



NEARI NEWSLETTER

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FROM THE EDITOR

As the warm summer days bring thoughts of cooling shade you can peruse some of the recent



news of NEARI. You will find in this issue an account of the Spring Meeting which was held on Saturday, April 24, 2010 at The Archdiocesan Center at St. Seminary, Bloomfield, Connecticut,

along with some pictures.

There will be a brief “first vintage” of the NEARI questionnaire, as well as a listing of activities for archivists in the New England area, as well as opportunities for learning within the wider archival community.

If there are any difficulties with the transmission of the Newsletter, either by e-mail or regular mail, please let the editor know. The Newsletter will also be available on the NEARI Website.

www.csjboston.org/neari.htm

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ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting, held in Bloomfield, Connecticut, at The Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary on Saturday, April 24, 2010 was a joint venture between the Archivists of Religious Institutions (ARI) and NEARI. The attendees, who came from Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and New York participated in two sessions: “Pushing the Archival Envelope: Using Digital to Advantage,” and “Perspectives on Archival Consolidation.”

Kevin L. Glick, Electronic Records Archivist at Sterling Memorial Library at Yale University, initiated thought and conversation on areas for incremental development in small archives. By sharing his own expertise in various areas of digitization, he allowed attendees to ask questions and



get recommendations for their own archives. The session was both wide-ranging (including such areas as scanning, resolution, legality, metadata, outsourcing, management of digital

archives, use of commercial photo sites for outreach, access, records born digital, obsolescence, good practices, consortial working) and satisfying, since it responded to the concerns of the hearers.

Among the websites Kevin suggested are: The Center for History and New Media; and Moving Theory into Practice—A Digital Imaging Tutorial.

Joseph W. Coen, Archivist of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn, conducted an afternoon session, eliciting questions, concerns and actions which should precede the physical moving or consolidation of archives. It centered on options, selection, archival concerns and practical considerations. Options could include sharing of space with other archives, relocating to other institutions not archives, moving to another space.



Selection of archives could include such considerations as training for the archivists, maintenance of the character of the archives and its parent institution, accessibility for future research, ongoing

maintenance, and financial support. Concerns about the archives itself aroused more questions: Who owns the moved archives? What will be the conditions for preservation and conservation? How does budget impinge on what can be done? What is the disaster plan? When the time comes for the physical move, additional concerns arise: practical questions such as insur-

ance, responsibility for damage and loss, reputation of the mover, persons to oversee the departure and reception, documentation of the move.

Additional handouts at the meeting included "The Relevance of Preservation in a Digital World," a publication of the Northeast Document Conservation Center, "The Interactive Archivist: Web 2.0 and Archives," and "The Interactive Archivist: Bibliography."

The program concluded with a tour of the Library and Rare Book and Archival Collection by Karen Lesiak, Director of the Library.

At the end of the day, participants expressed appreciation of the sessions, as well of the opportunity to network with archivists in similar institutions.

Pictures of diligence:

