

Marvin & Sybil Weiner Spirit of America Collection Report on Activities

Fall Semester 2012

Instruction and Tours

- Vicky presented materials from the Weiner Collection that focused on the American and French Revolutions to 18 students from Dr. Block's Senior Seminar –Special Topics (HIS 4935), American Revolution in Atlantic Context. Bebe and Teresa assisted.
- Vicky co-taught with John Cutrone Dr. Leader's Art Appreciation (ARH 2000) class and highlighted items from Special Collections and the Weiner Collection that focused on electoral politics and race.
- Vicky, Teresa, and Bebe conducted six tours of the Weiner suite for Dr. Engle's U.S. History to 1877 (AMH 2010) class. The tours were conducted September 12 – October 1, 2012.
- Vicky gave a tour to Dr. Engle's class, Introduction to Historical Study (HIS 3150) of the Weiner suite. Items from the collection were highlighted and she gave a presentation on primary documents. Teresa and Bebe assisted.
- Vicky conducted a tour of the Weiner suite for 15 students from the Architecture SLS class. Bebe and Teresa assisted.
- Rita and Teresa gave Dr. Ken Goings a tour of the "Pamphleteer in America" exhibit, the Weiner posters, and the Weiner Suite. Dr. Goings is a professor of history from Ohio State and was conducting an external review of the FAU Department of History.
- Vicky gave a tour of "Pamphleteer in America" and the Weiner suite to ten students from the Sha'arei Bina Torah Academy for Girls. She highlighted material from the Weiner Collection and discussed primary source materials.
- Vicky gave a tour of "Pamphleteer in America" and the Weiner suite to seventeen 5th graders from Glades Christian Academy. She highlighted material from the Weiner Collection and discussed primary source materials.
- Vicky gave a tour of "Pamphleteer in America" to Dani Weiner, Marvin and Sybil Weiner's granddaughter.
- Vicky taught Dr. Sandra Norman's class (12 students) Introduction to Public History (HIS 4065). Students mounted four exhibits using Weiner materials. The student's work was on display until the end of November, 2012.
- Vicky gave a tour to Lyn LaVigne's SLS class (19 students) of the Weiner suite and highlighted items from the collection.

- Vicky gave a presentation and tour of the Weiner Collection using items that focused on the American Revolution and the Founding Fathers to 15 homeschoolers.
- Vicky and Teresa assisted Dr. Miller with a tour of the Weiner Collection for Barbara Ashbrook of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).
- Assisted eight students with research in the Weiner Collection.

Organization

- Six wood cabinets were moved to the Weiner Suite and office to display the bound journals from the collection.
- Received a donation of 590 Revolutionary era letters and manuscripts from the Weiner family. Vicky and Teresa completed an inventory of the items. Vicky, Terri and Teresa met with David Miller, the appraiser, to discuss the inventory and some discrepancies that were found. Those issues were reconciled and staff is now re-housing the material archival folders.
- Vicky assisted Terri with photographing the Weiner Family donation.
- The finding aid for the [*Pennsylvania Chronicle and Universal Advertiser* was completed.](#)
- Technical Services continues to catalog books from the Weiner Collection. The current total is 1,400.

Outreach and Events

- The "[Pamphleteer in America](#)" exhibit was mounted by Vicky, Teresa, Elizabeth, and Bebe in the library's lobby from August through September, 2012. An article about the exhibit ran in the Sunday *Sun-Sentinel* and was picked up by the *Orlando Sentinel*
http://www.sun-sentinel.com/entertainment/fl-historic-pamphlets-fau-exhibition-20120831_0,3810326.story
http://articles.orlandosentinel.com/2012-08-31/news/fl-historic-pamphlets-fau-exhibition-20120831_1_pamphlets-marvin-weiner-18th-century
- Mounted displays of Benjamin Franklin from the Weiner Collection, the K. Frank Korf Papers, and the Harold Glasser Collection in the Weiner suite.
- Undergraduate student intern, Patrick Dempsey, completed a replica display of materials from the Weiner Collection.
- The History Graduate Open House took place on October 12th from 3-5pm. Vicky spoke about the Glasser, Korf, Kersey, Weiner, and FAU exhibits in the Weiner suite. The suite was open for the 68 attendees to view the exhibits.
- Vicky created a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the Weiner Collection.
- Dr. Miller and Vicky gave a presentation on the Weiner Collection on October 18th at the Boca Raton Public Library (BRPL) that coincided with the 2012 Presidential Debate held at Lynn University. Materials from the American Revolutionary period and early American government were featured. Vicky gave an introduction to the Weiner Collection using the PowerPoint presentation and Dr. Miller discussed individual items that were on display.
- Rita, Vicky, and Teresa met with Julia Harris of the Division Research and Graduate College to discuss the significance of the Weiner Collection. She was hired to help write the articles that will appear in FAU's [2012 Division of Research Annual Report](#). The article is on page 35.
- Dr. Sandra Norman gave a presentation on the Weiner Collection using the PowerPoint presentation Vicky created at the Nova Southeastern University colloquium on November 10th.

- The Weiner study hall opened on September 18th for Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10am - 2pm during the Fall Semester. A total of 298 students used the space (220% increase from Spring Semester).
- Kate Dahlstrand, history graduate, began her internship processing Weiner pamphlets.

Environmental Control

- Draped the Weiner vault with plastic sheeting in preparation for tropical storm Isaac.
- Rita, Vicky, and Teresa had several conference calls with representatives from Onset regarding a new HOBO temperature and humidity monitoring system.

Spring Semester 2013

Instruction & Tours

- Vicky taught Dr. Leader's class, ARH 4371/ 18th & 19th Century Art using materials from the Weiner Collection (40 students attended). Teresa assisted.
- Vicky taught Dr. Ulin's class, LIT 5009/Strangers and Exiles in Modern Literature using the materials from the Weiner Collection (14 students attended). Teresa assisted.
- Vicky gave a presentation and tour of the "Lincoln and the Civil War" exhibit to Dr. Engle's class, HIS 4170/Civil War and Reconstruction (46 students attended).
- Vicky taught Dr. Taylor Hagood's class, Colonial and Early American Literature (AML 4213), using primary documents from the Weiner Collection (29 students attended). Teresa assisted.
- 55 eighth grade students and 3 chaperones from Henderson School visited the 5th floor. They viewed a DVD about Abraham Lincoln, Steve Engle gave a brief talk, and Vicky gave a tour of the "Lincoln and the Civil War" exhibit.
- Teresa gave a tour of the Weiner suite/Civil War exhibit to a prospective FAU student and her mother.
- 46 students from Dr. Sandra's Norman's class, United States History to 1877 (AMH 2010), toured the exhibit.
- Vicky gave a tour of the Civil War exhibit to 14 members of Advent Square Senior living community, plus 2 nurses and Activities Director, Diana Goldman.
- 17 individual tours were given of the Civil War exhibit. They included students, staff, faculty and the general public.
- Assisted 19 students with research in the Weiner Collection.

Organization

- Student intern, Tara Hagan, re-housed the Weiner family donation of Revolutionary era documents in archival folders to stabilize the material. Vicky is currently processing the donation.
- Vicky created two online galleries:
 - [Pamphleteer in America](#)
 - [Lincoln and the Civil War Exhibition](#)

- Special Collections staff sorted and arranged 130 document boxes of pamphlets from the Weiner Collection. The pamphlets are arranged in the following series: Foreign Language, French Revolution, Letters, Speeches, Essays and Reports, Congressional, and British. Finding aids will be created for each series
- Ongoing shelf maintenance in the Weiner stacks.

Outreach and Events

- The "[Lincoln and American Civil War Exhibition](#)" ran from January 28th through April 12th. The exhibit included selected materials from the Weiner Collection and items on loan from local collector, Bob Matis. This exhibit was held in conjunction with the Larkin Symposium which took place on February 20-21, 2013. Special Collections staff inventoried the items, built the exhibit, and with the help of graduate assistant Kate Dahlgren wrote the case and item captions. Special Collections staff also staffed the exhibit during the opening reception for the Symposium. In addition to the exhibit cases in the Weiner suite, there was a display case of uniforms, clothing, and other personal items from the Civil War period on the 2nd floor.
- Vicky and Teresa wrote copy for The "Lincoln and American Civil War Exhibition" brochure.
- The Weiner Study Hall and the "Lincoln and American Civil War Exhibition" were open on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays, January 28th – March 27th. Hours for the exhibit were extended to April 12 by appointment only. 186 students (excluding instructional classes), staff, and general public visited during this time.
- FAU's TV program "Owl Off" filmed a segment of the program in the Weiner suite.
- Teresa and Vicky staffed the exhibit area during the Larkin Symposium reception for the VIP attendees on February 20th.
- Vicky, Leslie, and Teresa staffed the reception in the Weiner suite following the Lifelong Learning event, "Our Revolutionary Fathers and the Documents that Shaped Them." The Civil War exhibit was open and a few display cases were switched out to include Weiner materials. The reception was hosted by the Weiner family.
- Rita wrote a letter of support for Dr. Kristen Block who is seeking a grant from the QEP's "Distinction Through Discovery Curriculum Grant Program." Dr. Block would like students in her Historical Methods (HIS3150) class to perform research in the Weiner Collection and present their findings at an end of the year public forum.

Environmental

- Rita, Vicky, Adit, and Teresa met at FAU with Onset representatives to discuss the HOBO temperature and humidity monitoring system. The library purchased one unit for the Weiner stacks and one for the Special Collections Department. New digital units are being considered for other areas of Special Collections.
- The 5th floor suite was vacuumed which rid the area of the last remnants of hay; Terminix sprayed the area.

Summer Semester 2013

Instruction and Tours

- Vicky and Teresa are giving tours of the Weiner suite to Dr. Engle's class United States History to 1877 (AMH 2010) on Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout Summer Term A.

Organization

- Two history student interns are working on the Weiner pamphlet project.
- Weiner pamphlets: Rick, Teresa, and Rita have re-housed and titled five series of pamphlets: Speeches, Foreign language, French Revolution, Letters, and Essays and Reports. The two student interns have completed entering the metadata for the foreign language pamphlets. The [Foreign Language](#) series has been uploaded into Archon.

Outreach and Events

- Dr. Miller, Rita, Terri, Aaron, Vicky, and Teresa met to discuss ideas for an exhibit to accompany the "Spirit of America Festival: A Celebration of Music and Culture" event that will take place in June 2014.

Environmental

- Dave Risley of Mica Products and Wood repaired the acrylic tops for the display cases and touched up some scratches in the wood grain in the Weiner suite.

Expected Projects (Fall 2013 and Spring 2014)

- Continue to monitor environmental conditions.
- Perform walkthroughs after every event to ensure no foreign materials are present.
- History graduate student intern, Kiel Kinsella, will be working with us in the fall on the Weiner pamphlet project.
- The exhibit, "Printing and the Mind of Man" will feature material from the Weiner Collection. It will be mounted in the library's lobby and will run from August 23 – October 4, 2013.
- Weiner Suite will host the annual Fall History Department reception on October 11, 2013.