

The Rocky Mountain **Archivist**

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NCAR: Still from an animation of the troposphere and stratosphere in a 1972 film entitled Chemistry above the Clouds.

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From the President



Welcome to a new Board year!

You probably all dread our current circumstances being alluded to; nonetheless we continue to live through an extraordinarily challenging time professionally, personally, and globally.

Perhaps many of you are returning to work consistently for the first time in over a year, even while we continue to face constant changes in the pandemic context. As archivists many of us are also continuing to adapt our services to provide safe access both in-person and remotely. To me, a silver lining is that as an organization we have learned how effective virtual forums, trainings, and meetings can be in engaging our membership who are often geographically distant! All of our events last year had wide engagement from within and outside the organization. Moving forward, I want to continue to support membership in this way, even if we return to having in-person events sometime in the future.

Bylaws updates

The Board has reviewed changes to the Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists bylaws. We are suggesting changes that align with current practices and implement suggestions made by the Diversity, Inclusion, and Racial Justice (DIRJ) Task Force last year. Ultimately, many of these changes will help the Board lead effectively. I recently sent out changes for a two week comment period ending on **September 7, 2021**, which will be followed by a vote by membership. I strongly encourage you to participate in this vote so your voice is heard, and we can make changes to our organization that will serve you better. More information about the bylaw proposals can be found on page 6-7.

Acting on recommendations from the DIRJ Task Force

Updates to the bylaws that follow from the DIRJ Task force recommendations are the addition of a Diversity and Inclusion Director on the Board, and the creation of a Committee on Diversity and Inclusion. These additions will create structures and responsibility within SRMA that will facilitate continued changes to support all forms of diversity within our organization and the profession. Expect an open call to interested SRMA members who would like to serve on the Committee and in the new Director position on the board, once those changes have been adopted. The great work of the Task Force provided a road map for the Board to follow over the next several years and I am committed to following their guidance and implementing as many changes as I can during my Presidency.

Annual Meeting

Look out for forthcoming communication regarding our Annual Meeting which will be happening this fall. We're closely monitoring the changes to state and local guidelines regarding COVID-19. Please participate in the survey sent out by Walker Sampson, Program Director, to help us gather feedback on if you are comfortable attending an in-person event.

This year's meeting theme, based on members' interest, will be digital and technical skills that support archives' work. Our Programming Committee this year is being led by Walker Sampson and Rachel Gattermeyer, Member-at-Large. They both have strong digital archiving skills to inform the program. I am excited to see you all there. Also, don't miss the report in this newsletter from our Continuing Education Coordinator, Jamie Wagner, on the Metadata Mixology event held in June!

Scholarships during 2021-2022

As a professional organization one of the most impactful things we can do is support members professional development and growth. This year the board has dedicated a healthy budget to supporting scholarships for members' professional development activities. I strongly encourage you to watch [our website](#) for information on how we plan to use the budgeted scholarship funds this year.

Most of all, as your President, I am excited for what this year will bring and I am committed to making sure that SRMA is serving you. Please reach out to me directly if you feel like there is anything more the organization could be doing to support you and your circumstances: Ashlyn.velte@colorado.edu. Stay healthy, stay safe, and I look forward to serving you this year!

All the best,
Ashlyn Velte



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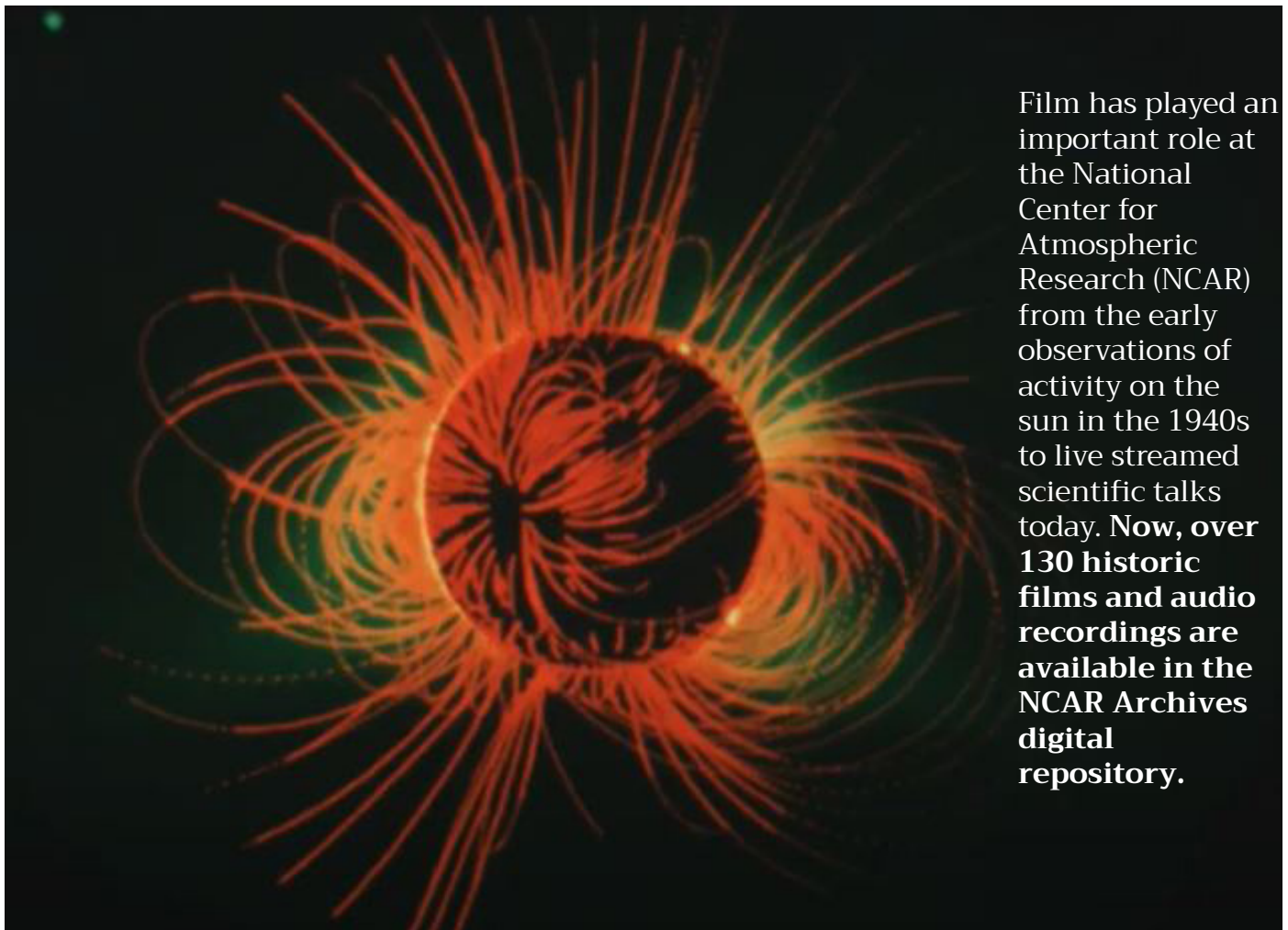
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Newly Digitized Scientific Films and Recordings

Laura Hoff
NCAR Archives



The audiovisual materials in the collection span 40 years of 20th century scientific development, highlighting data visualization and computer simulation, field experiments, science education and communication, and the history of NCAR itself. The materials were collected or produced by the organization's Information Office and as such represent a wide range of the types of work undertaken at NCAR and in the field of atmospheric science during the time period.

The materials were digitized primarily from 16-millimeter film and ¼ inch magnetic audio tapes. Initial plans for the project included a film screening, but the ongoing COVID-19 closure at NCAR prevented an event of that nature. Instead, we developed a [digital exhibit](#) featuring a selection of the recordings contextualized alongside other materials from the archives. We were also able to take advantage of some remote work time to create captions for videos with audio (many of the videos are silent) to [share on YouTube](#), and we continue to work on making the materials more accessible.



This digitization project was made possible by a Recordings at Risk grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR). The grant program is made possible by funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Captions for Images

Front page: Still from an animation of the troposphere and stratosphere in a 1972 film entitled [Chemistry above the Clouds](#).

Pg 4 image: [Still from a simulation of magnetic fields of the solar corona during the 1966 eclipse](#).

Above: Still of the interior of an armored T-28 aircraft designed to fly through hail storms during the [National Hail Research Experiment](#) in the 1970s.



Metadata Mixology Recap

SRMA's June 22 continuing education event - Metadata Mixology: Tools for Stirring and Shaking Up Metadata Workflows - welcomed 51 attendees from around the country, including 23 registrants from outside the Rocky Mountain region!

The half-day event included presentations by Helen Baer, Head of Digital Repositories Unit at Colorado State University; Amber D'Ambrosio, Special Collections and Archives Librarian at Colorado Mesa University; and Katie Fletcher, Metadata Coordinator at CU Boulder Libraries.

In addition to clear and thorough introductions to Tidy Data, OpenRefine, and Command Line, the presenters discussed how to choose a tool for your metadata needs, where to look for communities of practice, and when to call IT for assistance. Enormous thank you to Katie, Amber, and Helen for their time and expertise creating useful and accessible presentations and resources!

Metadata Mixology Recap Cont.

Slides, sample data sets, and lists of resources will be available to access in this folder (https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1_CrFmgmPNSuI1YrrdMv9baYohYJzkZI?usp=sharing) until **December 31, 2021**.

While SRMA will focus on conference planning this Fall, we intend to develop further continuing education opportunities for the Spring 2022.

Jamie Marie Wagner
SRMA Continuing Education Coordinator



Bylaw Changes Proposal Due Sept. 7th

The SRMA Board has reviewed changes to the bylaws that occur as part of its periodic review process. We are putting the changes out for member review and feedback before an official vote occurs.

Please email feedback to Ashlyn Velte, SRMA President, at ashlyn.velte@colorado.edu; OR [use this form to submit anonymous feedback](#) by **September 7th, 2021**.

The following page has a summary of the changes. You can find links to the current active bylaws and draft changes below.

[Draft Changes](#)

[Current Active Changes](#)

After feedback has been reviewed, expect changes to the bylaws to go to vote by the membership.

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Article III. Section 3.4. Changes to voting board members' titles.
- Article III. Section 4. Change of (2) required meetings to (3) by voting board members to account for increased number of meetings by the board each year.
- Article III. Section 4.6.2. Changes to the role of Membership Coordinator.
- Article III. Section 4.2 Changes to the role of Program Director.
- Article III. Section 4.4. Addition of Diversity & Inclusion director as recommended to the Board by the Diversity, Inclusion, and Racial Justice Task force.
- Article III Section 4.6.5. Elimination of the Outreach Coordinator position.
- Article III. Section 4.6.6. Change position title to "Continuing Education Director" and move to Article III. Section 4.5 as a voting Board member.
- Article III Section 6.10. Change Board year from annual year to fiscal year to align with budget cycle.
- Article IV. Section 1. Additions to mechanisms for committees and task forces including the naming of committees.
- Article V. Changes to bylaws review process adding a voting mechanism for membership.
- Article VI. Addition of a Non-Discrimination Policy which we are required to have as a non-profit.



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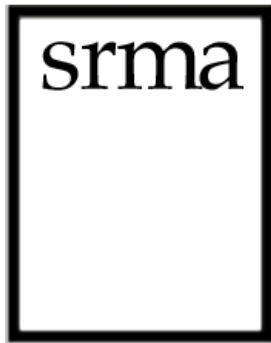
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Member-at-Large: Walker Sampson

Digital Archivist – Special Collections,
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Membership Coordinator: David Fasman

Metadata Technician
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Society Archivist: Kalyani Fernando

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**Newsletter Editor: Nathalie Proulx
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Jamie Wagner

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Website and Social Media Coordinator:

Sean Babbs

Special Collections, Archives & Preservation
University of Colorado Boulder Libraries

**Do you have any projects or
collections to feature in the next
issue of *Rocky Mountain
Archivist*?**

Contact Nathalie Proulx DeSalvo at
nathalie.proulx@du.edu

**Need to renew your
membership?**

Contact David Fasman
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