

Spring 4-1-1988

# Lumières, Spring 1988

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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# LUMIÈRES

## LSU Friends

# Receive National Recognition

The Friends of the LSU Libraries organization has been chosen as the winner in the 1988 annual Friends of Libraries USA competition. The award is given by the national organization for library support groups, Friends of Libraries USA. The judging is based on the execution of projects and enthusiasm of the group. High on the list of activities earning the award is the phenomenal success of the annual Book Bazaar. The award is a check for \$500 given by the Baker & Taylor company. It will be presented at the American Library Association's annual conference to be held in New Orleans, July 9-12, 1988. The presentation will be made at the Author Luncheon at the New Orleans Intercontinental Hotel on Saturday, July 9 at 12 noon.

Information on the accomplishments of the LSU Friends will be featured in an upcoming issue of *National Notebook*, a publication of the Friends of Libraries USA. Publications from Friends groups around the country will be displayed in the Friends of Libraries USA booth at the ALA conference with recognition of the LSU Friends group as the 1988 award winner.

The Friends of the LSU Library will have a table in the exhibit area of the American Library Association conference in New Orleans. The table will showcase Friends' projects such as the Book Bazaar and *Nature Classics*. Copies of Friends' publications, brochures, and publicity on Friends' activities and projects will

be displayed. The table will be staffed by Friends volunteers and LSU Library staff members. Anyone wishing to attend the awards luncheon or the conference exhibits and help staff the table should contact Caroline Wire at 388-2217.

In other national recognition, the E. A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection was the subject of a full-page color feature in the June 1, 1988 issue of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. A short article on the McIlhenny collection, "The Eye of a Connoisseur, the Intellect of a Scientist," by Kathryn Morgan, was accompanied by a color reproduction from the Friends' publication, *Nature Classics*. The "Purple-Breasted Carib," by John Gould, the first color plate in *Nature Classics*, was the illustration reproduced. This same illustration was distributed to the Friends membership as the Christmas keepsake in 1986. The feature in *The Chronicle* cited *Nature Classics* as the source of the illustration. *The Chronicle of Higher Education* is a weekly newspaper published in Washington, DC, read by everyone endeavoring to keep abreast of news and trends in higher education.

The Friends of the LSU Library organization has been well known regionally for many years, but now the Book Bazaar, publications, workshops, and other activities have put the LSU Friends in the national spotlight.



# 1988 Annual Banquet

Each spring, over one hundred persons gather at the LSU Faculty Club to celebrate the accomplishments of the Friends of the LSU Library and to honor those who have made outstanding contributions to the organization. The occasion is both a pleasant social gathering and the annual business meeting. This year the president for 1987/88, Mrs. Mary Jane Kahao, presided over the evening, moving down the agenda as the delicious Faculty Club dinner was served.

One of the high points of the evening was the presentation of the awards by the committee chair, Mrs. Eugene Owen. The first presentation was the Doris Dennis Smith Book Award which honors Book Bazaar workers for exceptional contributions and hard work. The recipients for 1988 are Mrs. John West III and Mrs. Cary Long. Mrs. West is a former Book Bazaar chairman, a past president of the Friends, and she has been a Book Barn worker and transportation chairman for over ten years. Mrs. Long was in charge of the textbook section in the Book Barn for a number of years. She was responsible for a substantial increase in textbook sales through having mini sales several times a year and getting bins for unwanted textbooks placed in local bookstores. Another of her fundraising ideas this past year was the sale of a Friends of the LSU Library tote bag.

In addition to the Doris Dennis Smith Book Awards, there were two life memberships given for the donation of significant collections or other outstanding support of the LSU Libraries. Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Gandy of Natchez were honored for their donation of a large collection of photographs. Many of these photographs from the Thomas H. and Joan Gandy Photograph Collection were used in the exhibit "Cameos of Black History in Louisiana and the South, 1724-1898" staged in Hill Memorial Library February 1-April 15, 1988. Others honored with a life membership for their sustained support of the research mission of the LSU Libraries were Dr. and Mrs. Jack Andonie. Dr. Andonie is the current chairman of the LSU Board of Supervisors.

Two outgoing board members were presented certificates in recognition of their service, Mrs. Gordon Kean and Dr. Charles Prosser. Mrs. Kean has been a board member since the founding of the Friends of the LSU Library organization. Dr. Prosser has served as president of the Friends. Two outgoing board members from the previous year were presented certificates also, Mrs. Edith Kirkpatrick and Dr. Edward Boagni also a former president.

The election of new officers and board members was one of the main items of business at the annual banquet. Mrs. John M. West III, chair of the nominating committee presented the slate of officers: president, Mrs. Delroy O. Spann; vice president, John Hill; secretary, Mrs. Paul Murrill; and treasurer, Mrs. Eugene Owen. New board members are Mrs. Julie Hamilton and Mrs. Lucy Priddie. Board members asked to serve another term were Dr. Trenton James, Mrs. John Noland, Mrs. Eugene Owen, and Mrs. Doris Dennis Smith. The nominations were accepted by acclamation.



*Mrs. Cary Long (left), Doris Dennis Smith Book Award recipient, is congratulated by incoming Friends vice president John Hill and Mrs. Hill.*



*M. Stone Miller (left) and Faye Phillips of the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections talk with Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Gandy who were honored with life memberships for their gifts to the Library.*



*Board member Mrs. Mary Bennett (left) and H. Ben Johnson congratulate Mrs. John M. West III, recipient of the Doris Dennis Smith Book Award.*

*continued*

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

**Vol. 13, no. 1.**

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.



Sharon Hogan, Director of the LSU Libraries, praised the Friends for the success of the Book Bazaar and other fund-raising efforts and thanked them for the purchases made for the library. She also entertained the group with an account of the purchase of the *Oxford Lectern Bible* which had occurred just a few days before the banquet. After the decision to purchase the Bible had been made, the dealer was asked if the volumes could be shipped immediately to Baton Rouge to arrive in time to be shown at the annual dinner and the Friends workshop the next day. The dealer was reluctant to trust the shipping to any commercial carrier and insisted that an individual pick the volumes up in New York and carry them all the way to Baton Rouge. He was finally convinced to allow Sotheby's to handle packing and shipping. They arrived the day before the dinner and were displayed that night.

Special guests at the dinner were the speakers for the Friends spring workshop who were introduced by Bob Martin, assistant director of Libraries for Special Collections. The workshop was to be held the day after the dinner. The speakers for "Spectrum of the Book Arts" themselves represented a spectrum of the field. They included W. Thomas Taylor of Austin, Texas; Claire Van Vliet, Vermont; Don Etherington and his wife Monique Lallier, Greensboro, North Carolina; and Charlene Garry, London. Along with the introductions, Mr. Martin spoke briefly about modern fine printing and encouraged those present to attend the workshop.

**Book Bazaar.** Under the chairmanship of Mrs. Julie Hamilton, the 1987 Book Bazaar carried on the tradition of successful fund-raising. The Book Bazaar and textbook sales combined total was \$41,000. The 1988 chairman is Mrs. Marie Fruehan; the dates are September 29, 30, and October 1 at the 4-H Mini-Farm Barn.

**Goodrich-Taylor.** Mr. Leslie McKenzie reported that the amount in the Goodrich-Taylor Award Fund continues to increase and is currently about \$12,000. The Friends Board has agreed to match all future donations up to the amount of \$5,000; individuals and organizations are invited to contribute.

**Treasurer's Report.** Mrs. Eugene Owen reported that Book Bazaar contributions now total more than \$300,000 and book purchases have amounted to \$242,832. The main endowment is over \$200,000 and the regular Friends foundation account has over \$150,000. These sums do not include smaller endowment accounts named for an individual.

**Audubon Conservation Project.** A new project approved by the Friends this year is the conservation, matting, and framing of the twelve most valuable framed Audubon prints owned by the LSU Library. The initial project also includes storage cases to hold all one hundred of the single framed Audubon prints. The Audubon project is being funded by interest from the Friends endowment. When the project is completed, the individual Audubon prints will be rotated for display to rest each print periodically.

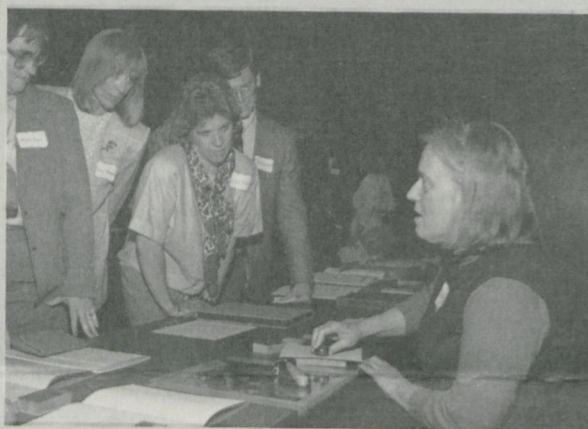
**Publications.** Anna Perrault gave a progress report on *Nature Classics*. The book has been reviewed and received bibliographic recognition both regionally and internationally. It was included in an international exhibit of library publications in Frankfurt, Germany held in connection with the Frankfurt Book Fair in October, 1987. As a result of seeing a copy of *Nature Classics*, an editor at *The Chronicle of Higher Education* ran a full-page feature on the E. A. Mcllhenny Natural History Collection using color illustrations from the book.

The president thanked all who had worked to make the past year another full and successful period for the Friends of the LSU Library. The membership thanked Mrs. Kahao for her leadership in the two years she served as president.

# Spectrum of

The Second Annual Friends of the LSU Library workshop took place on April 20, 1988 in Hill Memorial Library. It was devoted to examining the design, illustration, printing, and binding of fine books, thus covering the "Spectrum of the Book Arts."

The workshop featured presentations by four internationally renowned experts in the field. The morning began with a stimulating slide presentation by Claire Van Vliet, proprietor of the Janus Press in Vermont, which has established a worldwide reputation for producing fine books. Using the *Circus of Doctor Lao*, which she first designed for the Limited Editions Club, and then later reworked in a much more elaborate version for her own imprint, Ms. Van Vliet demonstrated each step in designing and producing a book.



Claire Van Vliet shows the process of making a print from a woodblock illustration.

Don Etherington, international expert on conservation and binding, first treated the audience to a slide presentation on the process of restoring an older text by encasing it in a new conservation binding. He then showed outstanding examples of modern design bindings which are works of art themselves. Mr. Etherington argued convincingly for the incorporation of sound conservation practices into the work of design binders so that the binding does not damage but rather preserves the text it encases.

Following a relaxing lunch at the LSU Union, the workshop participants reconvened for an informal dialogue with W. Thomas Taylor of Austin, Texas, a well-known antiquarian bookseller and distributor of fine press books, who has also become a highly respected designer and publisher in his own right. Mr. Taylor briefly surveyed the reasons why one collects fine books, saying that at least in his own case, the text is what makes a book worth owning or printing in a fine edition. He defined the elusive concept of fine press books as those which were well-conceived and well-made, properly marrying all the elements that go into book-making with the theme of the text. Making a fine book, he noted, involved doing common things uncommonly well.

The final speaker of the workshop was Charlene Garry, proprietor of the Basilisk Press, a London firm well-known for its works featuring fine illustrations. With her background in art history, Ms. Garry is most interested in the products of modern fine presses which feature design elements as the focal point of the book. She displayed a wide



# the Book Arts

variety of the works not only of her own press, but also of the many fine presses worldwide for which she is a distributor. As she displayed the different items, she commented on the printing and design elements and explained the range of prices that such works can command from the library and the collector.

After a delightful tea courtesy of the Friends, the workshop speakers conducted informal demonstrations on various aspects of book-making. Claire Van Vliet had several woodcuts from which she made prints, demonstrating the illustration process she uses in books she designs and prints. Don Etherington and his wife, Monique Lallier, both of whom design bindings, demonstrated leather binding techniques. Participants looked at the examples of modern fine press editions which both Charlene Garry and Tom Taylor had brought to the workshop and talked with them about collecting.

In connection with the workshop, there was an exhibit of works from the Bruce Rogers collection in the LSU Library Rare Book Collections entitled "Bruce Rogers: His Words and His Work." Bruce Rogers is the foremost American book designer of the twentieth century. There were also exhibits of works published by the Janus Press, the Basilisk Press, and by W. Thomas Taylor.

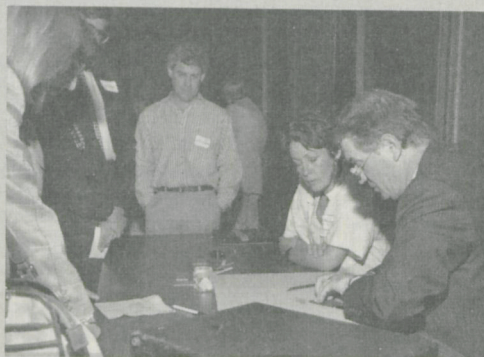
At the end of the workshop a keepsake of a quote from an article entitled "On the Work of Bruce Rogers" was given to each participant. Workshop committee member Elaine Smyth who had designed the workshop brochure and curated the Bruce Rogers exhibit, printed the keepsake in Spectrum typeface on her own press. With the keepsake, the participants took with them an example of fine printing and a souvenir of the workshop.



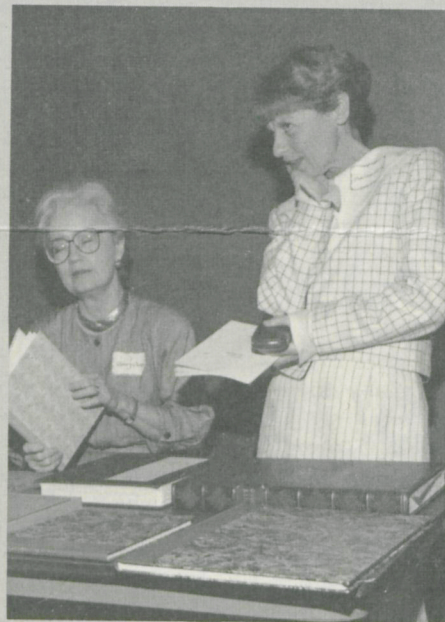
*Professor David Culbert and W. Thomas Taylor engage in a discussion of modern fine printing.*

The workshop attendees commented enthusiastically on the variety of the speakers' subjects. The informal interaction during some of the presentations and the demonstrations were also favorably received by participants. The workshop served to introduce the subject of fine book design to the Baton Rouge community. The general feeling among participants seemed to be that the presentations were geared to interest people from every level of knowledge and expertise. Such workshops and exhibits serve to

educate and entertain the public regarding the intellectual and cultural material to be found within the Rare Book Collections and to encourage the use and support of those collections. These activities also bring LSU's Special collections into the line of vision of other professionals, librarians, booksellers, and book artists who are involved in producing fine press books. The workshop accomplished all of these objectives and was enjoyed by all who attended.



*Don Etherington and Monique Lallier demonstrating executing corners on leather fine bindings.*



*Charlene Garry explains the fine points of limited editions to Mrs. Eugene Owen (left).*

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**Photographs by Don Morrison**



# PURCHASES

*Oxford Lectern Bible.* Oxford University Press, 1935.

The first issue of *Lumieres*, November 1975, featured a short article on the Bruce Rogers collection in the LSU Library Rare Book Room. This issue also contained a desiderata list with the first item on the list being the *Oxford Lectern Bible*, designed by Bruce Rogers. In 1930 there had not been a magnificently printed folio edition of the Holy Bible since that of John Baskerville in 1760, and it was decided that the Oxford University Press would commission the design of such an edition. The choice for the project was Bruce Rogers, widely considered to be the greatest typographer of the 20th century, whose work over a period of 30 years was unequalled for beauty and distinction. The project took five years, and the *Oxford Lectern Bible* quickly became famous as one of the finest products of the printing press of the 20th century and took its place alongside the other great printings of the Bible. Copies of the 200 produced on large paper have become rarer and rarer in the nearly fifty years since the work was issued. In 1980, not being able to locate or afford a copy of the rarest edition, a pulpit copy was purchased by the Friends for the Rare Book Room. Not until recently was a copy available of the 200 which were printed on large paper and it also has now been purchased by the Friends. This copy was formerly the property of Louis E. Stern, one of America's foremost collectors of paintings and sculpture who had his copy bound by Gerhard Gerlach in black blind tooled niger morocco. No Bruce Rogers collection can be said to be outstanding without a copy of his finest work, *The Oxford Lectern Bible*, and now through the generosity of the Friends, this work has been added to the LSU Bruce Rogers collection.

## *New Palomar Observatory Sky Atlas*

In the late 1950's, LSU purchased a set of Palomar Observatory Sky Survey charts for several thousand dollars. A new photographic atlas of the sky visible from the northern hemisphere has been undertaken by the Palomar Observatory in southern California. This new sky photographic survey will take advantage of modern photographic techniques and more sensitive emulsions. Three filters will be used this time instead of two to provide effective wavelengths in the blue, red, and near infrared regions of the electromagnetic spectrum. Both the enhanced sensitivity of the emulsions and modern darkroom techniques will permit a deeper survey, that is, one will be able to see fainter celestial objects than has been possible in the past. The cost is currently estimated to be \$16,000 per filter with the total estimated cost at \$48,000. Delivery is projected to start in 1990 and continue until 1996. The Friends have agreed to share half the cost of this major research purchase, with the other half to come from library materials budget funding.

## *Drawings by Angela Gregory*

Angela Gregory, a Louisiana artist, was educated in Paris and then returned to Louisiana to work. In the 1930's, she was the only woman artist involved in the artwork for the new state capitol for which she did many of the exterior bas-reliefs. She was also commissioned to do the ornamental work for some of the LSU buildings. Three sketches of Louisiana flora which were used for ornamental ironwork on Hatcher Hall have been purchased by the Friends for the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collection. The sketches are of the pitcher plant, dogwood, and iris.

## *Indian Museum Notes.*

Calcutta, India. Office of the superintendent of government printing. 1889-91.

Two volumes consisting of articles relating to insects and insect pests in India were purchased by the Friends in memory of L. D. Newsom, Boyd Professor of entomology at LSU, whose research specialty was pesticides.

## MEMORIALS

### In memory of:

Dr. W. E. Bingham  
from Mr. and Mrs. James M. Gill

Dr. Rodney Cline  
from Miss Marion Taylor

Mr. Lloyd F. Collette  
from Mr. and Mrs. James M. Gill

Mr. Ralph M. Ford  
from Mr. and Mrs. James M. Gill

Boyd Professor Emeritus Wex S. Malone  
from Dr. Irvin A. Berg

Boyd Professor Emeritus Dale Newsom  
from Chancellor Cecil G. Taylor

## Goodrich-Taylor Award Fund

At its February 2, 1988 meeting, the board of the Friends of the LSU Library approved a proposal from the executive committee for a matching funds campaign for the Goodrich-Taylor Award Fund. The Friends will match existing funds and continue to match future donations made by an individual or organization on contributions up to a maximum of \$5,000 a year. With this policy in effect, the fund has increased to \$12,000. Successful fundraising has been accomplished through the efforts of an active committee chaired by Dr. Trent James. The Goodrich-Taylor Award Fund is dedicated to an assistantship for library science graduate students. The Friends' executive board has previously authorized a free membership in the Friends for one year to any person giving \$100 or more to the Goodrich-Taylor Assistantship. Your tax-deductible gift can be doubled through the matching funds program and also obtain a free membership if over \$100!



**FRIENDS OF THE LSU LIBRARY  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
January - December 1987**

Balance in LSU Foundation Account  
December 31, 1986 ..... \$179,052.91

**Income:**

Dues, Memorials .....	\$19,207.78
Book Bazaar .....	41,000.00
Interest .....	19,544.87
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$79,752.65</b>

**Expenditures:**

**Total** ..... \$60,058.53

Balance in LSU Foundation Account  
December 31, 1987 ..... \$198,747.03

Library Endowment Fund  
December 31, 1987 ..... \$195,128.46

Ellinor H. Behre Fund  
December 31, 1987 ..... \$ 2,745.47

Mrs. Mary Ann Miller Conner Memorial Book Fund  
December 31, 1987 ..... \$ 8,776.47

The Director George J. Guidry, Jr., Book Fund  
December 31, 1987 ..... \$ 1,791.96

Fred B. Kniffen Fund  
December 31, 1987 ..... \$ 3,591.46

H. C. Sanders Fund  
December 31, 1987 ..... \$ 3,889.97

Mrs. Ellen Albright Taylor Memorial Book Fund  
December 31, 1987 ..... \$ 1,367.14

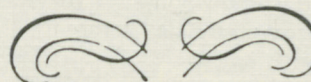
The Max Goodrich Birthday Fund  
December 31, 1987 ..... \$ 1,356.19

The Goodrich-Taylor Award Fund  
December 31, 1987 ..... \$ 4,920.00



**Officers**

**Mrs. Delroy O. Spann, President**  
**John Hill, Vice President**  
**Mrs. John Noland, Secretary**  
**Mrs. Eugene Owen, Treasurer**



**Classes of Membership**

- |                          |  |            |
|--------------------------|--|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | A. Student Member (annually)                           | \$ 2.00    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | B. Regular Member (annually)                           | \$10.00    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | C. Contributing Member (annually)                      | \$25.00    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | D. Sustaining Member<br>(checkout privileges)          | \$50.00    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | E. Individual or Corporate Patron<br>Member (annually) | \$100.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | F. Patron Member (annually)                            | \$500.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | G. Life Member   | \$1,000.00 |
- or more, or the presentation of unusual and distinctive materials valued at \$3,000 or more, within a calendar year

☐ Check payable to LSU Foundation for Friends of the Library

☐ I prefer to pay as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

Member's signature \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_

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**Louisiana State University**  
**Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803**

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