Voting membership in the Midwest Registrars Committee is open to those museum professionals who support the objectives of the MRC, who reside in the Midwest region (including Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin), and who hold positions such as registrar, collections manager, curator, volunteer, administrator, conservator, corporate registrar, or student.

A non-voting membership is available for individuals who are associated with for-profit organizations such as shipping companies, customs brokers, insurance firms, and other suppliers of materials and services, and individuals who reside outside of the Midwest region.

The membership period covers the calendar year (from January 1 through December 31). Annual dues are $10.00 per year. For more information on the Midwest Registrars Committee or to join MRC, visit http://midwestregistrars.org/


**MRC at AMM in Des Moines** continued

The MRC business lunch meeting at HoQ was generously sponsored by Huntington T. Block and hosted by Casey Wigglesworth. At the meeting, we listened to updates from officers and the state representatives. The winners of the travel stipends awarded for the annual meeting were introduced. Our generous stipend sponsors were Terry Dowd; U.S. Art Company; and Masterpiece.

We finished up the conference with an MRC Social at the Iowa Tap Room sponsored by Dietl International and hosted by Dana Thompson and William Sundstrom. It was a great conference for all—making new friends, connecting with old ones and getting new inspiration for the work ahead!

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**From the Chair**

Andrew Near

It was wonderful to see many of you and have an opportunity to catch up while at Association of Midwest Museums, held in Des Moines, Iowa, this year! Personally speaking, I fell in love with the town. Friendly people, tasty beer; cannot ask for more!

As you may have heard, AMM hosted their annual meeting in Des Moines, Iowa in July, and we held our annual business functions. I’d like to thank everyone who helped make the meeting a success, especially Sarah Connors with organizing, and Terry Segal with fundraising. Also, many thanks to our sponsors: Huntington T. Block and Dietl International respectively sponsored our annual business lunch and evening social; and to Masterpiece International, Terry Dowd Inc., and US Art Co., who sent three people to the conference by providing travel stipends.

We managed to hold our usual MRC events, attend several excellent presentations all while taking some time to unwind and catch up during the conference. On Wednesday, we held a small, but mighty rescue crew with three volunteers at the Ames Historical Society. On Thursday, 23 people attended our annual business lunch-eon with a similar turnout at our MRC social hour later that evening.

During the business meeting, I introduced the topic of revising the MRC Bylaws and applying for IRS non-profit status. I have written a lengthy explanation of that which is also included within this newsletter. Please read it.

Also while at the conference, I began talking with representatives from our two affiliates, AMM and Collections Stewardship-AAM about working better together. Related to that, AMM 2018 will be held in the Windy City.
City of Chicago, and we are already starting to lay some groundwork for us to have a seat at the table at AMM planning meetings.

Two State Representatives who are passing the torch. Laura McDowell Hopper, Illinois, has decided it was time to step down, while Laurel Fant, Wisconsin, is looking forward to retirement. Laura and Laurel have both left their mark on the MRC, and I thank them for their contributions. Being a state rep, while relatively easy, is an excellent opportunity to develop closer connections to your MRC community, which can be very rewarding. If you’d like to volunteer to become a state rep for Wisconsin, I look forward to hearing from you.

Finally, let me introduce Sara Hindmarch, Head Registrar at the Smart Museum of Art, University of Chicago, as the new Illinois State Representative. She is motivated to strengthen and enrich our registrar and collections community in the great state of Illinois and will be an asset to the MRC.

Thank you and enjoy,
Andy Near; MRC Chair

Mighty Rescue Crew
Hannah Frederick, Ames Historical Society

As part of the 2017 AMM Conference in Des Moines this summer the Might Rescue Crew set out to assist at the Ames Historical Society (in Ames, Iowa) for a day. The crew was small but mighty. Andrew Near, Sarah Connors, and Linda Endersby showed up to assist with processing some art work.

As embarrassing as it is to admit, albeit before my tenure, I am currently working on processing a bequest we received twelve years ago. Yes, twelve years ago. Hundreds of objects have been sitting in storage for these past twelve years, including original artwork made by the donor and collected by the donor. The MRC assisted in labeling the artwork, completing condition reports, and filling out accession forms. The crew of three got through almost all of the artwork, which was a tremendous help to me. My “department” has only one staff member, me. So, the MRC helped to save me days’ worth of work. I am grateful for the Mighty Rescue Crew, and I would strongly suggest participating in it if you can. It can really make a difference for your colleagues!
There is still time to renew your MRC Membership for 2017!!!

Renewing can be done in just a few easy steps.

Visit the Registration and Renewal page on the MRC website.

https://midwestregistrars.org/membership-2/joinrenew-membership/

Complete the ‘Online Registration Form.’

Use the BUY NOW button to submit payment via PayPal or send a check via snail mail to Tamara at the address listed below.

Boom! You are good for another year of great MRC benefits, which includes access to a fantastic professional network of like-minded professionals, workshop opportunities, funding assistance for state workshops, the opportunity to apply for travel stipends to attend the annual AMM Conference, the MRC Membership Directory and MRC’s newsletter The Courier

Travel Stipend Scholarships, 2017

Once again, the Midwest Registrars Committee, along with U.S. Art, Masterpiece International, and Terry Dowd, Inc., provided generous support to help three members of MRC attend the 2017 Association of Midwest Museums Annual Conference in Des Moines. Over the next two issues, recipients will share reflections on their time at Communicating the Value of Museums. Congratulations again to:

Amy Heggenmeyer, Spurlock Museum, U. of Illinois (U.S. Art)
Linda Endersby, Missouri State Museum (Masterpiece)
Lottie Phillips, Peoria Riverfront Museum (Terry Dowd)

From Amy Heggenmeyer, Asst. Registrar, Spurlock Museum, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

AMM in Iowa was a wonderful experience--so much so that I am still telling acquaintances “you really ought to give Iowa a try!” It was such a pleasure to meet up with fellow MRC members and share the excitement and insanity that is collections care work. Many thanks to Chris Maravich of U.S. Art and all of the shippers for their generous travel stipends, not to mention the excellent happy hour.

This year’s sessions were informative and thought-provoking. From a professional development standpoint, I greatly enjoyed participating in the session “360 Museum Leadership: Expand your skills as you rise through the ranks.” This session began with each panelist introducing themselves before going into detail about their own experiences regarding entry into the profession, the issues they faced as they reached management positions, and methods and skills that they applied to new challenges as managers. The majority of the session time was open to the audience as they were told to come up front, ask questions about career management and provide advice to each other. This was a very useful session that ended, as it did at AAM, with many audience members lingering in the room to continue their conversations. I would love to see museum associations use this session format as a platform to larger community-wide conversations.
Travel Stipend Scholarships, continued

The final session I attended, titled “Are audience members and visitors the same thing? Strategies for engaging an audience that does not visit,” had a stealth collections care moment within its presentations. This session provided some amazing insights centered around its title, as each of the presenters addressed how they identified a key community that valued and supported their museum’s mission but did not regularly utilize the physical museum building. The first presenter was Jennifer Scott, director of the Jane Addams-Hull House Museum associated with the University of Illinois at Chicago. She discussed their position as a Museum of Conscience and detailed the amazing multitude of programming based around this concept that they do to engage the local (non-university) community. Next, Nicky Christensen of the Museum of Danish America approached the session by addressing how you can work to increase your credibility as a resource for a specific topic, in their case, for Danish history. Given that the vast majority of their membership lives far away from the museum, many creative approaches to member outreach are necessary. Then Jessica Rundlett, Outreach Coordinator of the Iowa Historical Society, described the many outreach activities of the Iowa Historical Society.

However, the final presenter was the one that I found most engaging from a collections perspective. Anna Villareal, Research Coordinator at the Museum for Osteopathic Medicine in Kirksville, MO, is responsible for responding to research requests from around the globe. The first to hold her position at this institution, Ms. Villareal described her process of developing a long distance research program. She discussed how to decide pricing for hiring in-house researchers, how to schedule scholar and researcher visits, and identifying ways to promote the collection as a research resource directly to the scholars who will find it most useful. Her hard work has paid off, as demonstrated by the documented increase of research requests and usage that were the direct result of her work. Ms. Villareal’s presentation concluded by showing clips from a documentary that utilized materials from the museum collections. It was inspiring to see how concentrated focus on promoting collections as a research resource can result in increased knowledge and use of collections for their intended purpose.

News From the Midwest

Illinois

WELCOME NEW STATE REP!

Welcome! Sara Hindmarch, of the Smart Museum of Art at University of Chicago has volunteered to become our Illinois State Representative. Sara has been with the Smart Museum for seven years and in her current position for the past three. Sara looks forward to building stronger sense of community amongst peers in Illinois and the greater Midwest region.

Spurlock Museum, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

At Spurlock Museum, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Registration staff recently revamped photography standards with amazing results. Under the guidance of Jessica Followell, Registration Associate for Photography and Image Rights, undergraduate photography majors are
hired and trained to photograph artifact collection objects. This is a great opportunity to provide students with paid experience in museum work and to apply their photography skills on a professional level. The amazing work of our students and Registration Associate took basic database images from and improved them to meet current standards.

Jessica and her students worked together to identify improvements to the process, from new background colors and the use of light diffusers to utilizing props that display an object’s function. They switched from cloth to paper backdrops, which was a great improvement over the black fabric or drop sheets used previously. Photographers no longer have to deal with a backdrop that needs to be cleaned or keeps sliding around. They also purchased a portable backdrop stand which allows the photographers to work in different locations throughout the building. This portability has allowed our student photographers to take quality pictures quickly and efficiently in areas outside of the photo room, such as the exhibit prep area and gallery spaces.

One of their “biggest” improvements was to the oversized textile photography process. Spurlock has many ethnographic objects and textiles that are extremely large and can be difficult to photograph in their entirety. The old method was to stand on a ladder and lean carefully or extend the camera over with an arm, also carefully, in order to obtain a full shot. Occasionally overhead shots were taken from the balcony of our central core area. Concern for the safety of our photographers was always paramount and often we settled for lesser quality images. Jessica and her students researched tools and obtained funds to purchase a photo crane. This crane allows for the photography of oversized textiles without warping of the image.

It is an ongoing process, but we are gradually updating the images that appear in our database, both in-house and online. The quality and number of high definition artifact images has grown exponentially overall, and we can’t wait to see the great work of our student photographers in the coming school year.

Top: Before (left) and after (right) database images of an oversized textile

Right: Jessica Followell and Theresa Pham working with the crane in Spurlock Museum’s Central Core.

All images courtesy of The Spurlock Museum, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
The DePauw University gallery program was recently honored in AAM’s *Museum* Magazine with a "Museum Assessment Program Spotlight” article. The full text is reproduced below, and can be found in the March/April 2017 issue as well.

"Since 2013, the gallery staff has been working through a series of external reviews in preparation for accreditation by AAM. The reviews, part of AAM’s Museum Assessment Program (MAP), have yielded significant benefits for the galleries and collections in just a few short years. The reviews have been an excellent use of staffing hours and operating funds, with each review requiring just 50 staff hours and less than $500. Most notably, the MAP reports have assisted staff with obtaining external funding for both exhibitions and collection care. Overall, 11 external grants totaling nearly $100,000 have been secured to date (2014-16), thanks to recommendations made by the peer reviewers who evaluated our museum. These recommendations were cited in the external grant applications and significantly increased our competitiveness for funding.

Grant funds secured as a result of the MAP reviews have focused entirely on enhancing our ability to deliver first-rate programming central to our mission: the student experience. In past years, limited resources had not allowed us to utilize the collection of 3,500 artworks to its full potential. Today, the collection is leveraged on a weekly basis to enhance the curricular needs of students, faculty, and the community. Students from anthropology/sociology, art and art history, Asian studies, chemistry, English, political science, and a number of other departments regularly visit the collections and galleries to translate inscriptions, write poetry, dissect objects through visual analysis, and debate the ethics of museum display and preservation. In the coming years, we plan to expand our interdisciplinary efforts to students studying everything from business and economics to communications."

**Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art, Indianapolis**

Every other year since 1997, the Eiteljorg Contemporary Art Fellowship has selected a group of five Native contemporary artists and provided them grant support so they can continue to pursue their art professionally and receive greater exposure. Through the support of the Lilly Endowment Inc., the Eiteljorg Museum has purchased approximately 400 works of contemporary art since 1999 to add to its permanent collections.
This year the Eiteljorg Museum is celebrating the 10th anniversary of this Contemporary Art Fellowship and in honor of the anniversary, the museum will be hosting a new exhibition, *Native Art Now!*, opening Nov. 11-12. The field of Native contemporary art takes center stage as the exhibit opening coincides with a convening of leading Native artists and scholars for roundtable discussions, accompanied by a *Native Art Now!* television documentary and book.

As both a retrospective celebration and a summit meeting for influencers in contemporary art, *Native Art Now!* will promote appreciation for today’s Native art and artists, and generate dialogue about the current state of the field and its future challenges. The exhibition features 39 iconic works of Native art that the museum acquired primarily through its Eiteljorg Contemporary Art Fellowship, including installations, paintings, prints, sculptures and glass and fabric art. Visually compelling works from artists Truman Lowe, Allan Houser and Meryl McMaster among others will be on view in the special exhibition gallery that opens to visitors Saturday, Nov. 11.

In conjunction with the exhibition are two days of roundtable and panel discussions Nov. 11-12 hosted by the museum that examine the importance of Native art in the contemporary art world and the obstacles such artists face today. The convening of Fellowship artists and scholars from across the U.S. and Canada will be moderated by a nationally known art and social justice expert, Elizabeth T. Richards (Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma).

For more information please go to: [http://www.eiteljorg.org/explore/exhibitions/native-art-now-fellowship](http://www.eiteljorg.org/explore/exhibitions/native-art-now-fellowship)

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**The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis, Indianapolis**

The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis received a collection of more than 900 works of art (drawings, paintings, works on paper, sculptures of bronze and stone) related to the world of sport. The National Art Museum of Sport (NAMOS) will now reside permanently in the Efroymson Pavilion of the Riley Children’s Health Sports Legends Experience at The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis with approximately 100 pieces shown at any given time starting in March 2018. The goal of NAMOS is to share the best in fine art depicting sport with the public and encourage the creation of fine art depicting sport while also inspiring visitors to create their own works of art.

NAMOS was founded in New York City by Germain G. Glidden and its collection was shown for a time in Mad-
Indianapolis Children’s Museum, continued

ison Square Garden. It eventually went on display at the 1968 Winter Olympics as well as the 1987 Pan Am Games in Indianapolis. After that, it was on display at various institutions in Indianapolis before finding its final home at Riley Children’s Health Sports Legends Experience at The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis. NAMOS will be presented within the Efroymson Pavilion in the Riley Children’s Health Sports Legends Experience, opening March 2018.

Evansville Museum of Arts, History & Science, Evansville

Over There: Evansville and the Great War

Coinciding with the 100th anniversary of United States entry into World War I, this exhibition will recall “the war to end all wars” with a special emphasis on the Evansville experience. Drawn from the collection of the Evansville Museum and from the collections of other institutions and individuals, this exhibition will utilize artifacts—including uniforms and military hardware, photographs, and documents pertaining to the conflict that President Woodrow Wilson said, if won, would make the world safe for democracy.

Of special emphasis will be the experiences Evansvillians who served in the conflict, including that of James Bethel Gresham the first American combat casualty of the war. On November 3, 1917, shortly after the Yanks headed “over there”, Gresham, a former factory worker who had joined the Army in 1914, lost his life when his unit was overrun by the Germans. He became a symbol of American sacrifice. When his body was returned to the United States 1921 it lay in state in Indianapolis and at Evansville’s Soldiers’ and Sailor’s Coliseum before burial at Locust Hill Cemetery. By war’s end, approximately 4,000 Evansville citizens had been called to duty and 84 made the supreme sacrifice for their country.

The exhibition will also interpret the impact of the war on the City. The patriotic spirit of the era was exemplified by Liberty Loan Drives that helped fund the war; the chartering of a local Red Cross Chapter which prepared surgical dressings and operated a canteen for traveling service men; and symbolic gestures such as meatless and wheatless days. On the industrial front, Buckskin Manufacturing Company produced uniforms and Bucyrus-Erie manufactured shells. The patriotism of the day also had negative aspects as German culture in the community (and in the country) was viewed with suspicion and often suppressed. When the war ended, citizens of the City enthusiastically greeted the news as whistles, bells, and sirens sounded and impromptu parades erupted on Main Street.
**Iowa** Sarah Connors

**Ames County Historical Society, Ames**

In July, the Ames Historical Society (Ames, Iowa) was notified that we had been awarded a $5,000 Historical Resource Development Program (HRDP) grant from the state of Iowa. The focus on this grant will be collection preservation and collection access. Our unfortunate reality is that a majority of our collection has not been properly documented. The preservation part of this grant money will go towards photographing the collection, filling out proper registrar paperwork, cataloging, and proper housing. A major emphasis will be on the proper housing since a lot of objects are inappropriately housed. The access part of this grant will go towards launching PastPerfect Online onto our website. We are excited to be able to increase access to our collection, and if anyone has done this and has any tips or experiences with this I would love to hear it. I have two years to complete this project and hope to supplement staff time as much as possible with volunteers and interns from Iowa State University and the community.

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**Museum of Danish America, Elk Horn**

New exhibition: “Denmark – America’s Smallest and Biggest Ally”

This exhibition will cover the long relationship between Denmark and the U.S., especially in areas of military cooperation. The primary stories include World Wars I and II, the U.S. bases on Greenland, and Danish involvement in 21st century coalitions in Afghanistan, Iraq, and around the world. Open September 30, 2017 through September 3, 2018.

Funded in part by a grant from Humanities Iowa and the National Endowment for the Humanities.
Michigan

Julie Conklin

Alfred Berkowitz Gallery, University of Michigan-Dearborn, Dearborn

This past summer, eight sculptures were donated and another eight sculptures were placed on long term loan from a number of Michigan artists to grace the campus grounds. In September, renovations will be underway for a new and much needed storage area. The space will primarily house the gallery’s growing collection of studio glass works. Future plans also include a new gallery space, which will move the gallery from the 3rd floor of the Mardigian Library to the main floor.

From Oct. 27 through Dec. 17, 2017, The Alfred Berkowitz Gallery will host one of the largest public showings of illustration art from one of the best-loved, highly-acclaimed picture book lines, Little Golden Books. On loan from The National Center for Children’s Illustrated Literature, the exhibition includes 65 original masterpieces from Little Golden Books. Famous illustrators included in the exhibit are: Feodor Rojankovsky, Tibor Gergely, Gustaf Tenggren, Martin Provensen, Eloise Wilkin, Garth Williams, Richard Scarry, and others.

The guest speaker at the exhibition reception on Nov. 3 from 5-7:30 p.m. is Diane Muldrow. Muldrow is the editorial director at Golden Books/Random House and editor of the famous Little Golden Books. A second event, “Family Afternoon with Little Golden Books,” will be held on Saturday, Nov. 18 from 1-4 p.m. in the gallery with crafts and activities for children in grades K-2. The exhibition is part of the university’s 2017 Young Author’s Festival. The exhibition, festival, and events are funded in part by the Michigan Humanities Council and the Metro Detroit Book and Author Society.

Saginaw Art Museum, Saginaw

The Saginaw Art Museum has recently accessioned The Last Whistle, a bronze sculpture featured by artist Ken Newman at ArtPrize in Grand Rapids, MI last year. The sculpture itself is of a blue-collar worker—something that is representative of Saginaw, Michigan’s heritage, grit, determination and perseverance. We are inviting the community to support The Last Whistle project, honoring our industrial past and our commitment to arts and culture. The museum staff is busy at work planning for its dedication on August 31, 2017, with a community-wide picnic on the front lawn of the museum. We will also be selling brick pavers for supporters to inscribe with their desired message. We are honored to have The Last Whistle and will be leveraging it in a number of ways to engage our community.

As for staffing updates, we have recently added Lauren Grotkowski as our Registrar. She will greet visitors at the front desk and manage the ever-important documentation of our permanent collection. She is a graduate of Central Michigan University with a degree in Museum Science. Sarah Trew, a graduate of the University of Westminster in London, UK, previously employed by the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum and the Indianapolis Museum of Art, joins us as our Assistant Curator. We also are welcoming Jenn Gray as our new Event Coordinator. She graduated from Columbus College of Art and Design (CCAD) in May 2015 with a Bachelor’s degree in Fine Arts and Creative Writing. Jenn will be responsible for working alongside committees and the ActionART Advisory Council to plan events and fundraisers in order to promote the Museum.

Share Your News!!

Do you have exhibitions, events, acquisitions, or other news to share? We would love to hear about it!! Make life for your State Rep a little easier by submitting a news story, interesting tidbit, or update for the next issue of the MRC Courier. Listings for each state and contact information can be found at the end of the Courier.
Minnesota

Leslie Ory Lewellen

Goldstein Museum of Design, University of Minnesota, St. Paul

National Endowment for the Humanities is featuring an on-line series called “50 States of Preservation,” in which they highlight small and mid-sized museums, libraries, historical societies, and other repositories across the country (one from each state) to show how they are helping to preserve the nation’s cultural heritage. This summer the Goldstein Museum of Design at the University of Minnesota was selected to be the featured museum for the state of Minnesota.


Registrars and Collections Managers meet in the Twin Cities

A group of a dozen registrars and collection managers from six different institutions in the Twin Cities gathered at the Minnesota Museum of American Art in St. Paul on June 16 for breakfast and a morning of networking and information sharing. The Minnesota Museum of American Art moved into a stunning new space in the historic Pioneer Endicott building in downtown St. Paul about a year ago. The M’s collections manager Mai Vang updated the group on the museum’s expansion and future building projects, and led a tour of their present and future gallery and programming spaces. Valerie Clark, Museum Consultant, discussed the M’s collection digitization project. The morning wrapped up with a roundtable discussion about many different topics including collections moves; our favorite websites, books, and other resources for registration and collections management best practices; and some ideas for future educational programs for Minneapolis/St. Paul and outstate Minnesota MRC members.

About 13 Twin Cities’ area registrars and collections managers met again on August 24 at Esker Grove, the new restaurant at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, for a casual Happy Hour. Joe King, Director of Registration at the Walker, gave the group a tour of the newly-reopened and redesigned Minneapolis Sculpture Garden across the street from the museum. This is the home of the well-known Minneapolis landmark, Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen’s Spoonbridge and Cherry sculpture. (This is a must-see if you are visiting Minneapolis!) Joe shared some insights from a registrar’s point of view on the redesign, reinstallation, and new landscaping at the sculpture garden. It was a beautiful evening to spend outdoors with great art and interesting conversation with colleagues!
Minnesota, continued

Minnesota Museum of American Art, St. Paul
Mai Vang was promoted to Registrar at the Minnesota Museum of American Art, where she started as a collections manager. She is a passionate museum enthusiast with a vast experience in collection care and curation, exhibit development, museum education, and grant writing. Mai holds a Master’s of Science degree in Anthropology and Museum Studies Certificate from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Minnesota. She founded the Hmong Museum, a grassroots effort to begin collecting stories and preserving Hmong materials. Previously she was Curator at the Minnesota Discovery Center where she successfully completed a permanent exhibit renovation, drastically increased attendance through programming, and established professional excellence in collection management.

Ohio

Robin Goodman

Pizzuti Collection, Columbus

Just in time for the holidays, Pizzuti Collection will open two exhibitions. The first, *Lines/Edges: Frank Stella on Paper*, features a range of Stella’s experiments on paper including early translations of his Black series and shaped canvases, magnificent color woodcuts and screen prints from the 1980s, and the *Moby Dick Deckle Edges*, an impressive nine work grouping of large-scale prints from the early 1990s based on Herman Melville’s Moby Dick, or, The White Whale.

The second exhibition, *PAIR: Glen Baldridge & Alex Dodge*, is the inaugural edition of what will be a series of exhibitions pairing two artists from the Pizzuti Collection. Juxtaposition allows for comparison and conversation. Glen Baldridge and Alex Dodge both graduated from Rhode Island School of Design, worked as art handlers for CRG Gallery, and share studio space in NYC. Their work mixes humor and intellect, creating intricate images that require close looking.

Both exhibitions will open on November 17, 2017 and run through the end of April.

Wisconsin

Laurel Fant

Wisconsin State Representative Retiring

The Midwest Registrar’s Committee invites applicants to serve as the Wisconsin State Representative beginning in January 2018. Please contact Andrew Near, MRC Chair at 616-395-6402. Current representative Laurel Fant, Curator/Collections Manager for the Rock County Historical Society, will be retiring and moving out of state.

Laurel started her museum career as a volunteer for the Ellwood House Museum in DeKalb, IL which led to a part time position. She attended Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, IL for her Master’s in Historical Administration. A volunteer position with the Arizona Historical Society in Phoenix led to a full time position where she served for seven years. Following her husband’s death, she returned to the Midwest and accepted the position of Curator at the Rock County Historical Society in 1992. Her first big project was helping with the 1.1 million dollar restoration of the Lincoln-Tallman House. Laurel moved to the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland for one year, then returned to the RCHS in 2006 where she has been for the past 11 years. Her plans for retirement include reading, writing and family genealogy in a much warmer climate than Wisconsin. Congratulations Laurel on a well-deserved retirement!
Midwest Registrars Committee

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WISCONSIN
Open
Contact Andrew Near, Chair, if you’re interested in serving!
The Midwest Registrars Committee formed in 1978 to provide a forum for the exchange of information and methods among museum collections professionals and registrars in the Midwest region. The MRC fulfills this objective by promoting an atmosphere of mutual aid and cooperation and by promoting professional practices to benefit colleagues, the museum community, and members.

The MRC is affiliated with the Registrars Committee of the American Alliance of Museums (RC-AAM) and the Association of Midwest Museums (AMM).

Who can join?
Voting membership in the Midwest Registrars Committee is open to those museum personnel who support the objectives of the MRC and who reside in the Midwest region, including:

- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- Ohio
- Wisconsin

You don’t have to be a registrar! Collections managers, curators, volunteers, administrators, conservators, corporate registrars, students, or other collections care professionals are encouraged to join.

A non-voting membership is available for individuals who are associated with for-profit organizations such as shipping companies, customs brokers, insurance firms, and other suppliers of materials and services, and individuals who reside outside of the Midwest region.

Benefits of membership
- The Courier, MRC’s quarterly newsletter
- Funding assistance for state workshops
- Professional network
- Workshops
- Travel stipends to attend annual AMM Conference
- Membership directory

Membership fees
- Annual dues are $10.00 per year
- The membership period covers the calendar year (January 1 - December 31)
- Make checks payable to:
  Midwest Registrars Committee

Membership form
Date: ______________________
Name: ______________________
Position: ______________________
Institution: ______________________
Address: ______________________
City/State/Zip: ______________________
Phone/fax: ______________________
Email: ______________________

☐ New (voting $10)
☐ Renewal (voting $10)
☐ New (non-voting $10)
☐ Renewal (non-voting $10)

Make a difference!
Your active participation ensures the ongoing success of the MRC programs and activities. Please check the areas in which you would like to get involved:

☐ State representative
☐ Newsletter
☐ Programs/annual meeting
☐ Fundraising
☐ Membership

NEW FOR 2013—Renew and pay online!
Follow these two steps to renew your membership electronically:

1. Simply fill out this PDF form and e-mail it to: MRCDues@gmail.com
2. To pay for your MRC dues via PayPal, login to your account, click "Send Money", and send your dues to: MRCDues@gmail.com

-OR-

Send paper application and payment to:
Tamara R. Lange
Curator of Collections & Exhibits
Sheboygan County Historical Society & Museum
3110 Erie Avenue
Sheboygan, WI 53081