

FOLIOS

Editor: Karin O'Callaghan, (540) 458-8642 or ocallaghank@wlu.edu
Library.wlu.edu

Board Members

BARBARA BROWN
THOMAS E. CAMDEN
LAMAR CECIL
DENNIS CROSS
NANCY EPLEY
ROBERT E. HUNTLEY, CHAIR
ANNETTE JOHN
SUZANNE KEEN
MICHAEL LYNN
HARDIN MARION
BECKY MERCHANT
GEORGE RAY
TAYLOR SANDERS
SUE VANLEER
JIM WARREN

Ex-Officio Board Members

MERRILY TAYLOR
KARIN O'CALLAGHAN
SALLY WIAINT
VAUGHAN STANLEY
YOLANDA MERRILL

An Outpouring of Affection

It gives me great satisfaction to report that, as I write this column for our newsletter, we have 185 members of The Friends of the Washington and Lee University Library. Although one always hopes for the best in starting an organization like this, I have to say that I have been surprised and delighted by the enthusiastic response we've had to the Friends' effort from alumni/ae and other library supporters all over the country. To me, the immediate and positive interest that the W&L community has shown for the Friends indicates a vast untapped reservoir of people who understand the role of the library in a University like ours, have fond memories of its place in their own time at W&L, and wish the library well for the future. I hope that by the time we have our fall meeting in October, our membership will exceed 200!

Friends support our work in obvious ways, through their dues and donations, but we've already had examples of the more subtle ways in which an active Friends group can benefit the library. Several donors, including Roger Mudd '50, have been inspired to contact us, thanks to a Friends mailing. Other Friends have called to put us in touch with personal friends or acquaintances who have collections or other items to donate. Several of you have given gift memberships or donations to the Library in honor or in memory of loved ones. The very existence of the Friends reminds our colleagues in the University, and in the Lexington community, of the treasure Washington and Lee is fortunate to have in its Library.

So as another academic year begins, I thank you for your support and for your willingness to be among the first members of an organization that will, I trust, become a long-lived and beloved Washington and Lee tradition!

Merrily E. Taylor
University Librarian

— 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.

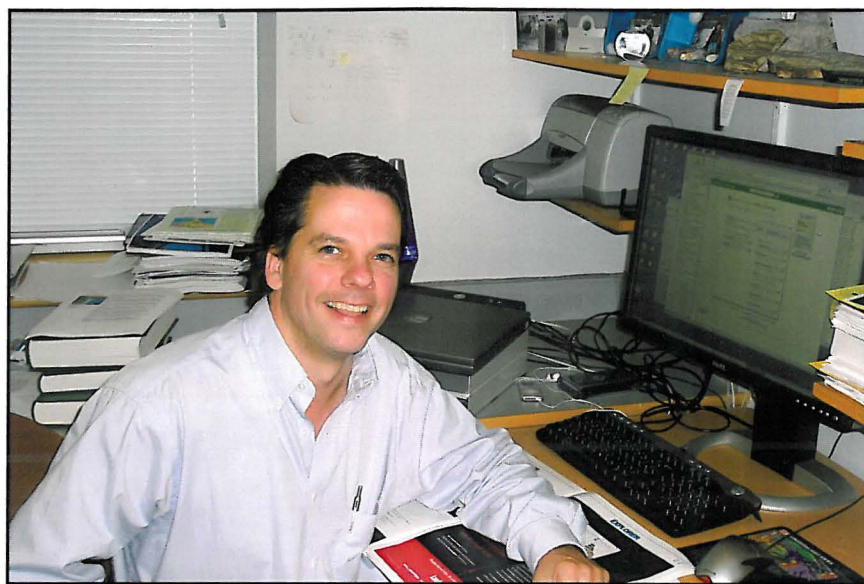
ELECTRONIC JOURNALS ARE A WAY OF LIFE

As a geology professor today, it is hard to imagine not using electronic databases to access journals. In fact, several journals in my field don't even come in paper form any more. While I miss the tactile aspect of holding the latest issue of a journal or rummaging through the stacks for past articles, I must say the advantages of having full electronic journals that can be searched, and figures that can be extracted so readily, far outweigh any impersonal aspects to the electronic format. These days, virtually all journal articles in the sciences come as PDF files (Adobe Acrobat file format). Older articles have likewise mostly been converted to PDF. Each journal has its own database archive, but the most common way that I access journals is through custom search engine front ends, such as GeoRef, Web of Science, and Scopus. For journals outside the sciences, JSTOR seems to be an important database. In a way these are similar to Google, but they are much more, including sophisticated hyperlinks that, for example, allow one to search in a published article the articles that were cited, and likewise articles that have cited the one you are currently looking at. In effect, allowing the researcher to go backward and forward in time with respect to a specific research topic. Once you find the articles you want, you are linked to the actual article, and in minutes you have it at your fingertips.

I use such tools weekly, and for some periods of time daily, in my own research, and in directed research with students. In classes, I often have students use these tools for assignments. The biggest difficulty for the students in doing literature searches is to avoid the temptation of using Google to find articles. While there is a Google tool called Google Scholar, it is a far cry from the dedicated tools men-

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY
LEXINGTON, VA 24450

MAR 10 2008



tioned above. In addition, if only the Web, it is difficult to determine if an article is peer-reviewed or just posted on the Web for any and all to see. We must constantly impress upon our students that whether an article is electronic or in print form is irrelevant. The key point is that the article has been reviewed by other scientists, and published in an accepted journal. Even using the proper tools, students often need to develop a certain tenacity in doing these searches. They often want to stop once they have found a reference for what they are writing about, instead of finding the key references for a topic. They need to learn to use these searches and the articles they come across as learning opportunities, rather than a way to satisfy the requirement of the assignment to have cited references. I find students really learn this when working on their thesis, where they are developing their own independent scholarship, and they need to understand the context of their work relative to previous work.

In my opinion, the biggest challenge facing W&L, and all liberal arts schools, with respect to the use of electronic journals and databases, is cost. Many of these databases have enormous annual subscription rates (several thousand dollars/year), and a small school with only one professor needing access to a particular journal means that it is not always possible to subscribe to the particular journal of interest. For that, we have interlibrary loan, a wonderful, but imperfect substitution. As a professor at W&L, I feel very fortunate to have access to so many of these electronic tools, and the excellent support personnel in the library to manage them.

— Chris Connors,
Associate Professor of Geology

ARCH.
378.755
W31761
v. 2
2006
no. 1



Words from Friends Chair Bob Huntley

We have had a very fine first year and look forward to another just as successful. The Friends organization is making a positive difference for our library—and having a good time doing it.

We hope you will plan to join us when *The Friends Present* Roger Mudd '50, our first guest speaker.

Upcoming Friends Events

Northern Auditorium

Leyburn Library

Oct. 21 • 2 p.m.

Roger Mudd '50

"My Life as a W&L Bookie"

Reception to follow

Leyburn Library

Nov. 2 • 3-7 p.m.

Friends members Book Sale Preview

Get Them Involved While They're Young

Looking for the perfect graduation, birthday, or holiday gift for your favorite book lover? Several Friends members have solved the problem by sponsoring a one-year membership to Friends of the Library. It's the perfect gift for that person who is so hard to buy for! And you get the tax deduction.

Stuart '71, '74L and Betsy Houston, early members of Friends of the Library, gave multiple gift memberships to graduate and current students. "A well-supported library is an integral part of a successful institution," Stuart states. "W&L has a good library and should be supported by those who benefited from it while they were here." Betsy feels FOL membership is another way to "contribute to the richness of the W&L experience." She feels membership helps current students build a strong, on-going tie to W&L. They had two reasons for giving the gift memberships: because they value the Library and want to support it, and because they think if a student gets started early then he or she will continue to support the Library through life.



Stuart and Betsy Houston

For more information or to request a membership form, contact Friends Coordinator Karin O'Callaghan at (540) 458-8642 or ocallaghank@wlu.edu.

Book Conservation is an Art

At the May Friends board meeting a fund was created from Friends' donations to help restore some of the rare books that are in really bad shape. "Because of this fund, we are able to get more books restored this year than we ever have," says Vaughan Stanley, Special Collections Librarian.

Almost 10 years ago Mr. Stanley was referred to Martha and Robert Orton for help with restoring some of the books in the rare book collection. It has been a successful relationship. The Ortons will work on three to four books this year for the Library. "It takes a lot of patience, both in the work, and on the part of the book owner. It is not a process that can be rushed," says Robert Orton. And it's not inexpensive. One book can cost hundreds of dollars to restore, potentially much more, depending on the degree of deterioration.

Robert and Martha have over 50 years of combined experience in the field. Martha started in the 1970s and Robert joined her in the 1980s. Martha specializes in the paper conservation and Robert in bindings, although both are trained in all aspects of book conservation. They are both

members of the Guild of Book Workers, an international organization created to preserve the book arts and teach people how to preserve printed material correctly.

It is a very demanding process. Old books, prints and documents of all types and conditions are taken to their studio. The books are first assessed to determine the needs. The work may involve some or all of the following: disbinding the book, cleaning the paper (with soft eraser crumbs), cleaning the leather (with saddle soap), repairing tears in the paper, re-aligning and re-sewing gatherings of pages (signatures), reattaching covers, replacing materials (paper, board, cloth, leather) which are weak, broken or missing. Generally, they try to reuse as much of the original materials as feasible to maintain the integrity of the books, harmonizing the new materials with the old. To this end new leather (calf or goatskin) is shaved and beveled to blend with the old leather on the books and dyed to match its color. Gold leaf can also be applied to the leather by means of heated brass tools to fill in missing decoration or lettering. Guache or water color is sometimes applied to re-

pair papers so that they harmonize with original paper where a repair is needed. Wheat paste is used as the adhesive for paper and leather. It is clean, reversible and archivally safe, but its use means that the repair processes take a long while to complete as the materials dry and stabilize. A book can be in process for two weeks or

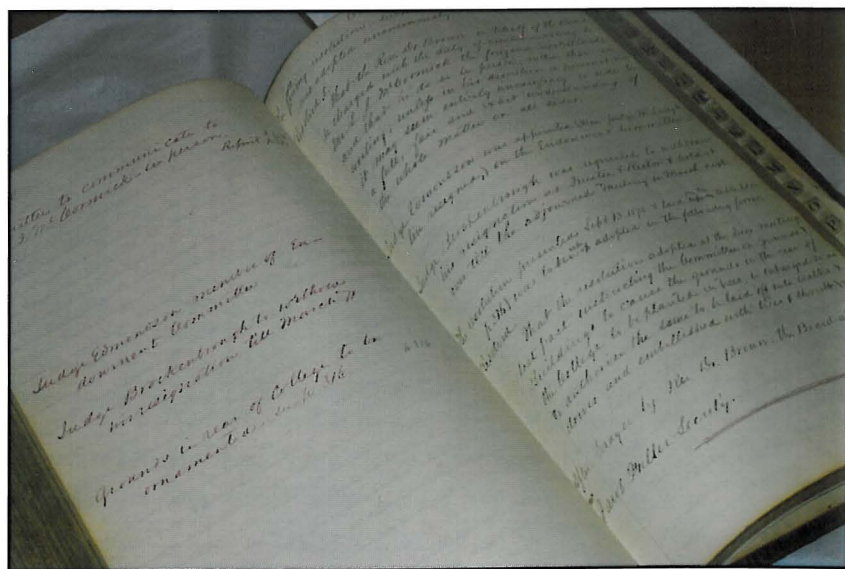


more (there is also a waiting list of two months or more to get to the head of the queue).

Working on the pages is even more meticulous because there are more of them! Martha often deacidifies the pages by spraying them with a solution that neutralizes acidity in the paper and imparts an alkaline buffer. In this way the life of the paper is extended considerably. Papers made with wood pulp are particularly vulnerable to acid deterioration. For any torn pages, she matches the weight and tone (color) of the paper from seemingly hundreds of sheets of paper available. When necessary, colored papers can be used, too, or the tissue-like paper can be painted to match the original. She then tears (to create a ragged edge, which blends better than a cut) the new paper to match the torn/missing area and pastes it in place.

There are hundreds of members of the Guild of BookWorkers around the world. According to their newsletter,

"The Guild of Book Workers was founded in 1906 to 'establish and maintain a feeling of kinship and mutual interest among workers in the several hand book crafts'... The Guild still believes, as did its founders, that there is a responsibility among civilized people to sustain the crafts involved with the production of fine books. Its members hope to broaden public awareness of the hand book arts, to stimulate commissions of fine bindings, and to stress the need for sound book conservation and restoration."



*Board of Trustees Minutes Book,
1774-1873*

The Guild's Online Study Opportunities List is a resource for those seeking instruction in the book arts. Currently there are over 130 listings from across the United States and around the world. Subjects include all aspects of bookbinding, as well as marbling, papermaking, printing and many other areas of the book arts. Both individuals and institutions are listed.

Orton explained that book conservation requires good light, good tools, strong eyesight, a steady hand and lots of patience. It is obvious that he loves what he does.

Vaughan Stanley estimates that there are several dozen books in need of conservation. Some of the titles he is hoping to get the Ortons to work on soon are:

- Historical Sketches of the Campbell, Pilcher and Kindred Families (1911)
- Beauties of Johnson, Part II (1782)—once owned by George Washington
- Booker T. Washington, The Future of the American Negro (1899)

If you would like to find out more about book conservation, you may contact the Guild of Book Workers at their Web site: palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/gbw/.

To contact the Ortons about a possible project, they can be reached at (434) 295-9373. If you would like to adopt a book and sponsor its restoration, contact Friends Coordinator Karin O'Callaghan at (540) 458-8642 or ocallaghank@wlu.edu.

Spotlight on Staff: Lisa McCown

Lisa is one of the helpful people you will encounter in Special Collections. And she has been at W&L since 1977! If Lisa can't find what you're looking for, it probably doesn't exist.

Lisa came to work at the Library—before it was Leyburn, or even at its present location—as a student assistant in the Cataloging Department. Lisa became full-time in Cataloging in 1978. In 1983 she started spending half of each day in Special Collections, and she moved to full time in Special Collections in 1985.

"My job is so interesting and I meet a lot of nice people. When a patron walks through the door I want to find what they are looking for. Sometimes it is like solving a mystery, and people find information



they have been looking for all of their lives. They get so excited, and I do too! It really is a rewarding job helping people find information on an alumnus or faculty member, a building at Washington and Lee or in the community, historic sites, or local families and places. I love the old photographs, especially of the resort hotels, springs, mills, and animals! A big plus for me as a staff member is to be able to participate in the W&L Joyful Noise gospel choir. I love singing with these fun young people who love being at W&L, too."

Helping W&L is a family tradition with the McCowns.

Lisa's mom, Josephine McCown, was a Student Health nurse at the Infirmary from 1971 to 1992.

Reference Information on Friends Web Site

If you missed the May Friends event and presentation, or lost your notes, you researchers and amateur genealogists may want to check out the Friends Web site (library.wlu.edu/about/friends/friends.asp). At the bottom of the Friends home page you will find "Resources for Friends of the Library" and two highlighted areas: Research Guide and Special Collections.

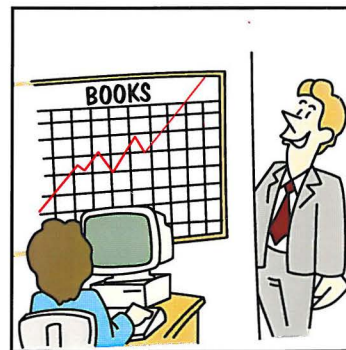
Research Guide will help you select the best resources for different types of research. New items continue to be added to this page, so check back often.

Special Collections provides links to a variety of Web sites, a listing of the collections housed at Leyburn, and a list of genealogy Web sites.

Science Librarian Mary Abdoney and Special Collections Librarian Vaughan Stanley created the material at these sites.

Second Full Year Off to a Good Start

In early August a membership mailing went out to over 4,000 alumni. As of August 31, 2006, the Friends of the Library had 185 members and had raised almost \$40,000 in dues and donations since its founding last year. In May the Friends Board ear-marked almost \$7,000 for projects in the Library, including restoration of rare books and having cabinets built to house the type collection that goes with the Washington Press. With your help we continue to grow and provide benefits to the University Library.



Members

Friends of the Library of Washington and Lee University as of September 30, 2006

**Charter Members, those who joined during the initial membership campaign.*

General Memberships

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| * MR. AND MRS. LEROY C. ATKINS, II | * MR. DAVID BADERTSCHER |
| * THE HONORABLE DANIEL T. BALFOUR | MS. LUCY BARNETT |
| * PROFESSOR AND MRS. HARLAN BECKLEY | * MR. RICHARD F. BIDWELL |
| * MR. JOHN BLACKBURN | * MS. ADRIENNE HALL-BODIE |
| MS. MARTHA K. BOSWORTH | MS. ALICIA BRANDT |
| * MS. MARYLYN BRITTIGAN | MR. FRANK C. BROOKS |
| * MR. MALCOLM BROWNLEE | * MR. CARSON J. BRUNO |
| * MR. TOM CAMDEN | * MR. CHRISTOPHER R. CARAMORE |
| MR. JOHN C. CARBERRY | * MR. DAVID M. CLINGER |
| * MR. AND MRS. WAYNE COMBS | * MR. THOMAS A. COURTENAY |
| * MR. THORNS CRAVEN | * DR. JAMES D. DEACON |
| * THE HONORABLE ELLIS B. DREW, JR. | * DR. R. THOMAS EDWARDS |
| * MR. DAVID ELMES | MR. CHARLES C. FLIPPEN |
| * MR. CHARLIE FRERET | * MR. DEAN PAUL GANAS |
| * MR. JAMES GRAHAM | * MR. CHARLES L. GUTHRIE |
| * MR. AND MRS. NED HENNEMAN | * MR. JAMES A. HIGHT, JR. |
| * MR. RICHARD E. HODGES, JR. | SAMUEL B. HOLLIS |
| * MS. ANN B. HOWARD | * MS. SARAH K. HUNICKE |
| * MRS. PATRICIA ISKENDERIAN | * MS. KARLENE N. JENNINGS |
| * MR. CHRISTOPHER JOHN | * PROFESSOR AND MRS. LEWIS JOHN |
| MR. J. WILLIS JOHNSON | * MR. ROBERT KEEFE |
| * MRS. BETTY KONDAYAN | * MS. LAUREN E. LAFAUCI |
| * REV. JIM LEWIS | * THE MARCOUX FAMILY |
| * SPC WILLIAM E. MARTIN | * MR. DONALD MCCAIG |
| * MR. ANDREW H. MCCUTCHEON | * PROFESSOR AND MRS. HOLT MERCHANT |
| * MS. YOLANDA MERRILL | * MS. EDNA MILLINER |
| * MR. MATTHEW T. MILLS | * MS. MARGUERITE N. MOGER |
| * MR. EDGAR H. MOORE | * MR. CALVIN M. MORROW |
| MS. MAITENA MOURE | * MR. AND MRS. KEN NEWMAN |
| * JUDGE WILLIAM H. OAST, JR. | * MR. AND MRS. ROBERT N. O'CALLAGHAN |
| * MR. LELAND PARK | * MR. JAMES S. PARSONS |
| * MS. RUTH PARSONS | * PROFESSOR DAVID S. PETERSON |
| * MR. OVERTON P. POLLARD | * PROFESSOR HENRY P. PORTER, JR. |
| DR. F. EDWARDS RUSHTON | * MS. JANET SEAY |
| * MR. R. TUCKER SHIELDS | MR. JIM SLACK |
| MR. DONALD B. SMITH | * MRS. STUART LEWIS SMITH |
| * MS. CAROLINE SOZZI | * DR. AND MRS. JEFFREY B. SPENCE |
| * MR. C. VAUGHAN STANLEY | MR. JOSEPH G. STREET |
| * MR. WILLIAM R. SURBAUGH | * MR. JOHN R. THELIN |
| MR. JOHN TOMBARGE | * MR. AND MRS. KEVIN M. TURNER |
| * MS. POLLY TURNER | * MS. BARBARA VON WAHLDE |
| DR. WILLIAM C. WILBUR | * PROVOST AND MRS. H. THOMAS WILLIAMS, JR. |
| MR. AND MRS. CHARLES B. WILSON | |

Sponsor Level

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| * MR. PETER A. AGELASTO, III | * MR. WILLIAM G. BEAN |
| * MR. AND MRS. GEORGE Y. BIRDSONG | * MR. R. JOHN BLACKLEY/MS. BARBARA LACHMAN |
| * MR. BEN BROCKENBROUGH, III | * MS. BARBARA J. BROWN |
| * DR. EDWARD A. BROWN | * MR. J. HOWE BROWN |
| * MR. EDWARD BURKS, JR. | * MR. TOM CAMDEN |
| * MR. AND MRS. BENJAMIN L. CHAPMAN | * MR. C. RICK CHITTUM |

(Continued)