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MAC Newsletter MIDWEST ARCHIVES CONFERENCE



Preserving the Documents of the Past and Making Them Accessible to the Future!

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DEADLINE!

MAC Distinguished Service Award

In the fall of 1996, MAC Council approved a new award, the Distinguished Service Award. This award is to recognize significant contributions to the Conference and to the archival profession in the Midwest by individual members of MAC. Now, we all know many MACers who easily can be nominated for this award! But just in case you need more details, more specific information on the award follows.

To be eligible, the nominee must have been an individual member of MAC for at least five years, but not necessarily

(Continued on page 3)



Chicago-based Ameritech today uses computerized switching to speed the connection of phone calls. In 1929, Illinois Bell, a predecessor company, used messengers on roller skates and switchboard operators to handle this function.

Photo Courtesy of Ameritech Corporate Archives

In This Issue...

President's Page	. 2
MAC News	. 3
Treasurer's Report	. 8
Archival Resources On The World Wide Web	10
News From The Midwest	14
Current Issues	17
People And Posts	23
Regionalia	24
Other News	25
Job Announcement	29

Spring 1998 MAC Meeting Is Set for Chicago!

Beginning its second century, the Midwest Archives Conference will hold its annual spring meeting at the Midland Hotel in Chicago from April 30 to May 2, 1998. The Local Arrangements Committee has lined up tours at different types of archival facilities, including a university, a religious archives, a museum, and a music center. In addition, a great reception is planned for Thursday night in the ballroom at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, which overlooks Michigan Avenue at Grant Park. Also, an exhibit area will feature vendors from various archival suppliers, so be sure to check them out and patronize those who help support MAC. Those who are new to MAC will benefit from the new members' breakfast, allowing them to interact and ask questions. The Local Arrangements Committee hopes to see a lot of people attend the conference and take full advantage of all that Chicago has to offer.

After departing from the traditional session format at the 1997 MAC meetings, the spring 1998 meeting will return to the traditional pattern. However, the "tried and true" mix of sessions and workshops includes great variety, both in

(Continued on page 3)

RESIDENTIAL ARCHIVES CLUB By Rebecca Brady and Danielle DuCharme **Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy**

Submitted by Marti Guarin Charter Librarian & Archivist **Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy** Aurora, Illinois

In this day and age, there is a perception that acts of student initiative are rare occurrences and even rarer in the world of archives. In our residential high school, the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (IMSA), we are given the opportunity to expand upon our interests and take the initiative to be leaders. We have taken this opportunity to form our own organization, the Residential Archives Club (RAC).

This club, founded in 1996, serves as a chance for students to contribute pictures, flyers, videos, and any other archival materials representing the residential aspect of our unique high school environment. These materials will be used for class reunions, school videos, or other projects. There are seven halls at IMSA, each with four wings, every wing containing 24 students. Students can join the RAC as respective wing representatives.

In our first year, 30 students signed up to join the RAC, but only six members contributed materials. Now in our second year, the RAC has expanded greatly. Not only do we have more wings participating, but more students per wing are donating to the Archives. In addition to wing representation, RAC has archives boxes from each of the halls collectively.

Because of our initiative to lead an interest in archives, we will now have records about the residential side of our school. As of two years ago, the IMSA archives organization mostly contained records of the programs and finances of the Academy. Students make IMSA what it truly is and that is why we feel our club is important in the balance of the archives of our school.

[Dani and Becca are members of the Class of 1998].



Upcoming MAC Meeting Sites and Dates:

Chicago, Illinois April 30-May 2, 1998

Ann Arbor, Michigan October 15-18, 1998



Deadline For The Next MAC Newsletter Is May 15, 1998.

Items should be sent to:

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