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Lumières, Fall 1991

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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LUMIÈRES

Call for Donations Paper Impressions II

Everyone in attendance that magical evening in March, 1990 shared a touch of euphoria. The cover of the catalogue for the first Friends auction read, *Paper Impressions: A Gala Auction of Fine Books, Art, & Miscellanea*. The occasion was truly gala with art and books of exceptional quality. The silent auction offered additional treasures for those whose pockets were not quite so deep. In the good company, the wine tasted more expensive; the food was superb; it was a good party by the most exacting Louisiana standards. Paul Viney, auctioneer and head of European services for Phillips of London, was marvelously professional and humorous in the continental manner. Remember the antique library steps of "reputed rare wood" which everyone knew was pine?

That first elegant evening auction raised over \$25,000. Once the Board of Directors of the Friends decided on an encore performance, the game plan was easy. Do everything as it was done before only better if that is possible. So, mark your calendars for Paper Impressions II, March 28, 1992 for another magical evening in Hill Memorial Library.

Anne West and Trent James have agreed to co-chair the second auction and they even feel confident that they know what they are doing this time! In fact, virtually the same team returns to stage this event. That especially includes Paul Viney, whose services again are being donated by Phillips and whose transportation from London is again courtesy of American

Airlines. This trip he will be accompanied by his wife, Sally, who undoubtedly has heard tales of the food and hospitality and has decided to experience it herself in her first trip to Louisiana.

Two new sales categories are being developed for Paper Impressions II. One of these is children's literature for which the committee already has several original drawings with the accompanying signed book. The other specialty is detective fiction. Of course, the committee continues to be interested in Louisiana political history, the Civil War, rare first editions or any item that will translate into money for the LSU Libraries.

If you have items you are willing to relinquish for a good cause, please contact a member of the Donations Committee or the Friends liaison in the library, Caroline Wire (388-2217). The members of the donations committee are Mrs. Wanda Barber, Dr. Edward Boagni, Dean Jennifer Cargill, Dr. William Cooper, Dr. David Culbert, Mrs. Polly Davis, Mrs. Judy Ernst, Dr. Donald Freshwater, Mrs. Virginia Grenier, Mrs. Julia Hamilton, Mrs. Zelda Long, Mrs. Trisha McDowell, Mr. Leslie McKenzie, Mrs. Aine McLaughlin, Dr. Robert Martin, Mr. T.O. Perry, Jr., Mrs. Nina Pugh, Mrs. Elaine Smyth, and Mrs. Marion Spann. Remember, donations to the Friends are tax-deductible.

Kay Harrison
Chair of Publicity



From left, Sally Shurtz, president of the Library Staff Association, Julie Hamilton, President of the Friends, honoree Jennifer Cargill, and Chancellor Davis.

New Dean of LSU Libraries Welcomed

The LSU Library Staff Association and the Friends of the LSU Library jointly sponsored a reception in early September to honor Jennifer Cargill who assumed the position of Dean of the LSU Libraries in July 1991. LSU Library Staff Association President Sally Shurtz, Friends' President Julie Hamilton, and other officers of the two groups accompanied the honoree and University administrators, including Chancellor Bud Davis and Vice Chancellor Roland Haden, in greeting the guests. The lecture hall in Hill Memorial Library was pleasingly decorated for the occasion which featured a variety of delicious party foods provided by library staff members. The party was attended by the library staff, members of the Friends, and the LSU community all wishing Dean Cargill success in her tenure as the chief administrator of the LSU Library system.

From the Dean of Libraries . . .

It is a pleasure to be a part of LSU Libraries. I am enjoying working with the library staff and the Friends of the Library. Louisiana State University is lucky to have such an active, committed Friends group to support and promote the libraries.

The Friends just completed a very successful Book Bazaar. I was staggered by the number of books donated, the avid purchasers who were in line waiting for the doors to open the first day, and the rapport and dedication among the volunteers who worked so diligently through the year in preparation for the bazaar. The success of the bazaar is due in large part to the volunteers themselves. It is readily apparent to me that the huge success with the bazaar that has been enjoyed this year can be directly attributed to the long hours and hard work of these many volunteers.

Endowments

The LSU Friends group has been responsible for some of our endowments for library purchases. We now have a total of a dozen endowments from Friends and other donors to help in support of the LSU Libraries and the programs of the libraries. The total of these endowments approach \$1.3 million. We exercise a conservative stewardship over these endowments, always spending only a portion of the annual income, returning the remainder to the principal to generate additional dollars for future library needs. We greatly appreciate the efforts of the Friends in building the endowments they have created. We will continue to encourage others to create endowments also.

Some endowment monies will be used to revitalize the Schwing invited lecture series with a lecture in the Spring. A

library committee will be planning this event to which the Friends will be invited.

The Goodrich-Taylor endowment will fund an award to a graduate student. The award criteria will be determined soon with the first Goodrich-Taylor Award being made for Fall 1992.

News about LSU Libraries

While the LSU Libraries did not receive any increases in the books and periodicals budget for the current fiscal year, we have had the benefit of special bond monies to assist us in purchasing some materials we were unable to acquire in recent years. Unfortunately, the cost of library materials continues to increase at a faster rate than state funding, and we may face a period of retrenchment in coming years.

An Electronic Imaging Laboratory project has been established in the LSU Libraries. Funded by a grant, the EIL and will promote increased access to some of the rare materials in special collections. Books will be scanned and both text and pictures will be converted to electronic format. The electronic format will be accessible in the Libraries and, via a network, at remote locations; disk versions may also be distributed to other libraries. Faye Phillips in the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collection is the director of this grant project.

Another initiative is the Oral History Project, a venture in which the Library is working with the University History Commission to conduct interviews with people familiar with the history of LSU. If you are interested in helping with this project or if you can suggest persons who should be interviewed, please call Pamela Dean, director of the oral history project, at 388-6577.

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As usual there will be a number of exhibits and other events in Hill that will be of interest to you during this academic year. Please watch for announcements.

Networking

LSU Libraries is working with the Board of Regents' Library Task Force and other university libraries around the state to form a statewide information network. This network

will lead to an online catalog, like LOLA, that will eventually access the holdings of most of the academic libraries in the state. This will be an invaluable tool for students, faculty, and researchers and when fully implemented, will extend academic library resources to all of the businesses, industries, and citizens of Louisiana.

There are many exciting opportunities at LSU and I look forward to working with the Friends on future projects.

Dean Cargill

The Art of Audubon

The art of Audubon has been part of the cultural heritage of Louisiana since the nineteenth century when Audubon lived and worked in the Felicianas and New Orleans. One of the first Friends' projects in 1963 was the endeavor to secure funding for the purchase of an Audubon double elephant folio edition of the *Birds of America* for the LSU Library. That purchase which cost, at that time, a princely sum of \$64,000, is now worth several million dollars. The purchase and framing of separate prints from the elephant folio was another project carried out in the 1960's. For many years these prints were displayed under harsh lighting conditions in the hallways of the library and in offices around campus. Time, the acidity of the paper, and improper framing and display had all combined to hasten the deterioration of the prints when, in 1985 the Friends of the LSU Library made a commitment of \$25,000 to fund the restoration and conservation of the framed Audubon elephant folio prints owned by the Libraries. In the intervening years, 50 prints have been restored and re-framed in alkaline mat materials with museum framing techniques. The prints are now undergoing restoration thanks to the special fund set up by the Friends organization for that purpose.

The Friends continue to support the Audubon materials in the E.A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection and have recently underwritten the purchase of an archive comprised of 32 drawings used in the production of plates for the royal octavo edition of John James Audubon's *Birds of America*. These are the only known drawings for the royal octavo edition that still survive, 13 of which are attributed to John James Audubon. Several of the drawings bear Victor Audubon's handwritten instructions to the lithographer. The collection also contains three colored proofs of lithographs for the first

edition, 12 uncolored proofs of lithographs (from the first and second editions) and one untinted background for the second edition.

It had always been assumed that the drawings for the royal octavo edition were copies of the double elephant folio prints reduced in size. Research on the archive has led to one of the most important discoveries regarding Audubon made in recent years--that he was himself responsible for many of the drawings made for the royal octavo edition of the *Birds of America*. The archive contains one drawing, that of a Missouri meadowlark, which does not appear in the double elephant folio edition. The recently acquired archive has already been used by Audubon scholars David Lank and Ron Tyler for research on the differences between the plates in the elephant folio and the first octavo edition and also differences in prints among the various octavo editions. The archive makes possible an understanding of the entire process involved in creating the lithographs for the octavo editions. In addition to its innate artistic and aesthetic value, the archive has value for scholars in art history, natural history, history of the book, and American cultural history.

The purchase of the archive will be funded by private donations and the sale of a limited edition leafbook containing prints of all 32 drawings. The leafbook will be co-published by the Friends of the LSU Library and Thomas Taylor of Austin, Texas. It will contain an essay by Ron Tyler, executive director of the Texas State Historical Association and an acknowledged expert in nineteenth-century American lithography. The anticipated publication date is spring 1992. Members of the Friends will receive advance purchase information on this special limited edition.

LUMIÈRES Published by the Friends of the LSU Library
Edited by Anna Perrault

Volume 16, Number 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.

Friends Co-sponsor Exhibits and Lectures for **Anniversary Celebration**

The 20th anniversary of the E.A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection was celebrated October 20-21 with a symposium and exhibition in Hill Memorial Library, "Building and Planning for the Future: The E.A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection at Louisiana State University, 1971-1991." The symposium featured lectures by internationally known natural history scholars. On Sunday, David Lank, F.R.S.A, chairman of the board of the McGill University McCord Canadian History Museum, and a local favorite, brought back by popular demand, spoke on the art of Audubon. Titled "The Book of Revelation," the lecture featured a double slide presentation accompanied by the usual erudite and witty commentary for which Lank is famous. A reception replete with Louisiana culinary delights followed the lecture.

There were three lectures on the second day of the symposium. The first lecture by Ron Tyler, president of the Texas Historical Association and expert on lithography, was on the place of Audubon's work in the history of art in America. Tyler is of the opinion that Audubon was not just a great animal artist, but a great artist in the spectrum of American art. The second speaker of the afternoon was Margaret Stones, also very much a local favorite, who gave an account of her research into the botanical specimen featured in a portrait of Joseph Banks, the eighteenth century naturalist who sponsored the scientific expedition to Australia. Ms. Stones was positive that the specimen was a species of flax which was featured in the portrait because Banks intended to use it in a commercial venture and was publicizing the plant by including it in his portrait. The last speaker of the afternoon was John O'Neill, an associate of the LSU Museum of Natural History who is internationally known as an artist and an ornithologist. O'Neill showed slides and described expeditions to South America on which several new species of birds were identified.

An exhibit observing the twentieth anniversary of the opening of the E.A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection is on display in Hill Memorial Library until January 6, 1992. The exhibition titled, "Building and Planning for the Future: The E.A. McIlhenny Collection at Louisiana State University, 1971-1991" was curated by Caroline Kennedy. A catalog edited by Elaine Smyth accompanies the exhibition. The symposium and the production of the catalog celebrating the 20th anniversary of the E.A. McIlhenny Collection were supported by a grant generously donated by the McIlhenny Company.

Cottage Gardens Nurseries

A lecture honoring Theodore and Lou Bird Landry was given by Professor Neil Odenwald of the LSU School of Landscape Architecture on November 17 for the opening



Kathryn Morgan, Anna Perrault and David Lank present Dean Jennifer Cargill (second from left) with a signed copy of Nature Classics: A Catalogue of the E.A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection.

of the exhibit, "From Cottage to Cathedral: the Landscape Work of Theodore E. and Lou Bird Landry." The exhibit in Hill Memorial Library displays a small selection of items from the Landry collection of architectural papers, slides, and designs given to the LSU Libraries in 1983. The collection begins with the Landry's first design plan for "Cottage Gardens" nursery in West Baton Rouge Parish in 1928.

Theodore and Lou Bird Landry were responsible for promotion of the preservation and restoration of the gardens at many of the famous plantations along the Mississippi. Mr. Landry was the first president of the Louisiana Landscape Association and was active in the American Society of Landscape Architects. He worked as an engineer and landscape architect for Humble Oil & Refining company for more than 40 years and during that time, collaborated with Dr. Clair Brown on research into the pollution tolerances of plants. Mrs. Lou Bird Landry was an authority on southern horticulture and received recognition for her work with garden clubs and flower shows. They became well known for their work in church landscape architecture.

The collection is rich in slides and photographs documenting the history of many famous landscape projects in the U.S. and abroad. It spans 50 years of professional work and is a unique resource for the study of landscape architecture in Louisiana.

Louisiana Heritage Lecture

The third Louisiana Heritage Lecture "A Governorship Gone Wrong: Antonio Ulloa & the Louisiana Revolution of 1768," was given by Paul E. Hoffman, professor in the LSU history department and the recipient of the 1991 Francis Parkman Prize. The lecture, on Sunday, November 3, in Hill Memorial Library, was co-sponsored by the Friends of the LSU Library and the Friends of the Anglo-American Art Museum. Professor Hoffman characterized Ulloa as the first reform governor in Louisiana and reviewed the policies which Ulloa tried to inaugurate. The population under his governance was not in favor of his economic reforms and a recession resulted in the rebellion in 1768 which led to Ulloa's removal from office. A wine and cheese reception followed the lecture.

Annual Book Bazaar Sweet Sixteen Sweetest of All

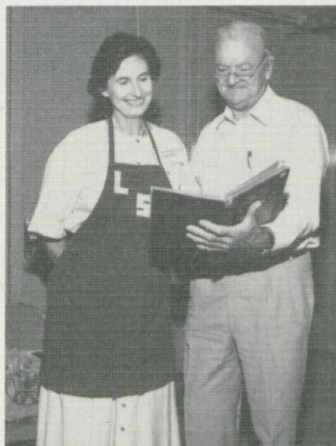
The annual book sale seemed to take place under a good luck spell this year, quite possibly cast upon the occasion by its Irish chairman Jo O'Connell. Opening day was a crisp early fall day which beguiled the long line of eager buyers into contentment as they awaited the magic hour of 9 a.m. Chancellor Bud Davis and Chancellor H. Rouse Caffey cut the ribbon, assisted by new library dean Jennifer Cargill, who was attending her first book bazaar. The good luck spell lasted the entire three days to push the profits for the sixteenth book bazaar to the sweetest total of all time. The Friends of the LSU Library will add \$52,500 from the combined Book Barn/Book Bazaar effort to the LSU Foundation account for the LSU Libraries.



Chancellor Bud Davis cuts the ribbon for the opening of the 16th Book Bazaar as Chancellor Rouse Caffey, Beth Reames, and Jennifer Cargill stand by.

Key individuals in staging the three-day sale were Jo O'Connell, the 1991 book bazaar chairman, Anne West, secretary, and Dodie Edmonds, treasurer. The treasury staff is quite large each year with Pat Millican serving as the 1991 assistant treasurer. Sue Edrington was Thursday cashier chair, Lynda Waguespack, Friday chair, and Mary Lou Hutchinson, Saturday chair. Anne West was in charge of the Back Door Express checkout table. Serving in the important post of chairman of volunteers was Gwen Cook with Carole Cordes on the committee. In charge of arrangements and stock was Nancy Murrill assisted by co-chair Kathleen Roberts and committee Bonnie Chapman. The 1991 book barn chairman was Eileen Kean; co-chair Cherry Owen. Book collection chair Elaine Ellis and committee Louise

Johnson had a record number of donated volumes to cope with. The publicity committee under the chairmanship of Beth Reames with committee member Mitzi Bray did the



The 1991 Book Bazaar chairman Jo O'Connell admires a treasure Professor Donald Freshwater proudly shows off.

usual fine job of drawing customers to the sale. Campus publicity was again handled by Kay Harrison. Leslie Carse is in charge of the 1991 scrapbook. Ruth Wilkinson continued in her post of information chairman and Fran Adcock served as hospitality chairman. Caroline Daigle served as transportation chairman with Cecelia Baudin as co-chair. Polly Williams served with them. The LSU Libraries liaison is

Caroline Wire.

The book barn experienced a record number of donations this year and the drive is on to recruit new volunteers to join the veterans who have so capably staged the book bazaar for sixteen years. Interested persons who would like to work for the most successful ongoing library fundraising operation anywhere and experience the camaraderie of the book barn crew are invited to call the book barn at 399-5935 to sign up for duty. Become a part of the 1992 sales force now!



They buy them by the boxful! Faithful and stalwart volunteer Delroy Spann rests between trips to the parking lot.

Photographs by Don Morrison.

A Christmas Reminder

Lovely Margaret Stones notecards are available and may be purchased individually or by the set of four from the Friends marketing committee, 295 Middleton Library (388-2217). The cost is \$1.50 per card or \$12.00 per set.

Another Christmas gift suggestion for the connoisseur of fine botanical art is a portfolio of four of the Louisiana Flora Prints by Margaret Stones. The alligator

Bonnet (*Nymphaea odorata* Aiton), Carolina Lily (*Lilium michauxii* Poiret), Celestial Lily (*Nemastylis geminiflora* Nuttall) and southern Crabapple (*Malus angustifolia* Aiton) have been reproduced by photographic lithography with great accuracy on 15" and 22" museum quality paper. The cost per set is \$400 with \$32 tax. The prints may be acquired by contacting the marketing committee at the address and phone number above.



Officers

Julie Hamilton, President
Virginia Grenier, Vice-President
Nancy Murril, Secretary
Becky Cutshaw, Treasurer

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
- ☐ Check payable to LSU Foundation for Friends of the Library
- ☐ I prefer to pay as follows:
- Member's signature
- Address
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MEMORIALS

In Memory of:

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Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Murrell
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Sergent

Mrs. Bernice Dugas

from The 39'ers Book Club

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from Mr. and Mrs. Irwin A. Berg

Mr. John P. Larkin

from Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Cortner

Dr. A. E. Sandberg

from Mr. and Mrs. Irvin A. Berg and
Mr. and Mrs. Max Goodrich

Mr. Joe Tuminello

from Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tuminello

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