1-1-1984

Lumières, Special Tenth Anniversary Issue, 1984

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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Friends of the LSU Library: A History

Since its founding in 1962, the Friends of the LSU Library organization has become one of the most successful of any library support group of its kind in the country. The history of this group is not one long continuum but divides into two different periods—the early founding period in the 1960's and a second period after reorganization in the mid 1970's.

In 1962, N. M. Caffee, LSU vice-president and dean of academic affairs, called together a group of librarians, LSU faculty members, and Baton Rouge citizens he thought might be interested in the formation of a Friends group. Dr. Caffee stated that the purpose of the organization would be "cooperating with the librarians in the development of the resources of the LSU libraries." The primary activities would be working to spread interest in university libraries to people in the state and beyond and to obtain financial support and contributions of special collections for the University.

Several persons present at the organizational meeting became responsible for the success of the group. One of these was Mrs. Ella V. Aldrich Schwing, then a member of the LSU Board of Supervisors, whom Dr. Caffee introduced as "an unemployed librarian." Mrs. Schwing expressed enthusiasm and support for the formation of a Friends group and emphasized the potential it had for Louisiana and the University.

Another person present at that first meeting was Dr. T. Harry Williams who also enthusiastically supported the concept of a Friends group because any strengthening of library resources would help to stimulate students and faculty to greater academic achievement.

Mr. Louis C. Reinberg, director of the LSU Foundation, described the organization and activities of the Foundation and said that the Friends group could be organized within the framework of the Foundation and be tax exempt with all gifts being tax deductible.

The first officers were elected with Mrs. Maxine Wilenzick, chairman; Mrs. Leslie McKenzie, vice-chairman; Mrs. Florence Peters, secretary; Mr. Trent James, treasurer; and Dr. Hulon Lott, member-at-large. The library director, T. N. McMullan, was ex-officio. At the second meeting Mr. Harnett Kane and Dr. Lawrence Lowrey were added as members-at-large.

The Friends organization remained small in its first years of existence. There was a general meeting once a year. Committees were formed, a constitution adopted, and the custom of an annual banquet begun. Although small in size there were significant accomplishments.

Support was given to the purchase of the Audubon Elephant Folio from an unrestricted grant made by Crown Zellerbach to the LSU Foundation. The organization purchased a number of paintings by Louisiana artists from monetary contributions made to the Friends. A lobbying effort was begun to secure the funding for the addition of two more floors to the new library occupied in 1958. (Construction on the two floors was finally begun in 1983.) Personal collections of faculty members and private book collectors were solicited.

After the general meeting in 1967 there were no meetings for several years. It was as if after a period of high energy the organization needed a long sleep to gain renewed strength.
Shortly before he retired as chancellor, Cecil Taylor along with Dean Emeritus Max Goodrich invited all officers and board members of the Friends to a meeting on July 30, 1974. The stated purpose of this meeting was to increase the level of activities of the Friends organization. It was agreed by all present that revitalization of the Friends was needed and several goals were drawn up. Committees were formed to contact the Friends membership and revise the constitution and by-laws. Chancellor Taylor and Dean Goodrich volunteered to work for the organization; this duo was dubbed the Library Development Committee and became the guiding focus of the newly revived organization.

The officers elected in 1974 were Charest Thibaut, president; Mrs. Leslie McKenzie, vice-president; Mary Jane Kahao, secretary; Caroline Wire, treasurer. The new library director, George J. Guidry, Jr., lent his support as an ex-officio member of the executive board. This group built on foundations already established by the previous organization.

The preparations for the sale quickly became a year-round activity. As the bazaar became firmly established the quota of books for each year’s sale was raised. By 1980 the Book Barn was processing 50,000 books a year was raised.

When Hill Memorial had to be vacated for renovation in the fall of 1983, the Book Barn operation went through three different locations in one year. One happy result of the moves was that one of the temporary locations, the LSU 4-H Mini-Farm Barn, proved to be an ideal new location for holding the annual sale. In the fall of 1984 the book bazaar was moved to the Mini-Farm and reduced to a two-day sale. The proceeds were almost as much as the three-day sale at Bon Marche. After the 1984 sale the Book Barn operation was moved to the basement of Middleton Library.

Another idea conceived by the new executive committee in 1975 was a newsletter for the Friends. The secretary, Mrs. Mary Jane Kahao, was appointed editor. Mrs. Kahao, working with Chancellor Taylor, Dean Goodrich, and personnel in the LSU Office of Information Services set up the newsletter. It was entitled Lumieres, French for “enlightenment” and first published in the fall of 1975. Mrs. Kahao was responsible for editorial content; the format was designed by Carole Edwards, the artist in Information Services. This attractive publication received several awards in the first years of its existence.

The new executive committee formed a purchase committee to coordinate with the library. In the ten years 1974-84 over $120,000 was expended in purchases for the Middleton Library. These purchases covered a range of subjects. There were purchases of microform sets or microfilms; purchases for the general library collection; and purchases for special collections, the Louisiana Collection, the Department of Archives and Manuscripts, and the Mcllhenny Collection.

In 1980, the practice was begun of giving a keepsake to each Friends member at Christmastime. The keepsakes are reproductions from items in the library collection or are related to the library in some way. The first keepsake was a reproduction of a Knute Hulderg etching from the Louisiana collection, followed the next year by a copy of the Troy H. Middleton biography by Frank Price published by the LSU Press. The keepsakes quickly became popular with the Friends membership; this little surprise is looked forward to every year at Christmastime.

When the Friends organization was revitalized in 1974 the balance in the Friends account was $4,710.30 and the Endowment had $14,971.82. In November of 1984 the Friends account had $181,245.71 and the Endowment had grown to $139,680.15. There are also numerous endowments of varying amounts given in the name of individuals.

The ten years of success were celebrated in November 1984 with a champagne reception at the home of Dean and Mrs. Henry L. Snyder. All past presidents and board members were honored with gifts of appreciation. Chancellor Cecil Taylor and Dean Goodrich were given gifts for their guidance and support.

The party also marked a beginning with the presence of a new library director, Sharon A. Hogan, who came to LSU in July 1984.

With the momentum the Friends organization has built up over the last ten years, it can be expected that the Friends of the LSU Library will continue to build upon past accomplishments to achieve even greater success in the future.

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Chancellor Emeritus Cecil Taylor (left) and Dean Emeritus Max Goodrich (center) were presented special gifts for their support of the Friends by Friends President Mrs. John M. West III (right).
Mrs. R. Gordon Kean (left) was thanked for her role in the success of the Friends of the LSU Library as a past president and book bazaar chairman. Also participating in the celebration were Mrs. Max Goodrich (center) and Mr. R. Gordon Kean (right).

Dr. and Mrs. Paul Murrill (left) conversed with Mr. Theodore Martineau and the new LSU Library Director, Sharon Hogan (right).

Photographs by Don Morrison

Officers and Board Members

1974-1976
President, Charest Thibaut, Jr.; Vice-President, Mrs. Leslie McKenzie; Secretary, Mrs. Mary Jane Kahao; Treasurer, Miss Caroline Wire; Board Members, Dr. Max Goodrich, Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Mr. Leland Richardson, Mrs. Patt Foster Roberson, Mrs. Ella V. Aldrich Schwing, Dr. Cecil Taylor, Miss Kate Wallach, Dr. John Wildman; Ex-officio, Dr. Donald Foos, Mr. George J. Guidry, Jr., and Dr. T. Harry Williams.

1976-1977
President, Mrs. R. Gordon Kean; Vice-President, Mr. Leland Richardson (President, April-December 1977); Secretary, Mrs. Mary Jane Kahao; Treasurer, Miss Caroline Wire; Board Members, Mr. Powell Casey, Dr. Max Goodrich, Mrs. Florrinell Morton, Mrs. T. O. Perry, Mrs. Patt Foster Roberson, Mrs. Ella V. Aldrich Schwing, Dr. Cecil Taylor, Miss Kate Wallach, Mrs. Anna Jane Warriner, Dr. John Wildman, Dr. T. Harry Williams; Ex-officio, Dr. Donald Foos, Mr. George J. Guidry, Jr., and Mr. Charest Thibaut, Jr.

1978
President, Dr. E. M. Boagni; Vice-President, Mrs. Florrinell Morton; Secretary, Mrs. Mary Jane Kahao; Treasurer, Miss Caroline Wire; Board Members, Mr. Louis Curet, Mr. Powell Casey, Mrs. Donald Gerald, Dr. Max Goodrich, Mrs. Claude Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Warren Ogden, Dr. Charles Prosser, Mrs. Ella V. Aldrich Schwing, Dr. Cecil Taylor, Mr. Charest Thibaut, Miss Kate Wallach, Dr. John Wildman, Dr. T. Harry Williams; Ex-officio, Mr. George J. Guidry, Jr., Mrs. R. Gordon Kean.

1979
President, Dr. E. M. Boagni; Vice-President, Mrs. Florrinell Morton; Secretary, Mrs. Mary Jane Kahao; Treasurer, Miss Caroline Wire; Board Members, Mr. Louis Curet, Miss Sallie Farrell, Dr. Max Goodrich, Mrs. Claude Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Eugene Owen, Mrs. Warren Ogden, Dr. Charles Prosser, Mrs. Ella V. Aldrich Schwing, Dean Henry Snyder, Dr. Cecil Taylor, Mr. Charest Thibaut, Miss Kate Wallach, Dr. John Wildman; Ex-officio, Sister Marie Cairns, Mr. George J. Guidry, Jr., Mrs. R. Gordon Kean.

1980-1981
President, Dean Henry Snyder; Vice-President, Mrs. Claude Kirkpatrick; Secretary, Mrs. Anna Perrault; Treasurer, Miss Caroline Wire; Board Members, Mrs. C. D. Baldridge, Mr. Louis Curet, Miss Sallie Farrell, Dr. Max Goodrich, Mrs. Mary Jane Kahao, Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Mrs. Florrinell Morton, Mrs. T. Warren Ogden, Mrs. Eugene Owen, Dr. Charles Prosser, Mrs. Ella V. Aldrich Schwing, Mrs. Joseph Simmons, Dr. Cecil Taylor, Mr. Charest Thibaut; Ex-officio, Dr. Edward M. Boagni III, Dean Jane Carter, Mr. George J. Guidry, Jr.

1982-1983
President, Dr. Charles Prosser; Vice-President, Mrs. Eugene Owen; Secretary, Mrs. Anna Perrault; Treasurer, Miss Caroline Wire; Board Members, Mrs. C. D. Baldridge, Miss Sallie Farrell, Dr. Max Goodrich, Mrs. Mary Jane Kahao, Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Mrs. Claude Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Charles Bryant Smith, Mrs. Delroy O. Spann, Dr. Cecil Taylor, Mrs. John West; Ex-officio, Dr. Edward M. Boagni III, Sister Marie Cairns, Mr. George Guidry, Jr., Dean Henry Snyder.

Lumières Published by the Friends of the LSU Library
131 Pleasant Hall, Louisiana State University, Anna Perrault, editor

Volume 9, Special Issue

Literally “lights” in French, lumières 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.
Friends of the Library Purchases

1975
Chaucer, Geoffrey. Kelmscott Chaucer. Facsimile. London: Basilisk Press, Ltd. $530.00 Rare PR 1850 1974
McClellan, Margaret Hutchinson. William Joseph Hutchinson and Family of Caspian plantation. Shreveport: Privately printed. 22.50 La Coll CS 71 H975 1975
The Madrid Codices de Leonardo da Vinci. New York. $765.00 Rare Z 6616 L8fRA7 1974
Mississippi Historical Society. Eudora Welty's Fairy Tale of the Natchez Trace. Jackson, Mississippi. $7.50 La Coll PS 3545 E6F33
New York Graphic Society. Standing Order Plan. $500.00 to continue earlier gift. 3 year standing order, 1975-1978

1976
Bailey, Nathan. An Universal Etymological English Dictionary. London: Printed for R. Ware, W. Innys, and others. $850.00 Rare PE 1620 B3 1735
Jeffreys, Thomas. The Natural and Civil History of the French Dominions in North and South America. London: 2,000.00 Rare F 1080 J45
New York Times, Columbia University Oral History Collection. 404 Memoirs on 4 x 6 Microfiche and Index. $3,700.00 Microfiche 959

1977
Albums of Louisiana Civil War Photographs 1861-1865. Two-hundred views of New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and various locations in Louisiana, and Federal naval vessels with crews and armaments. $2,200.00 Archives Department
The Underground Newspaper. Microfilm collection. 1973. 35mm positive microfilm. Bell and Howell. $940.81 Film 3020—Index: Bbl Z 6944 U51US25

1978
Confederate Imprints 1861-1865. A collection on microfilm. New Haven, CT: Research Publications. $4,282.00 Film 4106—Index: Z 1242.5 R45
Kauffman, Richard. Headlands. Bookplate: In memory of Leland Richardson. San Francisco: Friends of the Earth. $127.50 Rare F 689 B6354
Saroyan, William. Morris Hirshfield. Milan: Franco Maria Tulli, 1975. $100.86 Rare ND 237 H5S8T7
United States Census of Louisiana, 1900. Microfilm and Index. $2,127.00 Doc F 1
Victoria and Albert Museum. Microfiche of the Collection. Complete set of five departmental collections in separate binders. $1,500.00 Microfiche 1585
Vigny-Citoule, M., Alfred de Vigny. Persistances et affinites etrangeres. Paris, 1924. $75.00 Rare PQ 2474 Z5C5
William T. Sherman, Two Letters to his Adopted Father 1860-1861, $1,950.00 Archives Department

1979
Bible. The Douai-Rheims Bible. The Holy Bible faithfully translated into English out of the authentical Latin printed at Douay by Lawrence Kelton, 1609. Two volumes. $975.00 Rare BS 180 1609 The New Testament printed at Rheims by John Fogney, 1582. $875.00 Rare BS 2080 1582
Historic American Building Survey. Washington: Library of Congress Photoduplication Service. 66 reels. $882.00 Film 4326
The Index of American Design. Color microfiche with printed catalogues (10 parts). Standing order. $1,430.00 Ref NK 805 15 1989
Latrobe. The Papers of Benjamin Henry Latrobe. Microfiche. $600.00 La Coll NA 737 L34C36
Sherman, William Tecumseh. The William Tecumseh Sherman Papers. Library of Congress. 51 reels of microfilm. $702.00 Archives Department
Yankee Civil War Cartoon Envelopes. $550.00 Archives Department

1980
Abbey, J. R. Travel in Aquatint and Lithography 1770-1860: a bibliographical catalogue. Curwen Press, 1956-1957. $500.00 Rare NE 143 A58
Bible. The Bruce Rogers Oxford Lectern Bible. $3,250.00 Rare BS 185 092 1935
Farm Security Administration. WPA Photograph Collection. Microfiche. Chadwyck-Healy. $4,700.00 Microfiche 3050
Juda P. Benjamin Collection. Twelve items—letters and photographs. $1,500.00 Archives Department
Percy, Walker. Manuscript. The original typescript, with holograph corrections by Percy, throughout, of "An Interview with Walker Percy" which appeared in the little magazine Shenandoah, in 1967. The interview, in which Percy talks enlighteningly on his works and the influences upon it, was conducted by Ashley Brown and his holographic corrections are present as well. $750.00 Archives Department
Rousseau. (Gacon, F.) Anti-Rousseau par le poete sans fard. Rotterdam. 1712. $125.00 Rare PQ 2292 Z5G27

1981
Le Corbusier Archive. 32 volumes. Garland. $3,300.00 NA 2707 LAA4 1982d
Foot, Mirjam M. A Collection of Bookbindings: the Henry Davis Gift. The British Library. Purchased in honor of Dean Emeritus of the Library School, Mrs. Florrinell F. Morton. $130.00 each volume. Rare Z 269 F67
Tuet, Abbe Jean Charles Francois. *Matinees Senonoises*. 1789. Purchased in honor of Chancellor Emeritus Cecil G. Taylor on the occasion of the rededication of the French House. $250.00 Rare PN 6450 T7

1982

Audubon, John James. *Prospectus for the Birds of America*. Under the special patronage of her Majesty Queen Adelaide. Published in London by the author in 1831. The Prospectus was published to solicit subscriptions for the elephant folio. Only sixteen copies were published. This copy was the only one left in private hands. $2,000.00 McIlhenny Collection.

*The Illustrated Bartsch*. Abaris Books. 1981- Standing Order. 52 volumes. $5,700.00 NE 90 B213

*XX·Siecle*. (Vingtieme Siecle). Series I: Vols. 1-2, No. 1 (all published). Paris, 1938-1939. Purchased from Ars Libris Ltd. This famous art periodical contains original graphic by Kandinsky, Matisse, Laurens, Miro, Ayr, de Chirico, Duchamp, Ernst, et al. $1,500.00 N2 V529

*The Works of William Blake, Poetic, Symbolic, and Critical;* edited by Edwin John Ellis and William Butler Yeats. London: Bernard Quaritch, 1893. 3 volumes. Purchased in memory of Mrs. Ella V. Aldrich Schwing. $1,000.00 Rare PR 4141 E4

1983

*Banks' Florilegium*. Alecto Editions, London. 1983-1988. A collection of 738 botanical prints made from 200 year-old copper plate engravings depicting plants discovered and recorded during Captain James Cook's first voyage to the South Seas in 1768. Middleton Library is one of only 13 owners of the *Banks' Florilegium* in the United States. Funding of the project is being divided between a private donor, the Friends of the LSU Library, and the Library. $100,000.00 McIlhenny Collection QK5 B33 1980

*Klaus Berger Art History Collection*. A privately owned art history collection of approximately 2,000 titles primarily concerned with 19th and 20th century French art, especially strong in European imprints. $30,000.00

1984

*Cuban Papers*. Since the early 1970's LSU and Loyola have participated in a project to have filmed at the Archives of Seville in Spain all the documents of the Spanish commandants for the area which became Louisiana. The National Endowment for the Humanities supported the project until 1980. The Friends of the LSU Library have pledged funds to complete the project under the direction of Professor Paul Hoffman with some funding to be obtained from other sources.

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**Financial Statement**

**1974-1984**

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<td>12/84</td>
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**Other Funds Begun through the Friends**

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Classes of Membership

☐ A. Student Member (annually) $2.00
☐ B. Regular Member (annually) $10.00
☐ C. Contributing Member (annually) $25.00
☐ D. Individual or Corporate Patron Member (annually) $100.00
☐ E. Patron Member (annually) $500.00
☐ F. Life Member $1,000.00 or more or the presentation of unusual and distinctive materials valued at $3,000.00 or more, within a calendar year.
☐ 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 State Zip

Date

Officers

Mrs. John M. West, III, President
Mrs. Delroy O. Spann, Vice-President
Anna Perrault, Secretary
Caroline Wire, Treasurer

Friends of the LSU Library
LSU Foundation
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

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