

Fall 10-1-1995

## Lumières, Fall 1995

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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# LUMIÈRES

## Book Bazaar Sets New Records— Raises More Than \$66,000!

The Friends of the LSU Libraries celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Book Bazaar by selling a record number of books and raising more money than ever before. More than \$58,000 was collected from the sale of books, prints, CDs, and books on tape, and \$8,000 came from the year-round sale of textbooks. This year's total exceeded the 1994 bazaar by more than \$14,000!

Big sellers this year included titles in the areas of hobbies, art, the South, and fiction. This energetic group of volunteers is already looking ahead to the 1996 bazaar and hopes to accumulate more first editions, books on tape, and CDs. New to the 1995 bazaar was the donation of framed prints donated by galleries including Taylor Clark, Gilley's, Frameworks, and Goudeau Antiques.

Barrels will once again appear in local Kean's cleaning stores beginning in February 1996. If you are interested in helping with this gigantic effort, there will be an orientation before the collecting begins. Marion Spann is in charge of this committee. Give her a call at 504/927-5608 if you want to be a part of one of the most successful fundraisers in Baton Rouge, and—MARK YOUR CALENDARS—the dates for the 1996 Book Bazaar have been set. October 3, 4, and 5, 1996, will find these fantastic volunteers just waiting to open the doors to another prosperous venture.

The LSU Libraries congratulates this fine group of women and men for their achievements. We are proud and grateful for your support and dedication.

See 1995 Book Bazaar photos on page 5.



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# A Message from the Dean

The recent 20th annual Friends of the LSU Libraries Book Bazaar was dedicated to the memory of the chair of the very first Book Bazaar, Rosalind Beene McKenzie, an individual who did much to guide the excellent organizational structure of the three-day event—a structure that helps to make it such a success. McKenzie's husband, Leslie, was present for this tribute to his wife and was joined by their son, Shelby, for the opening ceremonies.

The 1995 Bazaar set new records—and it was also fun to be a participant! Thanks to all of you who worked at the Bazaar and to those of you who took the opportunity to add to your personal collections. The enthusiasm observed locally is an indication of how people look forward to what has become an annual tradition. The Bazaar receipts, minus expenses, will be added to the Friends' endowment. We appreciate the efforts of the Friends of the LSU Libraries and the support you continue to provide.

There are a number of endowments that have been created for LSU Libraries. Some are restricted to specific purposes, while others are unrestricted and can be used where the need is greatest. These endowments help us in areas where state funds are not available or are inadequate. Unrestricted endowments are particularly welcome to provide flexibility in the utilization of resources. These endowed funds are managed by the LSU Foundation and realize a stable income each year. Examples of endowed funds are the LSU Libraries Endowment and the Goodrich-Taylor Fund, both of which are the result of Friends' fundraising efforts.

We also have a few unendowed funds, which are also managed by the LSU Foundation. Unendowed funds are those that have not yet reached the \$10,000 level at which point they can become endowed funds. These funds do, however, continue to earn interest that allows them to grow and prosper. An example of an unendowed fund is the Rosalind Beene McKenzie Memorial Fund created as a result of gifts made in her memory when she died in 1993.

Several Friends have asked me about the LSU Libraries' budget for the 1995-96 academic year. We have had a level materials budget for more than a decade, at a time when the cost of serials has escalated dramatically. We have been unable to initiate new serial subscriptions for many years and have had to cancel a number of important titles. This fiscal year, the cost of serials for the collections will exceed the monies available. Thus, we will be unable to purchase books except in special circumstances. This is a major problem—obviously—for a research library. In 1988, LSU Libraries ranked 54th among members of the Association of Research Libraries in expenditures for books and serials. In 1994, we ranked 102nd of 108 in expenditures for books and serials. We have also fallen in rankings in other categories including personnel, operating expenditures, and total ranking. Thus, the funds that come to us from our Friends and other contributors are very much appreciated.

We hope that in the future higher education in the state will be better funded. Education is too important to neglect.

—Jennifer Cargill, Dean  
LSU Libraries

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## Upcoming Events

**The Second Biennial Historic Natchez Conference,** "Reflections on the History of the Old Natchez District: Becoming Southern in Time and Place," will be held January 30-February 1, 1996, at the Natchez Eola Hotel. Scholars and graduate students from throughout the country will gather to present papers, attend exhibits, and visit with the citizens of Natchez and other interested history buffs. A pre-conference workshop on "Archives and Manuscripts: Myths and Realities" will take place on January 30. On Thursday evening, an exhibition prepared by the LSU Libraries' Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections will be opened at the Natchez Convention and Visitors Bureau and will focus on "Banking in Natchez." For further information, contact The Historic Natchez Foundation, P. O. Box 1751, Natchez, Mississippi 39121; 800/445-2510. You may also contact Faye Phillips at the LSU Libraries Special Collections, 504/388-6551.

**The Louisiana Heritage Lecture Series** will continue this fall with a presentation on December 3, 1995, by Glenn Conrad, Director of the Center for Louisiana Studies at the University of Southwestern Louisiana. His topic is "Two Hundred Years of the Louisiana Sugar Industry." The Louisiana Heritage Lecture Series is jointly sponsored each semester by the Friends of the LSU Museum of Art and the Friends of the LSU Libraries. Begun in 1990, this lecture series focuses on the life, history, and culture of Louisianians.

Please plan to join us on December 3 from 3-5 p.m. for Conrad's presentation and a reception in his honor. The reception will also be in honor of the official opening of the LSU Libraries Special Collections, exhibition, "Sugar at LSU: Archiving the Past, Researching the Future."



# Recent Acquisitions

What do tung tree plantations, the Krewe of Clones, the Marksville *Pelican*, the Louisiana Kings, and the Skimmers Club have in common? All are represented in materials donated to the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Special Collections, LSU Libraries recently. These collections include:

- **Louis E. Chenel and Family Papers, 1930-89.** In the 1930s, Chenel moved to Folsom, Louisiana, to develop a tung oil business. Tung oil was used in varnishes and marine paint. More than 2,000 acres were planted with tung nut trees, but business did not flourish. By the 1950s, Chenel realized that more money could be made by subdividing the land rather than growing tung nut trees. The papers reflect Chenel's various businesses and the activities of the family. Included in the collection are Denise Chenel Daughtery's files on the New Orleans **Krewe of Clones** in the late 1970s and 1980s.
- **Marksville *Pelican*, 1862-64.** Members of the LaFrague family have donated original issues of the *Pelican* published by their ancestors during the Civil War. Many of the issues are on wallpaper used by printers when newsprint was in short supply during the war. These issues will be microfilmed by the LSU Libraries.
- **Samuel J. Marino Papers, 1936-93.** In the late 1930s Marino was a member of the Louisiana Kings and the Owen Reed and the Playhouse Orchestra. These swing bands got their start at LSU.
- **Skimmers Club Records, 1927-87.** This book club was one of the earliest formed in Baton Rouge and is still meeting today.

Other materials recently acquired include:

- **Isaac Thomas and Family Papers, 1802-51.** Thomas was a planter, politician, sawmill owner, and steamboat operator who lived near Alexandria, Louisiana. He is reputedly the first planter to introduce sugar cultivation to central Louisiana. Thomas served in the United States House of Representatives from Tennessee, 1815-17, and in the Louisiana Senate, 1823-27.
- **Charles W. Miller Letters, 1941-42.** Miller was stationed at Camp Claiborne in Shreveport, Louisiana, with the 69th Quartermaster Company. His letters were written to his wife in Rochester, New York. Their marriage was a secret from her parents and his letters discuss the need for secrecy, his army training, German prisoners of war, and other aspects of life as a soldier stationed in Louisiana.
- **Winnifred Thomas Smith Papers, 1910-60.** Smith's papers include much about her father Arthur Johns Thomas who was a member of the 1908 LSU football team. Other items are about her life as a student at LSU in the 1930s. Smith was the wife of James Monroe Smith, Jr. She was such an ardent LSU football fan that in her will she funded an academic scholarship for a football player in her father's memory.

## Renovation of the Middleton Room

When the General Troy H. Middleton Room was opened and dedicated in March 1973, the main library had a completely different floor plan than the present configuration of Middleton Library. There were only two floors and the basement; computer equipment was non-existent; and card catalogs were the only way to locate a book. The bottom floor was well used by students and other patrons doing research in government documents and social sciences. With the reconfiguration of the building and the lack of maintenance funds, the location of the present Middleton Room does not properly represent the tribute for the person for which this building and the room is named.

The vision for the refurbished Middleton Room includes usage for staff events, seminars, lectures, special events, meetings of the Friends of the LSU Libraries, and other campus groups appropriate to the space. Because of the general's career and his devotion to the military, the area would also be a fitting location for commissioning ceremonies and gather-

ings of the male and female Ole War Skule veterans. Additionally, exhibition cases to house Middleton memorabilia would be placed in highly visible spots to display his contributions to his country and LSU.

The Troy H. Middleton Library is a rich resource for research in a wide range of disciplines, an indispensable source of information for undergraduates and graduates alike, and for citizens throughout the state. The restoration, refurbishment, and renovation of this room will highlight the educational and military history of this campus and will demonstrate the benefits of refurbishing existing facilities for new activities.

If you would like to be involved in the campaign to raise funds for this first step in the total renovation of the Middleton Library or if you have memorabilia from the Middleton presidency that could be part of this new exhibition, please call Jane Henslee at 504/388-6599.



## Learning About Victorians:

# A Word on Some New Acquisitions

by Elaine Smyth, Curator of Rare Books and the E.A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection

An old saw has it that you shouldn't judge a book by its cover. But during the last five years, the Rare Book Collection has acquired several collections of Victorian poetry in its original publisher's bindings, which are often striking and unusual to 20th-century eyes. Seeing these bindings as they came into the collection made me curious about them, so this July I traveled to the University of Virginia's summer Rare Book School to take an intensive week-long class about 19th-century American publisher's bindings taught by book designer and historian Sue Allen. The course was exceptional, and I came away with a new appreciation for the history preserved in the Victorian books I had been buying.

Physically, they reflect the profound changes wrought by the Industrial Revolution. Up to the 1830s, publishers did not commonly send books already bound to the booksellers. Instead, books were published "in sheets" (just as they came from the printer) or in paper wrappers (similar to our modern-day paperbacks, except totally unillustrated). Booksellers might have a few copies bound up to sell, but most often the purchaser of each book would have it individually bound to his or her taste.

When bookbinding, a skilled handicraft for centuries, gave way to mechanization in the 19th century, cloth replaced leather as the binding material of choice, and a new world of design possibilities opened for publishers who wanted the public to recognize their wares. As the decades passed, styles came and went, changing in marked and easily recognizable ways. The smooth pink cloth of the 1830s gave way to a wider variety of cloths in the 1840s, most textured and some printed in stripes and moiré patterns. Red was a favorite color in the 1850s, often flamboyantly gilt-stamped. The Civil War brought a return to subdued colors and designs in the 1860s, followed by the ornate Eastlake style of bold black stamping with beveled boards in the 1870s. The 1880s brought overall exuberance and hints of orientalism and with the 90s came elegant stylization and *Art nouveau*.

LSU's newly acquired collections sometimes yield unexpected bonuses, as well. A small group added in October to the Rare Book Collection included a happy contribution to the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections—a pleasant copy of *Bachelor Ballads* (New York, 1898) that fills a gap in our holdings of Blanche McManus Mansfield (1869-1935), a Louisiana author and illustrator especially esteemed for her children's books. The book is profusely illustrated and features a pictorial cloth binding designed by Mansfield that is a classic example of the period. Another charming binding in the group graces a copy of the fourth edition of Longfellow's *Evangeline*. Dating from 1848, it features a blue and black striped cloth elegantly stamped in blind and gilt.

While Victorian publisher's bindings can be an absorbing subject on their own, the contents of these books also shed light on life in the English-speaking world of the 19th century. The plenitude of poetry speaks of how time was spent before television. The abundance of female authors is evidence of a vocation newly acceptable for women. The poetry—though frequently less than riveting—presents topics and attitudes that often make an interesting contrast to the war and social turmoil that are emphasized in history textbooks.

Thus, our newly acquired Victorian poetry books offer resources for research in areas ranging from book design to poetry, social history, and popular culture. And spending some time with them makes one realize that even if one can't judge a book by its cover, with these Victorians, the cover tells an interesting story of its own.

## Faculty Research Awards

Last year, the Board of Directors of the Friends of the LSU Libraries approved granting up to 10 Faculty Research Awards per year to faculty and staff members for worthy projects. These awards carry a \$300 stipend. We are pleased to announce the board's choices.

**Penny Beile**—for a research project to collect city and library information on Lexington, Kentucky, to create an electronic hypertext tour of the area on the Internet.

**Mary Jane Ledvina**—for an onsite visit to a large academic library with a substantial European Union Depository, Council of Europe collection, and Federal Depository in order to complete a scholarly paper that will be presented at a conference on International Migration in Sweden in the spring of 1996.

**Sally Power** for travel to Huntington Library to examine manuscript materials and early editions of Hugh Blair's lectures. This research will be used to produce an essay for publication.

**Debbie Currie** for travel to Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Stations around the state to develop a program for library outreach to the stations and the Cooperative Extension Service agencies. A presentation and/or paper will be based upon the project.

**Barbara Wittkopf** for an onsite visit to the University of North Texas Library. This information will be used to assist with the LSU Libraries' plans for an electronic classroom and the possible reconfiguration of current classrooms.



# 20th Annual Book Bazaar



Shelby McKenzie; Leslie McKenzie; LSU Chancellor William E. Davis; Ganelle Bullock, assistant to Ag Center Chancellor H. Rouse Caffey; Dean Jennifer Cargill; and George Ann Brown, chair of the 1995 Book Bazaar. The 1995 Book Bazaar was dedicated to the memory of Rosalind Beene McKenzie, chair of the first Book Bazaar. Shelby McKenzie, son of the late Mrs. McKenzie and his father, Leslie, were present for the ribbon cutting ceremony.



Leslie McKenzie and Chancellor William E. Davis.



George Ann Brown, chair of the 1995 Book Bazaar; Caroline Wire, assistant to the dean, LSU Libraries; and Chancellor William E. Davis.



Faye Phillips, acting dean of Special Collections; Marion Spann; and Anne West, Book Bazaar volunteers being interviewed before its opening.



Well-known bibliophile, Buffington Mayer, making his choices.

Associate  
Dean of Public  
Services D. W.  
Schneider.



## LUMIÈRES EDITOR, JANE HENSLEE

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 LIBRARIES WITH THE NEWS OF THE ORGANIZATION AND WITH THE NEEDS OF THE LSU LIBRARIES. THE COVER DESIGN IS BASED ON AN EXQUISITE HAND-ILLUMINATED BORDER FROM A 15TH-CENTURY FRENCH RELIGIOUS MANUSCRIPT.



# LSU Libraries' Wish List...

## The LSU Libraries Needs Books, Books, and More Books

Did you know that the average cost of a book in various academic areas is \$53.85? The LSU Libraries' book budget will allow very few purchases this year.

The average cost of books in these areas are:

Agriculture .....	\$ 77.89
Architecture .....	\$ 55.99
Chemistry .....	\$122.28
Fine Arts .....	\$ 48.40
Music .....	\$ 44.91
Zoology .....	\$ 91.27

If you would like to assist in the purchase of books in any academic area, please call Jane Henslee, library development officer, at 504/388-6599. She can also provide costs in other areas not listed.

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## We Need Your Help

Many exhibits in Hill Memorial cannot be appropriately displayed due to the lack of proper exhibition panels. The type and quality we need are expensive—approximately \$1,500—but our exhibits are a vital part of this University. If you are interested in providing these, please call Faye Phillips at 504/388-6551.

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## Fax Machine Needed

Our plain paper fax in Hill Memorial has sent its last message and a new one is just not in the budget. If you would like to donate this vital piece of equipment, please call Faye Phillips or Jane Henslee. LSU has a contract price of approximately \$900, but some discount stores offer better prices.

## Memorials

### Marion Goodrich

Anna Perrault  
Dean Margaret Jameson  
Dr. Max Goodrich

### Mabel Callender Carter

Buddy and Fran Carville  
John and Linda Davies  
Dr. and Mrs. Tom Meek  
Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell Lea  
Dolores Parenton  
Vernon Parenton  
Mrs. David J. Carville and Family  
Urology Associates Staff  
Pete Hirschey  
Denise Cassano  
Mr. and Mrs. John Bateman  
Rannah Gray  
Jeff Elliott  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold F. Dyson  
Mr. and Mrs. John M. Drew  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Vandaworker  
Mrs. Robbie Rubin  
Mr. and Mrs. Byron Kantrow  
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Kantrow  
Mr. and Mrs. Carter Brown  
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas P. Harrison

## Membership Committee Report

More than 80 new memberships have been reported by Margaret Womack and Beverly Coates, co-chairs of the Friends of the LSU Libraries membership committee representing an increase in dues by more than \$4,000. If there is someone you know that would like to join the Friends, please call the LSU Libraries' office at 504/388-2217 and a packet of membership information will be sent to them.

We have recently discovered that some of our oldest and dearest Friends have let their memberships lapse. If you would like to check on the status of your membership, call Jane Henslee at 504/388-6599. We don't want to lose any of you!



## Planned Giving Seminar

The LSU Libraries, in conjunction with the LSU Foundation, will present a seminar this winter on methods donors may use to include the LSU Libraries in their long-term charitable giving plans. While most people believe that these techniques only benefit an organization, real, significant, and tangible advantages are available to our benefactors who take advantage of certain types of deferred gifts. In particular, tax deductions of various kinds and amounts can be of immediate value, even though the actual gift is deferred for many years. Donors can actually benefit long before the charity benefits from certain planned gifts.

Cecil Phillips, executive director of development for the LSU Foundation will make a presentation of these gift techniques and their advantages this winter. Invitations will be mailed after the first of the year. Plan to attend and discover how you can participate in the many planned giving techniques offered by the LSU Foundation.

## Making the Most of Matching Gifts

How can you turn one dollar into four dollars? If you or your spouse is employed by or retired from one of the 1,000 companies in the United States that match the gifts their employees make to higher education and other worthy causes, you could perform this simple act of magic. Many of our good corporate citizens offer this bonus—by far the greatest program for the benefit of LSU is Exxon's, which pays 3:1.

A member of the Friends, who is a retired Exxon employee, recently became a life member by sending in a check for \$1,000. By submitting her matching gift form to Exxon and requesting that they match her gift, the LSU Libraries received a check for \$3,000 from the Exxon Education Fund making her gift \$4,000!

Other companies such as Bell South, Premier Bank, Texaco, ARCO, and Albemarle also participate in matching gift programs. Call your employer today—if they don't have a matching gift program ask them to incorporate it into their philanthropic giving.

## Let Us Honor a Loved One or a Friend

With this issue of *Lumieres*, we are enclosing an envelope for our Friends to use in times of memorial or commemorative giving. This is a way to recognize a friend or family member in the event of a birthday, anniversary, graduation, or any special occasion. You can also use the envelope when sending a memorial. Your gift will be quickly acknowledged to the person or family you are remembering or honoring. You will have the satisfaction of knowing that this recognition will be the one gift that continues to give. Please be sure to make your check payable to the LSU Foundation and send it to the attention of Jane Henslee who will ensure that acknowledgments are sent.

If you need additional envelopes, please call Jane Henslee, library development officer at 504/388-6599 and she will provide you with a supply.

## One Stop Shopping!

The LSU Libraries has found the perfect gift for everyone on your list! No more trips to the mall, no more fretting about Aunt Sarah, no more ties for Uncle Jack, AND no more fruitcakes.

Watch your mailbox in November for a very important piece of mail. The LSU Libraries will be offering its Friends and benefactors the opportunity to share their holiday giving by participating in the First Annual Appeal to benefit the LSU Libraries.

You will find a wish list filled with all of the goodies that will allow you to support specific and unrestricted needs that exist by sending your holiday greetings to your friends and family. We'll send them an acknowledgement card informing them of your "gift" in their honor.

I know that you will find an area that appeals to your gift list. We have some great choices: Books for our Collections, Music Resources, Conservation Activities, Hill Memorial, The T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History, or the LSU Libraries Endowment for Library Support.

You can also make your own tax-deductible, year-end gift to assist us with our many needs.

Won't you share your holiday giving with the LSU Libraries?



## Officers

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Eugene R. Groves, Secretary  
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## ◆ Classes of Membership ◆

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☐ C. Sustaining (annually; checkout privileges) ..... \$50  
☐ D. Patron (annually; individual or corporate) ..... \$100  
☐ E. Corporate (annually) ..... \$500  
☐ F. Life ..... \$1,000  
☐ Check payable to LSU Foundation for Friends of the LSU Libraries.

Name .....  
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Date .....

Mail to: Friends of the LSU Libraries, 295 Middleton Library, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803

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