Lumières, 1979

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.lsu.edu/foll

Recommended Citation

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Libraries at LSU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Friends of the LSU Libraries by an authorized administrator of LSU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact gcoste1@lsu.edu.
Henry L. Snyder, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at LSU, discussed the history of newsletters, news books, and newspapers from their inception in the 16th century until 1800 when “newspapers as known today had been perfected.” Tuesday evening he was featured speaker at the annual meeting of Friends of the LSU Library at the LSU Faculty Club.

“Early newspapers were not very appealing to look at . . . you had to hunt for the features,” Snyder said. He described the quarto format used in early papers in which pages one and two were printed early in the week. Page three was printed last and page four left blank for mailing purposes. Readers, therefore, opened the paper to page three to get the latest news. He pointed out that the early papers had their Jack Andersons, Drew Pearsons, and advice to the lovelorn.

Early newspapers in England would cost four pounds, the equivalent of $200 for a year’s subscription, even though an individual paper would sell for a hapenny (half penny). The result was that coffeehouses and businesses would take a year’s subscription and each paper would be read by as many as 50 people.

In tracing the history of newspapers, Snyder pointed out the effects of censorship and taxation on their development. It was not until well into the 18th century that political news was allowed in London, he said, adding that when first permitted, papers could write about what the House of Commons had enacted, but not the debate. He explained that the House of Lords was off limits — this was known as the privilege of Parliament. It was not until the 19th century that political news was freely reported in England.

For a time, Parliament controlled papers by taxation. A hapenny tax was placed on a hapenny paper, thereby doubling its price.

One of the best sources of news was the Netherlands, where there was no censorship, Snyder observed. Dutch newspapers became an important center for the transmission of news from the 17th to the 19th centuries.

Snyder displayed examples of three news forms from his private collection to illustrate the size and type of early papers.

—Pat Baldridge

as appeared in State Times April 4, 1979
Profile of a Bibliophilic Photographer

Cecil Beaton and Gail Buckland, in their book *The Magic Image*, termed his work “romantic-mystical” and grouped him with the photographic geniuses of the last 140 years. *Newsweek* magazine has called him “legendary,” friends and acquaintances know him to be a philosopher, and he has described himself as an extreme romantic.

Clarence John Laughlin of New Orleans—73 years old, articulate, urbane, and exuding enthusiasm—has an eminent reputation as a photographer of stunning innovation. But he is firm in stressing that he was a writer and book collector first.

Born in Lake Charles, Mr. Laughlin spent his very early years on a plantation near New Iberia before moving to New Orleans in 1910. His formal education stopped after his first year in high school, but his actual education has never stopped.

In the 1920s, the young Clarence John Laughlin began collecting books, and his library grew to over 20,000 items, with emphasis on the arts including many rare works on surrealism, dadaism, art nouveau, and art deco; science fiction and phantasy in all its manifestations; and other volumes that interested him. He also amassed a very large collection of magazines, running the gamut from thousands of the “pulp” publications to those devoted to specialized interests such as camera work, minotaure, and cahiers d’art.

About 1925, Mr. Laughlin became interested in the French symbolists and began writing prose poems and macabre fiction. It was a decade later that he embarked on a career in photography, self-taught through trial and error, with a style that became uniquely his own. In his long search to discover as much as possible of the whole range of the camera’s potentials, Mr. Laughlin began to perceive that it was possible to keep the good aspects of traditional relationships—are my constant themes and preoccupations.

Because of these metaphysical and poetic preoccupations, I frequently attempt to show in my work, in various ways, the unreality of the ‘real,’ and the reality of the ‘unreal.’ This may result, at times, in some distortions. But art should be disturbing; it should make us both think and feel; it should infect the subconscious as well as the conscious mind; it should never allow complacency nor condone the status quo.”

Mr. Laughlin’s work fits his philosophy.

Loyce J. McIlhenny
LSU Office of Publications

October 11, 12, and 13 has been set aside for the fourth annual Book Bazaar — to be held at Bon Marche Mall. A goal of 40,000 books, hardback and paperback, has been set for sale.

Fiction, nonfiction, history, art, and books on all subjects are being accepted. Records, sheet music, and magazines in good condition are also being collected.

Donors are reminded that book deposits may be made without tax receipts at the Book Barn in the basement of the Hill Memorial Building — east of the Indian Mounds, across West Campus Drive. The drop box, located just inside the double-door entrance, is open all day. Drop boxes are also located at Kean’s and AAA dry-cleaning stores.

Gifts of books to the *Friends* are tax deductible and receipts will be provided for tax purposes, if requested. Volunteers are working at the Book Barn Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Call 343-6586 for pickup information.

Last year’s Book Bazaar earned over $12,000 for the *Friends*, which will enable the LSU Library to acquire valuable books and materials not provided for in its basic budget.

---

Donors are reminded that book deposits may be made without tax receipts at the Book Barn in the basement of the Hill Memorial Building — east of the Indian Mounds, across West Campus Drive. The drop box, located just inside the double-door entrance, is open all day. Drop boxes are also located at Kean’s and AAA dry-cleaning stores.

---

Gifts of books to the *Friends* are tax deductible and receipts will be provided for tax purposes, if requested. Volunteers are working at the Book Barn Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Call 343-6586 for pickup information.

---

Last year’s Book Bazaar earned over $12,000 for the *Friends*, which will enable the LSU Library to acquire valuable books and materials not provided for in its basic budget.
Friends Annual Banquet

The annual Friends' banquet meeting was held at the Faculty Club on April 3, 1979. Dr. Edward M. Boagni, III, President, welcomed the members and guests and presented Dr. John Wildman, Chairman of the Awards Committee. Calvin E. Hardin received the Friends of the LSU Library Award for his donation of cookbooks collected by his wife, the late Bulah Hardin, valued at $15,000. Another award recipient was Powell Casey, generous donor, whose contributions are matched in triplicate by Exxon Corporation.

An addendum to the by-laws was presented by Mary Jane Kahao in the absence of Kate Wallach, Chairman of the Charter and By-Laws Committee. Ms. Kahao moved that the following be added to Article VII to clarify the Friends of the LSU Library tax-exempt status with regard to postage regulations:

“In case of dissolution of the organization, funds remaining in the LSU Foundation Friends of the Library accounts shall be distributed according to the direction of the Director of the LSU Library.”

Motion carried.

Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Chairman of the Nominating Committee presented the slate of officers and asked for nominations from the floor. Dr. Boagni and the present officers were reelected by acclamation.

Dr. Henry Snyder, Dean of Arts and Sciences, was introduced by the President and he spoke on “Newsletters to Newspapers: The Beginnings of English Journalism to 1800.”

Dr. Boagni thanked Mary Anna Stanford, Edith Kirkpatrick, and Josie Kirby for the banquet arrangements and spoke briefly on the need for an electronic security system for the Library.

The Friends were reminded of the October Book Bazaar and that the Committee is already collecting books for the sale.

Gifts

MEMORIAL GIFTS

For the purchase of library books in memory of:

Mr. Hopkins P. Breazeale, Jr.  
by Mr. H. Parrott Bacot; Dr. and Mrs. Milton Harris; Mr. and Mrs. H. Leslie McKenzie; Chancellor and Mrs. Cecil G. Taylor

Mrs. Lulie England  
by Mr. and Mrs. John S. White, Jr.; Mrs. Edith W. White

Mr. Matthew Evanstock  
by Ms. Marie Champagne; Ms. Evelyn Jeansonne; Ms. Emily LeBlanc; Ms. Judy Whisman

Mrs. Louis Ferraro  
By Ms. Florien McKnight; Mrs. Florrinell F. Morton

Mrs. Annie Boyd Grayson  
by Dr. and Mrs. Milton Harris; Mrs. Lillian K. Stokes; Chancellor and Mrs. Cecil G. Taylor

Mr. Vincent Guaccero  
by Dr. and Mrs. William A. Johnson

Miss Mary Agnes Hebert  
by Mrs. Florrinell F. Morton

Miss Mary Alice Hebert  
by Mrs. Florrinell F. Morton

Mrs. Ann Bell Sheffer Hodge  
By Mrs. Linda Noe Laine

Mrs. Bertha E. Caulkins Hodge  
by Mrs. Linda Noe Laine

Mr. Charles Edward Hodge  
by Mrs. Linda Noe Laine

Dr. Richard C. Keen  
by Ms. Florien McKnight

Dr. W. D. Kimbrough  
by Dr. and Mrs. Harry J. Bennett; Dr. and Mrs. William A. Johnson; Ms. Florien McKnight

Mr. Walter J. LeBlanc  
By Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tuminello

Mrs. Stella LaCoste  
by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tuminello

Mr. Sam McBurney  
by Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Millican

Mrs. Christine Nettles  
by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tuminello

Dr. N. Philip Norman  
by Mr. M. Stone Miller

Mr. Arthur Palmer  
by Mrs. Marguerite D. Broussard; Mrs. Florrinell F. Morton

Mr. Victor A. Sachse  
by Chancellor and Mrs. Cecil G. Taylor

Lumieres

Published by the Friends of the LSU Library  
131 Pleasant Hall, Louisiana State University, Mary Jane Kahao, editor

Literally “lights” in French, lumieres is frequently used to denote enlightenment or knowledge. As such, it illustrates the purpose of the newsletter: to enlighten members of the Friends of the LSU Library with news of the organization and with needs of the LSU Library. The cover design is based on an exquisite hand-illuminated border from a 15th century French religious manuscript.
Financial Statement  
January 1978 - December 1978

Balance in LSU Foundation Account  
December 31, 1977  
$35,226.46

Income:  
Memberships, Memorials, Gifts in Honor of Individuals  
Book Bazaar  
Interest  
Total  
$28,919.25

Expenditures:  
Jan. ’78 Establishment of the  
Behre Foundation Account  
Transfer to 175-30-6305 for authorized map purchases  
Reimbursement for fees paid  
Feb.  
Transfer to 175-30-6305 for authorized book purchases  
Transfer to operating account  
Mar.  
Transfer to 175-30-6305 for authorized book purchases  
Annual banquet expenses  
Apr.  
Transfer to 175-30-6305 for authorized book purchases  
May  
Accounting Services correction  
Transfer to Endowment Fund  
Transfer to operating account  
Transfer to 175-30-6305 for authorized archival purchases  
June  
Transfer to 175-30-6305 for authorized book purchases  
Transfer to 175-30-6305 for authorized La. Room purchases  
Accounting Services correction  
Nov.  
Reimbursement for postage, supply items  
Dec.  
Postage due  
$23,847.07

Balance in LSU Foundation Account  
December 31, 1978  
$40,298.64

Library Endowment Fund  
December 31, 1978  
$30,750.82

Friends of the Library  

Officers

Dr. Edward M. Boagni, III, President  
Mrs. Charles H. Morton, Vice-President  
Caroline Wire, Treasurer  
Mary Jane Kahao, Secretary

Classes of Membership

☐ A. Student Member (annually)  $2.00
☐ B. Regular Member (annually)  $10.00
☐ C. Contributing Member (annually)  $25.00
☐ D. Sustaining Member (annually)  $50.00
☐ E. Patron Member (annually)  $100.00
☐ F. Life Member  $1000.00 or more  
or the donation of unusual and distinctive material valued at $1000 or more
☐ G. Institutional or Corporate Member (annually)  $500.00
☐ H. Honorary Life Member
☐ Check payable to LSU Foundation for Friends of the Library
☐ I prefer to pay as follows: ____________________________

Member's signature
Address
City and State
Date

Friends of the LSU Library  
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

U.S. Postage  
PAID
Baton Rouge, La.  
Permit No. 733