

# GODORT Connection

Welcome to our First Issue!

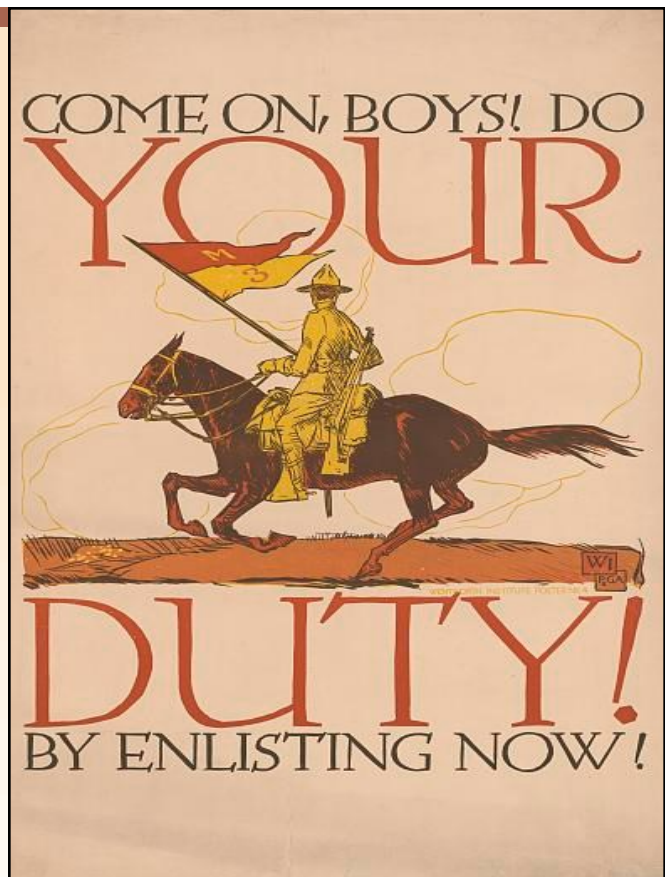
## Being the First...

It is always challenging being the first of anything. Anxieties experienced, decisions that have to be made, and the looming fear that this idea, this newsletter in our case, might not work out.

Yet, here we are. You are reading and we, the ALLA GODORT committee, are sharing. We are sharing with you information we think is interesting, challenging, and informative. We want you to know that Government Information is more than tax forms, rules and regulations. We want you to know there is so much about government documents and this wealth of free information beyond what you think you know.

In addition, the ALLA GODORT committee cannot exist without you. As you read our first newsletter and discover more about what we do, I hope you will think about what you could do if you joined with us. I also hope you will consider submitting something to our special little publication in the future.

Sincerely,  
Paula L. Webb



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## Officers



### Paula L. Webb, GODORT Moderator 2017 - 2018

Paula Lenor Webb, Government Documents Reference and Outreach Librarian at University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama, obtained her MLIS from the University of Alabama. Paula is a member of the Southeastern Library Association and Alabama Library Association. She has appeared in *College & Research Libraries News*, *College & Undergraduate Libraries*, *Computers in*

*Libraries*, *DttP*, *Mississippi Libraries and Serials Librarian*. Paula received 2011 Mover and Shaker Award and the 2012 ALLA CUS Research Award. In 2016, she edited the Mobile Genealogical Society publication, Mobile Mayor's Court Reports: 1865 and authored the History Press publication, Mobile Under Siege: Surviving the Union Blockade.

### Tim Dodge, GODORT Moderator—Elect 2017 - 2018

He has been employed at Auburn University Libraries since 1992 starting out as a government documents reference librarian. Since 2000 he has been serving as History and since 2008 as Political Science Subject Specialist in the Reference Department at Auburn. Tim held previous positions as a special collections librarian and archivist, serials librarian, and reference librarian at the University of New Hampshire (twice) and at Barry University (Miami, Fla.). Tim has held numerous offices in the Alabama Library Association including President (2004-2005)

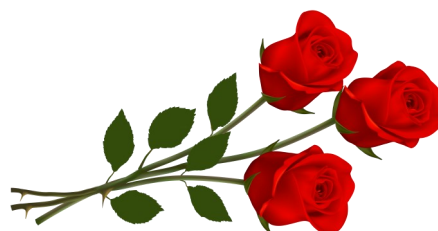
and Moderator-Elect and Moderator of GODORT in 1994-1996. He has also held numerous offices in the Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries including President (2000-2001 and 2008-2009), and is currently President-Elect of the Southeastern Library Association. Under the name Dr. Hepcat, Tim Dodge has hosted the Golden Oldies radio show on WEGL – Auburn FM 91.1 since May 1998. His radio career extends back to 1975, and Tim is the author of *The School of Arizona Dranes: Gospel Music Pioneer* (Lexington Books, 2013).



### Dr. Stephanie Rollins, GODORT Secretary 2017—2018

Dr. Stephanie Rollins is the Chief of Information Services at Muir S. Fairchild Research Information Center (MSFRIC). She is also an adjunct Digital Reference and Collection Development professor for the University of Alabama. Stephanie serves on both regional and state library

committees, and she has 22 years of experience in academic and special libraries. She holds a BA in English from Auburn University, a Master's Degree in Library Service and a Doctorate in Public Administration (both from the University of Alabama).



# Alexander Hamilton Papers Now Online

By Library of Congress

The Library of Congress has put the papers of Alexander Hamilton online for the first time in their original format.

The Library holds the world's largest collection of Hamilton papers—approximately 12,000 items concentrated from 1777 until Hamilton's death in 1804, including letters, legal papers and drafts of speeches and writings, among other items. Now, for the first time, these original documents—many in Hamilton's own hand—will be available for researchers, students or the generally curious anywhere in the world to explore, zoom in and read at [loc.gov/collections/alexander-hamilton-papers/](http://loc.gov/collections/alexander-hamilton-papers/).

"The Library of Congress is home to millions of one-of-a-kind manuscripts that reveal America's history directly from the minds of the individuals who helped shape it," said Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress. "Alexander Hamilton is certainly having his moment and I am so thrilled that people can learn more about him—actually read his descriptions of Revolutionary War battles, read letters to his wife, see the cross-outs in his draft of George Washington's farewell address and so many other things. Sharing this history is what the Library is all about."

Items in the collection include:

- A letter written when Hamilton was 12 or 13 to his friend Edward Stevens describing his wish to raise his station in life;
- The outline of Hamilton's speech at the Constitutional Convention;
- Hamilton's draft of George Washington's farewell address;
- His draft of the infamous Reynolds pamphlet;
- A letter to his wife, Eliza, written shortly before his fatal duel with Aaron Burr.

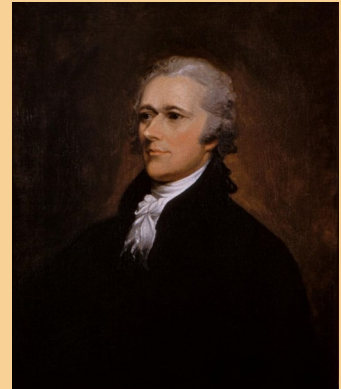
In addition, the Library recently acquired 55 items, previously privately held—mostly letters from Hamilton's powerful father-in-law, General Philip Schuyler, to him and his wife—that have also been digitized and made available for the first time. Most of these have never been published.

Congress appropriated \$20,000 in 1848 to buy the papers of Alexander Hamilton from his family, including his widow, Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton. The papers were originally housed at the U.S. Department of State and came to the Library in 1904, along with all the department's historical papers, at the direction of President Theodore Roosevelt.

The Library supplemented the collection over time with additional gifts and purchases. The papers cover almost every aspect of Hamilton's career and private life: growing up in St. Croix, as George Washington's aide-de-camp during the Revolutionary War, New York delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1787, the first U.S. treasury secretary, New York lawyer, and more.

The papers also include correspondence with and among members of his family, including his wife Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton, his sister-in-law Angelica Schuyler Church, and his father-in-law Philip Schuyler.

The Hamilton Papers are among collections newly available online during the past year. Others include the papers of U.S. Presidents Millard Fillmore, Franklin Pierce and William Henry Harrison; the papers of Sigmund Freud; a collection of more than 4,600 newspapers from Japanese-American internment camps; a collection of web-based comic books; and 25,000 fire insurance maps from communities across America, the first installment of 500,000 that will be accessible online.

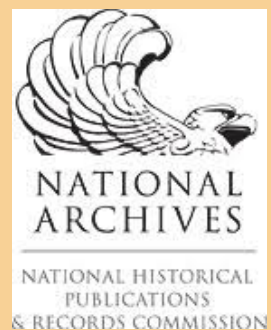


## Want to know more?

Alexander Hamilton Papers are just the beginning of a host of resources at the National Archives' Founders Online.

You can find papers from:

- Adams Papers—<https://founders.archives.gov/about/Adams>
- Benjamin Franklin Papers—<https://founders.archives.gov/about/Franklin>
- Thomas Jefferson Papers—<https://founders.archives.gov/about/Jefferson>
- James Madison Papers—<https://founders.archives.gov/about/Madison>
- George Washington Papers—<https://founders.archives.gov/about/Washington>





# Library of Congress National Jukebox

By Tim Dodge, Auburn University

## Want to know more?

Additional Federal Government  
Information on Sound Recordings:

1. Lomax Recordings: Iconic Song List. American Folklife Center, Library of Congress—<https://www.loc.gov/folklife/lomax/lomaxiconicsonglist.html>
2. Search Audio Recordings. Library of Congress—<https://www.loc.gov/audio/>
3. Audio and Ringtone. NASA.—<https://www.nasa.gov/connect/sounds/index.html>
4. Music for the Nation, American Sheet Music, ca. 1870 to 1885. Library of Congress.—<https://www.loc.gov/collections/american-sheet-music-1870-to-1885/about-this-collection/>
5. Historic Sheet Music Collection, 1800 to 1922, Library of Congress—<https://www.loc.gov/collections/historic-sheet-music/about-this-collection/>
6. World War I Sheet Music, Library of Congress.—<https://www.loc.gov/collections/world-war-i-sheet-music/about-this-collection/>



Little did the great inventor, Thomas Edison (1847-1931), realize when he demonstrated his hand-cranked phonograph to the staff of *Scientific American* in December 1877 that someday there would be an electronic resource making over 10,000 sound recordings freely available to anyone anywhere. Since 2011, the Library of Congress's National Jukebox (<http://www.loc.gov/jukebox/>) has been doing just that.

The National Jukebox is an amazing and delightful resource for the musicologist, the cultural historian, and anyone with an interest in early recorded music. The National Jukebox provides streaming access to over 10,000 sound recordings currently owned by Sony Music Entertainment that were originally issued by the Victor Talking Machine Company between 1901 and 1925. Plans for the future include making available recordings from the Columbia and Okeh record labels, also now owned by Sony.

Records made during this period used an acoustical rather than an electric recording process: singers and musicians sang or played in the direction of a recording horn. A diaphragm attached to the small end of the horn vibrated from the sound waves of the singers and instrument players causing an attached stylus to then etch grooves into a wax cylinder or flat disk rotating next to the stylus. With no microphones and no electricity, this purely mechanical acoustical form of recording produced a somewhat tinny sound. Certain sounds such as bass tones or guitar playing were sometimes just barely audible. Electrical recording was developed in 1924 and 1925 in response to the rise of radio which produced a superior sound and which could be amplified. Starting in 1925 Victor, Columbia, and Edison were the first companies to implement electrical recording. Despite the technological limitations of acoustical recording, many early recordings are quite accessible and enjoyable even to the modern listener accustomed to sophisticated electronic enhancements not possible a century ago. The first time this author heard the voice of famed Italian tenor Enrico Caruso (1873-1921) was on a wax cylinder from the early 1900's demonstrated by a couple whose collecting passion was very early wax cyl-

inder recordings. The beauty and power of Caruso's dramatic tenor voice came through very clearly.

Enrico Caruso is just one of thousands of artists ranging from famous to completely obscure whose recordings are freely available via The National Jukebox. To help the listener make sense of the musical riches available, the National Jukebox allows one to browse by the following categories: vocal (with links to recordings by each listed vocalist); language (dozens are available); place (primarily but not exclusively American cities); target audience (a fascinating and long list of links to linguistic/cultural groups; label (for now limited to just Victor and Victor Canada); date range (by decade); composer (100, many of them well-known classical composers but also some popular music composers); author (around 100 for spoken word recordings including William Shakespeare); lyricist (dozens for the many opera-related recordings); performer (18 theatre actors/performers); and genre (19 ranging from popular music to ethnic music, opera, blues, and yodeling, to name several). It is possible to browse by artist name or genre and it is also possible to conduct searches including advanced search.

Perhaps to help the overwhelmed first-time listener, the National Jukebox also features some interesting, if slightly eccentric selections such as Jukebox Day by Day which allows one to select a particular calendar day of the year allowing one to hear a recording made on, for example, one's birthday date between the years 1901 and 1925. The Playlists of Recordings link currently features 13 playlists compiled by L.C. curators and others featuring about a dozen records each with themes such as Early Tin Pan Alley, Songs by Irving Berlin, and Temperance and Prohibition.

The Library of Congress National Jukebox provides a fascinating acoustical window to a much different time from ours. Both for the scholar and the more casual listener, this government information resource provides an amazing and freely available cultural treasure.



# Got 5 Minutes? 5 Government Sites Your Patrons Can't Live Without

By Dr. Stephanie Rollins, Air University

## **American FactFinder**

<https://www.factfinder.census.gov/>

Interactive, searchable database that retrieves population, housing, industry and business statistics from the U. S. Census. Provides data for the lowest level of geography (blocks), and data for a variety of geographic entities, including school districts, zip code tabulation areas, state legislative districts and Census tracts. Also allows users to retrieve and create reference and thematic maps. Coverage period variable. Continuously updated. Provides statistical data.

## **American President: An Online Reference Resource**

<https://millercenter.org/the-presidency>

A wealth of primary sources including public papers, party platforms (from 1840-present), speeches, video, and audio.

## **Biographical Dictionary of the United States**

<http://bioguide.congress.gov/biosearch/biosearch.asp>

Provides biographical sketches and years in Congress. Searches are by name, position, state, party, year or Congressional session.

## **Congress.gov**

<http://congress.gov/>

Official source for federal legislative information:

Legislation

*The Congressional Record*

Committee Information

Committee Reports

Profiles of Members of Congress

## **C-SPAN**

<http://www.c-span.org/>

Visit the Video Library to watch footage of House and Senate sessions. In the Resources collection you can find the Congressional Information Center where you can look up state and local officials. These resources and much more are available from C-SPAN.

## Join the new ALLA GODORT Facebook page!

The ALLA GODORT Team is working hard to keep everyone informed of government related happenings in our counties, state and the nation as a whole.

In an effort to keep everyone connected, we created the first official ALLA GODORT Facebook page. Sign up at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/GODORT/>

Looking forward to hearing from everyone soon!



## Alabama Library Association GODORT

Provides a forum for librarians working with government documents. Objectives also include the promotion of availability, use and bibliographic control of documents; and the promotion of communication between documents librarians and other librarians. GODORT is an affiliate of the American Library Association. Membership is open to any member of the Association who subscribes to the objectives of the roundtable.

## **Submit Your Work**

Do you have an interesting experience with local, state or federal government information? Write up an article and share it with us!

You can send it to:

Paula Webb:

pwebb@southalabama.edu

Tim Dodge:

dodgeti@auburn.edu

## Member Upcoming Events

- ⇒ 2017 DLC Meeting & FDL Conference, "Safeguarding Government Information Access for All." October 16-18, Arlington, VA
- ⇒ Alabama Library Association Annual Conference, April 10-13, 2018.

## Member Publications, Presentations, Services —2017

- ⇒ Duffy, M., Webb, P.L. (2017) Do Southeastern Public Universities Adhere to the ACRL Tenure and Promotion Standards? *Journal of Library Administration*. (pp.327-345).
- ⇒ Dodge, Tim presented "Moon Mullican: Country Piano from Western Swing to Rock 'n' Roll" on [June 1](#) at the International Country Music Conference held at Belmont University in Nashville. Aubrey "Moon" Mullican (1909-1967) was a country pianist and singer from East Texas who made a number of truly innovative and blues-flavored recordings from the mid-1930's onward. His piano work, in particular, demonstrates changes in his music which started out in the sub-genre of Western Swing moving to Country Boogie in the 1940's and becoming full-fledged Rock 'n' Roll as early as 1950. Tim's presentation featured brief musical examples of Mullican's recordings of the period 1936 – 1958 in addition to lecture. Tim has tentative hopes of developing this presentation into a book once he finishes his current book project, *Rhythm and Blues Goes Calypso*.
- ⇒ Fenske, Rachel, Webb, P.L. taught a workshop for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians on Diabetes Awareness (March 23, 2017).
- ⇒ Newbill, Mary Beth wrote two entries for the Birmingham Public Library Blog: [Department of Defense Pocket Guides](#) and [Patents as Genealogy Resources](#).
- ⇒ Newbill, Mary Beth offered three workshops: Using Government Websites for Genealogy (May 9, 2017), The How and Why of Government Information (July 25, 2017) and Patent Basics (August 24, 2017).
- ⇒ Webb, P.L. taught a workshop at Mobile Public Library: Historical Hunt Basics (February 1, 2017) and Historical Hunt Advanced (February 7, 2017).
- ⇒ Webb, P.L. taught a workshop at Faulkner University: Using Historical Government Documents for Research (May 24, 2017.)
- ⇒ Webb, P.L., Martin, E. (2017) The Essential Guide for Government Information Professionals. *The Hunt for the Elusive: Finding and Utilizing the History in Government Documents*. Susanne Caro, Editor.
- ⇒ Weisbrod, Liza is the Music Library Association's Incoming Committee Chair for the Marketing Subcommittee.