

Archives Committee Report – June 2021

This NIA20 Archives Committee Report is prepared in advance of our Area's Summer Assembly to be held virtually on June 26, 2021. Since the last NIA20 Archives Committee Report submitted in March 2021:

- Website Archives Service Page. Archives committee chair (Jeff K) has been working to prepare a presentation for the full committee on options and suggestions to set up a Archives Service Committee webpage on the Area 20 website that is comprehensive and helpful. This presentation and discussion will be part of the committee breakout session at the Summer Assembly.
- Districts. There has been no recent request for assistance or input from any of the Area's District archives committees on specific projects or workshops. We hope to have District updates regarding their ongoing archives activities, including those covered in prior NIA20 Archives Committee Reports. To recap some of those District archives activities of interest: Districts 28 & 90 have been working to set up their archives collections and are dealing with inventory, classification, and retention policies; District 64 has been converting cassette audiotapes to digital audio; and District 43 has been doing a comprehensive document scanning project to make PDFs of its paper inventory.
- 71st GSC Agenda. The Archives committee met virtually March 21, 2021 to discuss the two (2) Archives Items on the 71st GSC Final Agenda. The meeting focused mostly on the Archives agenda item re a *proposed book on AA history*. A written report on issues discussed and consensus views was prepared by the Committee chair and sent March 25 to our Area Delegate, and the chair then reported on same at the Area's Pre-GSC Workshop held virtually on March 27, 2021.
- 2021 Illinois State Conference. The Archives committee has been contacted by the Program chair for the 2021 State Conference hosted by Southern Illinois Area 21 and District 19. This year's Conference is being planned to be held virtually August 27-28. We have been asked to assist with input re an Archives panel and ideas for a digital or virtual archives room like that used at last year's virtual state conference hosted by Chicago Area 19. As of June 18, 2021, we have nothing more specific to report but hopefully we will have more to report very soon.
- Area 20 Ad Hoc Committee on Document Management. The Area Archivist and the Archives Committee chair have been involved (among others) to assist with the Area "Ad Hoc Committee on Document Management" that is chaired by the NIA20 Secretary. This committee has met virtually 3 times over the past 2 months. One item under discussion involves how (or whether) to set up internet/website/cloud-based access to Area Archives materials. The ad hoc committee's work continues and to date is not ready to make any recommendations.
- Archives Committee Remains Committed to carry out its service responsibilities by:
 - Assisting and supporting the Area Archivist as needed
 - Having more frequent Area-wide archives committee meetings/communication
 - Hosting Area-wide archives-related "long-timer" panels" or similar workshops

- Continuing to be a go-to resource for district/local archives committees
- Archives Committee Chair Alternate position remains open. Please help!

IN CLOSING:

The Committee is looking forward to getting back together face-to-face soon! But as we emerge from the “15-months-and-still-counting” pandemic era, the Committee is grateful for having acquired new tools, experiences and appreciations that undoubtedly will provide unexpected benefits for Archives’ service work in the future.

Finally, and as always, Archives reminds everyone to consider AA Archives before you toss out any of that old AA stuff! Old flyers for long-ago AA-related events or workshops; AA meeting directories from days of yore – these and similar items may be useful for Archives. So please remember to get in touch with your local District or Area archives committee before deciding what goes to the recycle bin.

Gratefully submitted,

Jeff K – Archives Chair NIA20

June 18, 2021

