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Where Are They Now?

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Carroll Hart and A. K. Johnson join Edward Weldon for the opening luncheon at the SAA Annual Meeting, September 1988, in Atlanta. The two were presented SGA T-shirts for the occasion. Photograph by George Whiteley.

Where Are They Now?

Jane Powers Weldon

Wherever they are now, they're busy!

Several months ago, SGA appealed by newsletter and by letter to founding and pioneer members of the society, in hopes of getting reminiscences and anecdotes on SGA's early days, reporting on their present activities, and obtaining their evaluations of SGA's contributions to their professional lives.

Most early members are simply too busy, it seems, to respond at length, and that's good news. Four--Carroll Hart, Lee Alexander, Jim Morton, and Ed Weldon--have already shared their memories and assessments at the "Present at Creation" panel at Spring Meeting (a transcript is included elsewhere in this issue). Here are a few more responses.

Dick Eltzroth, who was membership chairman of the fledging organization, became its second president. He remembers the difficulties he and editor David Gracy had in obtaining funding for *Georgia Archive* (now *Provenance*). They finally published the first issue, fall 1972, with no outside funding. Dick left State Archives in 1969 to become archivist of the Atlanta Historical Society. He retired in late 1986. (Dick also has the distinction of having another family member active in SGA. Daughter Lee is a director for the society.)

Sarah C. Gillespie recalls the value of SGA's programs and the chance to meet and talk with archivists from other institutions. Sherrie has since left the profession but has stayed busy with work on a South Carolina local history project and genealogical research.

Lee Woelk says the SGA meeting that gave him the most gray hairs was the program he had to organize on plagiarism. The first speaker scheduled backed out shortly before the meeting. Then the replacement Lee found left her job before the meeting. Lee doesn't say what he finally did, but he does say he retired a month later! Since retirement, he has used his archival skills as a records management consultant and as the author of a book.

SGA is grateful to all its early members for the energy and vision they invested in the organization. Those who responded to our survey have expressed in turn their own gratitude to the organization for professional fellowship and raising their awareness of the scope of archives.

Jane Powers Weldon is an editor and publications consultant in Atlanta, Georgia.