

obtain it. Finally, it is necessary to point out that only a State that is party to the Convention may become party to the Second Protocol.

The Convention, together with its two Protocols, is administered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), headquartered in Paris.

—Jan Hladik
*Programme Specialist, International Standards
Section, Division of Cultural Heritage
UNESCO
(33.1) 45.68.37.93
j.hladik@unesco.org*

Washington Watch

National Heritage Area Act of 2006

The National Heritage Areas Act of 2006 passed both houses of congress and was signed into law by President Bush on October 12, 2006. Senator Thomas (R-WY) introduced this bill (s. 203) in January 2005. The Act established ten new National Heritage Areas. These areas include the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area, the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area, the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area, and the Chaplain Valley National Heritage Partnership. The remaining sections of the Act allow for studies to be conducted at specific locations throughout the United States to determine their eligibility for status as National Heritage Areas.

Information provided by Bruce Craig, director of NCH.

In Memoriam

William P. Crusius (1927–2006)

William Crusius, paper and book conservator and master book binder of over 50 years, passed away in Hazel Crest, Illinois on December 20, 2006 at the age of 79.

Bill began his career in conservation over 50 years ago at R.R. Donnelley and Sons in Chicago, Illinois. Over the course of 33 years at R.R. Donnelley, he learned the dual crafts of paper and book conservation and master bookbinding. In addition to

the study of chemistry and drafting, Bill trained with Tim Barrett, William Anthony, and Bernard Middleton, among others. The 1982 closing of the Extra Bindery by R.R. Donnelley and Sons began a new era in Bill's life when he and his coworker turned partner, Robert Weinberg, opened Graphic Conservation Company as the premiere private paper conservation lab in Chicago. In 1987 Bill, together with three partners, created Midwest Freeze-Dry, Ltd., a firm devoted to treating water damaged library and archival materials. From the beginning, Bill was committed to high quality museum standard conservation. Bill was a Fellow of the AIC since 1982 and an active member of the Chicago Area Conservation Group.

A specialist in the conservation of works of art on paper, Bill was highly dedicated to his many devoted clients, and many of these relationships lasted over 25 years. He also was committed to training future generations of paper conservators. Over the years, with patience and good humor, Bill was instrumental in teaching numerous interns and conservators, who now practice throughout the United States. For several years, Bill taught classes at the Campbell Center for Historic Preservation in Mount Carroll, IL. Those who trained with him knew him to be kind, generous, detail-oriented, patriotic, and a lover of puns. His crossword puzzle prowess was famous as well as his strong will to drive the distance for a good taco.

In addition to enjoying his work as a conservator, Bill was happily married for 55 years to his dear wife Jane. Together they raised their four loving children, nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren. He was dedicated to his family and lovingly reminisced of growing up in Chicago with his parents and beloved brother. An avid fisherman, Bill spent his summer vacations with his family every year in Green Lake, Wisconsin. He was also a skilled gardener, wood carver, and aficionado of spicy foods.

Bill will be missed and fondly remembered by all who knew him.

—Christina Marusich
cm@graphicconservation.com

Health and Safety

Check Your First Aid Supplies

Remember those first aid kits you have stationed on the lab walls or sitting on a shelf in a closet? Have you checked them recently? Make it a habit to start each new year off on a safe note by ensuring that basic first aid supplies are readily available in your laboratory!

If no one has been designated to oversee the contents and placement of first aid kits in your lab, then why not take it upon yourself to ensure the safety of your co-workers and yourself? Perhaps a monthly rotation schedule of safety point-persons would help to keep everyone aware of the need to continually put safety first.

Customize the supply kit to coincide with specific equipment and treatments common to your work space. Also be sure to check the freezer for ice packs, and the eye wash stations to make sure they are working properly and are compliant with OSHA regulations. In case disaster strikes, be sure that emergency supplies are available for the staff, including fast foods such as protein bars, nuts, dried fruit, etc. that are packed with protein and carbohydrates (stored in sealed containers) and bottled water.

The Health & Safety table will again be available in the Exhibit Hall at AIC's 35th Annual Meeting in Richmond, VA on April 18 and 19, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Stop by to talk with us about lab safety and pick up one of our First Aid Kit brochures developed by fellow Health & Safety committee member, Mary Ballard.

First aid kit suggested basic supplies include:

- several pairs of fresh latex-free gloves
- latex-free band-aids in several sizes
- sterile gauze pads
- non-stick wound dressing
- rolls of sterile gauze
- adhesive tape
- antibacterial ointment
- alcohol pads
- antiseptic towelettes
- antimicrobial hand wipes
- elastic bandages

- a pair of safety goggles
 - a few disposable mouth/nose covers
 - scissors
 - tweezers
 - a breathing barrier
- Stock up on supplies as needed. Play it safe. Be prepared.

Grants and Fellowships

IMLS Responds to Federal Formula Grants for Museums

Last fall AASLH took the lead on asking members of Congress to write IMLS and ask that the agency explore the feasibility of formula grants for museums to parallel the federal formula grants that IMLS currently provides to states for libraries. IMLS received letters from several members of Congress and in mid-December announced that the agency will undertake an effort to explore the feasibility of formula grants to the states for support of museum services. IMLS has employed an outstanding strategist and policy advisor, Celeste Colgan, to take on this important project that will include a review of relevant funding models and working with community leaders, museum professionals, and educators across the country to convene local hearings to investigate the public's need for museum services and the potential for meeting those needs through federal grants to states. A report will be published in December 2007.

This is, indeed, good news for the Federal Formula Grant Coalition. However, with a yearlong study the Coalition cannot and will not wait for the report before moving forward with this important effort. During the first half of 2007 the Coalition will begin making its case to members of Congress and implementing strategies for gaining support for the initiative with IMLS's reauthorization in 2009. The Coalition believes the feasibility study commissioned by IMLS will verify what we all know—museums need more money from the federal government and state governments in order to sustain themselves into the future.

AASLH is pleased to act as administrator for the Federal Formula Grant Coalition. Members of the Coalition can be found on the AASLH website at www.aaslh.org. If you live in a state or region whose museum association has not signed on as a member of the Coalition or if your museum is represented by a national organization that is not a Coalition member, let them know you support the initiative and ask that they support it by becoming a member of the Federal Formula Grant Coalition.

Working together can secure a brighter financial future for America's museums. Please help by asking all associations to join in on the effort.

AASLH Offers Alderson Internship Grant Program

AASLH is offering its smaller institutional members the opportunity to apply for the Alderson Internship Grant Program. Recognizing the demand for students to gain "real world" experience and for our members to get qualified interns into their institutions, AASLH will offer this internship opportunity (up to \$3,000) to one of its members to hire a summer intern.

The host institutions must provide information on what they expect their intern to do and match funds at a 1:3 level (that is \$1 for every \$3 that AASLH provides). To be eligible, a historical society must be an institutional member of AASLH with an annual budget under \$500,000. For more information visit www.aaslh.org.

We the People Challenge Grants

NEH has announced the fourth year of its *We the People* Challenge Grants program. The program invites proposals for challenge grants designed to help institutions and organizations secure long-term improvements in and support for humanities activities that explore significant themes and events in American history, thereby advancing knowledge of how the founding principles of the United States have

shaped American history and culture for more than two hundred years. The Endowment particularly welcomes proposals for programming at America's historic places (historic sites, neighborhoods, communities, or larger geographical regions) as well as applications that address this theme through the use of digital technologies.

Grants of up to 1,000,000 in federal funds are possible. Visit the NEH website www.neh.org for more information.

Grant and Fellowship deadlines are now online. Please visit www.aic-faic.org to view up-to-date listings.

New Club Quarters Now Open

Club Quarters, Trafalgar Square, London, is a historic landmark and has grand, newly-restored public rooms including a luxury, digital café along with spectacular space for the restaurant and bar.

AIC members received discounted rates at all Club Quarter locations across the country and abroad. Visit www.clubquarters.com for more information or to make a reservation.