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Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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FALL 1997

LUMIÈRES

Report from the President

Over the past year, the board and officers of the Friends of the LSU Libraries have established a budget by which we conduct the business of our organization. It required effort and assessment of the Friends' mission and where funds come from and where funds go.

The outcome was news to some of us and reassurance to all. Needless to say, we are quite proud of our accomplishments.

Our funds come from the proceeds of the annual Book Bazaar, the Book Barn, direct donations, and membership dues. Membership accounts for about \$20,000 yearly. So, you see how important you are to the Friends' objectives. By renewals and new members, we are able to use the membership funds to sustain yearly operations and direct most of the Book Bazaar/Barn funds into our endowments.

Our budget includes expenses of the Book Bazaar and the Book Barn, plus \$20,000 annual purchases of special items for the permanent collections of the libraries, selected by the purchase committee of the Friends with faculty input. Other expenses are the printing of *Lumieres*, awards, receptions for the libraries' special events, mailings, and other operational costs. To cover expenses, known and unforeseen, the board and the treasurer have agreed to maintain approximately a year's budgetary figure in our administrative account that draws interest. The rest is moved into the endowment accounts. All funds are held by the LSU Foundation and accounted to us by them.

The Friends of the LSU Libraries maintain two major endowments. The Endowment Account that

stands at approximately \$700,000—the interest of which is used at the discretion of the Dean of Libraries to spend on needs of the libraries; the dean notifies the board of these expenditures annually. The board has no control over these funds once moved into the endowment. The other endowment is the Goodrich-Taylor Graduate Assistantship, presently at \$180,000, the interest of which pays for the placement of an outstanding graduate assistant in the Special Collections of Hill Memorial Library. The Friends are involved in the selection process through the Goodrich-Taylor Endowment committee chairs and faculty.

Other endowments exist but of smaller amounts and the interest of which is either reinvested by the dean or spent on items as available and as designated by endowment agreements. It requires approximately \$10,000 to set up an endowment for sufficient interest to be of value to the Libraries. The donor can direct where these funds go or on what area of study purchases can be made. The LSU Foundation invests the funds and accounts for them through the LSU Libraries.

The Constitution of the Friends states that our purpose is to direct funds into endowments and support the LSU Libraries. This we do. Given another successful Book Bazaar, our endowments will exceed \$1 million in value—something we can all be very proud. Thank you for being a Friend of the LSU Libraries!

Trent L. James, President
Friends of the LSU Libraries

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
BATON ROUGE

Message from the Dean

The new academic year is off to a busy start for everyone at LSU. Enrollment is up—to 28,077—and there are many projects and activities underway on campus. Several library related projects will be of interest to the Friends, some of which the Book Barn workers will have experienced firsthand!

Some deferred maintenance monies allocated to LSU came to the libraries for needed improvements to Middleton Library. These monies were used for replacing the front doors, adding automatic opening doors to simplify access to Middleton for all patrons. Deferred maintenance monies will also be used for renovation of the elevators and public restrooms.

Other monies are being used for creation of three computer laboratory areas within Middleton Library and three electronic classrooms. Dozens of new computer workstations will populate these areas and will be a boon to the University community, especially students. Money from a Board of Regents Support Fund grant in 1996 is being used

for furnishing two of the classrooms. This grant was a collaborative application with the College of Education.

During the summer months, one of the library facilities, the CEBA Reading Room, was refurbished with the addition of new computer workstations. This enhanced facility will greatly assist students in preparing class assignments.

Finally, the recent legislative session resulted in monies allocated for library acquisitions for the academic libraries in the state. Louisiana State University Libraries benefited from the legislative act and the monies will enable us to purchase materials for the collections.

It is a pleasure to update the Friends on these events that directly affect the operations of Louisiana State University Libraries. We appreciate the ongoing support of the Friends and all their hard work to assist the libraries.

Jennifer Cargill
Dean of Libraries

“Mr. Mac” Remembered

On April 3, 1997, the LSU Libraries lost a longtime supporter with the passing of John Stauffer McIlhenny. “Mr. Mac,” as library staff affectionately called him, was born in Washington, D.C., on May 29, 1909. As a boy, he lived in Haiti, where his father had accepted a diplomatic post. His mother insisted that he and his brother, Walter, learn correct French, which he spoke beautifully all his life. He graduated from the University of Virginia in 1934. After his father died, his strong Louisiana roots asserted themselves, and in 1942 he moved to Baton Rouge, where he was to live for the remainder of his life.

His childhood experiences in Haiti engendered a lifelong fascination with natural history, which was also an interest of his uncle E.A. McIlhenny. When E.A. died in 1949, his library passed to his nephew who continued to collect outstanding works of natural history. In 1971, Mr. Mac donated this magnificent collection to the LSU Libraries, establishing the E.A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection. Over the years, he continued to support the collection and to stimulate the support of many other donors. At least two major additions to the collection were made possible by Mr. Mac working in cooperation with the Friends: the magnificent set of 738 botanical engravings that make up *Bank's Florilegium* (a limited edition of 100 copies, \$100,000) and Ferdinand Bauer's *Illustrationes Florae Novae Hollandiae* (edition limited to 35 copies, \$22,000). In 1987, the Friends published *Nature Classics*, a printed catalog of the McIlhenny Collection, to recognize and promote this exceptional resource for scientific and humanistic research. In 1992, the LSU Libraries cel-

ebrated the addition of its two-millionth volume, a magnificent illuminated manuscript book of hours on vellum, dating from the 1430s, which was donated by Mr. Mac for the occasion.

John McIlhenny's philanthropy was not limited to the LSU Libraries. As a result of his interest in natural history, he became deeply involved with research efforts in wildlife ecology, sponsoring and participating in a series of scientific expeditions by LSU researchers to tropical areas in Latin America. For more than 30 years, he supported projects and activities of the LSU Museum of Natural Science, the Department of Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries, and the LSU Press. In 1992, LSU conferred on John S. McIlhenny the honorary degree of Doctor of Science for his many benefactions and the good work they made possible.

He bequeathed to the LSU Foundation personal possessions to be sold for the benefit of the McIlhenny Collection, and made a gift of his bird and animal paintings, books, porcelains, and his coin collections, to be held in the E.A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection. To the LSU Libraries, he bequeathed the remainder of his personal library of almost 6,000 volumes, including some notable antiquarian books.

Memorial donations to support the McIlhenny Collection may be made to the LSU Foundation and sent to E. Smyth, curator, McIlhenny Collection, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3300.

Elaine Smyth, Curator
Rare Books and the E.A. McIlhenny
Natural History Collections

1997 Book Bazaar Breaks All Records!

The first day for the 1997 Book Bazaar dawned with a crisp hint of fall in the air and anticipation glowed in the faces of those queued around the 4-H mini-barn waiting to pounce on the 62,007 books collected for the sale. Experienced shoppers lugged boxes and bags for their selections and eyed the floor charts to avoid unnecessary delays in their quest for bargains. Linda Sanders, having left her home in Mississippi at 4:30 a.m., was first in line at 5:45 a.m. waiting to shop the more than 30 categories of books offered. Other bargain hunters took vacation time to attend this annual rummage sale for the literate.



LSU Chancellor William L. Jenkins, Phyllis McKay, Dean Jennifer Cargill and Ag Center Chancellor Bill Richardson prepare to welcome the first day buyers.

Martin Schreiber, pipe major for the Caledonian Society of Baton Rouge and Katrin Saile, student bagpiper, both dressed in full clan regalia, entertained the waiting buyers.

Promptly at 9 a.m. Chancellor William L. Jenkins, Chancellor of the Ag Center Bill Richardson, and Dean of LSU Libraries, Jennifer Cargill, cut the ribbon as Phyllis McKay, chairman of the 1997 Book Bazaar, offered words of welcome to the assembled crowd. Chancellor Jenkins, while surveying the long line of book lovers waiting to get in, was overheard to remark that he was "convinced Baton Rouge had more readers per capita than any other city of its size in the country." The Friends agree with this assessment and are especially grateful to LSU and the local community for its continuing support.

Combined gross sales from the bazaar and year-round textbook sales reached \$68,000 breaking all previous records.

Congratulations for this year's success go to Phyllis McKay, bazaar chairman, and her stellar committees: Christa Saile, bazaar adviser; Marion Spann and Eileen Kean, bookbarn; Cherry Owen, book barn adviser; Lettie Counce, secretary; Dodie Edmonds, treasurer assisted by Pat Millican; Sue Edrington, Thursday cashier; Judy Noland, Friday cashier; Mary Lou Hutchinson, Saturday cashier; Jo O'Connell, back door express; Anne West, line coordinator; Mary Clark and Sally Pastorek, volunteers; Edwina Ewell, sales; Christa Saile, Becky Nash, and Lela Weber, arrangements and stock; Marsha Rogers and Sharon Field, book collection; George Ann Brown, publicity assisted by Bill Holtman, Mary Lou Hutchinson, Shirley Sands, and Nora Grigsby; Ruth Wilkinson, information; Fran Adcock and Carolyn Wright, hospitality; Lois and Charles Petrillak, transportation. A special thank you to Caroline Wire, library staff liaison, and the 40-plus book barn workers who diligently sort, price, and box books throughout the year.



► Bazaar chair, Phyllis McKay with Marion Spann, Book Barn chair, Edwina Ewell, sales chair, and Liz Beven, textbook co-chair, all experienced hands at putting together the bazaar.



► Bagpipers Martin Schreiber and Katrin Saile entertained waiting shoppers on opening day.

Photographs by George Ann Brown

1997 Book Bazaar Breaks All Records!



Lou LeJeune, shift chair, with Friends president, Trent James, working the floor in the art section.



Lois Petrillak and Christa Saile sorting textbooks for sale year round.



Betty Johnson, Gwen Cook, and June Stephenson at work with last minute pricing at the Book Barn.



Early-bird buyers Janet Abbott and Carol Swain take vacation time for the book bazaar.

In Memoriam

Jane E. McCowan, retired professional photographer who donated her collection of work to the LSU Libraries in 1996, died April 6, 1997 at age 85. Born in Little Rock, Arkansas, she was a 1934 graduate of LSU. She pursued her career in New York and Los Angeles, and on special assignments throughout the world. A retrospective of her work titled "A Life of Seeing Beautiful" was exhibited last fall at Hill Memorial Library. Her joy of living and timely sense of the memorable is reflected in the images captured and recorded by her camera. The photographs are a part of the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections.

LUMIÈRES EDITOR, WANDA M. BARBER

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.

*Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley
Collections, Hill Memorial Library*

Recent Acquisitions

The Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections (LLMVC) has acquired a number of collections during the past year. Some came as gifts and others were purchased using endowment funds. Thus, all came to LLMVC directly or indirectly through the generosity of donors.

Antebellum collections include a group of letters of the Randolph family of Nottoway Plantation and a small collection of antebellum business papers of the New York shipping firm Abraham Bell and Company, documenting its New Orleans interests.

Civil War collections include the letters of John Merritt, a Union soldier from New York stationed in Louisiana; and the papers of the late Robert Reilly, Civil War weapons' authority and author. The latter collection was jointly donated to the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections and the United States Civil War Center, to be permanently housed in LLMVC.

Three collections document Baton Rouge history: the Herman Moyse-Lewis Gottlieb family papers, documenting a Baton Rouge Jewish family; additions to the Baton Rouge Audubon Society records; and the papers of Dr. J. Bruce Evans, a Baton Rouge minister involved in the civil rights movement in the 1960s.

Several acquisitions build upon earlier gifts—all are additions to collections already in LLMVC. These include papers of the Rev. James Stovall, documenting his work as director of the Louisiana Coalition Against Racism and Nazism; papers of former Louisiana Supreme Court Justice Albert J. Tate; papers of author and editor Charles East; papers of historian and genealogist Winston De Ville; and papers of Dr. William Arceneaux, director of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities and before that Commissioner of Higher Education for Louisiana.

Finally, LLMVC has received the personal photographs of Georgia Bertha Drennan, depicting architectural sites in New Orleans and other areas in South Louisiana in the 1930s; and a World War II stenographic notebook of Leonard H. Gayle, an LSU alumnus who was a scribe in General McArthur's headquarters at the end of the war and who took down the instructions for the Japanese to surrender. The notebook contains those instructions in shorthand form.

We are grateful for these gifts and encourage others. All such acquisitions help us preserve important historical materials and make them available to researchers.

Glenn L. McMullen, Curator
Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections

Orys Establish First Library Professorship

Joel and Kathleen Ory have pledged irrevocable donations to establish a professorship in their names for the benefit of the LSU Libraries. Mrs. Ory has been a loyal member of the Friends of the LSU Libraries for many years. She currently serves in the office of secretary on the board of directors and has long worked for the Book Bazaar.

These funds may be used for support of the academic activities of the professorship position including instruction and research, equipment, materials, and faculty improvement, and also stipends for the named professor.

The LSU Libraries is very grateful to the Orys for their generosity. It has been a goal to have an endowed professorship for many years and we are thrilled to have a dream come to fruition.

From Library Partners, July 1997, Vol. 1.

Memorials

(Received through Sept. 30, 1997)

Jewel Kepper Allen

Celeste Chapman
Caroline Wire

S. R. Aycock, St.

Dr. Helen Cookston

John Herbert Bailey

Patricia B. Millican

Linda Bergeron

Patricia B. Millican

Mrs. R. Baxter Crawford

Dr. & Mrs. Terence Beven
Book Barn Workers
Julie Hamilton
Richard & Phyllis McKay
Caroline Wire

Eldon Dicharry

Patricia B. Millican

Corinne C. Duffy

Book Barn Workers
Kay Harrison
Eilleen Kean
Christa Saile
Ray & Sandy Strother
Caroline Wire

Don Gerald

Patricia B. Millican

Robert Heck

Book Barn Workers
Jennifer Cargill

John Henry Hobgood

Everett & Katherine Emerson
Blanche Jackson

Catherine Holloway Johnson

Book Barn Workers
Gwen Cook
Mrs. Frank W. Middleton, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. John Sentell
Mr. & Mrs. Ashton Stewart
Caroline Wire

Dr. Leonard Kilgore, Jr.

Dr. & Mrs. William A. Johnson

Esther Levy Klein

Dr. & Mrs. Terence Beven

Evangeline Lynch

Sandra Mooney
Anna Perrault

Mary Scott Carruth Moseley

Mrs. P. Chauvin Wilkinson

Wesley Root

Patricia B. Millican

Nathalie Smith

Patricia B. Millican

Ursula LeBlanc Smith

Jane P. Kleiner
Reference & Document Staff of
LSU Libraries

Mildred Young

Patricia B. Millican

Officers

*Trent James, president
Ann West, vice president
Kathleen Roberts Ory, secretary
Debra W. Lockwood, treasurer*

◆ Classes of Membership ◆

- ☐ A. Individual and Family \$25
- ☐ B. Sustaining (annually; checkout privileges) \$50
- ☐ C. Patron (annually; individual or corporate) \$100
- ☐ D. Corporate (annually) \$500
- ☐ E. Life \$1,000
- ☐ Check payable to LSU Foundation for Friends of the Libraries.

MEMBERSHIPS OF \$50 OR MORE ENTITLE ONE MEMBER PER FAMILY TO LIBRARY CHECK-OUT PRIVILEGES.

Name
(Please print)

Address

City/State/Zip

Date

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

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LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

*Friends of the LSU Libraries—Middleton Library
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803*

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