

# FOLIOS

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

## Now What???

So, the long-sought-after renovation of Leyburn is finished and the question naturally arises: what next?

One obvious project, and one that is repeatedly suggested by students and faculty, is improvement to the floors below Main, which remain, to a great degree, artifacts of the 1970's. Given the current economic climate and the many capital projects on the University's wish list, it is unlikely that a project on the

scope of our recent one is going to occur any time soon. On the other hand, we are making plans for "spot" improvements to the lower floors as funds become available, including funds from donors and other outside sources. For several months, John Tombarge, Head of Public Services, has been working with an advisory committee of students, who have helped us set some priorities for attention to the lower levels. Among the suggestions: fresh paint in some of the study rooms, power strips to provide additional electricity for laptops, and more comfortable furniture in selected places. The students also put a high priority on acquiring patio furniture for the terrace outside Leyburn's new entrance on the Commons side of the building.

A second major initiative over the next several years must be continued development and improvement of the Library's web-site and online catalog (Annie). The Library's physical space remains important, but our virtual presence on the web is equally critical; these days, it is the primary portal through which many users "enter" the library. The challenge with online gateways is that, as technology develops and improves, what was acceptable yesterday is too slow, or too hard to use, or too restrictive, today. Many of our users are accustomed to using highly sophisticated and personalized web resources (Amazon.com comes to mind) and now expect similar tools to be available from their libraries. Our challenge is to expedite the work of our users while at the same time ensuring that what they



find is quality information, in our own collections and elsewhere. Accordingly, in the months to come we'll be focusing on what we can do to improve our web presence, and developing an action plan in that direction.

Finally, our third major challenge – and one we would not necessarily have chosen – will be finding ways to meet the academic needs of students and faculty in a period of constricting resources. Like many of our peer institutions, we've experienced a budget cut as a result of the economic downturn and the University's need to plan for reduced revenue. This cut will mean reductions in journals and databases, and fewer monographs purchased. But the needs of existing academic programs continue, and new programs arise, as well. Our task in the upcoming academic year will be to make these reductions in a manner that is least disruptive to the work of our community. A difficult assignment, but I am confident that our knowledgeable and committed library staff, in collaboration with faculty, can manage this!

Merrily E. Taylor  
 University Librarian

### Board Members

BARBARA BROWN  
 THOMAS E. CAMDEN  
 JULIE CAMPBELL  
 MIRIAM CARLISLE  
 DENNIS CROSS  
 NANCY EPLEY  
 ROBERT E. HUNTLEY  
 ANNETTE JOHN  
 SUZANNE KEEN  
 MICHAEL LYNN  
 HARDIN MARION, CHAIR  
 MATT MILLS  
 GEORGE RAY  
 SAM SYME  
 SUE VAN LEER  
 JIM WARREN

### Ex-Officio Board Members

MERRILY TAYLOR  
 KARIN O'CALLAGHAN  
 SALLY WIA NT  
 VAUGHAN STANLEY  
 YOLANDA MERRILL

### — 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.*



ARCH.  
378 955  
W317f01  
v.4  
2009  
no. 2 (Apr.)



February 13, 2009

Dr. Kenneth Ruscio, President  
Dr. June Aprille, Provost  
Washington and Lee University  
Lexington, VA 24450

Dear Ken and June,

The members of the University Library Committee would like to express our unanimous approval and appreciation of the renovations of Leyburn Library, which were just concluded at the beginning of the 2009 winter term. During a recent tour of the renovations, conducted by Professor and University Librarian Merrily Taylor, the committee was able to experience firsthand the technical, aesthetic, professional and communal improvements that we believe will guarantee Leyburn's position as a primary center of scholarly activity and campus life at Washington and Lee University for years to come. The library's renovations make a primary contribution to the University's stated mission both to develop students' "capacity to think freely, critically and humanely," as well as to develop their capacity to conduct themselves with "civility."

There is, perhaps, no better demonstration of the contributions already made by Leyburn's overall civilizing mission than to recognize that the smooth implementation of the library's extensive renovations have been the achievement of sustained and collegial cooperation between faculty, staff *and* students. Whatever inevitable inconveniences arising from the renovation have been, they have been more than compensated for by the quality of the results, not the least of which is the students' obvious and immediate enthusiasm for the new space.

Although it is impossible to acknowledge the contributions of everyone involved, we would like to single out the work of Project Manager Carole Bailey, Chief Technology Officer Richard Peterson and Professor Merrily Taylor as among those most responsible for the collective success of this project. The University community truly owes them, and everyone involved in the renovation, a debt of gratitude.

The dimensions of this debt may become most immediately apparent in the renovation's transformative effects on Leyburn's staff. Washington and Lee University now has library facilities more commensurate with the professionalism of its library staff, and these facilities will allow staff to more effectively employ that professionalism in service to the rest of the university community. We can think of no better way for University leadership to have expressed its commitment to Washington and Lee as a whole than through its generous support of Leyburn, which has always symbolized the harmonization of the University's collective interests under one roof. That roof is now more inclusive, sophisticated and attractive than ever before.

Sincerely,

The University Library Committee

Maryanne Simurda, chair  
Claudette Artwick  
David Bello  
Christopher Connors

Robert de Maria  
Denny Garvis  
Scott Johnson  
Kary Smout

Students:  
Ross Isbell  
Chris Browning  
Andrea Null

Cc: Dean Hank Dobin, Dean Larry Peppers, Ms. Carole Bailey, Mr. Rick Peterson, Dr. Merrily Taylor

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY  
WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY  
LEXINGTON, VA 24450



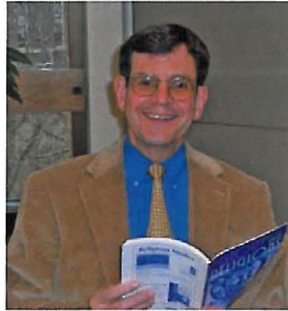
---

## Why I'm a Friend of the Library

For 22 years now, I have often wended my way to Leyburn Library, as well as, from time to time, to its sister libraries at Washington and Lee. So when, some years ago, the chance arose to join a new group called the Friends of the Library, I jumped.

It was an easy decision. Here are just some of the reasons why:

- The library lets me take out books, again and again. It lets me renew them. And that in turn has helped my research for the writings I've done, not to mention general interest.
- It has so many books in its collection, and in such depth. That means not only can I often find what I'm looking for, I can thereby not buy so many myself, which, in turn, decreases my need for more bookshelves. It also means I can send a contribution to the Library fund in gratitude for all the dollars I'm saving.
- The staff is always so kind, thoughtful and helpful, no matter what the issue.
- Some of those staffers will help me get a hold of one of those few books I need that W&L doesn't have, through interlibrary loan—thereby saving me a trip to some other library that could well be far away. Again, some savings on money as well as time, and another reason I'm glad to donate.
- The Special Collections are astounding. Have you ever been



there? You'll get the typically warm welcome, and find an adventure into whatever it is you're looking for. I once wrote a paper on the caricatures in *Vanity Fair*, the 19th-century British magazine that now often adorns country clubs and professionals' offices. Special Collections has a complete set. My current work concerns Robert E. Lee; W&L has the best collection of his papers after the Virginia Historical Society. And, one-upping VHS, Captain Bob Peniston has transcribed many of them onto disk—they're even available online.

- When I was teaching a course at Southern Virginia University on American civilization, I supplemented my talks with some music of the period we were considering. W&L's CD collection came in mighty handy.
- When students leave for summer, Lexington quiets down (relatively speaking) and I have time to do some serious writing, Leyburn Library provides me a place to do it.

I could go on. But here's the basic reason why I'm a Friend of the Library:

The Library has been such a great friend to me.

Which reminds me: It's time to send in my donation!

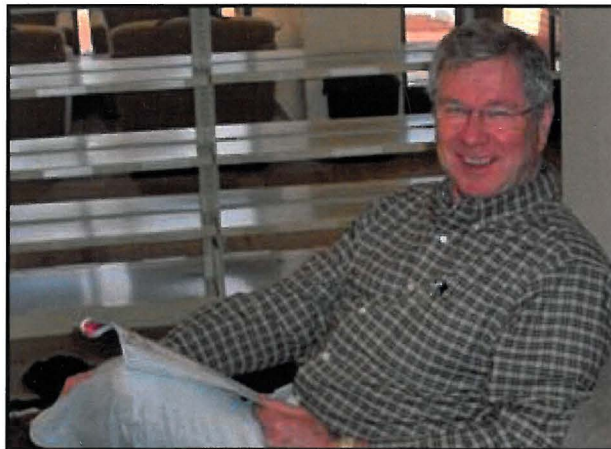
*David Cox*

---

## Notes from the Chair

It is hard to believe another academic year is almost over. As you know, or will find out in this issue of FOLios, the year has provided an exciting renovation of parts of Leyburn Library. If you haven't seen it yet, come by soon.

For the Friends in particular, we are proud to have established the John Rogers Award, named in honor of the donor of the first major gift of books to Washington Academy. We are especially pleased to make this first award to three outstanding individuals for their contributions to the Library and thus the University. This won't be an annual award; rather, we will present it when the Board decides it is appropriate to do so. We hope you will join us on May 2 as we honor these three exceptional library supporters. We will hang a plaque in the lobby of Leyburn listing these and future recipients of this prestigious award.



*Hardin Marion tries out new furniture.*

Finally, don't miss Bill and Stuart Buice's talk right after the award presentation. They have been avid book collectors for many years and have given tag-team talks to other libraries,

and we are fortunate to have them as Friends members and as our next speakers. Bill promises an entertaining and helpful talk for those of you who also collect, are considering collecting or just want to hear about a wonderful collection. They are planning to bring some items for us to browse.

And, if you haven't renewed your dues for 08/09, please do so before June 30. In these tough economic times, your contributions to the Friends make a bigger difference

than usual. The University has cut the Library's budget (and that of most departments on campus) for the 09/10 fiscal year. Even more than in the past, your dues and donations will go a long way.



## Renovation Is Over (for now!)

It really wasn't that long, but to those of us on campus who went through it, it seemed an eternity. In June 2008 renovation began in earnest; this was the easy part. We had talked about, consulted about and met about renovation in some form since before the year 2000.

Stacks and their contents were moved on lower level 1 to make room for the construction of new office space for the Technical Services folks. These are the staff members who do the critical behind-the-scenes work of the library: collection development, software management, binding, cataloging, subscription maintenance and myriad other tasks that are so vital. These functions, and the eight staff members who perform them, were moving permanently from the Main level to lower level 1 to make room for the expansive renovation of the Main level. So they had to get out of the way first. Gorgeous, efficient new space was built, and they moved in on Aug. 18.



*Combined Information Desk*

As Technical Services was moving, the demolition of Main began: Shelves taken apart and stored. Walls taken out. Carpet removed. Bathroom fixtures removed. Doors taken down and stored for use later. Wires hanging all over the place—definitely a no-access zone. A partition allowed access to the stairs and the elevators and nothing else.

If you peeked in the windows during the winter, you could



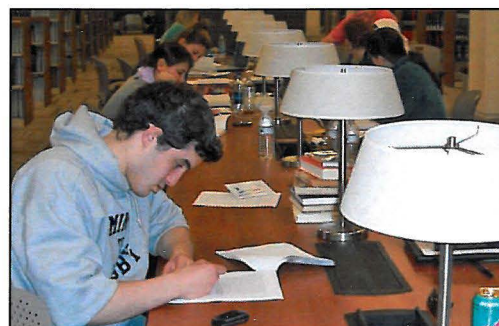
*Merrily Taylor, June Aprille, Carole Bailey, Rick Peterson*



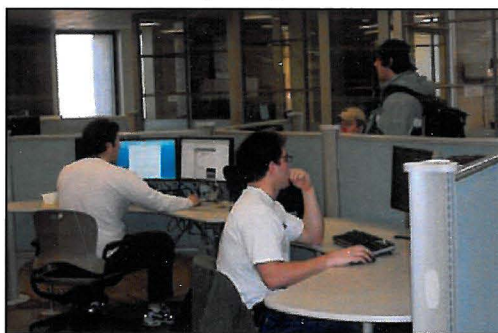
*Board of Trustees reception*

glimpse what was going on: new wall frames and then dry-wall. New ceiling. Lots of new wiring for electrical outlets and computer access. New entrance on the Elrod Commons side of the building. Paint in new, brighter colors. Color-coordinated carpet. And, at long last, new furniture all over the floor: comfy, movable, functional. Stacks were returned to the floor, ready for filling. The combined-services Information Desk (Reference, Access Services, Technology Help) is a huge, bright spot, visible and accessible from either of the entrances.

By January, students, faculty and (especially) staff, could sense that the end



was near. Everybody was chomping at the bit to get a full look at the new space. Staff and students worked throughout the last weekend in January to get ready for opening. We wanted to have at least a portion of the reference and periodical collection back on the shelves to give a sense of what it would be like once everything was back in place. As it turned out,

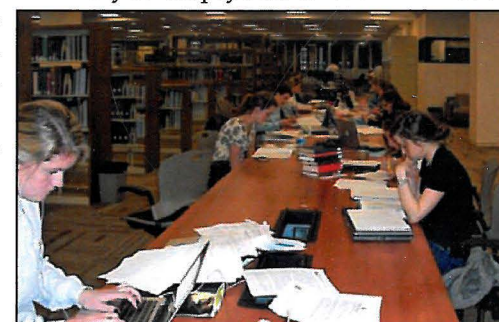


they worked so hard that virtually everything was back in place before the opening.

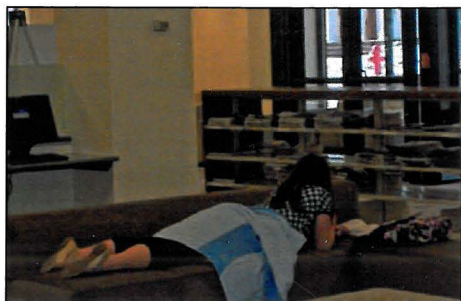
The big day arrived on Monday, Feb. 2, when Provost June Aprille

cut the ribbon to reopen the Main level. We served cookies all day, and students immediately made themselves at home. It was mid-terms, and from the moment of opening until February break, there was hardly an empty seat on the Main Level.

Dick Grefe, senior reference librarian, reported at 9 p.m. the first Wednesday night: "The Main Floor is pretty nearly packed. A rough head count of at







least 80 students on this floor—on a Wednesday night. Somebody did something right.”

The same night, Rick Peterson, chief technology officer, told us, “All but one of the

innovation lab computers were being used and numerous students had laptops out... The place felt very lively.”

The next day Janet Ikeda, associate dean of the College, e-mailed, “I was going home around 10 p.m. last night, and it was just plain exciting to see the flourish of activity in the new library space. Students were milling around, sitting at tables in the café, on computers—the whole place buzzed with a University glow! There’s no better place on a cold winter’s night than the library.” (Or any time.)

So what’s all the excitement about?

Bright lights and

lots of glass. Lots of comfortable seating. New areas for individual study and group study. Enhanced computer access, both wireless and cabled. Lots of natural light. A sense

of modernity with tradition. Drinks and snacks readily available. Lots of tables to spread out work. Ready access to specialists to help with any questions, whether library or computer related, and all in



*Tall tables in the Book Nook are a hit.*

one place. New, high-end Innovation Lab to assist students needing access to higher-functioning computers and video equipment. The Writing Center has a permanent home in Leyburn, and “has never had so many students sign up,” according to Professor Kary Smout, program advisor.

And it was all done on \$2.5 million, and done green. The old carpet was recycled. The new carpet is in sections, so that worn or damaged pieces can easily be replaced, and it is made from recycled material. The new technology uses less paper, creates less waste and cost less to install. Our e-mail kiosks are similar to old “dumb” terminals in that they work off a separate server, using less power and creating less heat. And when staff moved, we used existing boxes (libraries get lots of boxes) and plastic USPS tubs, so we purchased no new

boxes. We recycled the cardboard boxes when we were done and returned the tubs to the postal service.

So far, so good. We are returning artwork to the walls, slowly but surely. Students are learning how to use the new power-ready tables and the MACs. At this point, the only complaint we get (repeatedly) is, “When are you going to do the other floors?” Such is the price of doing things well—that’s one complaint we can live with, it means they like what we did. We are planning to make improvements on the other floors as funds permit, although we contemplate no major project in the library in the near future.

We hope the Friends like the new space, too. If you haven’t already seen it, please stop in; we’ll be happy to give you a tour. If you can’t get here before our May 2 event, tours will be available that day before and after the 3 p.m. talk by the Buices.



*Barbara Brown admiring the artwork she donated.*



*Students can sleep anywhere!*

## Food for Fines

From March through the end of the year, Washington and Lee students can pay their University Library overdue fines with canned goods. We donate all food items to W&L’s Campus Kitchens.

How much is a can of peas worth in overdue fines?

- \$1–5 in Fines = 2 cans
- \$6–10 in Fines = 4 cans
- \$11–20 in Fines = 8 cans
- \$20–50 in Fines = 16 cans

And NO, beer is not a canned good.

There are some limits to this bartering: (1) this arrangement applies only to current W&L students; and (2) borrowers must pay for all lost library materials with cash, check, general debit or charge.



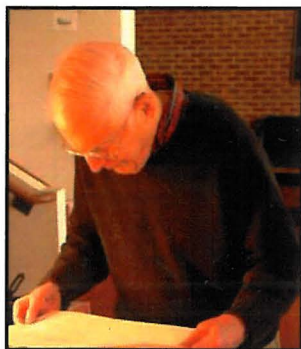


---

## John Rogers Award

John Rogers gave the first major gift of books to Washington Academy, in 1800. The Friends of the Library of Washington and Lee University bestows this occasional award upon vote of the board, to show appreciation to those individuals who, over a long period of time, have given extraordinary service and multi-faceted support to the University Library. Individuals may merit consideration for the award for many contribution types, from financial support to donation of materials to the very special gift of their time, intelligence and affection.

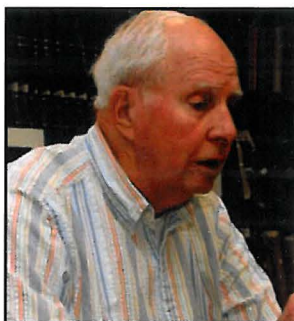
This year's recipients are David M. Clinger '55, Dr. Frederic B. Farrar '41 and Capt. Robert C. Peniston.



David Clinger has supported the University Library for years with his time and talents. In 2003, he and Bob Oldham restored the Washington Press that is housed in Leyburn Library. Clinger also donated boxes and boxes of metal type to be used with the press and in print-making classes in the Art Department. Whenever we need assistance with the press, he makes the trip from Richmond to help.



*Vaughan Stanley and Hank Humphries accept a donation from Fred Farrar.*



Bob Peniston retired from the Navy and moved to Lexington. After his retirement from the helm of Lee Chapel, for 10 years he has faithfully volunteered in Special Collections. He single-handedly transcribed the letters of Robert E. Lee into digital form so scholars all around the world can access them.

We are proud to recognize these three outstanding individuals for their contributions to the University Library of Washington and Lee University.

We will present the awards at 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 2, in Northern Auditorium of Leyburn Library.



---

## Overdue Book Returned After 145 Years

On Feb. 28, Mike and Paula Dau, of Lake Forest, Ill., made a special stop on their way to a Florida vacation to return a book missing from the library for 145 years. Harry Goodheart '66, the owner of Goodheart Books in Tryon, N.C., facilitated the donation by arranging communication between Mr. Dau, the owner of the book, and Laura Turner, technical services librarian. The book, *History of the War in the Peninsula and in the South of France*, by W. F. P. Napier, was volume one of a four-volume set. An undated inscription in the book by an unknown Union soldier refers to the book's removal during Hunter's Raid in June 1864. On the title page, the handwritten "Washington College" mimics the title page of volume two that remained in the Library collection. The bindings of the gift volume and volume two also are identical. The other volumes of the Library's set are bound differently and came through another gift, in the early 20th century. Mr. Dau was excited to see the match between volumes one and two. His only stipulation on the donation was that we not charge him overdue fees.



## Special Collections Shines Again

It's been a busy year for Special Collections. In July 2008, we acquired the 1830 *Muster Roll* of the 144th Virginia Militia, Rockbridge Regiment. It includes information about the regiment and a later scrapbook of obituaries of veterans.

And:

- 73 rare books from long-time donor Jim Green '84L. Several of these volumes date back to the 16th century.
- 7 books on Aaron Burr from a Burr descendant.
- 100 more volumes for the Roger Mudd Collection.
- A 1607 vellum indenture of Sir Thomas Shirley.
- A copy of an Oct. 15, 1870 letter describing President Lee's funeral.

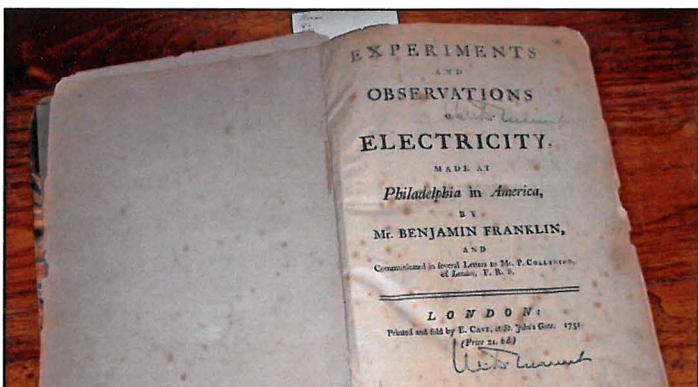
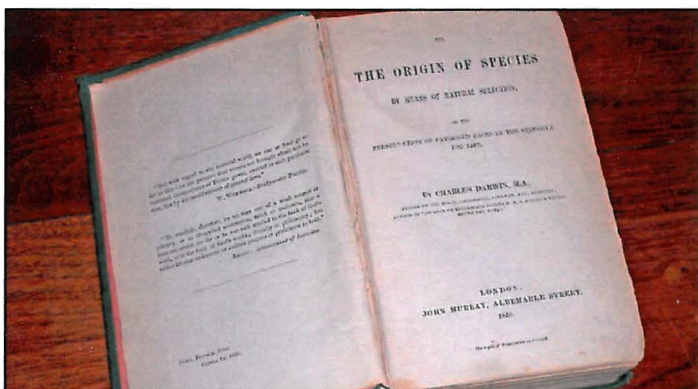
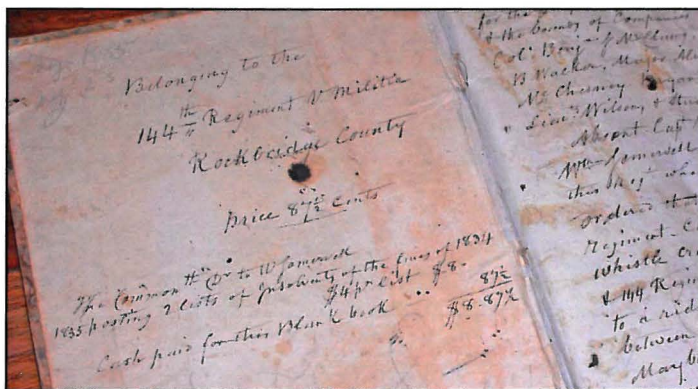
In honor of Charles Darwin's 200th birthday, Special Collections and the Biology Department created an exhibit in the Boatwright Room, spotlighting W&L's first edition copy

of Darwin's *On the Origin of Species*, published in London in 1859, when Darwin was 50. Our copy is a gift of former W&L biology Professor William Dana Hoyt.

## "Vying for Shelf Space in a Two-Collector Home"

What happens when a collector of the Romantic poets and essayists marries someone interested in Virginia Woolf and the Hogarth Press? Find out May 2 at 3 p.m., when *The Friends Present* a lecture by Bill ('61) and Stuart Buice.

Don't come expecting a scholarly deconstruction of Wordsworth, Coleridge, Keats, Shelley or the Bloomsbury circle. Join Bill Buice and his wife, Stuart (Duke '64), as they describe their descent into bibliomania and share treasures from their collections.



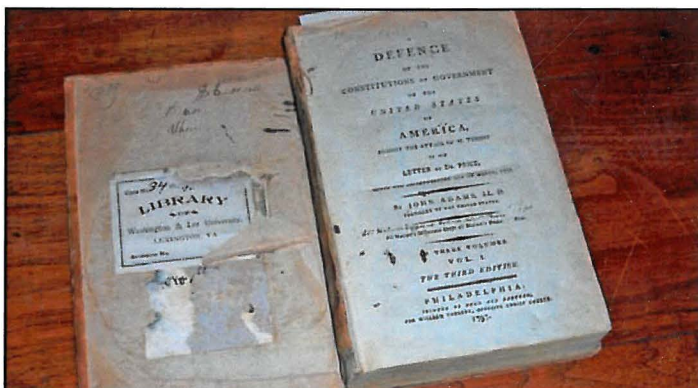
## Adopt-a-Book Program

Would you like to adopt a Special Collections book or manuscript in need of repair? Here are a few of the items in crucial need of help and the estimate of the cost to repair each:

- John Adams, *A Defence of the Constitutions of Government of the United States of America*, Volume 1. Adams was a prolific writer on political theory. This work, published in Philadelphia in 1797, needs repair, estimated at \$800.
- Charles Darwin, *On the Origin of Species*, London, 1859. First edition. Landmark work in the history of science. Estimate for repair is \$300.
- Benjamin Franklin, *Experiments and observations on electricity*. London 1751-1754. The first publication of Franklin's electricity experiments. Estimate for repair is \$750.

Plus—a bonus feature —Adopt a Manuscript.

*Muster Roll* of the 144th Regiment of Virginia Militia, Rockbridge County, 1830s. Newspaper obituaries pasted in over written information. Estimate for repair is \$1,000.







## *In Memoriam*



LECOMPTE DAVIS '41  
THE HONORABLE  
WILLIAM H. OAST JR. '44  
FRANK C. BROOKS '46

## Upcoming Events

April 30	9 a.m.-6 p.m.	Cancelled Book Stores in Charlottesville
April 30	4 p.m.-7 p.m.	Friends ONLY Book Sale preview and sale
May 1	2 p.m.	FOL Board Meeting, Leyburn Library
May 2	3 p.m.	Bill and Stuart Buice, "Vying for Shelf Space in a Two-Collector Home"
May 1-4	24 hours	Annual Book Sale
June 30		Last day to renew for 08/09 fiscal year
July 1		First day to renew for 9/10 fiscal year

For full details on any of these events, please go to the Friends Web site at [library.wlu.edu/friends](http://library.wlu.edu/friends)



Lauren Skerrett '11 summed up the students' opinions: "I really love the newly renovated Leyburn. Bringing the library up to date and adding the great lighting really makes the library a great place to work. As a matter of fact, the other day I overheard a student saying that 'the library is the new Commons.' I'm glad I get to spend a couple of years using it."

