

**WESTERN NEW YORK ARCHIVISTS**  
**MINUTES OF OCTOBER 12, 2017 MEETING**  
**CANISIUS COLLEGE ARCHIVES, BUFFALO, NY**

**PRESENT:** Jessica Anderson-Rath, Heidi Bamford, Kathleen DeLaney, S. Nancy Kaczmarek, S. Mary Serbacki, Wanda Slawinska, S. Jean Thompson, S. Claire

**WELCOME:** Kathleen welcomed us to Canisius and we took time to introduce ourselves. We were happy to welcome S. Nancy Kaczmarek, GNSH, from D'Youville College who was joining us for the first time.

**BUSINESS:** After a few general announcements including a reminder of the upcoming MARAC Conference to be held in Buffalo at the Hyatt on October 26-28, we discussed topics for our next two gatherings.

Dan DiLandro will host us at Buffalo State College on January 11. We will have a general discussion on doing and keeping oral histories. The Buffalo State Archives has just finished a project with the oral histories done by previous archivist and WNYA member, S. Martin Joseph Jones. This will be the "centerpiece" of our discussion. Heidi indicated that she could bring some pertinent handouts and we will share information, questions, and suggestions based on our own experience with oral history projects.

S. Jane Muldoon will host the May 10 meeting at Our Lady of Victory. At this time it seems that we will share about what we are working on in our archives, any questions, suggestions, helpful hints, etc.

**DISCUSSION:** We had the opportunity to view the travelling exhibit, "Two Hundred Years on the Erie Canal. The panel exhibit covered four themes: Dreamers and Builders, Canal Culture, Yankee Ingenuity, and Moving Ideas.

We also had a rather wide-ranging conversation about what might happen to collections of religious congregations when the congregations merge, come to completion, etc. S. Mary mentioned the recent preliminary Zoom conference about the possibility/desirability of establishing a common Franciscan Third Order Regular (TOR) archives. Other common repositories are those recently established by the Sisters of Mercy and the School Sisters of Notre Dame. Other solutions might include acceptance of collections by local universities or historical societies. Many diocesan archives (including that of Buffalo) are not equipped to provide for such collections. This is an issue of concern nationally as well as locally where the records

of the former Providence Retreat (Daughters of Charity/Sisters Hospital) have been sent to St. Louis and the future of the archives of the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph in Hamburg is being determined. Kathleen wondered if this general issue might be the basis for a local or wider program dealing with the legal, ethical, canonical, and medical issues as well as access to historical records.

It was noted that one of our members, Chana Kotzin, is being honored by the Buffalo Jewish Federation for her work on the Jewish Buffalo Archives Project. She will be recognized at the 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Awards Reception of the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies to be held on October 18. Congratulations, Chana!

**NEXT MEETING:** January 11, 2018, 9:30-noon, Buffalo State College Archives, Elmwood Ave., Buffalo. (snow date January 18)

**REMINDER: CHECK OUT THE WNYA WEBSITE**

[www.archives.sbu.edu/wnya](http://www.archives.sbu.edu/wnya)