

Spring 4-1-1990

Lumières, Spring 1990

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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LUMIÈRES

Book Auction Huge Success

"Paper Impressions"

The Friends of the LSU Library held a fine book auction on March 24, 1990 in Hill Memorial Library to benefit the Goodrich-Taylor Graduate Assistantship Endowment. Over 200 were in attendance at the event. The gala auction evening exceeded its advance billing and the hopes of the committee by netting a grand total of \$25,600 for the assistantship endowment.

An elegant buffet accompanied by harpist Rebecca Frohman formed the prelude to the main event. During the gala hour before the auction began, the items to be sold could be previewed.

The lecture hall in Hill Memorial was transformed into an auction room surpassing the sophistication of the famous international auction houses in style and ambience. The atmosphere was hushed as Paul S.L. Viney, European Director of Phillips, London, conducted the bidding. Simultaneous with the bidding, white-gloved auction assistants, Dr. Trent James and John West III, paraded the items through the audience. Slides featuring the item up for bid were shown on a screen at the front of the room. The pace was fast as over 50 items were auctioned in an hour and a half.

The contents of the auction varied from a scarce copy of the first Greek edition of Euclid's *Elementa* to a Garfield poster. The selling price of over \$100 for a Garfield book and accompanying poster prompted the auctioneer to quip, "And for that price we can probably get Garfield to autograph it."

Applause broke out spontaneously as an original watercolor, "Purple Cone Flower," donated by the botanical artist Margaret Stones, was sold for \$3,400. Two different sets of Margaret Stones prints also fetched high prices. Several items written by or associated with the late LSU Pulitzer prize winning historian, T. Harry Williams, also invoked bidding fever.

Befitting a fine book auction were literary first editions, such as a limited first edition of William Faulkner's *The Mansion* and a signed limited first edition of Robert Penn Warren's last published novel, *A Place to Come to*.

Like any international auction, the bidding was not limited to those present. A number of write-in bids from the U.S. and Britain were attracted by the auction catalogue, *Paper Impressions*, written by Elaine Smyth, Head of Rare Book Collections at LSU, and printed by Thomas Taylor of Austin, Texas. The understated elegance of this finely printed production set the tone in advance of the auction.

There were also bargains to be had especially in the silent auction which was concluded after the main event. Among the notable offerings in the silent auction were a number of fine illustrated books donated by Professor and Mrs. David Culbert. There were several non-book items such as a pair of octavo Audubon prints and a much adored set of Winnie the Pooh prints.

The bidding in the silent auction was spirited toward the end as rivals staked out their favorites and hung over them to be the last bidder.

The take from the admission, the book auction, and the silent auction netted a profit of \$25,600. Including the auction proceeds, the Goodrich-Taylor endowment has reached a grand total of \$65,000. The goal for the endowment is \$75,000, one which is now well in sight. Named for the two founders of the Friends of the LSU Library organization, the Goodrich-Taylor Graduate Assistantship Award will fund a position for a student to work in Hill Memorial Library with the special collections housed there.

The auction was the culmination of a two-year planning effort spearheaded by co-chairs Anne West and Trent James. Others serving on the steering committee were Nancy Murrill, Marilyn Davis, Bill Holtman, Leslie McKenzie, and T.O. Perry. The thanks and congratulations of the membership of the Friends are extended to the auction committee and other volunteers who worked to make the first Friends of the LSU Library fine book auction such a tremendous success.

The generous contributions by the following com-

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panies and individuals also are gratefully acknowledged. Without their support the auction would not have been possible.

Special Donations:

American Airlines
Margaret Stones

In-Kind Donors:

Cohn-Turner
Dixon-Smith Interiors
Kornmeyer's Furniture
U or US Frame Shop Inc.

Catalog Underwriters:

Ethyl Corporation
Premier Bank
Thomas W. Taylor Publishing

Corporate and Individual Donors:

Capital City Press
Dow Chemical U.S.A.
Duplessis Cadillac
Maison Blanche
Milton J. Womack Foundation
Insa S. Abraham

Matching Fund Donors:

Cablevision
Julie R. Hamilton
Mary L. Bennett
John and Anne West

**The Friends of the LSU Library
Book Auction Committee, 1990**

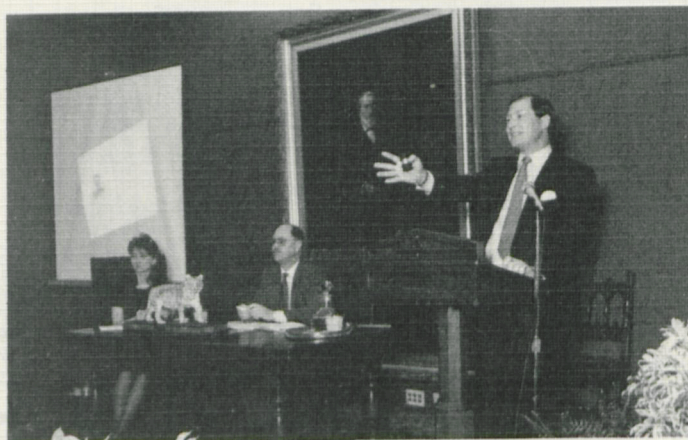
Trent L. James & Anne West, committee co-chairs
Trisha McDowell, silent auction
Dodie Edmonds, treasurer
Pat Millican, assistant treasurer
Marie Fruehan, cashier chair
Wanda Barber & Elaine Smyth, catalog
T. O. Perry, book donations
Judy Ernst, legal
Kay Harrison, corporate effort & publicity
Nancy Murrill, registration
Carolyn Haynes, ticket sales & catalog distribution
Elaine Ellis, physical arrangements
Fran Adcock, hospitality
Mary Alice Carpenter, door prizes
Marion Spann, Friends president
Sharon Hogan, Director, LSU Libraries
Robert S. Martin, staff advisor
Caroline Wire, staff liaison



The crowd moved to the silent auction after the main event.



Two former LSU Chancellors Paul Murrill (left) and Cecil Taylor (right) join current LSU Chancellor William Davis in a humorous exchange with auctioneer Paul Viney.



Auctioneer Paul S.L. Viney, Director of the European division of Phillips, London, conducts the spirited bidding session. Jane West and Benny Spann help record the bids.



It was standing room only in the lecture hall of Hill Memorial Library as the bidding began.

Photographs by Jim Zietz

Purchases

Stirling, Lobdell, Turnbull Manuscripts

The Friends of the LSU Library joined with members of the Stirling family, the West Feliciana Historical Society, and other anonymous benefactors to purchase an extensive group of manuscript materials covering the entire nineteenth century. The manuscripts fall into four main family groupings: the Lewis Stirling Family Papers, which relate to the Civil War career of Lewis Stirling and the life of the family during reconstruction; the Turnbull-Joyce Partnership and estate records, which include accounts of individual Indian traders on the Louisiana-Mississippi frontier, and bills and receipts for trade goods; the Lobdell Family Papers, which trace the arrival of John Lobdell in Louisiana during the 1820's and his subsequent participation in the legal, political, and economic life of the state; the Allain Family Papers, which consist of personal and family letters as well as the business and financial records of V.F. and Sarah Allain. These collections form a significant addition to the primary research materials preserving the history of Louisiana in the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collection.

Natural History

Grizmek's Encyclopedia of Mammals has been purchased for the Central Reference department as the Doris Dennis Smith Award book in honor of award recipient Charles Bryant Smith. The Grizmek is the work of zoologist and former Frankfurt Zoo Director Bernhard Grizmek who died in 1987. The five volumes on mammals update a portion of the earlier thirteen volume Animal Life Encyclopedia published in 1972. One tribute to Grizmek says he would have deserved "a Nobel Prize for Environmental Protection for his work with wild animals" if such a prize existed. Unlike earlier reference works which were based on zoo reports of animal behavior, the new Grizmek is written from research of on-site observations of animals. The encyclopedia is not only scholarly, but it contains stunning photographs and is a pleasure to read.

A group of eleven natural history items was purchased at Sotheby's auction of the library of H. Bradley Martin in December of 1989. Works by such well known naturalists as James Sowerby, William Swainson, Willughby and Ray, and Daniel Giraud Elliot were acquired. The items which are all important works in natural history, significantly strengthen the E.A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection. The purchase was funded by an anonymous donor.

Literature

The library has been collecting the publications of Tragara Press, a small press in Edinburgh, Scotland which publishes literary works. An archival collection which contains some correspondence and typescripts, as well as printers proofs and ephemera, was purchased to complement the printed works already in the Rare Book collections. Among the items included is a variant of the earliest poem published by Sylvia Plath.

Other purchases were a copy of the first complete English edition of one of the basic works in the history of science, Of the Advancement and Proficiency of Learning (1640) by Sir Francis Bacon and two volumes of miscellaneous plays, mostly eighteenth century editions of Shakespearean plays.



Honored for outstanding service to the Friends were two outgoing board members, Anne West (left) and Anna Perrault (right) and Friends president for the past two years, Marion Spann.

Annual Banquet

The Friends of the LSU Library annual business meeting and dinner was held at the LSU Faculty Club April 19, 1990. Presiding over the evening at which, traditionally, the successes of the organization during the previous year are reviewed, was Friends president, Marion Spann.

The first highlight of the evening was the report on "Paper Impressions" given by the co-chairs of the event, Dr. Trent James and Anne West. The first fine book auction staged by the Friends was a tremendous success raising \$25,600 for the Goodrich-Taylor Assistantship Endowment.

The report of the nominating committee was given by Cherry Owen. Elected to office for 1990/91 are T.O. Perry, president; Julie Hamilton, vice president; Nancy Murrill, secretary; and Cherry Owen and Caroline Wire, treasurers. New board members are Becky Cutshaw and Boyd Professor William Cooper. Virginia Grenier has been appointed to complete the term of Doris Dennis Smith.

Board members with expiring terms, Anne West and Anna Perrault, were each given a silver Revere bowl in recognition of their years of outstanding service to the Friends. Marion Spann was also honored for her leadership of the organization in two terms as president. Marion is best known for accepting awards on behalf of the Friends as the organization received numerous awards during her two terms as president.

The Doris Dennis Smith Book Awards for outstanding service to the book bazaar were presented by Anna Perrault. Pat Millican and Dodie Edmonds each received the award for their work as treasurers for the annual Book Bazaar. In presenting their awards, the grand total raised to date by the book bazaars was \$387,500. The audience chuckled when Ms. Perrault said, "A lot of money has passed through their hands, most of it in small change."

Julie Hamilton was also honored with the Doris Dennis Smith Book Award for her long dedicated service to the book bazaar in several capacities. Ms. Hamilton is a past

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book bazaar chairman. For many years she has been in charge of the Southern history and collectibles section for the bazaar, including the year-round sorting and pricing of these titles. Julie was lauded for her generosity in supporting the book bazaar effort both personally and financially.

The last highlight of the evening was the speaker, or more accurately, the entertainment provided by Colleen

Cole Salley, professor of education at the University of New Orleans. Her presentation, entitled "A Storey Teller," consisted of a combination of readings and stories. In a dramatic manner, Colleen read excerpts from new children's books and gave her own rendition of several folktales. The presentation was entertaining and heartwarming.



The two book bazaar treasurers, Dodie Edmonds and Pat Millican, each received the Doris Dennis Smith Book Award.



New officers for the 1990/91 year are T.O. Perry, president, and Julie Hamilton, vice president. Julie was also honored with the Doris Dennis Smith Book Award.



LSU Library Director, Sharon Hogan, chats with board member Neil Odenwald and Elaine Ellis, 1990 Book Bazaar chairman.

MEMORIALS

In Memory of:

Mrs. Maud Merritt Bentrup
from Miss Florien McKnight
Mrs. Theresa H. Lunsford

Mrs. Shirley Howard Cazedessus
from Dr. Cecil G. Taylor

Mrs. Elaine Diamond
from the BA/Government
Documents Department Staff

Mrs. Caroline Durieux
from Dr. Cecil G. Taylor

Mr. Kingston E. Eversull
from Dr. Cecil G. Taylor

Mrs. Margaret Gueymard
from The Minos D. Miller, Jr. Family
Dr. Cecil G. Taylor

Mr. James Kemp
from Mrs. Jean P. Collier and Family

Mr. Richard G. Klenk
from Mrs. Jane P. Kleiner
The LSU Libraries Faculty and Staff
Mr. M. Stone Miller
Mrs. Anna H. Perrault
Miss Elizabeth Tarver
Dr. Otis B. Wheeler

Mrs. Florrinell F. Morton
from Mr. and Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Jr.

Mrs. T.O. Perry, Sr.
from Mr. and Mrs. Stephen P. Coco

Mrs. Edith Reyer
from The 39'ers Book Club

Dr. J. Harvey Roberts
from Mr. & Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Jr.
Mrs. Ray C. Schillings
Dr. Cecil G. Taylor

Mrs. Doris Smith
from Mrs. Marian B. Estes
Mrs. Zelda Long
Mrs. Patricia Millican
Mrs. Betty Simmons
Mrs. Margaret Vernon

Mr. B.B. Taylor, Jr.
from Mr. & Mrs. Richard C. Cadwallader

Financial Statement

Friends of the LSU Library Treasurer Report

January - December 1989

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

Dues, Memorials	\$ 22,696.59
Sale of <i>Nature Classics</i>	915.52
Book Bazaar	42,000.00
Interest	19,369.53
Total	\$ 84,981.64

Expenditures:

TOTAL	\$ 94,752.58
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Balance in LSU Foundation Account December 31, 1989	\$226,812.36
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Special Funds

January - December 1989

Library Endowment Fund December 31, 1989	\$271,529.97
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Goodrich-Taylor Award Fund December 31, 1989	\$ 31,483.45
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Mrs. Mary Ann Miller Conner Memorial Book Fund December 31, 1989	\$ 10,613.32
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Director George Guidry Book Fund December 31, 1989	\$ 1,922.32
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Mrs. Ellen Albright Taylor Memorial Book Fund December 31, 1989	\$ 4,179.45
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Birthday Funds

Ellinor H. Behre Fund December 31, 1989	\$ 3,373.26
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Fred B. Kniffen Fund December 31, 1989	\$ 4,390.26
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H.C. Sanders Fund December 31, 1989	\$ 4,706.17
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Max Goodrich Fund December 31, 1989	\$ 1,702.37
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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. Sustaining Member
(checkout privileges) \$50.00
 - ☐ E. Individual or Corporate Patron
Member (annually) \$100.00
 - ☐ F. Patron Member (annually) \$500.00
 - ☐ G. Life Member \$1,000.00
 - ☐ Contribution to the Goodrich Taylor
Assistantship Endowment \$_____.
- (All contributions up to \$500 are matched by the Friends.)

☐ Check payable to LSU Foundation for Friends of
the Library

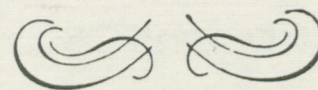
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Member's signature

Address

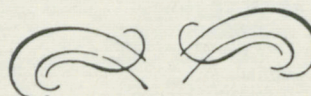
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Date



Officers

T.O. Perry, President
Julie Hamilton, Vice-President
Nancy Murrill, Secretary
Cherry Owen, Treasurer



LUMIÈRES Published by the Friends of the LSU Library
Anna Perrault, editor

Volume 15, no. 1. 1990

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.

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