



LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

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MESSENGER

M A G A Z I N E



F R I E N D S O F T H E U N I V E R S I T Y O F W I S C O N S I N - M A D I S O N L I B R A R I E S



FRIENDS OF THE UW-MADISON LIBRARIES

Number 33, Winter 1996/97

The *Messenger* is published by the Friends of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries for its members.

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On the cover

Ann Marschall, '99, is a transfer student from UW-Eau Claire. As one of 5400 incoming freshmen and transfer students, she will take library instruction modules to learn information seeking skills. The program is part of new undergraduate communication requirements passed by the Faculty Senate. To respond to the challenge, librarians teamed up with Division of Information Technology staff to create an interactive instructional program (see page 14.)

Gathering in a garden

Garden tours, music, and champagne were featured at the second garden party benefit sponsored by the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries. The benefit, titled "Gathering in an Autumn Garden," was held at the home of Barbara A. Borman (*below left*) of Maple Bluff. Well-known area musicians Elizabeth Borsodi, a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory, and her daughter, Rebekah Wolkstein, played the harp and the violin. (*Below right*) ellsworth snyder, president of the Friends, and Trudy Barash, vice president, appeared on WISC-TV, the local CBS affiliate, to promote the event.



From the president

Warm greetings to you who believe, as I do, that great universities and great libraries go hand in hand. This year, with the leadership of a remarkable and devoted board, our goal is to increase the friends' membership and to accomplish major fund-raising objectives. Our recent book sales have been stunning successes.

We hope to distribute this money among various Madison campus libraries for small specific projects, and to begin a process to help with the preservation of books. But this is only a start to the needed projects which, with your support, we will undertake.

As you know, with the exploding cost of books and ever-increasing use of the campus libraries, extra funding support is of great importance. Please ask your friends to join us in this very worthwhile endeavor. We have a great university and a great library. Let us do all we can to maintain this fabulous window to knowledge.

Please consider giving a Friends membership as a gift to your library-loving friends. There will never be a better time to act to ensure the continuing world-class status of our libraries.

ellsworth snyder

ellsworth snyder, President
Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries

Special appointment

John Tortorice has been appointed associate development specialist in the General Library System. Tortorice is a native Madisonian with a degree in history and political science from the UW-Madison. He recently completed a master's degree in library and information studies while also working for the Friends. Tortorice will assist the Friends in their efforts on behalf of the libraries.



Library users to have access to Virtual Electronic Library, world's largest catalog

A new MadCat graphical interface next year will integrate search options across 13 major university library catalogs. These combined resources represent the world's largest catalog. The software provided by OCLC, called WebZ, is currently being adapted for campus library applications.

Planners expect to finalize and test it on public service workstations in campus libraries sometime next semester. The program will run parallel with current Windows and Mac MadCat graphical interfaces. It is expected to replace them by summer. The MadCat command interface will continue to operate.

Through the interface, the UW-Madison libraries will be providing access to the campus online catalog as part of a national Virtual Electronic Library (VEL), which includes records on 55 million holdings. All 13 institutions in the Committee on Institutional Cooperation are installing the software.

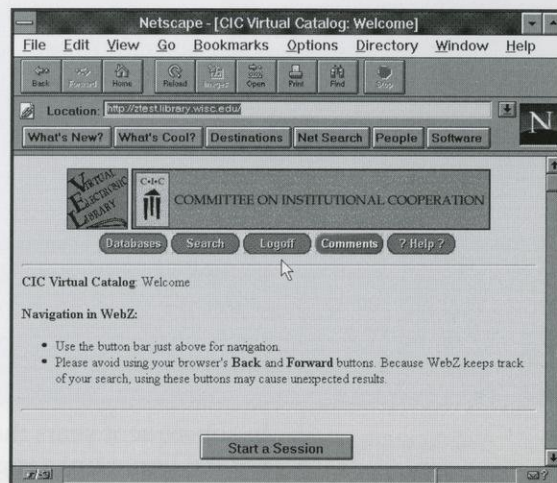
Eventually it will allow 500,000 students and 35,000 faculty members at CIC universities to easily search library computer catalogs at participating institutions.

The CIC venture is the first phase in creating the VEL. The project represents part of a national move to comply with Z39.50 of the American National Standards Institute. The standard aims to make it simpler to access databases across institutions by allowing users to apply familiar local commands.

Users will be able to search a single library or the entire VEL with results reported by library. Both can be done without backing out into another system. They also will be able to initiate their own interlibrary loan or document requests.

The VEL project is funded in part through a \$1.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Kenneth Frazier, GLS director, and Nolan Pope, associate director for Automation, are part of the CIC team working on the prototype project.

Participating academic libraries include: Chicago, Illinois at Chicago, Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Michigan State, Minnesota, Northwestern, Ohio State, Penn State, Purdue, and Wisconsin.



Fall book sale raises more than \$10,000

Fund-raising from two major book sales in 1996 has generated nearly \$24,000 for the Friends of the UW-Madison libraries. The recent fall sale raised more than \$10,000. Many of the materials, which included hardcover and softcover books as well as long-playing record albums, were donated by faculty, staff, and students. More than 60 volunteers helped with the sale (see page 18). Total income from the sales in 1996, the first year they were held semiannually, were four times greater than in previous years when sales were held monthly.



Bibliographer John Neu describes the long journey of collector Chester Thordarson and one of the most important history of science collections in North America. The libraries acquired the Thordarson Collection 50 years ago.



Chester Thordarson
(1867-1945)

Acquiring the Thordarson Collection

A half century ago, the UW-Madison acquired one of its most important library collections. In December 1946, the Board of Regents decided to purchase the famous Thordarson Collection from the heirs of the recently deceased Chester Thordarson. That decision had important implications for the libraries.

It brought to the university what was estimated at the time to be a \$1 million collection of 11,000 books. It also set a precedent for acquiring source materials in the humanities and the sciences and lead directly to establishing the Department of Rare Books. In subsequent years the libraries also acquired several important supplemental collections, so that today the UW-Madison libraries rank as one of the major centers in the country for research in the history of science.

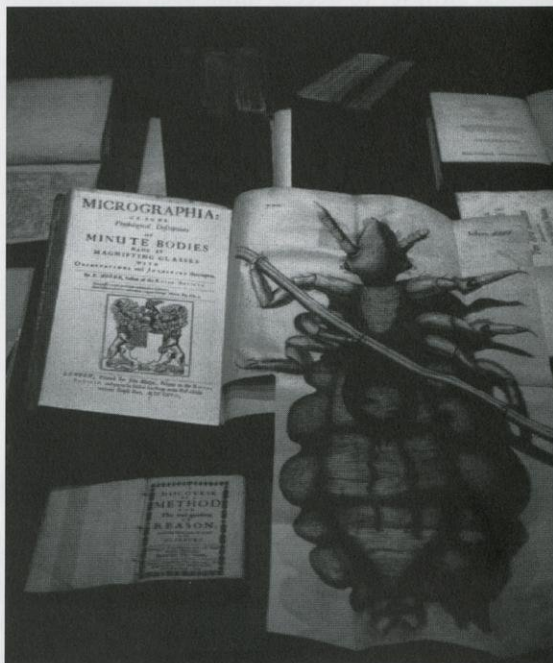
Thordarson's biography has many elements of the American legend. As immigrants from Iceland, his family settled near Madison, when he was 5, before moving to the Dakotas. At 18, still uneducated, he went to Chicago to seek not only an education but also an outlet for his early enthusiasm for all things mechanical. He put himself through the seventh grade of the Chicago public schools, then went to work in an electrical firm.

"I was 27 years old," he recalled in an interview, "and I had saved \$75 when I decided to go into business for myself. I gave up my job, got married, and started the business all at the same time—and all on the \$75! The \$75 I started with was all the outside money that ever went into the business. I incorporated later; but I never sold a dollar's worth of stock. Today our sales run into millions of dollars."

Thordarson manufactured not only his own electrical inventions but also the machines he used to make the inventions. They were not all immediate successes, of course, but in the end he became very rich.

"There was," he said, "hard work and what I call good deportment. Good deportment includes a number of things, but briefly it means doing right by all the people with whom you deal. We pay the best wages the business can afford, and we try to treat one another in such manner that in this building we may meet with pleasure."

Very early he became a book collector. He recalled his early days in Chicago when he was living on \$4 a week: "I paid \$2 for my room and breakfasts. I walked to work. That left me \$1 each week for other meals, which consisted of stuff bought mostly at bakeries; \$1 remained. With that I bought books."



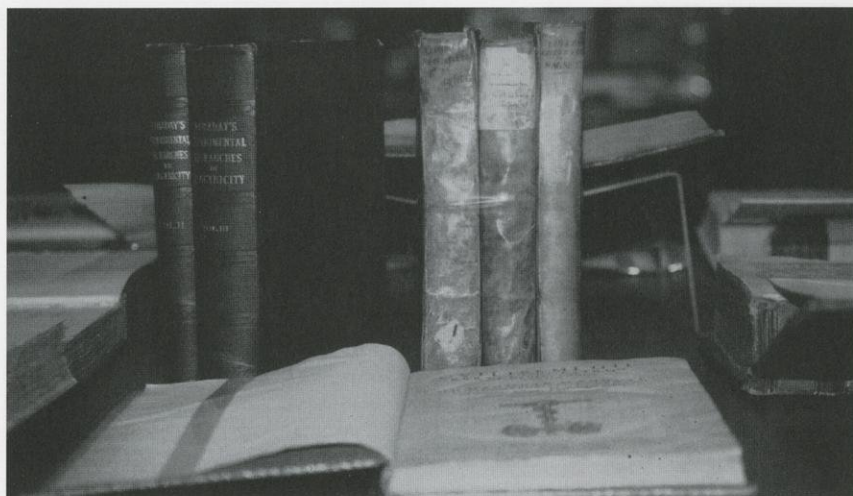
Robert Hooke (1635-1703). *Micrographia*, or, Some physiological descriptions of minute bodies made by magnifying glasses with observations and inquiries thereupon. London, printed for John Martyn, printer to the Royal Society, 1667. Special Collections.

At first he collected books on his native Iceland, but it was not long before his collecting interests centered on the history of English science and technology. As his fortune grew, he began to collect in earnest, with the help and guidance of Walter Hill, then one of the most prominent rare book dealers, and J. Christian Bay, librarian of the John Crerar Library. The collection became vast and included many of the most fundamental and rarest books in physics, chemistry, alchemy, zoology, botany, scientific travels, scientific illustration, technology, agriculture, surveying, building arts, cooking, medicine, and cultural history. This last section left room for the acquisition of many works of great literary significance.

The collection was for a long time kept in Thordarson's factory in Chicago. Gilbert Doane, former director of libraries, gave a vivid account of his first look at the books he was later to be so influential in acquiring for the university.

Back in the 1930s the Bibliographical Society of America held some of its meetings in conjunction with those of the American Library Association.

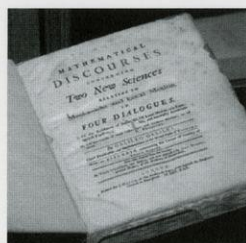
At one of these meetings—1933, I think—the members of the society were invited to meet Mr. Thordarson and see his library at his electrical manufacturing plant on East Ohio Street in the heart of one of Chicago's warehouse and industrial districts. The group went through a dimly lit passageway alongside machinery and up a staircase to a room where we were greeted by a gray-haired man well into his 60s, rather slight, who nervously began to show us his treasures. And what treasures they were! The elephant folio of Audubon (he told me later that it cost him \$200 a volume to have it bound in England, and the binder told him never to send another volume as big as those were, for he had great difficulty in getting skins big enough to cover them); the Coverdale Bible ("Great Bible") of 1535; a complete set of Gould's magnificent monographs on the birds of the world, a set quite as valuable as the Audubon; and many,



many others of less magnitude, even though more rare. The eyes of even the more distinguished members of the society almost popped out of their heads, and Mr. Thordarson's nervousness began to abate as he realized their admiration for his achievement in bringing such a collection together. He began to open an occasional book to his favorite passage, which he had lightly ticked with a pencil mark, and read it aloud, almost always with the same comment: "It's wonderful, isn't it?" It was easy to see he loved his books and knew them intimately.

Later, because it reminded him of his native Iceland, Thordarson bought Rock Island in Lake Michigan off the tip of the Door County peninsula. He built a vast estate. It took 20 masons three years to put up the stone buildings. Other workmen spent two years dredging the required harbor. He hired Sigurd Arneson, an Icelandic carver, to make the furniture for the estate, each piece carved to depict a different Icelandic legend. When it was finished, he moved his books there and used it as a vacation retreat not only for himself but also his employees and many of the friends he had made at the University of Wisconsin.

Upright on left: Michael Faraday (1791-1867). Experimental researches in chemistry and physics. London, R. Taylor and W. Francis, 1859. Special Collections.



Galileo Galilei (1564-1642). Mathematical Discourses Concerning Two New Sciences Relating to Mechanics (*sic*) and Local Motion, in Four Dialogues. London, 1730. Special Collections.

A letter to J Christian Bay reveals how much the island meant to him.

Everything here is so beautiful and clean, have had all kinds of weather, snow, rain, violent winds, and dense fogs. The last 10 days and last night Northern Lights all night. Heavy ice is breaking up and maple trees are beginning to flow.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison gave him an honorary degree in 1929. President Glenn Frank made the presentation as follows:

Mr Thordarson, because you have brought to your profession the genius of invention, because you have displayed a richness of mind and spirit that has refused to be imprisoned by the technical concerns of your craft; because you are a living exemplar of that self-education which universities must increasingly strive to teach their students; because you have brought a disciplined intelligence and unique insight to the collection and care of rare lore; and because, on your private holdings in Wisconsin, you have given the state a dramatization of what a far-sighted philosophy of conservation may mean, I am happy to confer upon you the honorary degree of master of arts.

Thordarson died in 1945, stating in his will that the university was to be given first option to purchase his collection. It was then that negotiations began toward the eventual acquisition of the collection. Gilbert Doane, the library director at the time, was on leave serving in the army. In May 1945 President Fred contacted him to ask his opinion of the Thordarson books. Doane naturally was

interested. He returned to his position in the library shortly afterward to pursue acquisition of the Thordarson Collection.

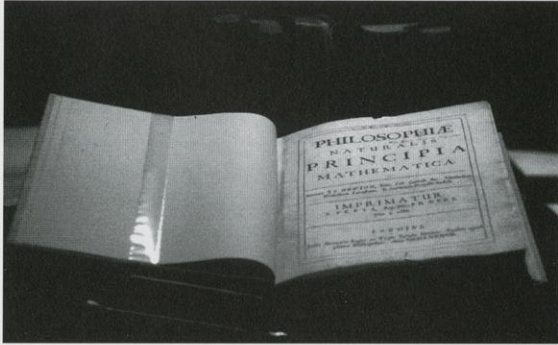
The late A.W. Peterson, at the time director of business and finance for the university, was involved early in the negotiations. Doane himself was convinced the university should purchase the collection. His chief task was to convince others.

He arranged a meeting in Chicago between J. Christian Bay, Peterson, and himself, and remembers that meeting as being crucial in convincing Peterson to support the purchase. Bay, a man of expansive paunch, met with them in his office. A devoted bibliophile, an eloquent and practically unstoppable speaker, he spoke enthusiastically for almost an hour about the collection. Peterson was convinced. That day they also saw George Haight, an influential alumnus, who also argued for purchase of the collection.

Since faculty also supported the purchase, the regents voted in January 1946 to take a one-year option to buy the library at a sum not to exceed \$270,000 with an additional \$30,000 broker's fee. The year would allow staff to bring the books from Rock Island in Lake Michigan to the library, evaluate them, and determine how many were duplicates of materials already in the collections.

Gilbert Doane described the monumental task of getting 11,000 books off the island.

Mr and Mrs. A.W. Peterson, Mrs. Doane and myself, Ralph Hagedorn (then acquisitions librarian), and some half dozen husky boys went to Rock Island taking a cook from the university dormitories, food for a week, and the necessary cartons, binding tape, etc., to check the inventory and prepare the treasure for shipping. It took us just a week—the Petersons and the Doanes taking inventory and Mr Hagedorn superintending the wrapping and packing of the books. We had to gamble on a fair day and calm "seas" to get them off the island, for the only practical way to transport them to the mainland was to charter the ferry from Gill's Rock and have it come to the Thordarsons' private dock.



Weather was with us, a winch was set up on the terrace of the hall, and the packages were lowered one by one into the ferry docked below. Once on land again, they were brought in convoy by Henry Reynolds and his moving vans to Madison, covered the while by heavy insurance. We were all greatly relieved when they were safely in their bronze cases once more on the third floor of the Historical Society Building.

In December, the Regents voted to purchase the collection. There was only one dissenter; he felt that this was not the type of material of immediate use to the university. Money was obtained from an anonymous trust fund

(\$75,000), the Babcock Book Fund (\$15,000), the Knapp Fund (\$150,000), the Torger Thompson Fund (\$2,000) and WARF (\$58,000).

The books remained in the incredibly overcrowded Historical Society Building until 1953 when the Memorial Library opened. As a result of the Thordarson purchase, a Rare Books Department was created. The Icelandic collection, the collected editions of standard authors, the reference works and secondary materials went into the general stacks. The Historical Society traded British and South American history and literature for whatever Americana was in the Thordarson collection.

Today, the \$300,000 would not be enough to purchase even a small portion of the collection. The books, however, were not bought as an investment. They were acquired for the faculty and the students. They were bought to teach with, to learn from, and to inspire. Chester Thordarson's books will continue to do that for many years to come.

*John Neu
Bibliographer for the History of Science
Memorial Library*

*Photo: Sir Isaac
Newton (1642-1727).
Philosophiæ naturalis
principia
mathematica.
London, 1687.
Special Collections.*

A Friends grant-in-aid helped Kathleen Comerford continue her research on changes in clerical education since the mid-16th century.



Pierre Matthieu (1563-1621), *Histoire de France*, Department of Special Collections

Reading the past: History in an early modern seminary library

The study of medieval and early modern educational institutions often includes an investigation of the institutional libraries. Since books were, until recently, very expensive to own, they were a mark of prestige and were also carefully chosen. Therefore, any school's collections, particularly its earliest ones, can be important bases for interpreting the goals of the institution and those of its donors, librarians, and students.

In 1994 I was researching my dissertation (UW-Madison Department of History, August 1995) and found a "pot of gold": a set of three library inventories, dated 1646, 1703-1715, and 1721. These listed books were held by the Diocesan Seminary of Fiesole (outside Florence, Italy).

My dissertation is a case study of the changes in clerical education which resulted from a 1563 decree at the Council of Trent. It mandated the creation of seminaries in Catholic areas for the education of diocesan priests. The three book lists can help historians to understand not only the intellectual context of the early institution, but how it changed over time.

Since most medieval, Renaissance, and early modern inventories of this type are not true bibliographies but merely list sketchy information about books (including, for example, the reference in one of my documents to "Two volumes by Rodriguez"), reconstructing the holdings of such libraries is a long and difficult task.

During the course of two years, I identified approximately two-thirds of the volumes. I did not have access to any of these books during my research period in Fiesole and Florence, so I applied to the Friends of the Libraries to read some of them in Madison. The UW Department of Special Collections holds almost three dozen of the 145 books, including editions of classical authors and ecclesiastical law texts. I needed to read 22 of these, on such subjects as history, devotional theology, natural philosophy, and the art of letter-writing.

Because the discipline of historical writing was a development of the Renaissance, and because most of the books I read in Madison were works of humanist history, I have chosen to focus in this piece on that genre. The category includes both editions of classics and contemporary historical work modelled on such classics (e.g. Livy, Polybius, Tacitus, and Thucydides). The photograph shows one of those books: Pierre Matthieu's *Histoire de France*.

The copy in the seminary was apparently in Italian rather than French, but as I was looking for substance, not the original edition, I read this book. It begins with a discussion of what the task of the historian is, including the obligation to report the truth. It covers the period 1594-1604 and discusses not only France itself, but also Spain, parts of the Italian peninsula, and two of the most powerful ruling groups of the time: the Medici and the papacy.

Other works which I read from this category are also conscious of not only the form of history, but its function, and make references to the need to be faithful to the truth as well as to present the material in a persuasive manner. Humanist history, like other intellectual disciplines of the Renaissance, is rhetorical. There was a kind of built-in conflict between

attempting to sway the readers' opinion and the stated ideal of reporting "the truth." In most cases, where there was a difficulty, truth and not rhetoric suffered. Particularly when there was a theological dispute, humanist history can sound very much like propaganda. The choice of specific authors of contemporary as well as classical histories therefore can suggest a particular point of view on the part of the collector. As can be easily imagined, the historical texts on the three library lists are biased toward the Catholic viewpoint.

One of the most curious aspects of the set of inventories is the lack of continuity from one list to the next. Although the subjects represented are essentially the same in the early 18th century as they were in the 17th, the books are very different and may represent several shifts: in patronage, in culture (e.g. only the later inventories contain books in Spanish; all had works in Italian and Latin), or even in theological and/or philosophical interpretation over an 80-year period of scientific, political and doctrinal upheavals. I am not sure I will be able to answer the question of what happened to the earlier books, but after my research in Madison I have a much deeper understanding of the seminary collections themselves. This enables me to continue to develop my study of the education of the secular clergy after the Reformation.

There is, it must be said, much to recommend the Department of Special Collections beyond reading specific texts written in early modern Europe. Madison's Memorial Library is an excellent place to conduct research into the history of the book. I arrived in Madison with approximately 66 percent of the texts positively identified; when I left I had accounted for 75 percent.

This is also due to the very warm, knowledgeable, and generous staff. My particular thanks go to John Dillon and Jill Rosenshield for their help in identifying

authors or tracking down bibliographical citations. My very successful research trip is also due to the outstanding reference room which forms a part of the department. The stacks in reference are full of biographical and bibliographical studies of printers and book collectors, early library catalogues, print shop inventories, and works on the technology of printing and bookmaking.

In all, this grant-in-aid was a rare opportunity for me. I have incorporated different parts of this research into a paper I gave at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in October, in an article I have revised for publication, and will eventually include them in the published form of my dissertation.

*Kathleen M. Comerford
Assistant Professor of History
Hanover College*



Kathleen M. Comerford

Profile:

John Tedeschi

John Tedeschi was named emeritus in 1996 after 12 years as curator of the Department of Special Collections. In 1995 he was awarded the title Distinguished Academic Librarian, the only academic staff librarian given such recognition on the UW-Madison campus.

He has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries and continues his research and writing at Dog Hollow Farm in southwestern Wisconsin.

Cultivating the fields

After retiring to Dog Hollow Farm, John Tedeschi worries that people might have the wrong impression. They may imagine him doing nothing more than standing on a hillside with hoe in hand. And well they might. He has spoken often and fondly of the farm. Even his retirement party focused on gifts related to farming and gardening.

Actually, he continues his lifelong research on 16th-century Italian Protestant reformers, working out of a library at Dog Hollow. He calls it "a nice little building" that looks out on a stream and grazing cows.

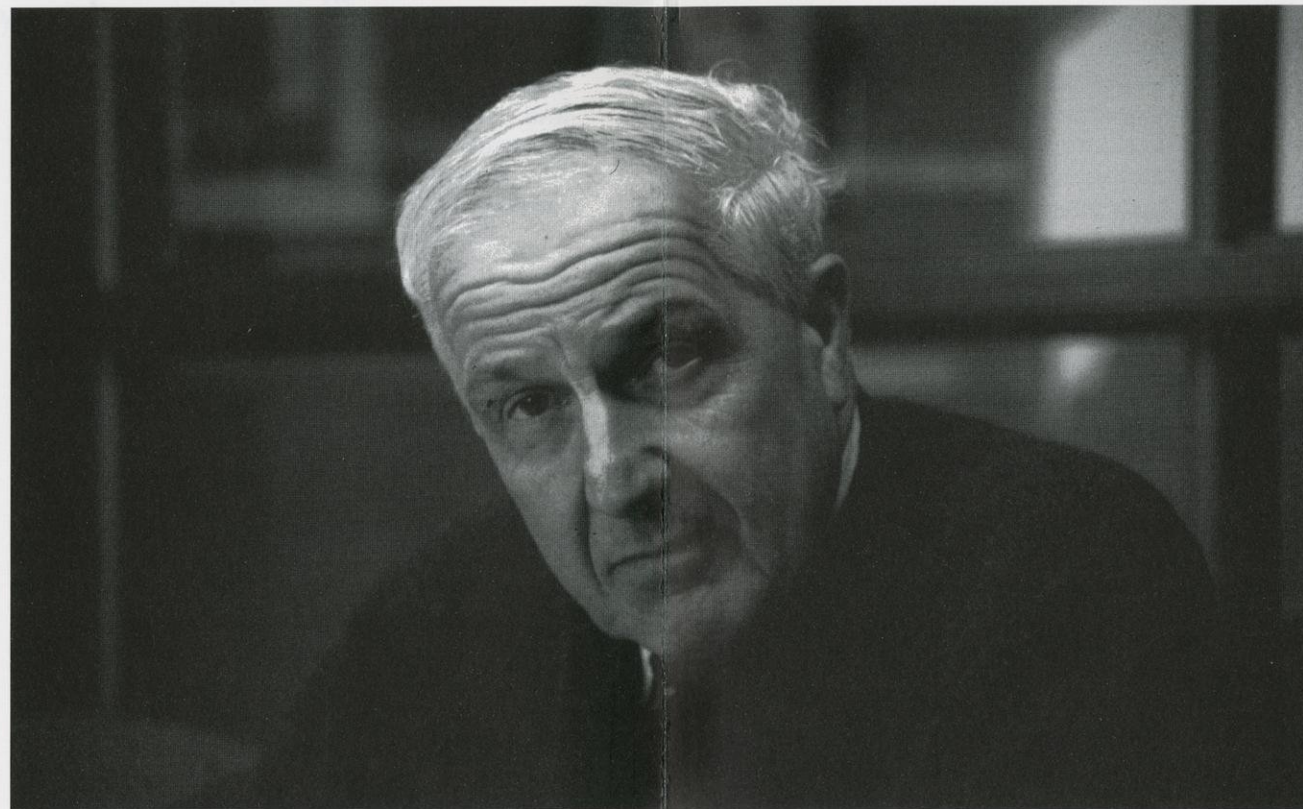
Figuratively, the image of a gentleman farmer tilling a field may well be close to home. He has spent a lifetime cultivating support for libraries, nurturing friendships, and finding seed money for fellowship programs, all while maintaining a rigorous research program of his own making.

In addition to many other administrative roles, he has in turn served as head of two significant library special collections—at the Newberry Library in Chicago and at UW-Madison. Talking to him about these achievements generates a modest deference to many other players and events—much like the farmer who credits moderate weather, fertile soil, and good fortune, rather than his own efforts, for a productive season.

Friends

Tedeschi talks quietly, warmly, about the many friendships that he and his wife, Anne, his childhood sweetheart, have nurtured in Madison. Many of these friends also have become Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries.

A colleague, John Neu, bibliographer for the history of science on campus, observes that it was the Tedeschis who "helped to breathe life" into the Friends organization, one of the



earliest academic library friends groups in the country. When he arrived on campus in 1984, he revived the *Messenger* newsletter, published between 1959 and 1978. It was edited by Art Hove, a longtime member of the Friends and later one of the presidents of the Friends board.

Soon afterward book sales of discarded and donated materials began producing a steady flow of funds that would finance part-time help for the Friends, a new lecture series, and eventually a grant-in-aid program for visiting scholars. The grants are modeled on fellowships awarded at the Newberry Library.

While at the Newberry, Tedeschi, who was founding director of its Center for Renaissance Studies, attracted start-up funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities to train scholars in the archival sciences and other

interdisciplinary research using primary sources. The NEH continues to fund the program 16 years later.

The Friends grant-in-aid provides a one-month stipend to support visiting scholars conducting research in the humanities. In the half-decade since the program began, it has supported scholars' visits to the campus libraries from as far away as Italy and Germany. Fifteen grants-in-aid have been awarded for scholars to study topics ranging from African-American women writers to Mediterranean slavery in the Middle Ages.

Department of Special Collections

Nearly all of these scholars have focused their primary research in the Department of Special Collections where both a physical and psychological transformation has taken place during Tedeschi's tenure.

"[Special Collections] is a different place than it was before [Tedeschi] joined the library staff," says GLS Director Ken Frazier. "It is, among other things, a beautiful and better organized facility, a more welcoming environment for scholars, a center of conservation programs for the academic library community, and a model service providing scholars with expert assistance in using special collections."

Midway in his career at Madison, Tedeschi supervised a departmental move into a new library addition. The department, now on the eighth and ninth floors, looks out over lakes to the north and south and the Madison skyline and state capitol to the east.

He is quick to credit the help of GLS staffers Barb Richards, Sandra Pfahler, and the late Frank Bright in the move. He also points out that 12 years ago English Professor Richard Knowles, then chair of the University Library Committee and its building committee, spearheaded the move for better quarters for the department in the first place. Knowles also had served as president of the Friends before Tedeschi arrived.

Many gifts have helped the reputation of the Department of Special Collections grow, largely the result of Tedeschi's efforts (*Messenger*, Spring 1996). One of the many names he mentions is that of William Reeder and his family, who established a generous endowment that permits the department to buy antiquarian materials. In addition, the family provided many gifts-in-kind, such as the Kelmscott Press imprints, including the famous Chaucer, and the largest collection anywhere in the country of editions of the *Attic Nights* by Aulus Gellius, the second-century Roman writer.

Another significant change occurred when Tedeschi arranged for the transfer of nearly 20,000 books, all older imprints, from the open stacks to the Department of Special

"This is a library, not a museum.
It is a research collection
not a savings bank."

Collections. Many of these early and rare materials were quite fragile. Although the official cutoff date is 1800, many important first editions of authors in the 19th century fall under the protective wing of Special Collections.

Volunteers were recruited for a variety of important projects. Loni Hayman completed an inventory of the literary archive of Felix Pollak, poet and earlier curator of Special Collections.

Other volunteers, Bill and Rosanna Patch, created chronological and geographical catalogs to the collections, invaluable tools for locating early materials. The late Sigrid Fry is another volunteer mentioned by Tedeschi who did extensive work for Special Collections. In particular, she organized the Renée Lang archives of 20th-century European literature.

Tedeschi credits his wife, Anne, with helping a great deal in preservation. As a volunteer and as a member of the Friends board, she assisted with exhibitions and other events. As a conservator specializing in book repair, she instituted a customized boxing program for fragile items. She also executed two campus Brittingham grants for preservation projects in the department and conducted workshops throughout the state for the Wisconsin Preservation Program (WISPPR).

Research

In spite of all his administrative work, Tedeschi has developed an international reputation among Renaissance scholars. Beginning with his doctorate in history from Harvard, he has either edited, written, or translated numerous books, catalogues, and

articles. Not surprisingly, Tedeschi's editorial board and professional memberships read like a *Who's Who* in Renaissance studies. Of three principal American scholarly societies focusing on early modern culture—the Society for Reformation Research, the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, and the Renaissance Society of America—Tedeschi has served as president of the first two and on the executive board of the third since 1971.

Not only is he a prolific author and editor, but his work itself is recognized for its substance. In 1991, he published a pioneering book on the Inquisition in early modern Italy, *The Prosecution of Heresy*. The volume has "had a deep impact on the evolution of Renaissance studies," according to the director of the Center for Renaissance Studies at the University of Sherbrooke in Canada, J.M. De Bujanda.

"In his usual clear, calm, and accurate style," says a *Journal of Modern History* (1994) review, "Tedeschi gives the coup de grâce to the image of the Inquisition inherited from Protestant and Liberal culture: that of an arbitrary and ruthless institution free from any juridical restraints in its struggle against heresy."

One of his important findings has been that the Roman Inquisition showed much greater respect for individual rights than previously believed, going so far as to suggest that the Roman Inquisition instituted many aspects of modern criminal procedure—requiring defense attorneys, refusing unsworn testimony, allowing an insanity defense, safeguarding an appeals process, and treating first offenders leniently.

To make these discoveries about 16th-century Italian ecclesiastical authority required years of research with primary and secondary sources. One of the challenges was discovering the real meanings behind inquisitorial terminology.

Harsh pronouncements, Tedeschi found, were not taken literally; they were mitigated by practice. Life imprisonment, for example, usually meant parole after a few years, generally three, subject to good behavior.

A concurrent project is a critical annotated bibliography of the Italian Reformation. It incorporates the progress made by the Reformation within Italy as well as the cultural contributions of its reformers abroad. The project exceeds 6,000 entries thanks in part to a major grant from the Italian Renaissance Institute in Ferrara, Italy. In 1993, the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference sponsored a special session devoted to this massive bibliographical survey.

In addition, he and Anne have translated five books in Italian history. They have made commitments to do two others.

Desiderata

Such a scholar, who is also a caretaker of rare materials, might be expected to have taken a restrictive attitude toward precious scholarly resources. On the contrary, the Department of Special Collections is known as one of the few departments in the country willing to loan books selectively for the use of scholars elsewhere in rare book departments.

"This is a library, not a museum," declares

Tedeschi. "It is a research collection not a savings bank." He is careful to add, however, that libraries must also preserve the interests of the next generation of scholars.

He feels libraries must continue to make inroads in preservation and conservation (one safeguards; the other repairs and restores). At the same time, more of the collection records need to be online, he says. A corollary is bringing some uniformity to the cataloging of the department's many separate collections.

These concerns lead him back to accessibility.

"Every library," notes Tedeschi, "has a responsibility to foster use of its collections. Staff should use every device to promote use—exhibits, catalogs, fellowships, online access."

Perhaps nothing typifies that attitude more than the image of Tedeschi, at work in his library, while one of his six grandchildren, four-year-old Dylan, studiously tries to identify items in his grandfather's collection of antique guns and knives.

"He asks to see the books on arms, which I show him, and then he tries to match the pictures with the artifacts," says Tedeschi. "He can be surprisingly accurate," he adds with a slight hint of pride.

Don Johnson

In recognition

Those who wish to honor John Tedeschi's service to the Friends and to the libraries may make a gift to the Friends or give a Friends membership in Tedeschi's name. For additional information, contact:

*The Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries
728 State Street
Madison, WI 53706
608/262-3243
[e-mail:
friends@doit.wisc.edu]*

Curator named

Robin Rider, formerly of Stanford University, has been named curator of the Department of Special Collections in Memorial Library as of Nov. 1. From 1993 to 1996 Rider was the Frances and Charles Field Curator of Special Collections at Stanford and held an adjunct teaching appointment in the Program for History and Philosophy of Science. Before moving to Stanford she was head of the History of Science and Technology Program at the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, for 12 years.

Rider has a B.S. in mathematics from Stanford University. She also earned an M.A. in mathematics and a Ph.D. in history from UC-Berkeley. Her research interests include the history of printing, history of operations research, and 17th- and 18th-century science, including mathematics.

Guiding users in the Information Age

With the turn of the century looming, the UW-Madison library staff have become guides on the information superhighway.

For the past decade, campus librarians have mounted a massive program to help people become proficient users of information. Besides conducting orientation tours, librarians also teach students and faculty the strategies, as well as the mechanical skills, for information-seeking using the new tools of electronic access.

More than 20,000 patrons now take advantage of these instructional sessions each year. In addition, the UW-Madison Faculty Senate approved a five-to-six credit undergraduate requirement in communication

skills, broadly defined to include writing, speaking, and information-seeking to ensure students will become more active information consumers in the Information Age.

These changes, however, have a tremendous impact on the campus library user education program.

Besides Madcat

workshops, in which librarians get students acquainted with the computer catalog, campus librarians also conduct two series of drop-in workshops on using journal and information databases. In addition to basic workshops, librarians also teach specialized sessions for research in disciplines such as education, psychology, health sciences, engineering, sociology, and agriculture.

Staff estimate that an additional 400 sessions will be needed each year to accommodate the additional students under the new undergraduate requirements. Since 1990, student and faculty attendance at library workshops has jumped 275 percent, and the numbers are expected to continue growing.

To meet such a high demand without substantially increasing staff, an innovative instructional solution using new technology was created. The new GLS Computerized Library User Education (CLUE) program debuted in fall 1996.

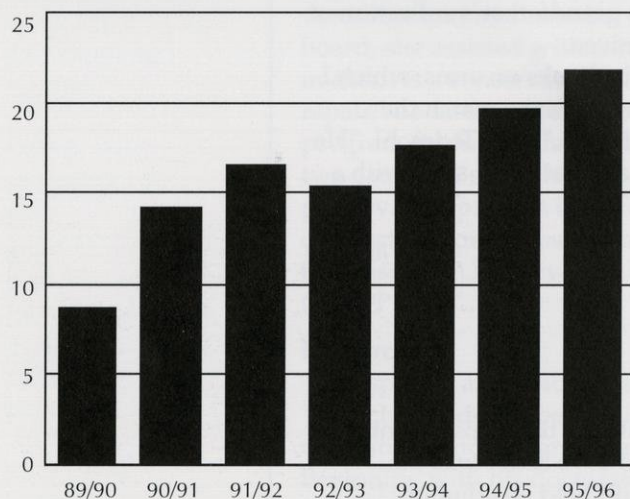
According to Abigail Loomis, coordinator of Library User Education and co-director of this project, the new package is among the first in the country to use multimedia components. Music, voice-overs, video clips, and unique graphics are all included, "all of which make it look and sound more interesting to the student," she says. Students will be actively participating in the instruction through hands-on learning, considered to be critical for the success of information literacy instruction.

By learning how to actively seek out information, students will be able to find, harness, and use information independently, a skill they will be able to call upon throughout their academic career and beyond.

CLUE is supported by the campus Hildale Fund through an Instructional Technology Support Grant administered by the Division of Information Technology.

Library Instruction Participants

In Thousands



Campus partnership puts rare materials into students' hands

Students and scholars can now view rare Southeast Asian images of 19th-century fruit peddlers, Filipino politicians, and early 20th-century tobacco farmers. They can also view many other uncommon images through a new Web page produced by the General Library System, the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, and the Division of Information Technology (DoIT).

The pilot Web site <http://www.library.wisc.edu/etext/seait/> released in October, digitizes campus collections of images for classroom use as part of the Southeast Asia Images and Texts (SEAiT) project. There are three methods for searching the SEAiT digital image archive: keyword search, atlas search, or multiple fields. Pre-defined searches have been created for: women, men, children, elderly, handicrafts, structures, conflicts, and agriculture.

Currently, the digital archive includes photographs collected during the past 15 years by History Professor Alfred McCoy as well as photos acquired by Memorial Library. They cover more than 100 years of Philippine history. Eventually, students and scholars will find a rich mine of images integrated with digital sound and video from throughout Southeast Asia.

Faculty from four departments associated with the Center for Southeast Asian Studies—McCoy and Michael Cullinane in History, Katherine Bowie in Anthropology, Dan Doeppers in Geography, and Paul Hutchcroft in Political Science—will use these images in undergraduate classroom multimedia presentations, as sources for printed matter used in the classroom, or as supplemental materials for student use outside of class.

Each of the images in the SEAiT photo archive has an associated bibliographic record, which describes the image's location,

photographer, and place of origin.

According to Carol Mitchell, Southeast Asian Studies bibliographer at Memorial Library, this is the first campus project to involve libraries in the creation of records linked to visual images.

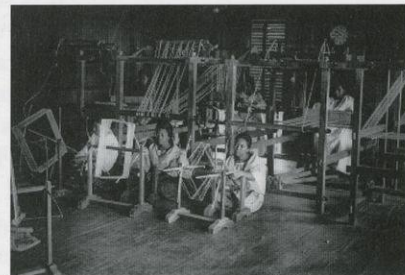
"The project provided a rare opportunity to look at issues in creating bibliographic references for images and to tackle technological problems in creating such a database," she says. "It also emphasizes the commitment of Memorial Library in collecting non-traditional research materials such as popular culture, video, and music."

The UW-Madison is a National Resource Center for the study of Southeast Asia and is a leading program for Southeast Asian studies in the country. SEAiT puts the campus at the forefront of integrating new technology into classrooms and library collections.

For more information about the Web site contents, contact Carol Mitchell, Southeast Asian Studies bibliographer at Memorial Library, 262-5493, or History Professor Alfred McCoy, 263-1755.



Jaro market—Hemp for sale (c. 1907-1912) during American colonial period. One of 500 Philippine photographs accessible through the SEAiT project, which will eventually include images from throughout Southeast Asia.



Filipinas weaving cloth, (c. 1907-1912). Image from the Missionary Album.



Joan Box

All things new

She can be seen nearly every other day working silently, deftly in the Conservation Laboratory as she repairs damaged or deteriorating books. For the last six years, three times a week, without fail, she has jogged to Memorial Library to work in the Conservation Laboratory in the basement. Although she does not get a paycheck, Joan Box loves her job.

"The greatest satisfaction in life is doing something new, having new thoughts. It's in creating or renewing something," she says in the lilt of an English accent. Probably this is what motivated her to begin college at 33, earning bachelor's and master's degrees, to write a biography, and to become a radio reader.

"I [went to the Conservation Laboratory] the first time because I inherited books that were in bad shape. I did not know what to do with them until I heard about a class by Jim Dast (head of the laboratory). He said the best way to practice would be in the lab itself." She adds, "You have to *learn* to do these things—to get the details right."

"It is so satisfying, so sane. It's constructive in a destructive world," Box says.

She was honored recently as one of a handful of volunteers who had given hundreds of hours of service to the UW-Madison libraries. Yet, Box feels that she benefited more than the libraries.

"It's a joy to be preserving the books which I love. Also, we are a friendly group here, all interested in preserving, making good."

Such enthusiasm for discovery and renewal was inspired by her father while Box and her seven siblings were growing up in a village

north of London. Her father was the famous statistician and geneticist Sir Ronald Fisher (1890-1962).

He invented the design and statistical analysis of experiments used by 20th-century researchers and introduced the fundamental concept of randomization.

In Box's words, "He laid the foundations, coined the language, and developed the methodology of modern biometry. He started out as a statistician in agricultural research and soon everyone was leaping onto the bandwagon in agriculture, forestry, medicine, education, and so forth."

Fisher's *Statistical Methods for Research Workers* (1925) and *Design of Experiments* (1935) spread his ideas to working biologists around the world. His most famous achievement is the analysis of variance, commonly known as ANOVA. It has become universal in experimental research.

Essentially, he recognized that the scientific method of varying only one cause at a time was inefficient and misconceived. He advocated factorial designs, considered one of his greatest contributions, in which several factors are varied simultaneously. This allows researchers to study not only main effects but interactions of factors.

Fisher was the Galton professor of eugenics at the University of London from 1933 to 1943, then Arthur Balfour professor of genetics at Cambridge University. Later he joined the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization in Adelaide, Australia.

When he visited the University of Iowa at Ames in the 1930s, Fisher had the opportunity to introduce his methods across the Atlantic. Box returned in 1996 to the University of Iowa to give the George Snedecor Lecture on the "The Life and Times of R.A. Fisher," based on her biography *R.A. Fisher: The Life of a Scientist*.

“The greatest satisfaction in life is doing something new, having new thoughts. It’s in creating or renewing something.”

“One of the things he taught me to love is constant conversation. He was bubbling with ideas. He talked with full sentences, rounded thoughts. It was vivid. It was new.”

After Fisher died in 1962, Box began collecting reminiscences from his friends for the record. In 1970 she traveled to Australia to study her father’s papers with a view to writing his biography.

The most difficult part was bringing together disparate strands of the professional biography. “[Fisher] burst out in all directions, and I needed to make an integral whole of it,” Box says.

She also had to create a cohesive personality out of many different impressions from friends and colleagues. Finally, there was the problem of what to include from many subplots. Box settled on a scientific biography, because “he loved his work and the world of ideas. That was where he lived.”

She says she never would have undertaken the biography had she recognized how little

she knew or understood about her subject. Yet, the process also brought new insights, like “a new meeting” with her father.

Even her volunteer work was influenced by R.A. Fisher. He suffered extreme myopia his entire life. Much of his education required his siblings and parents to read to him. When Box was a child, “evenings were spent reading to my father . . . He was the center of attention in our household.”

She continues to read aloud for others. For 13 years she participated in the Wisconsin Radio Reading Service for the visually impaired.

The radio station on Park Street provided radios automatically tuned to the station for its listeners. Programming included a few hours of morning and evening news followed by announcers reading journals, short stories, and bestsellers. After the station closed for lack of



For more information

The following selection of books by Joan Box or R.A. Fisher are available in the UW-Madison libraries.

- Box, Joan Fisher (1978). *R.A. Fisher: The Life of a Scientist*. New York: John Wiley & Sons.
- Fisher, Ronald Aylmer, Sir. (1935). *The Design of Experiments*. London: Oliver and Boyd. (Published in eight editions.)
- Fisher, Ronald Aylmer, Sir. (1950). *Contributions to Mathematical Statistics*. Index prepared by John Tukey. New York: Wiley.
- Fisher, Ronald Aylmer, Sir (1930). *The Genetical Theory of Natural Selection*. Oxford: The Clarendon Press. (Two editions.)
- Fisher, Ronald Aylmer, Sir. (1990). *Statistical Methods, Experimental Design, and Scientific Inference: A re-Issue of Statistical Methods for Research Workers, the Design of Experiments, and Statistical Methods and Scientific Inference*. Edited by J. H. Bennett. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Fisher, Ronald Aylmer, Sir (1970). *Statistical Methods for Research Workers*. (14th edition) Edinburgh: Oliver and Boyd.
- *R.A. Fisher: An Appreciation* (1980). Edited by S. E. Fienberg and D. V. Hinkley. New York: Springer-Verlag.



Sir Ronald Fisher, 1924

Special thanks to volunteers

UW-Madison library volunteers provide services that range from organizing photo archives to translating Japanese. Thanks go to those who donate their time and efforts to improve service to students, faculty, and staff

Recent volunteers include: Kathleen Adler, Connie Blanchard, Joan Box, Jeffery Cross, Gene Dewey, Helene Frank, Genevieve Gersbach, Mary Harshaw, Tod Highsmith, Gyöngyi Holtan, Bill Kniffen, Linda Krueger, Bill Patch, Kaori Sakagami, Craig Sines, Barbara Swan, Artem Terekhou, John Toussaint.

For more information, please call Pat Bender, library volunteer coordinator, at 265-2505.

funds, she went to the McBurney Resources Center to record tapes for various courses, primarily in the social sciences.

Oddly, on what would have been her father's 100th birthday, his name came up in a reading she had been assigned on ecology. It was a fresh reminder of the range of her father's interests and enthusiasms. "When we think something new, we're alive," she notes.

That attitude is what lead her to enter college after marrying and coming to Madison. She earned a bachelor's degree in English literature and later a master's degree in the history of science.

"It occurred to me that science historians would have some helpful advice for writing a scientific biography. But I think of them as a collection of scientists gone wrong rather than

as historians with a discipline of their own."

Science remains important to the Fisher descendants. Among Fisher's grandchildren are five physicians, including Box's daughter. Her son is an accomplished cinematographer. He has published a valuable handbook on motion picture lighting that takes an unusual, conversational approach.

"His writing is infectious. He can put it across better than his grandfather." Her eyes twinkle with delight as she begins a discussion of something new she learned while reading the book her son wrote.

Don Johnson

Volunteers help make fall book sale a success

Many new and current volunteers helped with the fall book sale under the direction of John Toussaint, secretary/treasurer of the Friends. Some volunteers not only assisted with preparing for the sale but returned to help on sale days. Oscar Mayer R.E.A.D.I. Volunteers recruited members from their group and provided most of the volunteers for Saturday, Oct. 26. Many thanks to all who helped make this a successful benefit for the Friends.

Oscar Mayer R.E.A.D.I. Volunteers

Peg Brown, Doris Dixon, Elaine Herritz, Bill Jerred, Dorothy Jerred, Shirley Johnson, Sally Krenz, Clarice McNitt, Mary Pringle, Joan Smith

Friends and Volunteers of UW-Madison Libraries

Patricia Bender, Todd Bender, Cynthia Benevenga, Joe Benforado, Katherine Brock, Tom Brock, Pat Crouse, Ann Crow, Jim Dast,

Joan Dennis, Gene Dewey, Jane Eisner, Ken Frazier, Bonnie Gartner, Genevieve Gersbach, Mary Harshaw, David Hayman, Loni Hayman, Dennis Hill, Gyöngyi Holtan, Frank Horlbeck, Art Hove, Chris Kleinhenz, Linda Krueger, Anne Lambert, Ron Lofman, Jerry Minnich, John Neu, Paula Panczenko, Deb Reilly, Nyssa Reilly, Kay Revercomb, Martha Romberg, Pat Rosman, Gaspare Saladino, Henryka Schutta, Karon Smith,

ellsworth snyder, Jennifer Stibitz, Mary Streveler, Anne Tedeschi, John Tedeschi, John Tortorice, Carol Toussaint, John Toussaint, Todd Toussaint, Sue Thieben, Richard Urban, Ed Van Gemert, Ginny Yuska

Madison merchants who donated food and beverages for book sale volunteers:
Ken Kopp's Fine Foods
Victor Allen's Coffee & Tea

Madison booksellers who contributed books to the sale:
Borders Book Shop
Half Price Books
Paul's Book Store
University Book Store

Special Collections exhibition: *Poets at Gehenna: 1959-1995*

The vast contributions of the Gehenna Press during the past half century are unparalleled in the history of modern printing. The process of creating books at this fine arts press is the focus of a traveling exhibition, *Poets at Gehenna: 1959-1995*, which comes to the UW-Madison libraries in January 1997.

Established in 1942 by Leonard Baskin, the press commissions original texts from a variety of writers. Traditionally, artists provide images for existing poems. For the Gehenna Press, poets work from Baskin's original prints or drawings.

The monumental *Capriccio* with poems by Ted Hughes, *Sibyls* by Ruth Fainlight, and the most recent book of the press, *Presumptions of Death* by Anthony Hecht, have all come from this atypical approach. Other featured books and broadsides include: Hugh MacDiarmid's *Eemis Stane*, Anthony Hecht's *The Seven Deadly Sins*, Ted Hughes's *A Primer of Birds* and *Moko Maki*, and James Baldwin's *Gypsy*.

Working manuscripts, preliminary drawings, original woodblocks, and sequential proofs illuminate the creative process from the viewpoints of both artist and poet. The exhibition, consisting of more than 90 items, has been shown at the University of California-San Diego and at the Fresno Art Museum.

Several Gehenna Press books are also part of the permanent UW-Madison library collections. The exhibition in the Department of Special Collections, 976 Memorial Library, remains on display through March.



THE PRESUMPTIONS OF DEATH

It is with a sense of quickened mortality that The Syndics of The Gehenna Press announce the publication of *The Presumptions of Death*. In classic *Dances of Death*, the universal equalizer grabs everyone from the Pope to a peasant, from a Duchess to the village idiot, in *Presumption*, Death assumes the victim's semblance. In Baskin's brilliant woodcut we see Death as an Oxford don and a Mexican revolutionary, as a film director and as a society woman and in fourteen other guises. The poems by Anthony Hecht are luminous and meet with sonorous quality the intense reality of these unreal disputes. The poems reveal, censure, unmask, contain, probe and dissect Death's posturing, preening and pretending. Hecht and Baskin have joined their skills in several earlier Gehenna Press books, notably the emblem book, *The Seven Deadly Sins*. *The Presumption of Death* is divided into two parts, the first portion introduces Death in a variety of aspects. We see the hooded specter as demure and shy, we see Death playing children's games and sauntering about, snapping his fingers or riding into town like Clint Eastwood. The six woodcuts of this section and their accompanying poems reveal Baskin and Hecht at their mature mastery. In the second portion, where death presumes, the poems and the woodcuts crackle with wit and vivacity, they are unexpected, original and delightful for their engaging insightfulness. In two confrontational instances Death is incapable of assuming the victim's visage and figure.

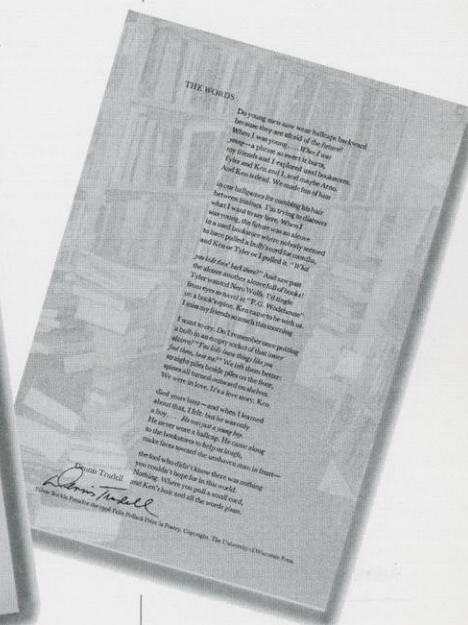
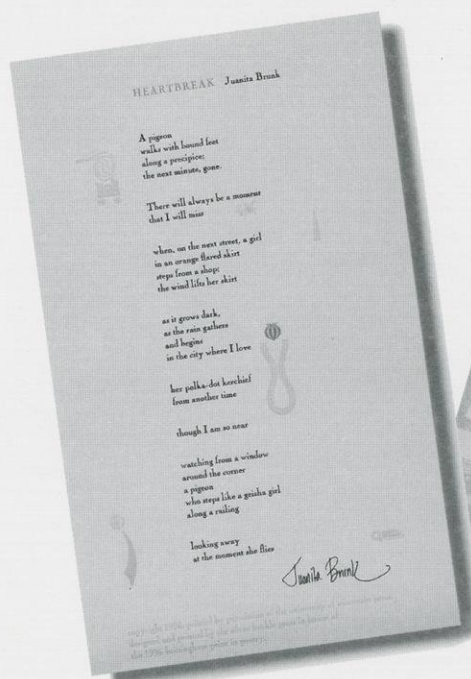
Prize-winning poetry featured in Silver Buckle broadsides

The work of two award-winning poets appears on new Silver Buckle Press broadsides which are on sale to the public. Both three-color pieces were printed by hand from movable type.

Juanita Brunk is the winner of the 1996 Brittingham Prize in Poetry, and Dennis Trudell won the 1996 Felix Pollak Prize in Poetry. The national awards are administered by the UW-Madison English Department. Winners have the opportunity to have a book-length manuscript published by the UW Press.

The Silver Buckle Press is a working museum of letterpress printing equipment that publishes broadsides, pamphlets, and books. It is part of the UW-Madison General Library System.

The new poetry broadsides sell for \$15. For more information, contact the press at (608) 263-4929.





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