



# LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## The messenger. Number 19 April 1989

Madison, Wisconsin: Friends of the University of  
Wisconsin-Madison Libraries, April 1989

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# THE MESSENGER

FRIENDS OF THE UW-MADISON LIBRARIES

Number 19, April 1989

## THE GREAT LIBRARY RENEWAL

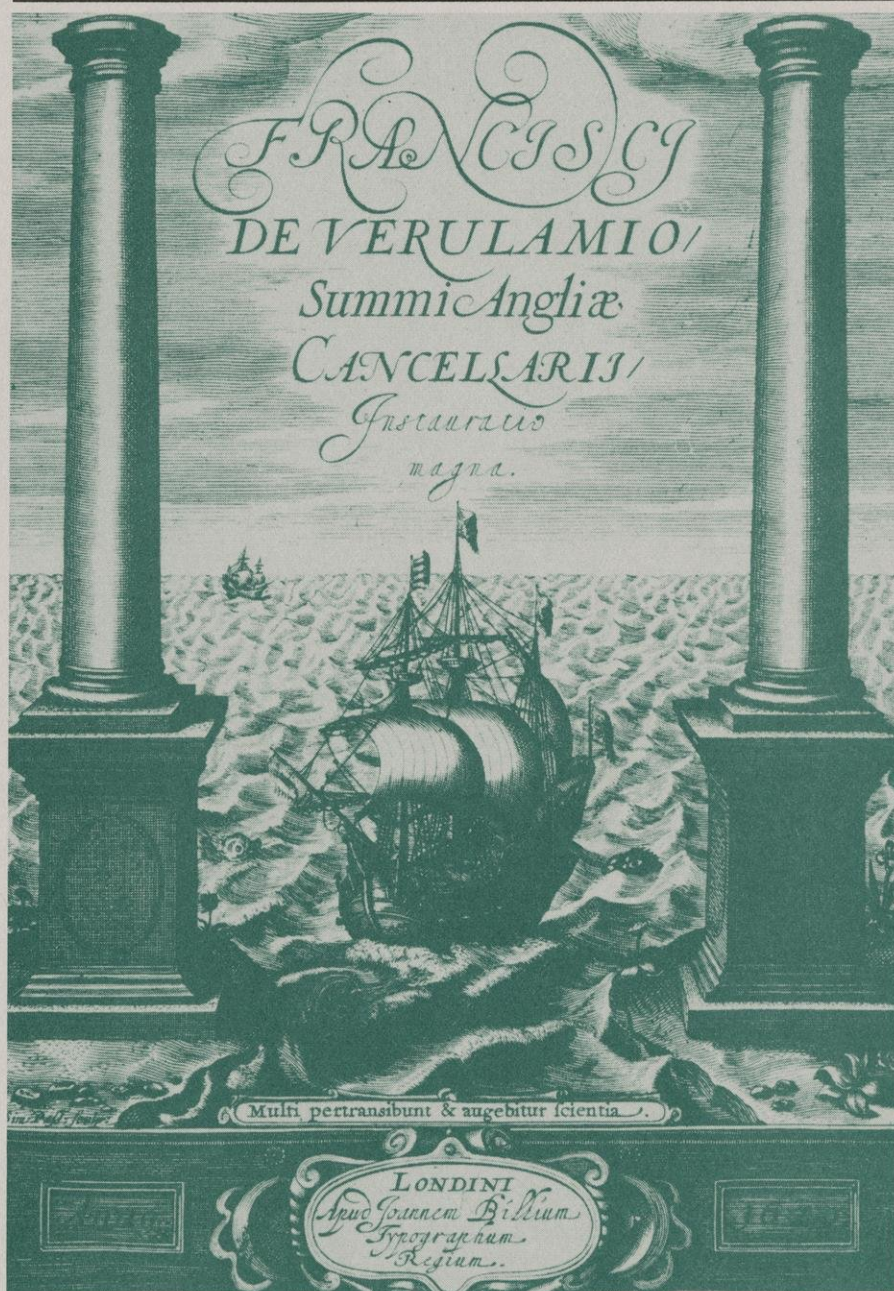
The University of Wisconsin-Madison has embarked upon a grand renewal program for its libraries. Among the first efforts of this project are the expansion of Memorial Library, now well underway, and the launching by the University of Wisconsin Capital Campaign of a major drive to provide substantial supplemental funding for the libraries. The Campaign will be assisted by a Special Advisory Council, chaired by Professor William Reeder.

Under the guidance of Professor Reeder, a former UW faculty member, and John Tedeschi, Curator of the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, an exhibition of a broad sampling of research treasures was put together to inform the public and remind the university community of the wealth of resources available in the libraries. The idea that the libraries of a great university constitute an organized summation of human knowledge inspired the theme of the exhibition, *Instauratio Magna*, the Grand Renewal, or the Magnificent Reorganization, which refers to Francis Bacon's plan for systematizing all knowledge. From a wide variety of disciplines, items of significance in the work or lives of scholars, librarians, or library patrons were included.

Creating the exhibition and its accompanying catalog was in itself a magnificent feat of organization, requiring a concerted effort between the staff of Professor Reeder, now at the University of Texas, Austin, the staff of the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, and the more

than sixty contributors. Thanks go especially to Jill Rosenshield for serving as liaison with the contributors, for verifying the biblio-

graphic details of highly diverse items, and for her initial computer input of the catalog and exhibition label copy. Jill worked tirelessly,



Title page from Bacon's *Novum Organum*, which inspired the poster for the exhibition.



often on her own time, throughout the project. Thanks also go to Barbara Richards for assistance in preparing books and mounting the exhibit, to Anne Tedeschi for her careful preparation of exhibition label copy, and to Elizabeth Breed for taking photographs for the catalog.

All the work paid off with the resulting very successful exhibition, on display in the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, the Mills Music Library, the State Historical Society, and the Friends display case in the lobby of Memorial Library, from December 1988 -- March 1989. Opening receptions for contributors and Friends and for the Bascom Hill Society were held in mid-January.

The exhibition catalog stands on its own, to be kept and enjoyed for years to come. Funded generously by the Friends, with support from the UW Foundation and the General Library System, this catalog is the largest and most attractive one to date. The item descriptions, written by those individuals who nominated the items for inclusion in the exhibition, provide a varied and personal glimpse into the research activities of the university community.

The Friends and everyone associated with this project can feel proud of the library and of a job well done. If the coming efforts of the grand renewal are as successful as these early ones, the library will be magnificent indeed.

M.C.



Engraving of Phillis Wheatley, from *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral* by Phillis Wheatley, Negro Servant to Mr. John Wheatley of Boston, 1773.

## THE FELIX POLLAK COLLECTION

Sara Pollak, wife of the late Felix Pollak, who was a distinguished poet and the Curator of Rare Books at Memorial Library for many years, has generously donated Felix's books and correspondence to the library. Since Felix was responsible for building the library's outstanding collection of little magazines, it is appropriate that among the items received are little magazines and anthologies containing Felix's work. Included also are a number of 20th-century German first editions, works by Henry Miller and Anaïs Nin, some of which are inscribed to Felix, and extensive correspondence with these two writers.

In one of the letters, Nin requests permission to quote from one of Felix's letters in volume 6 of

her published diaries. The diary entry, which Felix approved with three very minor changes that were not made in the book, but are made here, reads as follows:

*Felix Pollak, after visiting Djuna Barnes, writes me:*

*Found her a sick, sarcastically bitter old woman who made slighting remarks about a lot of writers, except Dylan Thomas, whose voice she admired. When I finally asked her in some exasperation: "What writers do you like?" she answered evenly: "I like nobody." I refrained from asking whether she liked herself, for she had given me the answer to that question already. All was poverty and bareness. Yet she rejected the offer she had received from a pocket book publisher to let **Nightwood** appear in paperback*

*because they didn't offer enough money, she said. She just finished a verse play (*The Antiphon*) which will appear shortly. When I said upon leaving: "I hope you will feel better soon" (she has asthma and some back trouble), she replied: "Thanks. I probably won't." And closed the door.*

Still to come to the library is 40 years of Felix's other correspondence with poets, editors, and some of the leading writers of the day. We thank Sara Pollak for sharing these items, which will be of enormous interest to students of modern literature. We also thank her for a donation of \$1000 to the Friends' fellowship fund for visiting scholars. Both gifts are a fitting memorial to Felix.



## THE RENÉE LANG COLLECTION

Renée Lang, professor emeritus of Comparative Literature at Marquette University, is widely recognized as an outstanding scholar, inspiring teacher, and a leading expert in twentieth-century Franco-German literary relations. Since 1985, in installments, she has been donating to Memorial Library her rich collection, an incomparable research tool for students of modern European literature. It consists of autograph letters, manuscripts, typescripts, photographs, books, posters, and other materials by and about such literary figures as André Gide, Rainer Maria Rilke, Paul Valéry, Hermann Hesse, Jean Cocteau, and Colette, among many others. A large part of the material pertains to the American writer and feminist Natalie Clifford Barney, who resided in Paris for much of her life. The contents of the collection span a time period from the early

twentieth century up to roughly the present, with a special emphasis on the period 1940-60.

Included are several letters from Gide to Lang, two of which deal with the controversy over Nietzsche's influence on Gide at the time he wrote "The Immoralist." In 1940, Lang published evidence that Gide had been influenced by Nietzsche. In a four-page typewritten letter with Gide's handwritten notes in the margin, dated 10 June 1946, the author acknowledges receipt of Lang's study, but denies Nietzsche's influence on his work. Later, in a two-page letter of 27 December 1946, Gide admits to Lang that he has found evidence "that she had been entirely right" ("[quel] vous donne entièrement raison.")

Lang's interest in Gide led her to investigate his relationship with Rilke, turning up such Rilke treasures in the collection as manuscripts of two of his poems written in French and sent to Valéry. A very interesting item is a four-page autograph report by Gide on the 1915 Paris auction following the war-time sequestration of the contents of Rilke's Paris apartment. In a letter to Lang dated 3 October 1947, Gide states that, to his great regret, his only success at that time was to recover two boxes of private papers.

The collection contains over 100 letters from Natalie Clifford Barney to Lang, copies of all Barney's books (some of which are inscribed and rare), plus

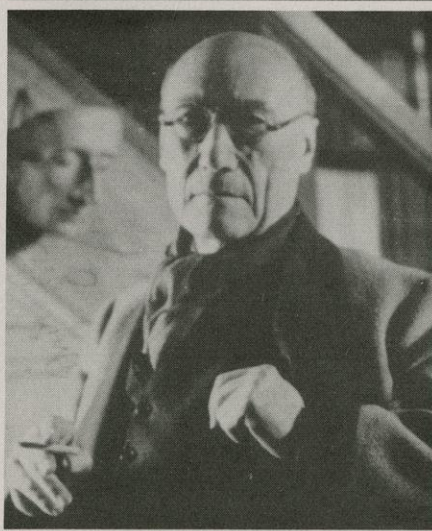
several typescripts with autographed annotations by Barney, and a number of unpublished original photographs of Barney and her circle. Included is the volume *Lettres A L'Amazon* by the French writer Rémy de Gourmont, who dubbed Barney "the Amazon of Letters," and many books by such members of Barney's coterie as Renée Vivien, Djuna Barnes, and Romaine Brooks.

Renée Lang's generous gift greatly enhances the stature of Memorial Library as a center for modern literary research.

Sigrid Fry  
Rare Books Volunteer

*Ed. note.* Ms. Fry, a member of the Friends Board, assisted in the processing of the Lang collection and in the preparation of the exhibit "Modern European Literature from the Collection of Renée Lang," held in the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, November 1986-January 1987.

*The Department of Rare Books and Special Collections has been fortunate to receive two major collections --the Lang and Pollak collections-- that complement each other closely and strengthen its holdings in modern literature.*



Photograph of André Gide, from the Renée Lang collection.



## GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY

The Department of Rare Books and Special Collections received numerous gifts during 1987-88 which it is a pleasure to report here. These private donations of financial support and rare materials are gratefully acknowledged; they are an important stimulus to the continued growth of the high quality library collections the University seeks to provide to researchers and scholars. Among the items added to the collections recently are the following.

The William Reeder Family contributed the only known 16th-century manuscript of Vianesio Alberghati's *Commentarii rerum sui temporis*, a previously unrecorded, contemporary view of the only Dutch Pope, Adrian VI (d.1523). Also donated are a printed edition (1594) of the 1356 manuscript *Aurea bulla* of Emperor Charles IV, and the author's corrected typescript of *Devices of the Early Printers* by Hugh William Davies. Further additions were made to the collections of history of science and history of the book with endowment funds from the Reeder Family Fund created by Professor Reeder in 1986.

Professor Madeleine Doran donated 34 books of the Renaissance period, ranging from history and politics, to science, philosophy, and literature. Included are a corrected and annotated second edition of Guicciardini's *La Historia d'Italia* (1562), a historiographical classic; and the first English edition (1598) of Bartholomew Yonge's translation of Jorge de

Montemayor's *Diana*, Shakespeare's direct source for *Two Gentlemen of Verona*.

Professor Frederick Cassidy, editor of the Dictionary of American Regional English, added 13 titles. *Sermons of M. Jean Calvin* (1565) is a virtually contemporary edition of Calvin's sermons, published only one year after his death. Giving added strength to our natural history collections, the 6 volume *Oeuvres complètes de Buffon* (1853), is in excellent condition and contains many beautiful maps and color plates.

Frederick Baker, a generous donor from New York City, contributed valuable editions to the Renaissance and 20th century holdings. Especially exciting, since the library did not previously own any original Shakespeare imprints, are segments of two folios: *The Merchant of Venice* (second folio, 1632), and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (fourth folio, 1685). Among the other volumes are a first edition of *Gone With the Wind*, and two William Faulkner first editions: *Soldier's Pay*, and a signed copy of *A Fable*.

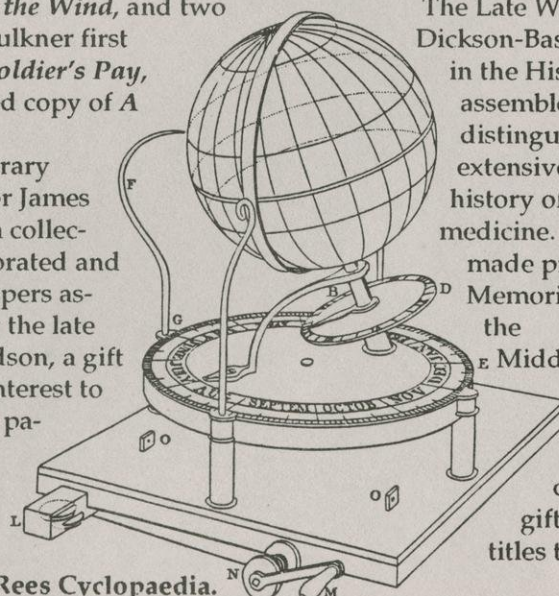
Library Conservator James Dast gave a collection of decorated and marbled papers assembled by the late Flora Davidson, a gift of special interest to students of papermaking and book design.

This collection complements the library's holdings in the book arts, which include Davidson's collection of bookplates.

Mr. and Mrs. S.S. Holmes of Mineral Point donated a rare eighteenth-century Persian manuscript of *The Ramayana*. This great Hindu epic poem tells of the chivalry and virtue of the popular Hindu deity, Rama. The vibrant color and shiny gold highlights of the 43 hand-painted illuminations make this volume an impressive addition to our manuscript holdings.

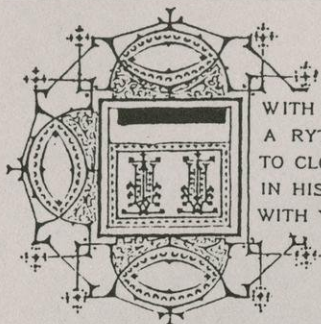
To his outstanding collection of eighteenth-century chemistry already in the Library, William Cole added a stupendous set of *Rees' Cyclopaedia* (first American edition). This 47 volume "Universal Dictionary of Art, Sciences, and Literature" is in perfect condition with original leather bindings and 6 volumes of plates which include music, maps, portraits, plans, charts, and diagrams.

The Late William Coleman, Dickson-Bascom Professor in the History of Science, assembled, during his distinguished career, an extensive library on the history of science and medicine. He generously made provisions for the Memorial Library and the Middleton Medical Library to select titles from his collection. The gift adds some 300 titles to the two



Globe from the Astronomy section of Rees Cyclopaedia.





WITH NATURE-WARP OF NAKED WEED BY PRINTER-CRAFT IMPRISONED, WE WEAVE THIS INTERLINEAR WEB. A RYTHMIC CHANGING PLAY OF ORDERED SPACE AND IMAGE SEEKING TRACE OUR FABRIC MAKES, TO CLOTHE WITH CHASTITY AND GRACE OUR AUTHOR'S GENTLE WORD. APPRECIATION OF THE BEAUTY IN HIS WORK WE WEAVE,—IN PART OURSELVES TO PLEASE, YET MAY WE BETTER FARE, AND, WEAVING SO, WITH YOU OUR PLEASURE SHARE.

F. L. W.

An example of the decorative art of Frank Lloyd Wright in *The House Beautiful*.

libraries, greatly strengthening our holdings in two areas in which Professor Coleman had done significant research: the history of German biology in the 19th century, and the history of ecology.

David Urben added several limited and signed editions to the holdings of fine press books, natural history, and exploration. These include original cloth first editions of *A Trip to Pike's Peak and Notes by the Way* (1861) by C.M. Clark, and Frederick Douglass' *My Bondage and My Freedom* (1855).

Jean, Philleo, and Edith Nash, of Wisconsin Rapids, contributed a second issue of the first edition of Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*. This scarce copy is a welcome addition to the library's notable collection of American literature.

Coming to the Rare Book collections from the State Historical Society of Wisconsin is a copy of William C. Gannet's *The House Beautiful*. Originally from the Phillips and Ferry Family Papers, this numbered volume was designed, hand-printed, and signed by Frank Lloyd Wright and W.H. Winslow.

Professor and Mrs. John Willard made a generous donation of over 800 books to the General Library System. Several of the 19th-century volumes have been added to the Cairns Collection of American Women Authors. Add-

ing a visual perspective on this period is *Columbian Album*, a photographic record of the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893.

Valdis Zeps, professor of Linguistics and Slavic Languages, has donated a collection of essays about Latvian literature and history written in Latvian during the period 1920-1940.

Through the generosity of the Evjue Foundation the library purchased a collection of more than 65 manuscript letters written by Thornton Wilder to an aspiring young writer, Sally Higginson Begley, from the time she was 16. The correspondence contains biographical detail and literary observations, including an illuminating discussion in one letter on the ethics of being an artist.

Edward Schten, professor of governmental affairs, added two colorful and beautifully illustrated Ethiopian scrolls. Written in Geez, the narrow strips are part of an amulet customarily worn inside of the clothing to ward off evil and illness.

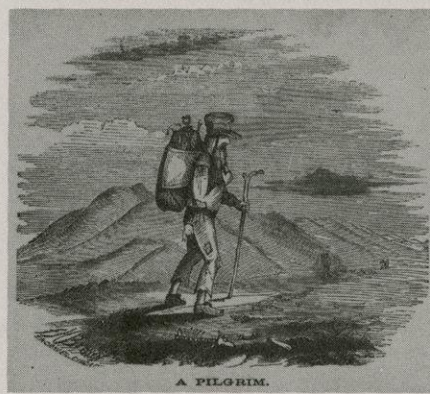
Menahem Mansoor, professor emeritus of Hebrew and Semitic studies, donated a group of recent auction catalogs covering Judaica, early printed books, and children's literature. These will be of service in bibliographical verification and valuation.

Victoria Hill, Social Sciences bibliographer, added typescripts of contemporary French playwright Roger Planchon. Titles include *Bleus, Blanc, Rouges, ou, Les Libertins; Dans Le Vent; and La Mise en pièce du Cid*.

Professor Howard Weinbrot gave a recent fine press printing of Percival Stockdale's contemporary view of *Samuel Johnson and his disgrace to English Literature*, which Weinbrot himself edited from a holograph in the Huntington Library.

Thank you again to our friends and patrons for these rare and diverse additions to the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections.

N.W.



"A Pilgrim;" illustration from *A Trip to Pike's Peak*.



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## GALLOWAY FAMILY PAPERS

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A collection of literary manuscripts and letters by and relating to Elizabeth Galloway Roberts, daughter of the American loyalist statesman Joseph Galloway, together with other family papers, have been added to the Cairns Collection of American Women Authors. At the time of the American Revolution, eighteen-year old Elizabeth fled to England with her father, while her mother stayed behind in America in an attempt to save the family property.

Elizabeth, well educated and sensible, felt uncomfortable with the flirtatious and vain society she found in London. She took comfort in the correspondence she kept with her mother, and with her Aunt, who lived in the English countryside. In a letter to her Aunt dated 1779, Elizabeth expresses dissatisfaction with life in the polluted city, and mentions meeting Samuel Johnson:

*What else I have done since I last wrote to my cousin, besides coughing, I can give no account of, each day being spent in the same dull round as the former. Yesterday indeed I dined in company with the celebrated Dr. Johnstone [sic]. He is the most ungracious being I ever saw. What a pity that the possession of one superior qualification should be an apology for the greatest deficiency in trifles. That man whose writings are read with so much pleasure, was he to utter the same thoughts in the same language would create a horror.*

Three leather bound volumes and some notebooks of Elizabeth's poems, stories, dramatic dialogs, and a play reflect the deeply felt loss of her mother (who died before she could join her daughter), her scorn for the vanities of London, and her battles in

the war between the sexes. With regard to the latter, Elizabeth proves to be an independent, self-respecting person who will not be manipulated and will not stoop to a subservient role.

Also included are writings by Grace Growden Galloway, Elizabeth's mother, some of which are philosophical, pseudonymous letters to the editor of a contemporary journal. Twenty-two love letters written in a beautiful hand to Grace Growden from one of her suitors, William Milner, are a significant part of the collection. Sir Charles Burton, Grace's great grandson, organized these letters and supplied a helpful family history.

We are fortunate to have this fascinating collection, which provides a personal view of women's life in the last half of 18th- and early 19th-century America and England.

M.C.

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## CHRONOLOGICAL CATALOG

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The Department of Rare Books and Special Collections has a useful new access tool in the form of a chronological catalog. Since the library's subject catalog is not adequate for the early holdings, in many cases the chronological catalog is the only means of finding materials from the medieval through early modern periods for which one doesn't know author or title. It should be of immense help to users of the Rare Book collections.

To create this catalog, for the past three years I have been arranging a separate set of Rare Books catalog cards by date of publication. It has been a big job. Not only were there 50,000 cards, but many of them had strange, mistaken, or missing dates. In some cases, with the help of Department staff, I was able to establish the correct date. In a few cases I had to yield to the classification "no date."

The Department doesn't have many of the books printed in America before the constitution was signed, but it does have many that were printed in England or Europe (4 drawers just from the 16th century), and even quite a few books printed in the fifteenth century! It has been a pleasure for me to come in contact with all the titles, if not the physical volumes. I shall come to "touch" the real books in my next project, making a geographical catalog.

Rosanna Patch  
Rare Books Volunteer



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## FRIENDS NEWS

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### VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

A group of dedicated Friends volunteers continues to work on a variety of special projects in the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. Rosanna and Bill Patch maintain the chronological catalog, and have taken over work from Sigrid Fry on another major project, the geographical catalog. Sigrid, meanwhile, is putting her book collector's knowledge to work identifying variant editions of titles of which the library has more than one copy. Kathleen Keller is organizing manuscripts from the Renée Lang collection and from the

archives of poet Carl Rakosi. Pat Duffie has been researching additional cataloging information necessary for the Memorial Library's participation in the Eighteenth-Century Short Title Catalog, an international project being organized in North America by the University of California at Riverside. Anne Tedeschi continues her conservation work, selecting fragile items suitable for boxing, and repairing others in the conservation lab under the supervision of library conservator James Dast. Thanks to all these hard-working volunteers for their time and effort.

### SPRING PROGRAMS

The Friends have sponsored two successful literary talks this spring. On February 15 Professor Margot Peters of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater spoke informally about her research on the Barrymore acting family. Professor Peters, who is currently working on a major critical biography, *The House of Barrymore*, has three previous award-winning biographies to her credit: *Unquiet Soul*, *Bernard Shaw and the Actresses* and *Mrs. Pat*. She gave an engaging talk about "The Problems of the Biographer".

And on March 15, Professor Jeffrey Steele of the University of Wisconsin-Madison English Department spoke about his development of a bibliography of 19th-century American women writers, for which he is studying the Cairns Collection. Professor Steele, whose special research interest is in American Romantic

writers, had recently taken a sabbatical semester to explore the collection. His fascinating talk included examples of works by Margaret Fuller and other late 18th- and early 19th-century writers.

Friends are reminded of the Annual Dinner Meeting on April 18. Our speaker will be Erik R. Brynildson, who lives in and is restoring the Wisconsin John Muir homestead. Details will be sent separately.

### CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

For Friends wondering whether the removal of a floor from the new addition to Memorial Library will affect the space planned for the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, the news is good. The Department will continue to have new space on the top two floors, in this case eight

### BOOKSALES

Under the direction of Steve Burnett, a student assistant hired to help with the administrative details of the Friends' work, monthly booksales continue to be successful fundraisers. Sales are held in the southeast basement of Memorial Library on the third Friday and Saturday of each month. Hours are 3:00-5:15 Friday and 11-1 Saturday. If you would like to donate books, please contact Steve at 262-3243. Supplies are regularly depleted, so books are always needed. Thanks go to Steve and to the volunteers who have helped with the sales. Their efforts are essential to continuing success.

### EDITORS'NOTE

The Friends published the *Messenger* for many years, until they joined forces three years ago with the newsletter of the UW Libraries, *News and Views*. With this issue the *Messenger* resumes publication. The editors, Martha Cook and Nancy Wilcox, are research assistants in the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections.

and nine, rather than nine and ten. Features will include expanded exhibit and vault areas, more convenient facilities for patrons and staff, and the capability of compact shelving. The staff is looking forward to being in the new quarters by this time next year.



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## JOIN US

In order to sustain its activities, the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries need more dedicated members. If you are interested in joining the Friends, please use the enclosed form to initiate or renew your membership.

The activities of the Friends are of two kinds: promotional -- including annual dinners, lectures, newsletters, and exhibit catalogs-- and fundraising to support library projects that would not otherwise be possible.

Friends receive a special guest pass to Memorial Library with circulation privileges.

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## EXHIBITS

On display in the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections from April through July is an exhibit of medieval books and manuscripts from the UW-Madison collections. This exhibit has been mounted in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Medieval Academy of America, to be held on campus April 13-15. The next exhibit, scheduled for August-December, will be devoted to a history of both the structural and decorative aspects of the art of bookbinding, from earliest times to the present. This exhibit is being prepared by Alexander Lucas, a student in the School of Library

and Information Studies. Friends are most welcome to visit these ongoing events. The Department is open 8-5, Monday-Friday.



Woodcut from **Hortus Sanitatis**, from the Medieval Books and Manuscripts exhibit.

## FRIENDS OF THE UW-MADISON LIBRARIES

### MESSENGER

728 State Street / Room 443C  
Madison, Wisconsin 53706