Fall 10-1-2000

Lumières, Fall 2000

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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Thank You, Baton Rouge!

"Thank You, Baton Rouge, for 25 Years" was the theme of this year's 25th Annual Book Bazaar held September 14-16 at the 4-H Mini Farm Barn at LSU. Bazaar chairman Jo Ann Bowers reported that about 70,000 books that had been donated to the Friends of the LSU Libraries were sorted, priced, and packed by volunteers and sold by more volunteers, raising more than $71,000—a record year.

As usual, people began to line up early. Two sisters arrived to be first in line at 5 a.m. The Publicity Committee, under the direction of Chairman Phyllis McKay, thanked such loyal customers and the entire community for their support with signs reading "25 years—thank you, loyal customers and volunteers—Friends of the LSU Libraries." At 7 a.m., the committee started giving away cookbooks and children's books to those standing in line, and coffee and donuts were served until the ribbon cutting.

LSU Agricultural Center Chancellor Bill Richardson and his wife, Diane, along with Dean of Libraries Jennifer Cargill and DeLaine Emmert represented LSU at the official opening. And at this 25th bazaar, a special silver ribbon was cut by five women who organized the first bazaar in 1976; they were June Gonce, Eileen Kean, Alma Newsome, Cherry Owen, and Lynda Perry. Each wore a gold and purple chrysanthemum corsage topped by the logo of the Book Barn tiger.

Since that first bazaar, the Friends have raised more than $1 million for the LSU Libraries. This money is dedicated to the purchase of special books that cannot be bought with state funds. McKay said, "The bazaar is not only a benefit to the library; it has become a tradition; those who work in it feel it is a service to the community." But without the community, there would be no success. The community donates the books, supplies volunteers to sort and sell the books, and buys the books. By doing so, the community benefits the LSU Libraries.

Some of the volunteers who assisted Jo Ann Bowers for the year 2000 Book Bazaar were: Cochairman Lettie Counce; Adviser Betty Johnson; Book Barn Chairman and Cochairmen Eileen Kean and Marion Spann; Adviser Cherry Owen; Secretary Evelyn Brown, Treasurer Dodi Edmonds, assisted by Pat Millican; Cashier Chairmen Sue Edrington, Lynda Waguespack, and Cochair Kathy Tillson, Mary Lou Hutchinson; Back Door Express Jo O'Connell; Line Coordinator Anne West; Volunteer Chairman Mary Clark and Cochair Sally Pastorek; Sales Chairman Edwina Ewell; Arrangements and Stock Chairman Mary Lou Loechelt; Arrangements Committee Carolyn Wright, Mattie Duvic, Lucy Mayfield, and Adviser Millicent Kopfinger; Publicity Chair Phyllis McKay with Cochair Evelyn Short; Publicity Committee was Shirley Sands (radio and TV), Lela Weber (print), Mary Lou Hutchinson (LSU), and Nora Grigsby (scrapbook); Information Chairman Ruth Wilkinson; Hospitality Chairman Fran Adcock with Cochair Carolyn Wright; and Transportation Chairman Lois Petrilak with Committee Charles Petrilak.
From Our President

Dear faithful Friends,

It was a delight to see so many of you at the Book Bazaar September 14–16, and I am delighted to report that preliminary estimates indicate that this year’s sale was one of our most successful. Thank you all for your help throughout the year, and special thanks to the many volunteers who have worked so many hours to make this year’s event a great success. Our organization exists because of the innumerable volunteers who annually contribute thousands of hours to collecting books, pricing them, and then mounting a three-day sale that is known of far and wide. It is no accident that our organization has been recognized three times as the leading library support group in the nation.

This year is our 25th anniversary, and be assured that the community at large knows of your good work. I hope you all had an opportunity to read the editorial in the Monday, September 18, of The Advocate, which congratulated the Friends on its anniversary and commended the many volunteers who have carried on these many years.

I have every reason to hope that next year’s Book Bazaar will be even more successful, and with your help, it will be.

Thank you again for all your good works.

—Richard H. Kilbourne, Jr.
President

We Won! And What We Won

At the 21st annual Author Luncheon of the Friends of Libraries USA (FOLUSA), the Friends of the LSU Libraries were honored with the Baker and Taylor Academic Friends Groups Award for the year 2000.

The luncheon was held on Saturday, July 8, at the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place in Chicago, during the annual conference of the American Library Association. In presenting the award, Michael Utasi, who serves as Baker and Taylor vice president of sales and marketing for public libraries, cited the many accomplishments of the Friends of the LSU Libraries. A gasp of astonishment filled the banquet hall when Utasi announced that the Friends from LSU had collected more than $1 million to benefit the LSU Libraries.

Holding the $1,000 check and the award are (left to right) Anne West, Caroline Wire, Sandra Mooney, and Marion Spann.

As part of the award, the Friends received a check for $1,000, and the award itself is a beautiful mahogany-carved book, which opens to an engraved black brass plaque on the left-hand side and a brass clock on the right. No Friends of the LSU Libraries members could attend the ceremony, so the award was received on their behalf by Sandra Mooney, a librarian of the LSU Libraries. This is the third Baker and Taylor award the Friends of the LSU Libraries has received. The Friends won the award for the best academic friends group in 1988 and in 1993. In 1991 they also won the very prestigious John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award for the positive national and local publicity raised for the LSU Libraries by the first rare-book auction “Paper Impressions.”

Veteran members of FOLUSA proclaimed this year’s luncheon to be the best of all the fine luncheons produced by FOLUSA. The food was superb. The speakers were outstanding. In an unusual display of talent, all four authors proved themselves to be entertainers as well as writers. The members of this highly talented quartet included Eric Jerome Dickey (author of Liar’s Game) and Katie Couric (author of The Brand New Kid, a children’s story about tolerance written in verse), Terry Brooks (author of Angel Fire East), and Malachy McCourt (author of Singing My Him Song). Each speaker presented much thought and wisdom with warmth and wit, and clearly held libraries and librarians in very high regard. A poignant personal account of appreciation was told by immigrant Malachy McCourt, who had opened his presentation by leading the audience in a rousing rendition of “Molly Malone.” The FOLUSA luncheon is sponsored by the giant library systems producer Epixtech.

Baker and Taylor honors five categories of Friends groups each year. The five awards are for academic, state, and public libraries, with the public library sector divided into large, medium, or small budget categories.
Meet Our Photographer

Readers of past issues of Lumieres have seen frequently the caption "Photos by George Ann Brown." George Ann is a dedicated Friends volunteer, whose specific job duties do NOT include taking photos each year at the bazaar, the banquet, and other activities of the Friends; George Ann does this extra work because we ask her to do so, and she has never turned down the Friends.

She started working in the Book Barn and acted as volunteer chair in 1993 and 1994; she was bazaar chair in 1995 and adviser in 1996. Each year since, she has worked as publicity chairman or on the committee. She manages to do other civic activities and be very involved in her church. She enjoys gardening, travel, reading, shopping, and LSU sports.

She says she loves working with the wonderful people in the Book Bazaar and enjoys taking photographs for the Friends of the LSU Libraries. It's a good thing she feels that way, because we don't want her to stop. Remember as you read Lumieres and see photos of the Friends activities, that gal with the camera was George Ann Brown. Thank you, George Ann, for the photos and the memories you give us.

From the Dean

Friends of the LSU Libraries,

The new academic year has had a busy start. The Book Bazaar was very successful—congratulations, Friends!

There are a couple events to which I want to call the attention of the Friends of the LSU Libraries, "Adrien Persac: Louisiana Artist" is an exhibition that is open in Hill Memorial Library and the LSU Museum of Art. This is the most extensive exhibition ever mounted of Persac's work and includes holdings from the LSU Museum of Art and loans from the Historic New Orleans Collections, the New Orleans Notarial Archives, and private collectors. This exhibition will be up through the end of the year. I encourage you to take time to view this exhibition.

The second event is actually a series of events. This academic year, LSU is celebrating the campus Jubilee—the 75th year of LSU's location on this site. The theme is "75 Years Under Oaks and Arches: Building on the Legacy of the Past for the New Century." Throughout the year, events at the University will be designated Jubilee events. The Jubilee year will culminate April 30, 2001, the anniversary date of the dedication of the campus in 1926. Faye Phillips, associate dean of Libraries for Special Collections, is Jubilee coordinator and the assistant coordinator is Barry Cowan, also from LSU Libraries.

Best wishes to the Friends.

--Gifts--

Many of us think of memorials when we think of gifts to an institution. They are such an excellent way to remember or pay tribute to loved ones and a respected individual.

But there are other types of gifts that aren't thought of so much. One can give in honor of a person, in gratitude or appreciation of a person or a favor, or in celebration of an event. (On a personal note, for several years we received a card each Christmas from an organization saying a donation had been made in our name; it was a lovely gift and thought for the season.)

Perhaps in the future you might find, as my family did recently, that you wish to honor or thank a person or commemorate an event by giving to the Friends. The Friends of the LSU Libraries would welcome your support.

--CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL POLICY--

Due to a change in the computer system, renewal memberships for the Friends will now be due January 1 of each year. Please consider upgrading your membership to the next level.
OFFICERS
Richard Kilbourne, President
Virginia Grenier, Vice President
Gwen Cook, Secretary
Jo O'Connell, 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 of the family to library check-out privileges.

Name _______________________________________________________

Address _____________________________________________________

City/State/Zip ________________________________________________

Date _________________________________________________________

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

Louisiana State University
Friends of the LSU Libraries
Middleton Library
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

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