** for a great job in selecting the themes and speakers. The workshop on microclimates was also very highly rated and we thank **Dr. Fenella France** and **Rachel Perkins Arenstein** for their hard work in creating and leading the session and **Stephanie Porto** for organizing it.

### 2012 AIC Annual Meeting

Despite the fact that we've barely recovered from the Philadelphia meeting, planning has already begun for the upcoming meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Our Vice-Chair, **Jason Church**, has been working with **Mina Thompson**, the Program Chair of the Objects Specialty Group, to organize a joint half-day session. He is additionally planning on having three themed RATS sessions to complement the overarching meeting theme of outreach and advocacy. Some ideas that have been tossed around so far include: color in objects—how to analyze and what to do with the information; dealing with natural disasters—how science can help; and collaborations between conservators and scientists.

#### Workshop

We are soliciting ideas for and persons interested in leading a learning workshop in conjunction with the next AIC conference. RATS will provide funding for travel, supplies, hand-outs, AV equipment, and refreshments, as well as providing personnel support to ease the organizational burden. This is a great opportunity to bring your ideas and skills to the rest of the AIC members and any interested parties should email the **Dr. Catherine Stephens** at [chs2 \[at\] andrew \\_\\_ cmu \\_\\_ edu](mailto:chs2[at]andrew.cmu.edu).

#### Postprints

As we near our 20th anniversary as a specialty group, the RATS executive committee has decided to do something about our habitual lack of postprints from the annual meeting. We want to encourage our speakers to submit their presentations, but recognize that the energy required to write a postprint paper is discouraging to many. To that end we are planning to ask presenters to submit the PowerPoint files used in their presentations with explanatory text for each slide in the notes section. The file images will be watermarked, the documents converted to PDF format and made available electronically. This will allow readers to virtually experience the talk with all of the images that



an attendee would have seen, something traditional postprint papers do not allow. We are currently discussing such remaining issues as formatting requirements for the notes section and how stringently the presentation material as well as the additional notes will be edited. We will also be soliciting presentation materials from past meetings for a special issue(s) so if you have archived your old talks and are interested, stay tuned for the call to submit them.

To help bring these plans to fruition we will be forming a publications committee, so please look for a call in the not too distant future. If you have any ideas, comments or questions on the postprints plans or are interested in serving on the publications committee please feel free to email the RATS communications officer, Dr. Cory Rogge at [roggece \[at\] buffalostate .edu](mailto:roggece@buffalostate.edu).

### Budget and Dues

**Dr. Caitlin O'Grady**, our Secretary/Treasurer, has reported that RATS meeting costs were only slightly larger than budgeted despite the change in meeting venue for 2011. RATS members have recently approved a motion to raise the SG membership dues by \$5 to a total of \$20/year for members and \$13 for students. The additional funds will go to offset the costs of supporting CoOl, increase our donation to FAIC and offset any costs incurred when publishing postprints. We thank all of our members who took the time to vote.

### Awards

Two RATS speakers at the 2011 annual meeting, **Hai-Yen Nguyen** (Queens University) and **Caroline Roberts** (University of Delaware), received FAIC funding for students, financing their attendance at the meeting. **Dr. Caitlin O'Grady** received a Professional Development Scholarship to attend the upcoming 2011 ICOM-CC conference in Lisbon. Congratulations to all!

### Other News

The user's group for Mass Spectrometry and Chromatography (MaSC) now has an online mass spectral database. Individuals can upload mass spectra of both known and unknown compounds. Keepsafe Microclimate Systems reports that they have developed an affordable nitrogen feed combined with a Mini One microclimate generator for humidity control. The apparatus will be used for analyzing oxygen-dependent versus non-oxygen-dependent paths of degradation in paper. For more information contact [info \[at\] keepsafe .ca](mailto:info@keepsafe.ca).

—Corina Rogge, RATS Communications Officer  
[roggece \[at\] buffalostate .edu](mailto:roggece@buffalostate.edu)

### Publications

By now, everyone should have received his/her copy of *Postprints Volume 20* (2010). This volume includes ten papers, one extended abstract, three posters, and five papers on micro-fading that were submitted by members of RATS. We want to thank **Joel Thompson** for her numerous years of service as *Postprints* editor. The 2011 authors and editors are working diligently on the next issue. Until its publication, you can enjoy the summaries of the talks in Philadelphia on the [AIC blog](#).

### 2012 AIC Annual Meeting

We hope you're thinking about presenting a paper at next year's annual meeting in Albuquerque, the theme of which is *Connecting to Conservation: Advocacy and Outreach*. We are encouraging papers related to the conference topic and on other subjects as well. Our Program Chair, **Robin Hanson**, has already begun making plans but she is open to suggestions and ideas. If there's a topic you want to see addressed or you are interested in presenting a paper, please let her know at [rhanson \[at\] clevelandart .org](mailto:rhanson@clevelandart.org). Submit your abstract online through the AIC site; the deadline is September 6.

### TSG Committees

All committee members have been working hard and we thank everyone for their efforts! Please consider your strengths and step up to serve a term or two! As AIC joins the digital age there is much to be done with the wiki and catalogue entries. Specifically, there is a continual need for new people on the nominating committee—so if you'd like a role in helping to shape the TSG leadership, please contact Christine Giuntini to volunteer at [christine.giuntini \[at\] metmuseum .org](mailto:christine.giuntini@metmuseum.org). As a past member, I can attest to the fact that it really is a great (and fun!) experience.

We are also looking for a new TSG Achievement Award Committee member. If you are interested in helping to honor a textile conservator's contribution to the field, please contact **Claudia Iannuccilli** at [cpian \[at\] mfa .org](mailto:cpian@mfa.org).

Finally, I just want to acknowledge once again our two TSG Business and Breakfast Meeting sponsors—Tom Klaas at Testfabrics and the anonymous donor. Our fundraising will continue through the next year, and we hope that others will step up to support TSG activities!

—Susan Mathisen, chair, TSG  
[samathisen \[at\] hotmail .com](mailto:samathisen@hotmail.com)

## Textile Specialty Group (TSG)

I am thrilled to be writing my first AIC News column, and I look forward to keeping you updated on all TSG activities throughout the next year. Many thanks to my fellow TSG Board members **Robin Hanson**, **Meg Geiss-Mooney**, and **Mandie Holman** for their input and to **Denise Migdail** being an excellent role model last year!

## Wooden Artifacts Group (WAG)

### Greetings and Felicitations

As incoming WAG chair I would like to begin by thanking my predecessor, **John Childs**, with deep appreciation for his two years of service, as well as for herding me like a border collie through my past year as Program Chair. I am thankful that John seemed to have all of the answers whenever I emailed him, stymied by certain twists and turns in the road. John was a pleasure to work with and this helped make my job easier. Thank you, John.

Looking toward the next year and beyond, our elected incoming Program Chair for the 2012 AIC annual meeting in Albuquerque is the charming, funny and efficient **Dr. Stephanie Auffret**, Associate Furniture Conservator at Winterthur. **Stephanie Auffret** was on our abstract review committee last year and is already off to a great start. More on Albuquerque and the call for papers later.

I would also like to give a hearty welcome to **Bret Headley**, from the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Bret is our newly elected Treasurer. For those of you not at the Philadelphia conference this year, Bret graciously put his name forward and was duly elected. Finally someone has stepped up to relieve the outgoing Treasurer, **Kathy Gillis**, following her years of tireless service to WAG. Many, many thanks to you, Kathy. I know that I am only one among many who are grateful for your annual efforts to keep our fiscal house in order.

### Call for Papers

I hope by now that all of you have received the call for papers notice from the AIC, as well as a wonderfully encouraging and descriptive call from our Program Chair **Stephanie Auffret**. However, if you are just crawling out from under a beach umbrella, or have been “off the grid” suffering through a summer conserving former Yugoslavian President Titos’ beach furniture in the Brijuni Islands, the theme for next years meeting is “Outreach.”

I think most of you may recognize this as a generally broad term in the museum lexicon as it covers a range of topics including education, advertising, and the blunt but fiscally necessary “How do we increase museum visitation?” From a conservation viewpoint it falls back to the old saw of “How do we get the general public to understand and appreciate what we do?”

The AIC, as well as WAG members that I have spoken with, all agree that there is need to bring in speakers from outside of the conservation world. Conservation already has a long history of drawing from other professions and disciplines to broaden its own tool kit and skill set. With that in mind, I encourage everyone to consider tapping into a broader network of friends or colleagues who may have experience in a form of outreach that we can relate to, make use of, beg, borrow, or outright steal.

Just one more note, the deadline for abstract submissions is September 20.

### Wiki

There has been a good deal of encouragement to make use of the AIC Wiki initiative to create a WAG specific database. During the meeting in Philadelphia I took the opportunity to point out that our own **David Arnold** was way ahead of the curve when he started a conservation database using Apple’s “CardList” software back in 1994.

The original list included useful material definitions, sources and innovative treatment alternatives. Our new Wiki will not need to be as far reaching, as many shared conservation materials will also appear in other Specialty Group Wikis. From what I understand, there will be a cross-searchable database, so that a query to the WAG Wiki will also pull up a listing from Objects, or Paintings, etc. The WAG Wiki should be more accurately focused on WAG specific materials, treatments, and innovations. To seed the WAG Wiki, I am hoping to use sections of the Dave Arnold list and will be working with our webmaster, **Jennie Baker**, to see what we can do.

In the meantime, I encourage everyone with a special interest to make a contribution. Suggested topics include:

- An overview of alternative gilding options
- A page on coating options for wooden artifacts
- A protocol for painted wood
- Commercial products with acceptable conservation uses
- Cleaning formulas (my own personal favorite)

The Wiki will not only help to codify all of those treatment notes, spot tests, and accumulated empirical knowledge, but the ability to continually update the material means that it will continue to be a progressive conversation. For those of you hesitant to put something out there first, the contribution can be anonymous. All we need is something to get us started.

The database will be available to members only.

### Cleaning Formulas

Speaking of cleaning formulas, I will be putting a survey together this fall to see what WAG members use as their “go-to” cleaning solution for coated wooden objects. The reason for this survey is that I have noted almost as many cleaning systems as laboratories that I have visited. I hope that the results of the survey will help us all to work more safely, efficiently, and to closer standards as WAG conservators.

—*A.M. Carlisle, WAG Chair*  
[maclisle\[at\]gmail\[.\]com](mailto:maclisle[at]gmail[.]com)

#### PLEASE NOTE:

No column was submitted by **Objects Specialty Group (OSG)** for this issue of *AIC News*.