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Lumières, Spring 1992

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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LUMIÈRES

30th Anniversary of Friends of the LSU Library Celebrated



Goodrich-Taylor Graduate Assistantship award recipient, Sigrid Marika King, with Friends president, Julia Hamilton, and Huel Perkins, speaker for the dinner.

The Friends of the LSU Library marked the 30th anniversary of the organization at the annual dinner on April 23, 1992. Julia R. Hamilton, president of the Friends, presided over the evening. After an invocation given by Chancellor Emeritus Cecil G. Taylor, Jennifer Cargill, dean of the LSU libraries, gave greetings from

the library. In addition to thanking the Friends for their past and continued support of the libraries, Dean Cargill mentioned two "visible projects" which would be of interest to them. The first is the new Electronic Imaging Lab which has been installed in Hill Memorial. The lab equipment was funded by a Board of Regents 8g grant obtained in 1991. The most recent news is that the Board of Regents has awarded a grant to provide seed money for a statewide online catalog which will eventually link 27 college and university libraries in Louisiana.

It was announced that the M. Stone Miller endowment been set up. The income from the endowment will be used to purchase materials for the Louisiana and Lower

Mississippi Valley Collection in honor of Stone Miller. Dean Cargill concluded by again expressing her appreciation to the Friends and extending congratulations for the 30th anniversary.

The assistant dean of libraries for Special Collections, Robert Martin, followed with the presentation to

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Friends vice-president, Virginia Grenier, with incoming board members Anne West and Zelda Long.

the Friends of "Thirty Years of Friendship," a keepsake from the LSU libraries administration and staff. The memento contains a history of the Friends of the LSU Library with a listing of all officers and board members, award recipients, and major donations and purchases. The Friends were praised as one of the most successful of library support organizations for academic libraries in the United States having won numerous awards. But the most marvelous thing about the Friends has been "the money." The organization has amassed a general endowment of almost \$500,000 and the Goodrich-Taylor Endowment of approximately \$110,000. Over \$408,000 has been spent in purchases for the libraries with an additional \$24,000 paying for the restoration of a number of the Audubon double elephant folio prints. The Friends organization has been instrumental in securing public support for the LSU libraries and has influenced the donation of many collections of books and papers.

The Friends awards for 1992 were presented by Mary Jane Kahao. Special commendation awards were presented to three people. Dr. Trent James, Anne West, and Kay Harrison were all given copies of the two Mattioli wood block prints. The three were honored for their work in raising the funds for the Goodrich-Taylor Graduate Assistantship Endowment. Dr. James and Anne West were co-chairs of the auction committee and Kay Harrison chaired the publicity effort which received the John Cotton Dana Publicity Award from the American Library Association Library Administration and Management Division in 1991.

Bill Holtman was given the Doris Dennis Smith Book Bazaar Award for her many years of year-round service in the Book Barn and as chair of publicity for the Book Bazaar.

Outgoing board members, Don Stanford, Marion Spann, Nancy Murrill, Mary Jane Kahao, and T.O. Perry were given certificates of appreciation for their years of service on the board. A special certificate of appreciation was given to Teddy Gray who performed many services for the Friends as student worker during his undergraduate career.

The report of the nominating committee was given by Nancy Murrill. Officers elected for the 1992/93 year are president, Julia Hamilton; vice-president, Virginia Grenier; secretary, Mary Alice Carpenter; and treasurer, Becky Cutshaw. New board members will be Philip Jones, Zelda Long, Dr. David Miller, Anne West, Anna Perrault, and Jim Traynham. Dr. Edward Boagni was appointed for a second term.

Anne West, co-chair of the Goodrich-Taylor Graduate Assistantship Endowment fundraising committee, gave a report on the auction. Paper Impressions II raised over \$25,000 for the endowment fund. The first recipient of the graduate assistantship will be Sigrid Marika King, a Ph.D candidate in the LSU Department of English. She will work on a project in the Rare Book Collections during the 1992/93 academic year.

The speaker for the evening, Dr. Huel D. Perkins, executive assistant to the chancellor, was introduced by D.W. Schneider, LSU libraries associate dean for public services. The theme of Dr. Perkin's speech was that of civilization and the importance of preserving ideas and making them available to subsequent generations. He said there is a direct correlation between the respect a civilization "holds for its books and libraries and the contribution it makes to mankind." Kathleen Roberts, the 1993 Book Bazaar chairman, was in charge of arrangements for the dinner.



Doris Dennis Smith Book award winner, Bill Holtman (center), is congratulated by new Friends board members Philip Jones and Dr. David Miller.

T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Established

A reception was held in Hill Memorial Library on Sunday, February 25, 1992 to mark the opening of the T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History. The center is named in honor of Pulitzer prize winning historian and long-time LSU faculty member, T. Harry Williams, who was president of the Friends of the LSU Library in the mid-1970's. LSU Chancellor William Davis opened the ceremony and spoke briefly about William's contributions to the field of oral history and the development of the idea for the Center for Oral History. He then introduced Estelle Williams, the widow of T. Harry Williams, who spoke of her enthusiastic support for the creation of the center. She introduced Pamela Dean, director of the center. Dean explained the purpose of the center which will be a resource for the University community and the state. The Williams Center grew out of the University Commission on the History of LSU, a project initiated by Chancellor Davis. While one of the ongoing projects is documenting the history of LSU, the center will extend beyond that. Interviews collected in the center will provide research material on the social, political, cultural, and economic history of Louisiana for future students and historians. Dean will teach classes in the techniques of oral history and the center will train those interested in conducting interviews. The center is being funded by a three-year grant. An endowment will be raised to provide permanent funding. Anyone interested in learning more about the Williams Center or training in interview techniques can contact the director, Pamela Dean, at 388-6577.



Director of the T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History, Pamela Dean, LSU Chancellor William Davis, and Mrs. T. Harry Williams at the dedication reception.



Friends President Julia Hamilton presents Denise LeDoux and Charles Smith with a certificate marking the dedication of the Doris Dennis Smith patio.

Doris Dennis Smith Patio Dedicated

Friends and family of Doris Dennis Smith gathered on Sunday afternoon, November 17, 1991, at the patio in front of Hill Memorial constructed in her memory. Friends member and violinist, Bruce Story, provided musical selections for the occasion. Mrs. Smith's immediate family--husband Charles, daughter Denise LeDoux, and granddaughters were present for the dedication.

The program began with "Amazing Grace," her favorite hymn. Former Friends presidents, Marion Spann and Anne West, recalled that Doris Smith had persuaded the renovation contractor for Hill Memorial to save the marble which had been the flooring material in the book stacks of Hill. The patio, which was designed by Friends board member Neil Odenwald, was constructed to make use of the marble which had been rescued from Hill. Smith had been very interested that the marble be used to provide a place for students to rest and study outdoors. Eileen Kean and Cherry Owen provided reminiscences from the days when Doris Smith worked in the Book Barn. President Julia Hamilton presented the family with a certificate observing the dedication of the patio. Appreciation was expressed for the work of Dr. Odenwald, Phil Thompson of LSU Facilities Planning, the LSU Physical Plant workers who constructed the patio, and Teddy Gray who laid out and measured all of the marble pieces.

The ceremony closed with a rousing rendition of another favorite, "Deep in the Heart of Texas." There was a reception held in conjunction with the lecture by Neil Odenwald on the landscape work of Theodore and Lou Bird Landry. A plaque now designates the area as the Doris Dennis Smith patio.

Photographs by Don Morrison

LUMIÈRES

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Edited by Anna Perrault

Volume 17, Number 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.

Margaret Stones and Botanical Art: A Celebration of the "Native Flora of Louisiana"

On a lovely spring weekend in April, LSU celebrated the conclusion of the "Native Flora of Louisiana Project." Begun in 1976 as an effort to create something which would be of lasting value to the state of Louisiana for the Bicentennial of the United States, the flora of Louisiana project stretched over 17 years. Events over three days gave personal and scholarly tribute to the artist for the project, Margaret Stones.

On Sunday, April 12 in the Hill Memorial lecture hall, Paul Murrill, who was then chancellor of LSU and the driving force behind the adoption of the flora of Louisiana as a project sponsored by Louisiana State University, recounted the history of the project. Among the guests at the Sunday afternoon session were many of the donors, collectors, and others who have been involved with the flora of Louisiana project throughout the years. The highlight of the afternoon was a "conversation" between Margaret Stones and Paul Nesbitt, the senior scientific officer of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh. The informal format of the program drew out facts about Stones' career as a botanical artist and interesting aspects of her artistic technique. Several amusing anecdotes about her experiences at Kew Botanic Garden delighted the audience.

On Monday afternoon, April 13, a symposium was held on "The Native Flora of Louisiana: Artistic and Scientific Perspectives." Moderated by Russell Chapman, chair of the Department of Botany at LSU, the symposium had four papers. David Scrase, keeper of paintings, drawings, and prints at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, England, who curated an exhibit at the Fitzwilliam of drawings from the flora of Louisiana in 1991, spoke on "Margaret Stones in Context of the European Tradition of Flower Drawings." Ghilleen T. Prance, director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, spoke on the topic of "Scientific Aspects of Botanical Art." Professor Joseph Ewan, retired professor of botany at Tulane University and now a research associate at the Missouri Botanical Garden, spoke on "Plant Hunting About the Bayous Since 1718." The final speaker for the symposium was Paul Nesbitt whose topic was "Illustrated Floras Since the Invention of Photography."



Chancellor William Davis presents Margaret Stones with the University Medal.

The final event of the celebration was a reception at the Governor's Mansion on Monday night. Carolyn Hargrave, who organized the flora of Louisiana celebration, introduced Chancellor William Davis who presented a copy of two Margaret Stones' prints to the Governor's Mansion and the University Medal to Margaret Stones. Sally Clausen, representing Governor Edwards, accepted the prints and also presented Stones with the Governor's Award. Anna Perrault, president of the Louisiana Library Association, presented Stones with the 1992 Louisiana Literary Award for the *Flora of Louisiana*. The book, published by the LSU Press, reproduces 131 drawings from the project accompanied with botanical descriptions by Lowell Urbatsch. Anna Perrault also presented a copy of the book to the Governor's Mansion.

Photograph by Jim Zietz

Mark your calendars!

1993 Book Bazaar, October 8-10.

Kathleen Roberts, Book Bazaar chairman.

To volunteer or donate books, call 388-2217.

Reproductions from the Flora of Louisiana Project Available

The Friends of the LSU Library have been the beneficiary of the "Native Flora of Louisiana" project in several ways. In 1990, the Friends produced a set of four Margaret Stones notecards with four different drawings from the project—the Magnolia grandiflora; the Iris fulva Ker, an unusual red iris; the Iris brevicaulis, a blue to purple iris; and the Nelumbo lutea, a yellow lotus. The notecards are beautiful color reproductions and have been extremely popular. These notecards have been sold locally and internationally in connection with the "Flora of Louisiana" exhibits abroad in Cambridge, Edinburgh, and Oxford. The proceeds from the sales of the notecards have been dedicated to the Goodrich-Taylor Graduate Assistantship fund. The notecards are \$2 each. The Friends also have copies of the poster which commemorates the exhibitions in Great Britain and Scotland for sale at \$12 each.

Several years ago, the New Orleans Garden Club produced a limited edition of four Margaret Stones prints—the Southern crabapple, the Alligator bonnet, the Celestial lily, and the Carolina lily. In 1990 when the unsold sets from the prints reverted to the University, the Friends were given these on consignment until October 1992. The set of four prints signed by Margaret Stones are \$400. The Friends of the LSU Library receive half of the revenue from each set sold. The proceeds from the prints will be devoted to an endowment for preservation of materials in the LSU library collections. Hurry to get your set before October 1992!

Those wishing to purchase any of the Margaret Stones items from the "Flora of Louisiana" may contact Anne West 766-5783 or Caroline Wire 388-2217.

▼ Memorials ▼

In Memory of:

Waldo Braden

from Blanche Jackson

Frederick Broussard

from Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kahao

Barry Dickhute

from Mr. and Mrs. William J. Berchey

Ernest Gueymard

from Dr. Cecil G. Taylor

William Hughes, Sr.

from Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kahao

Rose Johnson

from Mr. and Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Jr.

R. Gordon Kean, Jr.

from Mrs. Howard E. Samuel

M. Stone Miller, Jr.

from Senator and Mrs. Russell B. Long

Anna Perrault

Dr. Cecil G. Taylor

Sue L. Turner

Stanley Wilder

Everett Oertel

from Mrs. Everett Oertel

Judge Alvin Rubin

from Stephen P. Coco

Maryanna Stanford

from Dr. and Mrs Irvin A. Berg

Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Dakin

Dr. and Mrs. Max Goodrich

Nora E. Grigsby

Dr. and Mrs. Fabian Gudas

Helen Hair

Julia R. Hamilton

Dr. and Mrs. W. Lee Hargrave

Mr. and Mrs. R. Gordan Kean, Jr.

Dr. and Mrs. T.A. Kirby

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Matthews

Dr. Cecil G. Taylor

Charest Thibaut

from Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kahao

Elizabeth S. Warrick

from Mrs. William T. Bennett

Mr. and Mrs. R. Gordan Kean, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Dexter S. Stewart

Dr. Cecil G. Taylor

John Hazard Wildman

from Dr. and Mrs. T.A. Kirby

Paul C. Young

from Dr. and Mrs. Irwin A. Berg

Dr. Cecil G. Taylor

* Officers *

Julia Hamilton, President
Virginia Grenier, Vice-President
Mary Alice Carpenter, 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
- City/State/Zip
- Date

Friends of the LSU Library

Treasurer's Report January—December 1991

Balance in LSU Foundation Account
December 31, 1990\$ 149,811.48

Income:
Dues, Memorials.\$ 26,338.98
Royalties from *Nature Classics*\$ 345.63
Book Bazaar\$ 52,500.00
Interest\$ 12,685.01
Total\$ 91,869.62

Expenditures:
Total\$ 109,742.42

Balances as of December 31, 1991

Balance in LSU Foundation Account\$ 131,938.68

Library Endowment Fund\$ 431,859.16

Goodrich-Taylor Award Fund\$ 80,087.04

Mrs. Mary Ann Miller Conner Memorial
Book Fund\$ 12,654.03

Director George Guidry Book Fund\$ 2,292.00

Mrs. Ellen Albright Taylor Memorial
Book Fund\$ 5,647.12

Ellinor H. Behre Fund\$ 4,031.07

Fred B. Kniffen Fund\$ 5,231.22

H. C. Sanders Fund\$ 5,603.96

Max Goodrich Fund\$ 2,059.21

William Haag Fund\$ 1,314.57

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