

Spring 4-1-1989

# Lumières, Spring 1989

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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# LUMIÈRES

## A Library by Design

Nestled among stately brick columns, close to crowds of hurrying students, lies a special little library: the Design Resource Center. Begun approximately 30 years ago by O. J. Baker (Head of the Department of Architecture) as a reference shelf, this collection has grown from one shelf of books to over 10,000 cataloged and unclassified items plus a collection of 16,000 slides. To keep pace with its expanding organizational family, the collection has matured in scope as well as in size.

The evolution of the Design collection resembles the evolutionary history of the College of Design. When the reference shelf was born, the Department of Architecture was a part of the College of Engineering and not yet accredited. As they are prone to do in their reviews, several accreditation committees recommended a library for the Department. Sometime before 1961, the shelf of reference books had been expanded into a small reading room near O. J. Baker's office in the southeast corner of the second floor of Hill Memorial; nevertheless, the accreditation teams judged this to be inadequate. By 1967, a new School of Environmental Design had become an entity (by the extraction of the departments of architecture, fine arts, and landscape architecture from the colleges of engineering, arts and sciences, and agriculture, respectively) but the Reading Room remained unaffected. In March of 1969, a bigger and better space was provided when the Reading Room was moved to the northeast corner of the first floor where this service remained until architecture moved out of Hill. During the academic year 1978/79, the Department of Architecture relocated its collection on the main floor of Atkinson Hall—its new residence. Although still physically attached to the Department of Architecture, a significant change in the purpose of the collection was made: the concept of a resource center for the School of Environmental Design replaced the concept of a departmental reading room. The Department of Landscape Architecture had maintained a small

collection for a number of years with either student staff or self-service; these materials were pooled with architecture's collection to form the Design Resource Center.

After barely two years another reorganization occurred. In 1979 the College of Design was formed by the union of three new *schools*: Art, Architecture (including its long-standing program in Interior Design) and Landscape Architecture. At the same time, the Resource Center was placed under the administration of the Dean. Books were then added for art history and journals were added for fine art and art education. As these schools have gradually migrated from the north end of the quadrangle to the south end, they have occupied a cluster of older buildings anchored by a handsome new four story atrium style structure. In January 1984 when this new College of Design building was occupied, the objective of having a resource center to serve the entire college was accomplished. But alas, the new parentage of this collection was to remain unchanged only a brief period. Within 18 months of reaching its maturity, at the request of Dean Jerry Nielson concurrent to his departure to another university, on July 1, 1989, the Design Resource Center was administratively adopted to become the newest satellite in the galaxy of the LSU Libraries.

The importance of the Design Resource Center is evidenced by the company it keeps as it shares the primary ground space surrounding the atrium with a very busy lecture hall and the office of Dean Kenneth Carpenter. Through almost continuous glass walls on three sides, the interior is highly visible from three of the four entrances into the building. While sunlight beams through the exterior windows, a softer light filters into the atrium near the entrance of the Resource Center. A grassy patio—originally intended to be an outside extension of the Resource Center—lies beside the exterior windows waiting to be developed into a lush garden where students can

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sit to read, eat, converse, or enjoy the soothing influence of a fountain. In the meantime, the space has entertained such divergent occupants as a mini-meadow of nodding wildflowers and a whalloping volley ball team.

Subsequent to the creation of the reading room by O. J. Baker, several other persons have played significant roles in the development of the facility. As the accreditation review board had recommended, the Reading Room was staffed by a professional librarian. In 1966 Doris Wheeler began twenty years of service to the department. Under her direction the collection was reclassified into the Library of Congress system, the vertical file was established in a system Mrs. Wheeler had learned when she worked at the Architecture Library of the University of Texas at Austin, and the materials became increasingly more diverse. Because the Reading Room was independent of the University library system, Mrs. Wheeler was responsible for maintaining its entire operation including all of the materials processing. Robert W. Heck, who is Alumni Professor Emeritus of the School of Architecture, also nurtured the growth of the collection while serving as chairman of the Publications Review Committee and the Policy and Coordinating Committee until his recent retirement. Many faculty and administrators—too numerous to list—have dedicated their concern and materials to the enrichment of the Resource Center.

Through the years until the merger with the LSU Libraries, acquisitions for the Reading Room were purchased with funds allocated by the Department of Architecture; the Department of Landscape Architecture began to lend budgetary support in 1978 when the collection was expanded to cover its subject matter. Monetary gifts from alumni (sometimes quite generous) frequently enhanced the purchases. Little-by-little, the constant stream of books, periodicals, technical reports, student projects, maps, blueprints, and product literature donated by faculty, staff, students, alumni, manufacturers, and associations has swelled the collection far beyond the boundaries of its budget.

A very important addition in the early years of the Reading Room was the gift of nineteenth century folios with fine line drawings donated by Samuel Weiner, a Shreveport architect. Several nationally prominent practicing architects and landscape architects who are alumni continue to contribute to their alma mater via the Resource Center. The proportion of materials contributed is exemplified by the serial publications; of the 160 presently being received, less than 100 are being purchased.

In April of 1988 the computer technology which abounds in the New Design building literally broke through the walls to the Resource Center as a LOLA terminal was connected to the mainframe through a controller located on the second floor in the CADGIS Lab. This historical event has served to shorten the distance between Design and Middleton and has also hastened the input of the Design holdings into LOLA, the automated catalog of the LSU Libraries. This "retrospective conversion" of the design collection began last summer. The staff of the Resource Center has steadily relabeled and repaired books for the past two semesters.

Another major change at the Resource Center has been the addition of a micro-computer which has added the capacity to do word processing and search remote databases such as the AVERY INDEX in the RLIN network. This micro-computer is also used to access LOLA and BITNET, the international E(lectronic)-mail service available to the LSU faculty through the Computer Center.

The hustle and bustle of the fall and spring semesters slows to a very moderate pace during the summer when most of the ninety faculty members and nine hundred students are away doing field experiences, studying abroad, or trying to catch a few winks before the next sleepless semester starts.

Sandra Mooney  
Head, Design Resource Center

## Membership Activities

There were two new special projects offered by the Membership Committee this spring. The first of these was a series of tours of both Middleton and Hill libraries followed by coffee in the staff lounge at Hill. The Middleton tours were given by the Head of Reference Services, Jane Kleiner, and the Head of Reference Desk Services, Barbara Wittkopf. One of the main features of the Middleton tour was an explanation of how to use LOLA, the libraries' automated catalog. Assistant Director for Special Collections, Bob Martin, conducted the tours of Hill which went behind the scenes into the closed stack areas. There was one evening tour on March 8th and one morning tour on March 10th. This project was such a success that plans have been made

to offer tours once a year.

A "History of the Book" class taught by Assistant Director for Special Collections Bob Martin met on Monday evenings, February 27 through March 20th. The four lectures with slides also included examination and discussion of examples from the LSU rare book collections of various printing techniques, bindings, paper, and unusual formats. Students in the class were enthusiastic about the subject and especially enjoyed the opportunity to see items from the LSU collections and the informal discussions after class with refreshments. If there is sufficient interest the class may be offered again.

## LUMIÈRES

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

Vol. 14 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.

# 1989 Annual Banquet

One of the highlights of every year for the Friends of the LSU Library organization is the annual banquet. This year, the Friends gathered at the LSU Faculty Club on April 13th to toast a continuing list of successes.

One of the high points of this year's banquet was the presentation of the 1989 Doris Dennis Smith Book Awards. This award is given to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the success of the annual Book Bazaar including service in the year-round Book Barn.

The first Corporate Award Doris Dennis Smith Book Award was given this year to Kean's the Cleaner for continuing support over the years especially for the book drops in 18 Kean's locations. The Corporate Award plaque was presented by Mr. Leslie McKenzie to Frank and Virginia Kean. They were also given individual personal certificates for their continued support which is a key element in the success of the book collection effort each year. In addition, an individual certificate was awarded to each Kean's location that maintains a drop-off box for the Friends.

After the books are dropped off at Kean's, someone has to collect them and move them to the book barn. For their hard work in packing, loading, and transporting books for the bazaar, Charles Smith, Delroy Spann, and John West were given awards in the Book Collection and Transportation category. Besides their help in transportation and collection, each of these men has been a stalwart in backing the book bazaar effort by recruiting workers, performing a variety of miscellaneous chores, and working long hours during the sale.

Two Book Barn/Book Bazaar workers were also honored with the Doris Dennis Smith Book Award, Agnes LeBlanc and Jean Collier respectively. Mrs. LeBlanc has been a faithful, loyal worker in the textbook section for many years, working several days a week. Ms. Collier has specialized in pricing books for the annual bazaar and has worked in the book barn once a week for many years.

The members of the Awards Committee were Leslie McKenzie, Lucy Priddy, and Anna Perrault, chair. The Doris Dennis Smith Book Award was inaugurated in 1986.

One of the major items of business at the annual dinner is the election of officers and board members. The report of the nominating committee was given by the chair, Mrs. Mary Jane Kahao. The slate for 1989/90 consisting of Mrs. Marion Spann, president; Mr. Leslie McKenzie, vice president; Mrs. Nancy Murrill, secretary; and Mrs. Cherry Owen, treasurer, was accepted by acclamation. Board members elected for a three-year term are Dr. Ed Boagni, Mrs. Mary Jane Kahao, Mrs. Nancy Murrill, Mr. T. O. Perry, Jr., Mrs. Marion Spann, and Professor Donald Stanford. A Friends of the LSU Library Service Award was given to outgoing board member John Hill, Jr. in recognition of his contributions as a board member. The other members of the nominating committee were Mrs. Julie Hamilton, Professor Neil Odenwald, and Miss Caroline Wire.

In other business at the meeting, the president, Marion Spann, gave a brief report on the activities for the year including a recap of the awards presented to the organization by the Friends of Libraries USA and the LSU Foundation. The Friends publication, *Nature Classics*, also was honored with a design award by the Southeastern Library Association.

In her annual greeting to the Friends, Sharon Hogan, director of the LSU Libraries, spoke briefly about the fiscal situation of the libraries. She thanked the Friends for their continued support of the libraries in purchasing items that were not within the means of the state-supported library

budget. One of the projects supported by the Friends in the last two years has been the restoration and re-framing of a number of the original Audubon prints owned by the library. One of the restored prints was on display at the dinner.

The speaker for the evening was Terry Belanger, associate professor at Columbia University School of Library Service. He entertained the enlightened audience with a discourse on extra-illustrated books in "Lunacy and Pictures in Books: An Extra Illustrated Lecture." The practice of extra illustrating books in which the owner inserted illustrations or plates in with the printed pages of a purchased book, was at its height in the 18th and 19th centuries. Later labeled "Grangerizing," after one of the more notorious of the practitioners of this methodology, the practice led to the mutilation of other books for illustrations to use in creating these "extra-illustrated" editions.



*Leslie McKenzie presents the Corporate Award to Frank and Virginia Kean.*



*Ms. Agnes LeBlanc, winner of the Doris Dennis Smith Award for her work at the Book Barn, stands beside Mary Alice Carpenter, chair of the 1989 Book Bazaar.*



*Delroy Spann, Jean Collier, and John West are happy recipients of the Doris Smith Award for helping prepare for bazaars.*



## Images of the Past:

### Collecting, Identifying, and Preserving Historic Photographs

The Friends of the LSU Library's third annual workshop, IMAGES OF THE PAST, drew over 50 people to Hill Memorial Library on April 19th. Judged a great success by participants, the workshop featured speakers from New Orleans, Natchez, and Baton Rouge.

John Lawrence, curator of photographs for the Historic New Orleans Collection, was the main speaker for the program. His topic was the "Collection and Preservation of Historic Photographs." Mr. Lawrence highlighted his informative presentation with slides of historic photographs from the Historic New Orleans Collection and the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections.

Following Mr. Lawrence's talk, a panel discussion on the "Importance of Photograph Collections" featured Joan Gandy, a writer of Natchez history, and her husband, Thomas, a physician from Natchez; the Gandys have collected historic photographs of Natchez which span 100 years. Also featured were A. J. Meek, professor of art at LSU, who is a project oriented creative photographer working in the documentary tradition and Charles East who is an author, editor, and collector of photographs. The panel discussion concluded with a question and answer session with the audience.

The afternoon sessions included a lecture on preservation and an identification clinic. Don Morrison, head of the Microfilming and Photographic Preservation Department of the LSU Libraries, presented a demonstration and slide show on methods of preservation and why preservation is necessary. During the last session, the identification clinic, the workshop speakers viewed photographs brought to the workshop by participants. Questions on value, preservation, collecting aspects, and reading historic photographs were answered. Also participating in the identification clinic was M. Stone Miller, Jr., head of acquisitions for the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections.

In conjunction with the Friends of the LSU Library workshop, the exhibition *Postwar to Prosperity? Louisiana 1946-1950* was on display. The exhibition of 80 photographs from the Standard Oil of New Jersey Photograph Collection was produced by the Lafayette Natural History Museum with a grant from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities. Between 1942 and 1950, Standard Oil sent photographers, headed by Roy Stryker, into the field to document not only the oil industry, but also day-to-day American life.



Panel of experts on historical photos—Charles East, Joan Gandy, Dr. Thomas Gandy, and A. J. Meek—listen while John Lawrence speaks.

## MEMORIALS

### In Memory of:

Professor and Mrs. Bigler Crow  
Dr. and Mrs. Max Goodrich

Mr. Charles Gaiennie  
Mr. and Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Jr.

Miss Anne B. Golsan  
Cindy and Ski Betanski  
Mrs. J. Foster Culbreth  
Lorie and Miriam Ellender  
Mrs. Sherley R. Golsan  
Mrs. Millicent M. Hennigan  
Mr. Anthony Perfetto  
Ms. Thelma Tucker

Dean Emeritus R. Howard Hanchey  
The Staff of the LSU Libraries

Miss Ellen Roy Jolly  
Miss Juliette Breaux  
Mr. and Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Jr.

Ms. Patsy Lloyd  
Miss Mary Margaret Jameson

Dr. James W. McCaskill  
Miss M. Margaret Jameson

Dr. Charles McVea  
Mr. and Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Jr.

Boyd Professor Emeritus Wex S. Malone  
Dr. and Mrs. Max Goodrich  
Dr. and Mrs. T. A. Kirby

Dr. Everett Oertel  
Dr. and Mrs. Dale E. Bennett  
Mrs. Ruby Billingslea  
Mr. and Mrs. John O. Cook  
Mr. Robert Giese  
Dr. and Mrs. Max Goodrich  
The Rex R. Meyer Family  
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Nettles, Jr.  
Mrs. H. Nash Ogden  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Severance  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth W. Tucker

Mr. James H. Smith  
Mr. and Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Jr.

Mrs. Ellen Albright Taylor  
Ms. Ellen T. Baird

Mr. Harry C. Taylor  
Miss M. Margaret Jameson

Mrs. Doris Alexander Wheeler  
Dr. and Mrs. Irwin A. Berg  
The Book Exchange Club  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles East  
Dr. and Mrs. Max Goodrich  
Dr. and Mrs. Fabian Gudas  
Professor and Mrs. Robert W. Heck  
Ms. Sharon Hogan and the Staff of the  
LSU Libraries  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert B. Holtman  
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Kirby  
Dr. and Mrs. Lewis P. Simpson  
Dr. and Mrs. Donald Stanford  
Dr. Cecil G. Taylor  
Dr. John H. Wildman

# Oh, To Be 80!



*Dr. Irvin Berg gleefully leads the audience in singing "Happy Birthday" to Chancellor Emeritus Cecil Taylor at the celebration of his 80th birthday.*

On Friday, May 19, 1989 the Friends staged a birthday celebration for the 80th birthday of one of its lifetime board members. Cecil Grady Taylor, Chancellor Emeritus of LSU, was surrounded by family, friends, Friends, and University colleagues at the afternoon reception in his honor in Hill Memorial Library.

The lecture hall in Hill was decorated with spring garden flowers. There were tables of sandwiches and sweets and a vegetable table wrought into a work of art by Anne West. Paul Murrill, who succeeded Taylor as Chancellor of LSU and served under him as Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, presided over the program. Current Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at LSU, Carolyn Hargrave, gave a history of Chancellor Taylor's career at LSU and his many contributions to the University. Bernard, "Bernie," Sliger, President of Florida State University, who served as Dean of Academic Affairs under Taylor, made a special trip to attend the party and pay tribute to his former boss. Lewis Simpson, an Alumni Professor and former editor of the *Southern Review*, reminisced about the days when Taylor was Dean of Arts and Sciences. A specially designed broadside honoring Chancellor Taylor and commemorating the occasion of his 80th birthday was presented by Otis Wheeler, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Acting Chancellor before his retirement.

At the end of the program former Dean of Arts and Sciences, Irv Berg, led the well wishers in singing "Happy Birthday." Chancellor Taylor in his thanks said that he found it an amazing experience to be 80 years old.

Donations to the Friends of the LSU Library in honor of Cecil Taylor on his 80th birthday will be equally divided between the Goodrich-Taylor Assistantship Fund and the Mrs. Ellen Albright Taylor Memorial Book fund.

The committee for the celebration was composed of Rosalind McKenzie and Eileen Kean, co-chairs, Max Goodrich, Paul Murrill, Otis Wheeler, Darwin Shrell, and Robert Holtman.

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## Purchases

The purchase committee met several times throughout the year and approved a number of purchases. Among these were the purchase of another installment of archival records from the *Exquisite Corpse*, the literary journal edited by Andrei Codrescu. Another purchase was a group of 17th and 18th century British pamphlets.

A number of items were purchased for the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections including a collection of 30 letters written by private Jacob A. Frierson, of the 27th Regiment, Louisiana Volunteers. The letters were written in 1864-1865 while Frierson was a Confederate Scout writing home to Mansfield from such locations as Alexandria, Pineville, Cotile, and Reveline Bayou. Also purchased was a lot of 65 photographs related to the World's Industrial and Cotton Centennial Exposition held in New Orleans, 1884-1885. The lot includes 63 stereoscopic views and two cabinet card photographs by George Mugnier.

The purchase committee approved and presented to the executive board a proposal to acquire two original wood blocks which were used for the illustrations in the 16th century Italian herbal, Mattioli's *Commentary on Dioscorides*, published in Venice in 1565. The wood blocks will be accompanied by a limited number of 100 prints on handmade paper from each block suitable for framing. The package will also include a folio of one print from each of 110 similar blocks from the same work. This selection will serve as the purchase for the Doris Dennis Smith Book award for several of the recipients over the past few years.

## Goodrich-Taylor Award Fund

The fund-raising committee for the Goodrich-Taylor Award Fund has had another hard-working year. A mailing was conducted in the Fall of 1988 which was very successful. The award fund presently has a total of \$20,000. The committee has begun planning for an auction to be held in March 1990 in Hill Memorial Library. The auction will offer rare books, first editions, and other collectables for sale.

Anyone having items to donate should contact either Trent James or Anne West, co-chairs of the auction committee.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Book Bazaar—September 21-23, 1989  
Rare Book Auction—March 24, 1990



**FRIENDS OF THE LSU LIBRARY  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
January - December 1988**

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

**Income:**

Dues, Memorials .....	\$16,796.38
Sale of <i>Nature Classics</i> .....	5,939.73
Baker and Taylor Award .....	500.00
Interest .....	17,760.43
Book Bazaar .....	45,500.00
Total	\$86,469.54

**Expenditures:**

Total      \$49,226.27

Balance in LSU Foundation Account  
December 31, 1988 ..... \$236,583.30

Library Endowment Fund  
December 31, 1988 ..... \$215,782.34

Ellenor H. Behre Fund  
December 31, 1988 ..... \$ 3,032.57

Mrs. Mary Ann Miller Conner Memorial Book Fund  
December 31, 1988 ..... \$ 9,694.39

The Director George J. Guidry, Jr., Book Fund  
December 31, 1988 ..... \$ 1,791.96

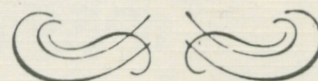
Fred B. Kniffen Fund  
December 31, 1988 ..... \$ 3,967.06

H. C. Sanders Fund  
December 31, 1988 ..... \$ 4,296.82

Mrs. Ellen Albright Taylor Memorial Book Fund  
December 31, 1988 ..... \$ 1,487.91

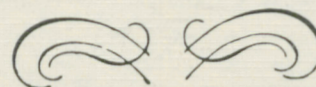
The Max Goodrich Birthday Fund  
December 31, 1988 ..... \$ 1,497.95

The Goodrich-Taylor Award Fund  
December 31, 1988 ..... \$ 14,151.61



**Officers**

**Mrs. Delroy O. Spann, President  
Leslie McKenzie, Vice President  
Mrs. Paul Murrill, 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 |

☐ Check payable to LSU Foundation for Friends of the Library

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

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