

FOLIOS

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Friends of the Library Establishes Fund in Support of The University Library

At the 2005 October Board meeting it was unanimously decided that a fund would be created to purchase "special" items for the Library that may not be covered under the usual budget. Merrily Taylor, University librarian, was asked to provide a wish list of items that the Friends could purchase from funds received. Typical items might be a new database license, or a piece of equipment or money to purchase Special Collections items.

The money for this fund comes from Friends donations, separate from the dues paid by members. The dues are used to cover the operating costs of the organization. At the end of 2005, the fund had accrued a balance of \$4,800, \$225 of which has been spent to restore Thomas Jefferson's personal copy of *Parliamentary Procedures*.

Taylor says, "The Friends help the Library in so many ways — with interest and encouragement, by helping to spread the word about the Library's collections and services and through their generous gifts. I'm especially pleased that, in this first year of the group's existence, we've been able to raise enough money so that the Friends can make a generous gift in kind to the Library. As of this writing, we don't know what it will be (the Board will make its choice in April), but we know that the ultimate beneficiaries will be the students and faculty of W&L. I thank all our Friends for the help you've given the Library in fulfilling our critical mission."

— Mission Statement —

The Friends of the Library supports the academic mission of Washington and Lee University through activities which strengthen the Library's collections and services, promote greater awareness of the Library's needs and resources,

encourage monetary or in-kind contributions to the Library, foster closer community and Library relations and stimulate the intellectual life of the community.

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Friends of the Library (FOL) Gets Off to a Big Start

During Homecoming, Sept. 24, 2005, new members of the Friends were fascinated by demonstrations of the latest technological additions to the University Library and by a first glimpse of a prized addition to Special Collections (see below). Kyle Felker, technology coordinator, and John Tombarge, head of public services, showed off several online databases, including LexisNexis Serial Set and JStor.

The 60+ attendees listened raptly and asked good questions of the two librarians.

Bob Huntley, former University president and first FOL chairman, spoke highly of the Friends and its mission to the assembled book lovers. Merrily Taylor, University librarian, entertained the group with Library facts, history and anecdotes.

FOL Members Get First Look at Previously Unknown Lee Letter

Special Collections Librarian Vaughan Stanley was justifiably proud to show the members the latest rare acquisition. Purchased with donations from the Edgar A. Basse Jr. fund, a recently-come-to-light letter from Robert E. Lee to a young student was shown for the first time to the members of the newly formed Friends of the Library.

"It is always very exciting to learn of a new Lee letter and especially satisfying to be able to acquire it for W&L's collection," says Stanley.

Robert E. Lee recommended three colleges to his correspondent and included a catalog for Washington College with his reply. It is unknown where the young man matriculated.



First Membership Drive Raises Almost \$20,000

The first membership drive began in late August 2005. As of Dec. 31, 2005, there were 72 charter members. So far FOL has raised \$12,400 in dues and \$4,800 in donations for the Friends of the Library Fund. The next membership drive

begins in February 2006. Be a true friend of the library and tell your classmates about the Friends!

Anyone joining by June 30 will be designated a Charter Member and receive a unique gift.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY
LEXINGTON, VA 24450

Charter Members

Friends of the Library of Washington and Lee University
As of 12/31/05

Charter Members are those who have joined FOL during the initial membership campaign.

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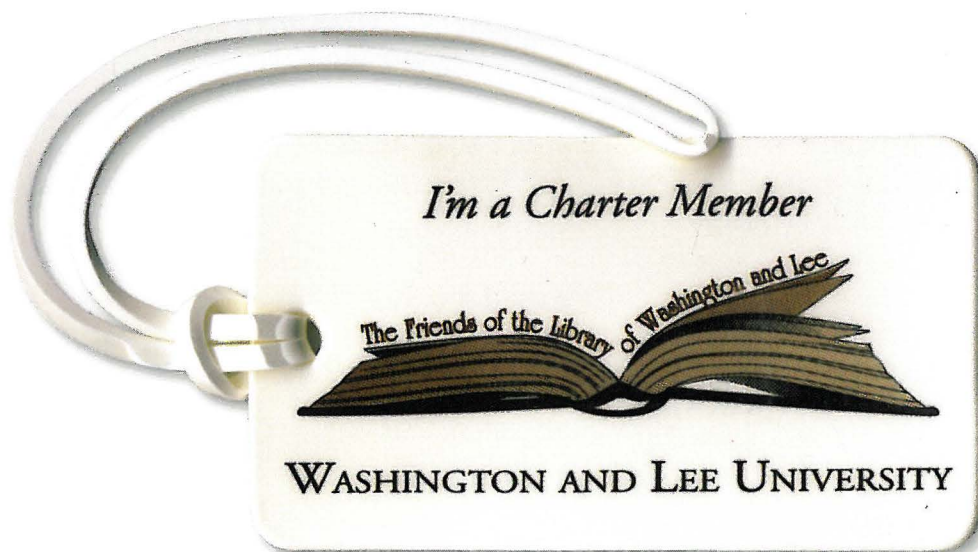
Our current membership represents 12 states

Florida	South Carolina
Kentucky	Texas
Maryland	Virginia
North Carolina	West Virginia
New York	Wyoming
Ohio	District of Columbia
Pennsylvania	

*Have a friend or classmate become a
Charter Member*

*Write your name on their application and you will
receive two additional luggage tags.*

*We can't have too many Friends,
you can't have too many tags!*



Words from Friends Chair Bob Huntley



The newly formed Friends organization provides a way for those with a special love of libraries in general and W&L's library in particular to gather and share their interest. And it will cause the library's strengths and needs to be more widely appreciated among those most likely to care. We have started our first year with gusto and expect useful and interesting times ahead.

We hope you will join us on this great adventure!

Upcoming Friends Events

REUNION WEEKEND, MAY 4-7, 2006

On Saturday, May 6, there are several special events planned for Friends of the Library:

2 - 3 p.m.

Private reception and a talk by Vaughan Stanley, special collections librarian, on genealogy Web sites and the Lee letters.

3 - 3:30 p.m.

Private workshop for Friends members on doing research in the modern library

3:30 - 4 p.m.

Private workshop for Friends members on doing research in the modern library

Watch your mail or check the Web site for more information!

Databases and Donors

We are thrilled to announce that the Library has acquired three new databases with help from generous, caring donors.

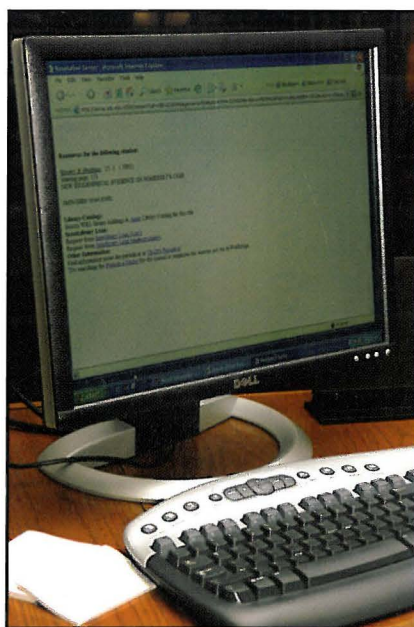
Early English Books Online

EEBO provides digital access to over 125,000 literary and historical classics. All works are in full image format, meaning that images accurately reflect the way the works appeared in their original printed editions. Besides literary and historical works, the database also includes musical exercises, prayer books, pamphlets, proclamations, almanacs, calendars and many other primary resources.

18th Century Books Online

ECCO provides access to the digital images of every page of 150,000 books published during the 18th century. With full-text searching of approximately 33 million pages, ECCO allows researchers new methods of access to publications in the fields of history, literature, religion, law, fine arts, science and more.

W&L professors lobbied hard to get subscriptions to these two expensive databases. University Librarian Merrily Taylor worked with our development office to find funds. EEBO funding was made possible by a gift from William Buice, Class of 1961, while ECCO was funded by interested parents of a W&L student.



p4A Antiques Reference

p4A (prices for Antiques) is drawn from about 50 leading regional auction houses throughout the United States, plus other selected specialist auctions. It is routinely used to estimate the value of similar items for sale, for purchase or for insurance purposes; to substantiate a formal appraisal; to assist in a family division of property; or to learn what was paid for a specific item listed in the database. All items are provided with zoomable pictures and reference information. Access to this database has been graciously provided by Mr. Kent D. Anderson '73L, as a donation to the W&L Friends of the Library.

Little — and Not-So-Little! — Things Mean a Lot

Fred Farrar's reputation grows with each trip he makes to Leyburn Library's Special Collections. He comes bearing armloads of newly donated original newspapers marking historical events from as far back as the 17th century. Fred, a 1941 W&L graduate, has been collecting historical newspapers for over half a century, and he loves sharing his knowledge and his treasures. I first met Fred in 2002 after one of his W&L classmates suggested I get in touch with him. He has made many trips to W&L since then and our collection of original newspaper treasures is flourishing as a result. W&L junior Stephanie Wiechmann created a very useful index to the collection this past summer. And during this fall term Prof. Doug Cumming's journalism 295A class has been using the Farrar collection intensively. This was Fred's goal all along. He taught with historical newspapers for 40 years and wants his collection to remain at work. By the way, Fred is still at work himself. At the age of 87 he is teaching a course this winter term at the University of South Florida using other parts of his collection.

There is no substitute for the real thing when you are studying history. The smell and feel of an

original newspaper or a rare book can hardly be put into words but you know the feeling of excitement that it brings. Jim Green of Bellefonte, Pa., knows that feeling, and he has helped many readers in our Special Collections experience it. For 10 years, Jim, a 1984 W&L law graduate and now a practicing attorney, has made an annual pilgrimage to Lexington bearing hundreds of rare books donated to our collection. Like Fred, Jim Green has a great love for what he does, and he knows the subject of fine books so well that I often feel he really should be in the business. In my 13 years at W&L, Jim has given us more rare books than I ever imagined might come to us in such a relatively short time. Rare book collections are meant to delight and instruct for many generations, and Jim has seen to it that we meet this standard and then some. I won't complain again about running out of shelf space because each time we shelve his books I am reminded of Jim Green's ongoing generosity.

C. Vaughan Stanley
Vaughan Stanley
Special Collections Librarian

Jim Green's 2005 "Santa run" included six boxes of books from his private collection.

