



Above: fashion show by Colonial Williamsburg interpreters; Top and bottom left: A livery costume and an embroidered silk dress in the Williamsburg costume shop—in progress.

## Highlights from the Fall 2008 Symposium

The 2008 annual Southeastern Region symposium was held in Williamsburg, Virginia, the weekend of October 31 – November 2 and was a great success. As the symposium commenced, the weather was fantastic and the trees were at their magnificent fall color peak. Pre-symposium activities included an opportunity to attend interesting and insightful behind-the-scenes tours of the Colonial Williamsburg costume shop, television studio, and conservation workshop. Our guides provided a wonderful interactive experience that truly enlightened those in attendance on the amount of time and handwork that goes into the thousands of costumes worn by interpreters, the careful and precise preservation and restoration, as well as the process of preparing textiles and costumes for exhibition in the museums, and the television programs created as educational tools. Symposium attendees were also treated to a fashion show of garments worn by Colonial Williamsburg interpreters. In addition, the silent auction was not only fun, but very successful, netting over \$2000 to support our region's programs for students!

### ***In this issue:***

- Fall Symposium Highlights
- President's Message
- List of Officers and Board Members
- Current Regional Exhibitions and Programs
- Fall 2009 Symposium News
- Regional News
- New Online Networking and Feedback

# President's Message

Dear Southeastern CSA Members:



Has it really been five months since 90 CSA members gathered in Williamsburg for the regional symposium? From the pre-conference sessions, research papers, and Quilted Fashions exhibition to the fashion shows, silent auction, camaraderie, and post-symposium tours, it was three days of costume bliss. Hats off to organizers Doris Warren, Brenda Rousseau, Janea Whitacre, Tric Wesp, and Chris Daley; to the host committee and volunteers; and to the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, the College of William and Mary, and the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation for hosting a truly memorable event!

On behalf of our membership, I want to extend another big thank you to Diane Leggett, our outgoing President, for four years of thoughtful leadership. With her generous spirit, Diane sustained the Southeastern region while challenging members to give back to CSA. As Past President she will continue to serve the region (and, thankfully, guide me) for the next two years.

Whether we're in an academic, non-profit, or business realm, the current economic climate is affecting us all. Increased financial pressures and responsibilities demand resourcefulness and flexibility at every turn.

One way the Southeastern region is responding is by distributing this newsletter electronically to most of our members. Not only will this shift reduce expenses, it also creates a convenient tool for promoting CSA and its activities. Why not forward this today to three potential members? It only takes a few minutes to click "forward" and write a quick note of introduction. Together we can grow CSA!

CSA is your organization and we appreciate your feedback. Please don't hesitate to contact me or any other officer or board member with suggestions for keeping CSA relevant and extending our reach. Meanwhile, be sure to mark your calendars now to attend the Fredericksburg symposium from October 22 – 25, 2009, which will feature a keynote address by CSA Fellow Patricia Campbell Warner.

Susan Neill  
*President, Southeastern Region*

Email: [sneill@atlantahistorycenter.com](mailto:sneill@atlantahistorycenter.com)

Tel: (404) 814-4059

## CSA Southeastern Region Officers and Board Members

Susan Neill  
*President, 2008-2010*

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*Vice President, 2008-2010*

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*Secretary, 2008-2010*

Patricia Hunt-Hurst  
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*Past President, 2008-2010*

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*Board, 2008-2010*

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*Board, Membership Chair, 2008-2010*

Kim Miller-Spillman  
*Board, Jim Lile's Student Award Chair,  
2008-2009*

Pam Stewart  
*Board, 2008-2010*

Ruth Truett  
*Board, Nominations Chair, 2005-2009*

Holly Alford  
*Mini-Meeting Chair*

Katherine Winters  
*Newsletter Editor*

Newbie Richardson  
*Preserving Our Past Chair*

Janea Whitacre  
*Professional Development Award Chair*

Joyce Donley  
*Website Liaison*

Colleen Callahan  
*2009 Southeastern Symposium Chair,  
Fredericksburg, VA*

# Current Regional Exhibitions and Programs:

## Mint Museum of Craft and Design, Charlotte, North Carolina

### “American Quilt Classics, 1800-1980: The Bresler Collection”

For many years, Fleur and Charles Bresler have collected American quilts. Visual impact, historical value, pictorial imagery, and historical fabric have guided them in assembling their important and outstanding collection. In 2001, the Breslers gifted 36 quilts to the Mint Museum of Craft + Design. “American Quilt Classics” celebrates this gift, which features rare and outstanding examples of Baltimore Album and Warner quilts, crazy quilts, Amish quilts, log cabin quilts, and Chintz pictorial quilts. Through Feb. 28, 2010.

### “The Art of Affluence: Haute Couture and Luxury Fashions, 1947 - 2007”

This exhibit presents selections from the Museum’s holdings of haute couture and luxury garments complimented by fashion accessories that reflect the creativity of numerous fashion designers of the second half of the twentieth century and first years of the twenty-first century. Top couturiers and designers featured include Gabrielle Chanel, Christian Dior, Pierre Balmain, Cristobal Balenciaga, Elsa Schiaparelli, Valentino, Hubert de Givenchy, Guy Laroche, Jean Patou, Yves Saint Laurent, Arnold Scaasi, Gianni Versace, Mary McFadden, John Galliano, Manolo Blahnik, Gucci, Christian Louboutin, Giorgio Armani, Emanuelle Ungaro, and Chado Ralph Rucci, among others. Through May 2.

For details visit: <http://www.mintmuseum.org/exhibitions.html> or call: (704) 337-2000.

## Museum of Design Atlanta, Atlanta, Georgia “In the Bag”

This exhibit explores the origin, evolution, and design of the handbag, showcasing top bags from the Friends and Sex and the City sets, local designers and leading designers including Jada Loveless, Marc Jacobs, and Hermes. The development, construction, and the works of leading designers are displayed within categories that highlight the handbag’s emotional significance, iconic status and societal role. The exhibit concludes with handbags designed by students in the Master of Accessories Design programs from the Domus Academy in Milan, Italy, and the Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia.  
*Through May 2.*

For details visit: <http://www.museumofdesign.org/#exhibitions> call (404) 979-6455

## History Live! Sheep to Shawl at the Atlanta History Center, Atlanta, Georgia

*Saturday, April 11, 2009*

As the weather warms up, our sheep at Tullie Smith Farm are ready to shed their heavy coats. See as the sheep’s wool is washed, carded, spun, dyed, and woven into a beautiful shawl. Take a tour of the 1860 Tullie Smith Farm house and learn about nineteenth-century farm life with demonstrations of blacksmithing, candle dipping, and open hearth cooking in our detached kitchen. Listen to old time music as you tour the gardens. Girl Scouts can purchase a special patch at this event.

For details visit [AtlantaHistoryCenter.com](http://AtlantaHistoryCenter.com) or call (404) 814.4000

## Barrow Hall Gallery, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia

Dr. Jose Blanco and students from his World Textiles class at the University of Georgia have installed an exhibit of African fabrics and adornment representing Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, and Ghana.

The exhibit is open to the public from 9:00 -5:00 Monday-Friday. For details call: (706) 542-4888 or 4891

## Virginia Quilt Museum, Harrisonburg, Virginia “Floral Abundance”

This exhibition includes floral appliqué from the Old Dominion Appliqué Society and also features a series of “Do Not Touch” quilts from the Shenandoah Valley Quilts Guild. *Through June 20, 2009.*

For details visit: <http://www.vaquiltmuseum.org/> or call (540) 433-3818

## The Presbytere at the Louisiana State Museum, New Orleans, Louisiana “From Tramps to Kings: 100 Years of Zulu”

This exhibit features 100 plus seldom-seen treasures loaned by Zulu members, and artifacts from other collections, presenting Zulu’s history in parallel with the wider struggle by the city’s African-Americans against discrimination. The origins and development of the comic parade characters are explored in photographs and personal memorabilia; also featured are rare sound recordings and a personal letter by Louis Armstrong describing his historic reign as Zulu King in 1949.

“Celebrating Zulu 100 Years,” is a gala benefit for the Louisiana State Museum Foundation and community charities supported by the Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club (Spring 2009).

For details visit: <http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/zulu/> or contact Wayne Phillips at (504) 568-2475.

Costume worn by Desirée Glapion Rogers as Queen Zulu 2000. Rogers today serves as the social secretary under President Barack Obama. From the collection of the Louisiana State Museum, New Orleans.

Related article: <http://travel.nytimes.com/2009/02/13/travel/escapes/13Zulu.html>

# Don't miss these great exhibitions in Colonial Williamsburg:

## Captured Colors: Four Battleflags of the American Revolution



This special exhibition provides an extraordinary opportunity to see four rare and prized battle flags of the American Revolution. They have returned to America more than 225 years after being taken to British soil as trophies of war. The flags

were captured by British cavalry officer Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton in two battles nearly a year apart. They remained in the Tarleton family's possession until their sale at auction in 2006. Three of the flags represent the 3rd Virginia Detachment led by Colonel Abraham Buford, and the fourth was captured in 1779 when Tarleton led his unit in a surprise attack on the Continental Army's 2nd Light Dragoons.

*Through July 19, 2009.*

## Quilted Fashions

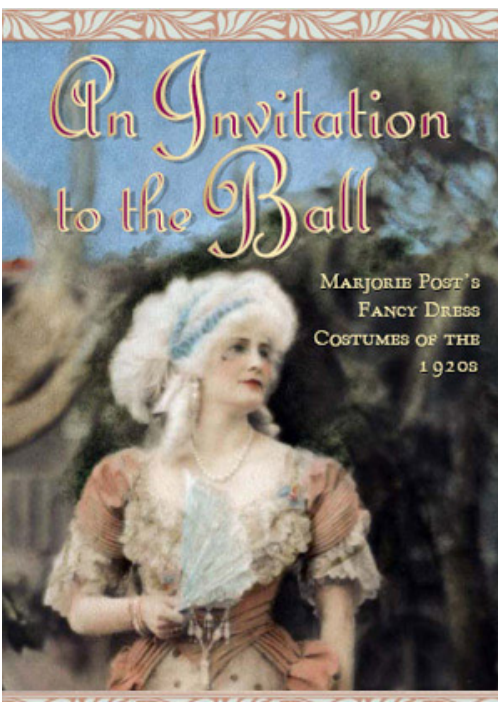
This exhibition explores the use of quilting to decorate bed coverings, clothing, and accessories of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. See detailed drawings of elaborate quilting patterns that often are obscured by the technique's subtlety. Stomachers and petticoats worn with costly gowns, men's elaborate waistcoats, and counterpanes on the finest beds all are featured.

*Through February 2010.*



*And just a quick trip across the Potomac River...*

## Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens, Washington, DC "An Invitation to the Ball: Marjorie Post's Fancy Dress Costumes of the 1920s"



Four elaborate costumes created for Marjorie Merriweather Post (then Mrs. E.F. Hutton) for the legendary costume balls of the 1920s, will be on view together for the first time in the exhibition "An Invitation to the Ball: Marjorie Merriweather Post's Fancy Dress Costumes of the 1920s." Part of the extraordinary collection of apparel and accessories once belonging to Post, this assemblage of costumes marks the first exhibition at Hillwood to focus on the personal items that she acquired and maintained with the hope that they be shared with the public. Including archival and reproduction images and documents, newspaper clippings, invitations, and correspondence, "An Invitation to the Ball" will reveal a personal side of Hillwood's founder and offer visitors an escape to a storied time of opulence and exuberance. *Through July 12, 2009.*

For details visit: <http://www.hillwoodmuseum.org/> or call (202) 686.5807  
Related article: <http://gazette.gmu.edu/articles/13288/print>

# Calls for Papers:

## 2009 CSA Southeastern Region Symposium & Annual Meeting — Call for papers

The Southeastern Region's symposium offers an opportunity for CSA members to present research on a variety of topics related to the theme: Past, Present, & Future: Costume Across the Centuries. The symposium's broad theme is designed to attract research papers and research exhibits from all areas of costume studies.

RESEARCH PAPERS are oral presentations of no more than 20 minutes in length.

RESEARCH EXHIBITS will be displayed for approximately 2 hours.

### PAPER ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DETAILS:

- Please designate if your abstract is for a research paper or exhibition (or can be presented in either format)
- The abstract must be no more than 575 words, excluding bibliography, captions and footnotes
- The abstract may include up to 3 pertinent images
- In addition to discussing the research topic, research exhibit abstracts should briefly describe the exhibit format, i.e.: traditional poster, 3-dimensional objects, lap-top presentation, mannequins, etc.
- All abstracts are to be submitted electronically with the author's name, title/affiliation (if applicable), address, email, phone number, and paper title appearing only on the cover page
- Abstracts are due by midnight July 10, 2009 to Frances Burroughs at [fburroughs@cwf.org](mailto:fburroughs@cwf.org). Upon receipt of your submission you will be notified by return email that it has been received
- Submitters will be notified of the jury's decision by July 31, 2009
- You must be a member of the Costume Society to present.

For questions or more information on abstract submission, contact Frances Burroughs, [fburroughs@cwf.org](mailto:fburroughs@cwf.org) or call (757) 565-8791.

See [www.costumesocietyamerica.com](http://www.costumesocietyamerica.com) for membership information.

## Costume Society of America Southeastern Region Symposium — Call for Student Papers

Fredericksburg, VA \* October 22 - 25, 2009

The Jim Liles Student Award Committee is soliciting student presentations to be delivered at the Southeastern Region Symposium. These presentations may be on any costume related topic. The work should be well researched and may or may not be thesis, dissertation, course research project, independent study research, or senior project related. Up to TWO students whose papers are accepted will receive up to \$500 each to cover travel and other related expenses. Registration for the symposium will be included in the \$500 amount for award recipients.

### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- 1) Email a 2-3 page abstract, double-spaced, including select bibliography and up to one image to: [kspill@uky.edu](mailto:kspill@uky.edu)
- 2) Include a cover page listing title, author, address, phone number, email address, university or college affiliation, and faculty advisor
- 3) Abstracts will be judged on clarity, objectives, evidence of thorough research, and significance
- 4) Deadline for submission is midnight on August 24, 2009
- 5) To be considered for this award student presenters must be CSA members
- 6) Papers accepted for presentation should be approximately 10 pages in length (20 minute time limit)
- 7) Students who submit papers to the general call for 20 minute papers will also be considered for this award
- 8) All submitters will be notified on or before September 21, 2009

Questions may be directed to:

Kim Miller-Spillman, 859-257-7779, or [kspill@uky.edu](mailto:kspill@uky.edu)

Or go to the Costume Society of America website: <http://www.costumesocietyamerica.com>

# News about the Upcoming Symposium

“Past, Present, & Future: Costume Across the Centuries”  
 2009 CSA Southeastern Region Symposium & Annual Meeting  
 Thursday, October 22nd to Sunday, October 25, 2009  
 Fredericksburg, Virginia

Save the dates of Thursday, October 22 through Sunday, October 25, 2009! The CSA Southeastern Region is pleased to announce its upcoming Symposium and Annual Meeting in charming Fredericksburg, Virginia. An exhibition at the James Monroe Museum of recently conserved clothing worn by President Monroe and his family will be the centerpiece of the symposium. Other highlights include:

- Juried papers—any costume-related topic is welcome for submission—See Call for Papers
- Keynote lecture by Patricia Campbell Warner, speaking on *Period Dress in the Movies: A Century of Misinformation*. Dr. Warner has lectured on dress and the movies for many years and it is the topic of the book she is currently writing. She is a CSA Fellow and author of *When the Girls Came out to Play: The Birth of American Sportswear*
- Pre- and post-symposium tours to local historic sites
- Silent auction—not only was the 2008 silent auction great fun, but it raised over \$2000 to support our region’s programs for students
- A new hands-on format for the Preserving Our Past workshop—see description below
- Plenty of opportunities to network at receptions, lunches, and dinners
- Special presentations and a surprise or two

For further information, please contact symposium chair Colleen Callahan, 804-261-4998 or [jette\\_2@msn.com](mailto:jette_2@msn.com).

## 2009 Preserving Our Past: Hands-On Workshop

Participants of previous Preserving Our Past workshops have expressed interest in having a more hands-on experience. Once again CSA’s Southeastern Region is in the vanguard by devising a new type of workshop that will provide participants with hands-on experience and will also support the collection at a small historical society.

Newbie Richardson and Colleen Callahan will oversee the workshop which will take place on Friday, October 23 at the Spotsylvania County Museum, near Fredericksburg. Up to ten participants will work on stabilizing several garments and mounting them for exhibition using appropriate cleaning, vacuuming, sewing conservation, and dressing techniques.

This format combines the Preserving Our Past workshop with the popular volunteer Angels Projects that aid costume collections at institutions near the site of the each national CSA symposium. There will be no charge to participants for this workshop, though they will need to be in Fredericksburg by Thursday night, October 22.

Participants will formally sign up for the workshop on the symposium registration form that will be mailed in late summer. However, because we would like to gauge the interest in this concept, if you think you might like to participate, please contact Newbie Richardson at 571-224-5641 or [pastcrafts@verizon.net](mailto:pastcrafts@verizon.net) by May 15, 2009.

# Regional News...

## OPPORTUNITY TO KNOW CSA BETTER

Contribute to something important to you; build relationships with other people working in costume collection, research, and education. Give back to your profession! Where could you find a better deal all in one place?

Present your brief resume and/or recommend another member who would enjoy learning and sharing costume concerns while advancing collegial relationships. Three board members will be elected and installed at the Southeastern Annual Meeting at the Fredricksburg meeting, October 2009. Take the risk! Nominations are due by June 30.

Write to Ruth Truett, Nomination Chair at 5708 9th Ave. S., Birmingham, Alabama 35212  
Email: rtruett@hiwaay.net

The board meets at the annual meeting and by calls and mail as needed. This is not a call for officers as they were put in place in October 2008. Offer yourself for election to the board. I served on the board for the last two years and it was fun and rewarding. I recommend it to you.

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## University of Georgia students to study abroad in China

The Department of Textiles, Merchandising, and Interiors at the University of Georgia will have its first study abroad program to China this May. Fourteen students and two faculty members (Patricia Hunt-Hurst and Charles Gilbert) will be visiting apparel and retailing businesses in Hong Kong, Nanjing, Shanghai, and Beijing. They will also visit the Great Wall, Forbidden City, the Shanghai Museum, and the Museum of Ethnic Costumes at the Beijing Institute of Clothing Technology.

## And the answer is...

Do you have a good costume or textile-related trivia question? The Local Arrangements Committee is dreaming up a "game show" as part of the entertainment for the October Regional Meeting. This is currently in the research and development stages. The entertainment will have the flavor of "Jeopardy", the fun of "The Price is Right" and the tension of "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" In order for this idea to go forward we need QUESTIONS! Any aspect of costume is invited!

So, we ask our fellow costume lovers to think deep, and send questions, with their answers, documentation and your name to Janea Whitacre at [jwhitacre@cwf.org](mailto:jwhitacre@cwf.org)

## First Ladies Collection Reopens



Associated Press: Helen Taft's 1909 inaugural ball gown

## Smithsonian National Museum of American History, Washington, DC

The First Ladies exhibition has reopened. Showcasing premier objects from the nearly century-old First Ladies Collection, this exhibition is divided into three main sections: the evolution of the First Ladies Collection, the tradition of the inaugural gown, and a first lady's contribution to the presidency and American society. On display are 14 dresses including those worn by Laura Bush, Grace Coolidge, Jackie Kennedy, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Helen Taft. The exhibition also features portraits, White House china, personal possessions, and related objects from the Smithsonian's unique collection of first ladies' materials. For details visit: <http://americanhistory.si.edu/exhibitions/exhibition.cfm?key=38&exkey=1239>  
Or call (202) 633-1000



Costume Society of America  
*Education • Research • Preservation • Design*

Costume Society of America  
Southeastern Region

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## Networking and Feedback:



Are you interested in networking with those in the field more often than just at the annual symposiums and mini-meetings? Are you a member of Facebook? Would you like to join a professional (and fun!) network of fashion and textile historians where

you can discuss and post information about costume and textile related topics, new digital collections online, find out about exhibitions, publications, symposia, and other related goings on? Search for and join the group "Fashion Historians Unite!" and enjoy getting to know your peers from all over the world!

In addition, there is another group page on Facebook geared towards museum professionals. It is called "**Museum Professionals Unite Across Facebook**". It has many great links for institutions, jobs and resources, and a membership of over 5,000 people. Posts include information regarding jobs, conferences, current events, and/or any other subjects vaguely related to museums/collecting institutions. It's like a listserv, but on a social networking site! Talk about a network! Check it out!

Please note that the deadline for article and news submissions for the Fall newsletter is August 30. Please don't hesitate to send along anything you wish to share. Links, online articles, and anything pertinent to our region is appreciated. Pictures are also highly encouraged. Please send me any feedback about this newsletter format. I look forward to seeing how we can grow and prosper!

Katherine M. Winters, Newsletter Editor  
Email: [kwinters@atlantahistorycenter.com](mailto:kwinters@atlantahistorycenter.com)  
Tel: 404-814-4045



Dress  
White organza, silk tulle, and feathers  
Rodarte, Spring 2007  
The Museum at FIT, 2007.13.1  
Photograph by Irving Solero

## New Online:

The Museum at FIT has put some of their collection online, check it out!

<http://fashionmuseum.fitnyc.edu/code/eMuseum.asp?lang=EN>