



Baylor Collections of Political Materials



Monthly Executive Summary

For Dean Pattie Orr

AUGUST 2007

Personnel

Director: In August, Ben made visits to Bob Platt, Ben Guttery, held three meetings with Bob Darden, received materials from Larry Breen, edited *Representing Texas*, worked with student workers, and went to the Dole Institute in Kansas.

Bullock Archive Project Director. Benna attended the Leadership Summit here at Baylor and the annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists in Chicago.

Students Assistants

Grace Chiuri. Although Grace is teaching Swahili this semester, she likes working here too much to leave us completely. So she is working five hours a week on the Platt campaign materials, especially campaign posters, 3-D items, and campaign buttons.

Michael Holdridge. M2 added several additional photographs to the Guttery book and began final editing before publication. He also updated statistics from 2002-2006 and designed a cover for the book.

Kristine Harveaux-Lundeen. Kristine has resumed her work on the papers of Penn Jones. She is very close to finishing the preliminary inventory of the project. She will tackle the Jones magazine collection next.

Michael Koski. M3 has returned to work on the Hightower papers. He is sorting through four years of computer files on as many computers to create an up-to-date inventory of processed materials before we begin processing the Texas and US Government groups.

Justyn Kuykendall. Due to financial woes, Justyn is still waiting on final approval from work study before he can resume his work on the JFK videos to DVD conversion project.

Mac Macwan. Mac created a comprehensive list of Texas congressmen from 1845-2006 for the Guttery book appendix, edited JFK videos, and began work on the Darden editorial cartoon inventory.

Leisel Walters. Leisel worked with Kristine on the Jones magazines and numbered/reboxed the Hightower Media group.

Graduate Assistants

Edwin Cook. Edwin transitioned from editing *Representing Texas* to processing the Hightower Campaign group while continuing to add items to the Hightower Personal group.

Taz Haq. Our E-Library graduate assistant, Taz has returned to creating and updating web pages. She has almost finished phase one of the new Platt web site.

Matthew Parker. Our newest graduate assistant cut his teeth on preparing the preliminary inventory of the latest boxes from Bob Platt. Then he began working with Benna on processing some papers of Bob Bullock.

Volunteer

Harold Wellbaum. Harold continues to help us with shredding and photocopying.

NOTE: At one time, congressional case files were commonly sent to the archives. However, with the passing of the Right to Privacy Act, these records are not open for research until 75 years after the death of the constituent who wrote them. So practically speaking, it is no longer an efficient use of resources to store these records. Most archives no longer accept these type files.

Visit to the Dole Institute

Ben visited the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics in Lawrence, Kansas on August 15. The Institute has a state of the art archival facility. It is planning to increase the number of archivists processing the 4,000 linear feet of Senator Dole's papers. The visit was interesting and informative. Ben would like to see the Poage Library expand its vision as a research destination similar to the Dole Institute.

Other archives Ben has visited in the last few years include:

- Modern Political Materials, University of South Carolina
- Carl Albert Center, University of Oklahoma
- Carter Presidential Library, Atlanta, GA
- Bush Presidential Library, College Station, TX
- Johnson Presidential Library, Austin, TX
- Ransom Center, UT Austin
- Center for American History, UT Austin

W. R. POAGE LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY
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- Jim Wright Archive, TCU, Fort Worth, TX
- New Orleans Collection, New Orleans, LA
- Tulane University Archive, New Orleans, LA
- John Joseph Moakley Archive, Suffolk University, Boston, MA
- Papers of Dennis DeConcini, Special Collections, University of Arizona, Tucson
- Academy of Motion Pictures Archive, Hollywood, CA
- University of Southern California, Los Angeles
- National Archives, Washington DC
- Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington DC
- Special Collections, UT Arlington

Projects

Book Vault Project. HVAC installation will take place sometime this fall. Additional shelving will be ordered as funds are available.

Cartoon exhibit. Ben met with Bob Darden on Aug. 6 to select cartoons for the exhibit. Bob and Ben also met with John Wilson to discuss budgeting and funding challenges, possibilities and opportunities. On Aug. 28, Ben met with Bob, Bill Hair and Sherry Cook to discuss placement of the cartoons in Moody/Jones. Delores Oliver is also working with us to find a museum studies graduate student who can work on the details of the exhibit. Ben also received an estimate from Brazos Oaks of about \$4,000 for framing the cartoons.

Platt Materials. As he approaches age 80, Dr. Platt is making plans to close his book and political memorabilia store in the Fort Worth Stockyards in the next few months. As he scales down his holdings, he will continue to send materials to the library. Matthew and Grace will work to keep pace with these new accessions.

Representing Texas. Ben Guttery is contacting BookSurge, a Print-on-Demand (POD) publisher, about printing his book. The book will be listed on Amazon and through other online sources. We will work with Mr. Guttery to obtain copies for The Standing Committee to use as premiums to donors.

Accessions

- 📖 Larry Breen donated two boxes of JFK books and three campaign buttons
- 📖 Bob Platt continued to donate books and political materials.
- 📖 Ben Guttery donated his manuscript and research materials for his book, *Representing Texas*.
- 📖 The Georgia State Archives donated three issues of the *National Christian News* to add our other holdings.

Visitors

Larry Breen, a local school teacher, brought us two boxes of books about JFK and a folder of photographs and news articles. He also brought his campaign button collection for us to see but did not leave it here.

Research Requests:

- 📖 An individual requested a copy of a 1953 US map.
- 📖 True.com requested information about former congressman Ed Gossett.

Cataloging

Janet Pence, Special Libraries Cataloging Team: Books 178 titles, 185 vol.; Original OCLC input 17 titles; Vertical files 47 titles, 51 vol.; Original Bearcat input 47 titles.

Challenges

SPRINKLER SYSTEM: Installation of the sprinkler system in Poage will begin on September 4. The contractor will provide a work schedule so we can move student workers out of the way as work progresses.

SPACE. We would like to begin negotiations for additional space on the second floor of Poage for processing and a research room for JFK materials.

TECHNOLOGY. A new color printer was installed in the Bullock archive. Two replacement computers will be ordered in September.

September Plans

Cartoon exhibit. In September, we expect to hire a museum studies graduate student who will work with us on planning and creating not only the cartoon exhibit but other exhibits also.

Student Workshop. We are planning our annual student workshop on September 20th to go over general procedures and processing guidelines which all student workers need to know. Janet Pence, Susan Bowlin, and Jennifer Borderud will be assisting with the care and shelving of books and how to read the LC classification system.

Plans Future

Spring Lecture. We are still working to secure a speaker for the Spring.

Open House. We have set Oct. 25th for our annual Open House. Jack and Colleen Hightower have agreed to host our event. Colleen's 80th birthday is Oct. 30th. The sprinkler installers will work with us to have our area ready by this date.

VISION. The staff needs to promote the *Complete the Vision* proposal and invite library staff to evaluate and/or endorse the proposal. ("Where there is no vision, the people perish." Prov. 29:18)