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Lumières, Fall 1988

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LUMIÈRES

Friends' Purchases Enhance LSU Libraries' Collections

Sometime in the Spring or early summer of 1989, the LSU Libraries will add the two-millionth volume to the collections. As this special occasion approaches, it is appropriate to look back at purchases and gifts from the Friends of the LSU Library and emphasize their role and significance in building the premiere library collection in Louisiana and one of the strongest in the Gulf states. While the impressive special collection items purchased by the Friends attract attention, other collections are just as significant in illustrating the effect Friends have had on the libraries' collections and the research and scholarship those collections support.

Some Friends may not be aware that purchases over the years have regularly supported core collecting concerns not only of "special collections" now housed in the Hill Memorial Library, but also of the libraries' broader collection needs as well.

A major source for research in Confederate Civil War History, for example, is the collection of microfilm of *Confederate Imprints 1861-1865*. For historical reasons, the largest collections of confederate imprints are located in several northern libraries. Recognizing that the literature and writings of a whole culture would disappear if not acquired immediately, in 1866 the Boston Athenaeum appointed a special acquisitions task force to obtain copies of all Confederate imprints that could be identified. That collection became the basis for most of the bibliographies of Confederate imprints as well as for the microfilm collection filmed by Research Publications of New Haven, CT. The Friends purchase of the microfilm collection in 1978 provided the central collection for researchers and students at LSU, in an area where the price of original items has made it the domain of

millionaire book collectors and specialists. Originals are almost unobtainable at any price, and even Louisiana titles are poorly represented in the LSU collections. This collection provides much needed primary material for scholarly research.

In 1976, the Friends purchased the *Columbia University Oral History Collection* on microfiche for the library. The Columbia University program provided a major impetus to the whole field of Oral History and the collection is a primary source for historians of the 20th century.

In a similar vein, the *Underground Newspaper Collection*, filmed from collections in California, provided access to selective issues of counter-culture newspapers from the rebellious 1960's. This was a very important complement to the largest collection the libraries have ever acquired, the Richard T. Ely collection, purchased by LSU in the 1930's. The collection contained extensive materials on 19th and early 20th century radical movements, documenting the origins of populist and socialist philosophies. The underground newspaper purchase was made in 1977. It had been available since 1973, but the libraries were unable to purchase it until the Friends decided to support it. This collection also fits well with the still unprocessed Katanka collection which carries the radical movements of the 60's into the 1970's.

The general collections in the art, architecture, and design fields were greatly strengthened by the addition of several large microform collections supported by Friends funding. One of the premier decorative arts collections in the world is housed in the Victoria and Albert Museum. In 1978, the Friends purchased a microfiche set documenting five major departmental collections of the V & A for the libraries.

See page 2

The most significant collection in the U.S. of photographs of American architecture is the *Historic American Buildings Survey* which was filmed from the collection in the Library of Congress. The microfilm collection includes 66 reels containing 45,000 photographs and 35,000 pages of text describing architecturally significant sites and structures in the USA and was purchased for the library by the Friends in 1979.

The Index of American Design was part of the Federal Art Project which was a part of the W.P.A. in the 1930's. The aim of this project was to compile a visual survey of decorative, folk, and popular objects made in America up until 1900. The microfiche collection filmed from the photographs and drawings of the project is in color microfiche with printed catalogues. This collection was purchased from Friends' funds in 1979.

Le Corbusier is second only to Frank Lloyd Wright as the architect who has had the most far-reaching effect on contemporary practice. The *Le Corbusier Archive* published by Garland press in 32 volumes was acquired by the Friends of the Library in 1981 for the use of students of architectural history.

In 1980, the Farm Security Administration WPA *Photograph Collection* filmed by micro-publisher Chadwyck-Healey, was purchased and once again the Friends provided funding. This collection is unusual in that students of the history of photography and the depression years in the United States make use of its contents, bringing together two major areas of research.

In 1983, while providing approval of funding for the monumental *Bank's Florilegium* housed in Hill Memorial Library, the Friends provided partial funding of a significant book collection concerned with 19th and 20th century European and French art, the The Klaus Berger Art History Collection. This collection has been catalogued and most of its volumes placed in the libraries' open stacks. It provides strong support for the study and teaching of the history of Western art.

One of the most important single collection purchases supported by the Friends is the Clarence J. Laughlin library. When processed, its range of titles will provide significant additions to the libraries' collections in 20th century literature and art. The majority of the titles from that collection of over 30,000 volumes will directly serve the needs of undergraduate and graduate programs. At the same time, it will provide in-depth research materials. It has already been used by producers of an upcoming program on the life and times of Laughlin being filmed by a team at Loyola University. This happy balance of special collecting needs and general collection support is a hallmark of many Friends' purchases over the years.

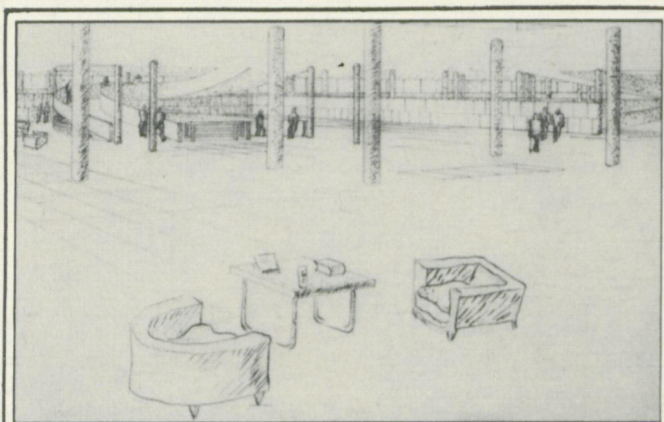
Other areas of the collection supported by special Friends purchases include: philosophy (in 1978 the Friends established a standing order for the new 33-volume set of the *Oeuvres Completes* of Denis Diderot, the great French naturalist philosopher of the 18th century) and science (the approval to support the acquisition of a new Star Atlas).

Another example of the Friends influence on library collections can be seen in the number and quality of gifts made by people who are not officially affiliated with the group. A former Louisiana resident (now in Texas) provided the library with copies of mathematics textbooks written by J. W. Nicholson which were not in our collections. A superb copy of a salesman's "subscription" book for the *Life* of Jefferson Davis, written by his wife, has been donated to the libraries (only one other copy is shown in national cataloging records), and items as varied as Mississippi plantation records and extra copies of works by Faulkner are regularly called to our attention. Hardly a week goes by in Collection Development when we aren't given the opportunity to review material for the collections because people know about the Friends and their activities in support of the library.

The Friends impact on the library goes beyond the "financial" benefits. The LSU Libraries receive support which money alone can't buy. This aspect of the Friends efforts, the very tangible goodwill that is a by-product of its activities, may in the long-run be the best gift and the most lasting. We have created a tradition of support.

As we approach the two-millionth volume, Friends should recognize that their influence on the collections is significant. In the last 14 years, Friends' support has become an integral component of efforts to develop and strengthen the collections in the LSU libraries. All members of the Friends of the LSU Library can be proud of the contributions to scholarship made by the organization.

Charles Hamaker
Assistant Director for Collection Development



The Le Corbusier Archive contains reproductions of over 32,000 drawings in addition to essays by twenty eminent architects making it a major source for the study of modern architecture.

LUMIÈRES Published by the Friends of the LSU Library
Louisiana State University, Anna Perrault, Editor

Vol. 13, no. 2.

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 the news of the organization and with the needs of the LSU Library. The cover design is based on an exquisite hand-illuminated border from a 15th century French religious manuscript.

1988 WAS A VERY

LSU Library Endowment Reaches a Quarter of a Million Dollars

The top, late-breaking news item for 1988 is that at the Board of Director's meeting Nov. 8, 1988, the board voted to transfer from the regular LSU Foundation operating account into the LSU Library Endowment Fund the \$35,000 needed to reach the goal of \$250,000 set several years ago.

In further action, the board set a new goal of \$500,000 for the Library Endowment Fund to be reached by 1994 when the Friends organization will celebrate its twentieth anniversary.

A Year for Awards

At the annual foundation banquet held LSU homecoming weekend, the Friends of the LSU Library organization was presented one of the corporate awards recognizing its significant contributions to the LSU Foundation for the benefit of the University. Other corporate award recipients were Coca-Cola Inc., Community Coffee Co. Inc., Piccadilly Cafeterias Inc., and Shell Oil Co. Foundation. The award was accepted by Marion Spann, president of the Friends of the LSU Library.



Vicki Hanson of Baker & Taylor presents Marion Spann with the award to the Friends of the LSU Library for its selection as the best academic library support group in the country.

Also this year, Mrs. Spann accepted an award and a check for \$500 at the American Library Association conference in New Orleans in July. Friends of Libraries, U.S.A. honored the Friends as the outstanding support group for an academic library in the United States. The LSU Library Friends group has become well established and its activities are drawing recognition regionally and nationally.

The Friends first publication, *Nature Classics: a Catalogue of the E. A. McIlhenny Collection at Louisiana State University* won the Southeastern Library Association Southern Books Competition. The book will travel in an exhibit with other winners to libraries throughout the southeast and be included in a permanent collection of the design competition at the University of Kentucky Library.

Nature Classics fulfilled one of the major objectives—to draw attention to the McIlhenny Collection at LSU. In addition to reviews, awards, and exhibits, a full-page feature in the June 2, 1988 issue of *The Chronicle of Higher Education* reproduced a color illustration from the book accompanied by a short article on the McIlhenny Collection written by Kathy Morgan.

Top Year for Fundraising Projects

How can the Book Bazaar continue to set new record totals? 1988 was another good year. The never-let-up attitude of numerous loyal volunteers, residents of Baton Rouge, and LSU supporters account for the phenomenal success of the book bazaars. The 1988 Book Bazaar merits its own feature article in this issue of *Lumière*s.

Goodrich-Taylor Assistantship Endowment

At the September board meeting, Dr. Trent James reported that the Goodrich-Taylor Award Fund continues to build toward the goal of \$75,000 with over \$15,000 raised. Committee members Mrs. Marilyn Davis, Mrs. Bill Holtman, Mr. Leslie McKenzie, Mrs. Nancy Murrill, Mr. T. O. Perry, and Mrs. Anne West, have worked tirelessly over the last two years to get the endowment established.

The Goodrich-Taylor Award Fund is dedicated to an assistantship for library science graduate students. The Friends' board matches contributions to the fund and grants a free one-year membership to any person donating \$100 or more to the fund.

The committee is planning several fund raising activities in the future. A letter has recently been sent out apprising Friends membership and donors of the progress of the endowment. Appreciation is expressed to all of those who have generously contributed.

All Friends' endowments continue to grow through a combination of gifts and interest earned. The financial statement for 1988 with all the endowments will appear in the spring issue of *Lumière*s.

Audubon Conservation Project Sponsored

In 1987, the executive board voted to undertake a preservation project which would save the most valuable and deteriorated of the single framed Audubon Elephant folio prints owned by the LSU Libraries. A first phase consisted of removal of the prints from mats and frames which were contributing to their deterioration; purchasing storage cabinets for the lithographs; purchasing thirty frames in which the restored prints could be displayed in rotation; and conserving the most damaged prints. After viewing the splendid restoration work by Baton Rouge conservator Margaret Moreland on the eight prints in the first phase, the executive board has authorized a second phase for completion of the Audubon project. Original Audubon lithographs which had become too fragile to display and too valuable to allow to continue to self-destruct from acidity, have been rescued and conserved.

GOOD YEAR

Other Highlights of 1988

Purchases

One of the most long-sought after and outstanding purchases made by the Friends occurred in 1988—the *Oxford Lectern Bible* produced by the Oxford University Press in 1935 and designed by Bruce Rogers. The copy was purchased for the LSU Bruce Rogers collection and was formerly the property of Louis E. Stern, one of America's foremost collectors of paintings and sculpture who had the copy bound in black blind tooled niger morocco. No Bruce Rogers collection can be considered outstanding without a copy of the *Oxford Lectern Bible*, his finest typographical work.

Another important purchase the Friends agreed to support in 1988 is the *New Palomar Observatory Sky Atlas*. When this project is completed in the 1990's, LSU will have the finest sky atlas modern technology can produce, one that will be able to see fainter celestial objects than has ever been possible in the past.

Spring Workshop

The second Friends spring workshop, *Spectrum of the Book Arts*, held April 20, 1988 in Hill Memorial Library, was reported in the spring issue of *Lumierés*. The success of the workshop continued to become apparent in numerous ways. All of the workshop speakers have promoted a continuing interest in the LSU Friends and some are already involved in helping in other Friends activities. Several participants have joined the Friends membership after attending the workshop.

Librarian for a Day

At the American Library Association conference in New Orleans in July, the Friends sponsored a table in the exhibits hall. The table exhibit had been planned before it was announced that the Friends would receive the outstanding academic support group award in 1988. The table gave an excellent opportunity for the LSU Friends to show off its accomplishments. The table featured Friends' publications and activities. Copies of the "Book Bazaar Manual" and *Nature Classics* were sold.

Members staffing the table took full advantage of their admittance to the exhibits to book browse. Many obtained free books and an introduction to librarianship in the automation age as well. The over 2,000 exhibits of books and library technology can be mind boggling. After a few hours of roaming the aisles, though, most had figured out the system and had enjoyed being a librarian for a day. Quite a few were overheard saying, "Wouldn't it be fun to do this again next year?" Those members involved on behalf of the Friends felt that participation in ALA was quite successful and that contacts were made which will be beneficial to the organization.

New Year's Resolutions

From the membership: to attend all Friends activities and

to continue to support the organization as they have done so loyally and generously in the past.

From the executive board: to continue to intensify efforts to raise funds for the LSU Libraries by supporting the fundraising efforts of the Book Bazaar, the Goodrich-Taylor Endowment committee, and all other fundraising activities; and, to offer the membership new and continued benefits for Friends membership.

For the first New Year's resolution, the membership committee, chaired by Mrs. John West, is sponsoring a new project for the membership year beginning January 1989. For members joining at the \$50 level or above, there will be special tours scheduled of both the Middleton and Hill library buildings. The tours will feature information on collections and operations, especially LOLA, the LSU Libraries integrated online system. The tours will conclude with coffee and refreshments in Hill. Members are urged to attend these tours and become better acquainted with the LSU Libraries' collections and new technology to access those collections. Information will be sent out for exact dates and times for members to sign up.

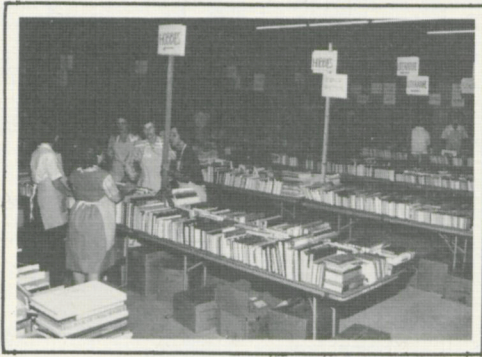
Another exciting project sponsored by the membership committee is a class, *The History of the Book*, for its members. The class will be taught by Robert Martin, Assistant Director of Libraries for Special Collections. It will be offered free to members in six night sessions in February and March. It is anticipated that this will be a very popular "perk" of Friends membership. Those interested should sign up soon after receiving the registration information.

Although not a new project, the board is determined to equal or surpass the success of previous Friends spring workshops. Mrs. Eugene Owen, chair of the 1989 workshop to be held April 19, reports that the subject will be photography. The focus will be two-fold: to highlight LSU's collection of historical photography, and to provide participants with information on how to recognize and preserve old photos. Several local experts in the field will provide a stimulating and practical workshop; members are urged to make plans to attend. The workshop is a good opportunity to introduce prospective new members to Friends activities.

In another New Year's resolution Mrs. Julie Hamilton, the chair of the annual dinner, reports that a stimulating after dinner speaker has already been booked for the night of April 13, 1989. Professor Terry Belanger, head of the Rare Books School at Columbia University, is known as a witty and entertaining speaker. Professor Belanger visited LSU in June when the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of the American Library Association came to the LSU Libraries as part of its conference. The visitors were very impressed with Hill Memorial Library and its collections. They heard also of the success of The Friends of the LSU Libraries. Professor Belanger is looking forward to meeting the members. April 13th is another date to mark on the calendar.

Annual Book Bazaar

Lucky 13!



The tables are loaded with books as workers enjoy the last minutes of calm before the opening onslaught of buyers.

There was no reason to dread "number thirteen," because the success story of the Friends of the LSU Library annual book bazaar continues with another record total set in 1988. The three-day sale held Sept. 29-Oct. 1 experienced the usual overflowing crowds of readers who love a good deal on a book. The sale was held on the LSU campus in the 4-H Mini Farm Barn. This facility is provided to the Friends of the week of the sale every year through the generosity of Chancellor Rouse Caffey and the LSU Center for Agricultural Sciences and Rural Development.

The combined sales from 1988, the annual book bazaar, and the book barn textbook sales, reached the highest of any year so far, \$45,500. This year's book bazaar raised \$41,000. The LSU annual book bazaar is the largest single fund raiser of any library support group in the United States. The thirteen book bazaars have raised almost \$400,000—a half million in book bazaar revenue alone is not far away!

Congratulations for its success in 1988 go to the officers, Mrs. Willard Fruehan, chair; Mrs. John H. Keenon, secretary; and Mrs. Raymie Edmonds, treasurer. The year-round book barn operation in the basement of Middleton Library is run by book barn chair, Mrs. Eugene Owen, with co-chair, Mrs. R. Gordon Kean.

The book Bazaar raises so much money it takes numerous treasurers to count it! Serving as assistant treasurer was Mrs. Warren Dixon Millican. Treasurers for the day were Thursday, Mrs. William E. Edrington; Friday, Mrs. Iveson B. Noland, III; and Saturday, Mrs. John Campbell, Jr.

In charge of lining up, scheduling, and training volunteers was Mrs. Delroy Spann, helped by co-chairs, Mrs. John M. West, III and Mrs. E. W. Brousseau. Serving as sales chair was Mrs. Kenneth Carpenter. Arrangements and stock chair was Mrs. John Gonce with her co-chair, Mrs. T. O. Perry.

The year-round job of collecting books donated to be sold was accomplished by book collection chairman Mrs. Warren Green, with co-chairs Mrs. Wylie Barrow, Sr. and Mrs. Leighton Ewell. Arranging transportation for the 50,000 books to the 4-H Mini Farm Barn was the job of Mrs. Cary Long.

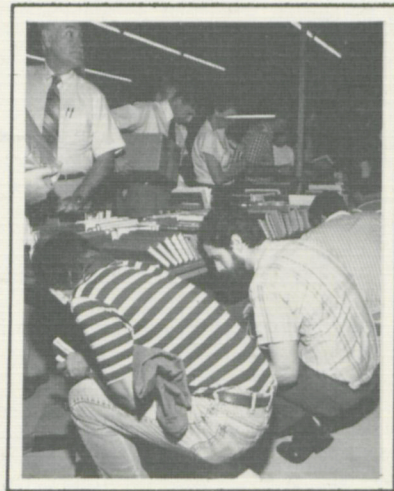
Publicity chairman was Mrs. James Hessburg. LSU campus publicity was arranged by Mrs. Charles Grenier. Information chairman for the sale was Mrs. Chauvin Wilkinson. Hospitality chairman was Mrs. Norman David, assisted by Mrs. Donald Woodland.



Mrs. Marie Fruehan, book bazaar chair for 1988, takes a moment to thank Chancellor Rouse Caffey for the loan of the 4-H Mini Farm Barn and Mrs. Kitty Hessburg for her success as publicity chair, while Mrs. Marion Spann, Friends' president, anticipates the beginning of another sale.

Mrs. Charles Bryant Smith served as liaison, with Miss Caroline Wire as the LSU Library liaison. Mrs. Don Bell is in charge of the scrapbook.

Every year, the local news media provides a blitz of coverage the week of the annual book bazaar. Many local businesses also assist in the publicity effort by putting messages about the dates of the sale on marquees, billing statements, and newsletters. The members of Friends of the LSU Library are grateful for the cooperation and assistance given by the local and LSU communities in publicizing the annual book bazaar.



Some take the high road, some take the low road. No matter what is on the tables, some people are convinced better bargains are hidden underneath.

The dates for the 1989 Book Bazaar are September 21, 22, and 23. Mary Alice Carpenter has accepted the challenge of leading the 14th Book Bazaar effort. She will have the knowledge, dedication, and all-out effort of a marvelous crew of volunteers who will, as they do every year without fail, make 1989 another big success.

Photographs by Don Morrison

MEMORIALS

In memory of:

Mrs. Jessie Brown
from Miss Renee Nesbitt

Mrs. Lisa Bell Burns Gregorie
from Dr. Cecil G. Taylor

Mrs. Helen E. (Peg) Harrell
from Dr. and Mrs. Max Goodrich

Mrs. Gordon Johnston
from Dr. and Mrs. T. A. Kirby

Dr. Charles McVea
from Dr. and Mrs. Irwin A. Berg

Mrs. Patricia Cherry Miller
from Mrs. John M. West, III

Dr. Everett Oertel
from Mrs. James C. Barton, Mrs. Jane
T. Bennett, Dr. and Mrs. Terence
Beven, Dr. Mark T. Carleton, Mrs.
Celia S. Hissong, Dr. and Mrs. Robert
B. Holtman, Mr. and Mrs. William J.
Hughes, Jr., Mrs. Margaret W. Mills,
Mr. J. Huntington Odom, Ms.
Josephine B. Russell

Dean Emeritus Roger W. Richardson
from Miss Margaret Jameson, Dr.
Cecil G. Taylor, Mrs. P. Chauvin
Wilkinson

Dr. Claude L. Shaver
Dr. Cecil G. Taylor

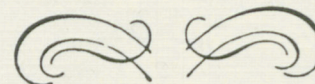
Mrs. Margaret Taylor
LSU Library Staff Association

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Officers

Mrs. Delroy O. Spann, President
John Hill, Vice President
Mrs. Paul Murrill, Secretary
Mrs. Eugene Owen, Treasurer



Classes of Membership

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