



Friends news : University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries. Volume 3, Issue 1 Summer 2005

Madison, Wisconsin: Friends of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries, Summer 2005

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Collections

Resources, technologies, partnerships mark Digital Collections Center milestone

by Vicki Tobias,
Digital Services Librarian

Discreetly tucked away on the fourth floor of Memorial Library, the UW Digital Collections Center (UWDCC) is bustling with activity, as the staff prepares to digitize their milestone one-millionth page later this year. Momentum and enthusiasm for this accomplishment are building, as evidenced by the proliferation of new digital resources, technologies, and project partnerships created during the first half of this year.

Highlighted resources

In collaboration with UW-Oshkosh and the Wisconsin Historical Society, Wisconsin Goes to War: Our Civil War Experience presents letters, diary entries, journals, and other correspondence by Wisconsin soldiers and citizens, and conveys their unique Civil War experiences. Additional materials from this collection, including Civil War-era poems, musical compositions, and recollections by Wisconsin women, will be available throughout 2005.

The Home Front: Manitowoc County in WWII presents photographs, oral histories, published sources, artifacts, and other resources which document the county's home-front and wartime experiences from 1939-1947. The first addition to this new resource is *The Sojourner*—a monthly newsletter published from 1942-1945 in Two Rivers, Wisconsin. Created by a group of young women from Two Rivers who

(continued on page three)



Adams, Wisconsin: July 4th taken by the Taylor Brothers circa 1910-1930. This photo is part of the State of Wisconsin Collection in UW Digital Collections, digitized materials from a variety of formats including books, manuscripts, sound recordings, photographs, maps, and other resources considered important in the study and teaching about Wisconsin.



Assembling rocket motor carrying boxes at Aluminum Goods Manufacturing Company from *The Home Front: Manitowoc County in World War II*, part of the UW Digital Collections. The digital collection contains photographic images, oral histories, published sources and documents, artifacts, and other resources which help to document and explain the history of Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, during the period from 1939-1947.

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Board of Regents

From the president

The community of bibliophiles

Around the university we see personal libraries large and small—in offices, laboratories, and sometimes in study rooms. Most professors and students establish and maintain a working library of their own, independent of university library resources. Supplemented by online information sources, these private libraries can provide a highly specialized reference base for instruction and research.

Most such libraries are formed by persons who would vigorously deny themselves to be book collectors and would point to the information within a volume as the sole determinant of its personal value and the reason for continued presence on the shelves. However, some among these book owners will take particular pleasure in the possession of a book, not solely because of its content, but also in consideration of its historical context, association with an individual (author or previous owner), or its beauty as an object. Such pleasure taken is highly likely to induce an effort to add other volumes, themselves also pleasurable; thus is a collection begun and a collector born.



The Friends of the UW–Madison Libraries have been challenged by Director Ken Frazier to identify regional book collectors and, where possible, to foster increased intercourse within the community of bibliophiles. To that end, the

Friends will form a committee to begin that process and progress will be announced in our newsletter. We hope that all readers of the newsletter will help with the identification of collectors and collections in our midst.

As part of this challenge, we wish particularly to identify collectors and collections among students, with the objective, among others, of bringing them into contact with the larger bibliophilic community, including, importantly, the UW–Madison Libraries staff. A “Collectors’ Choice” exhibit at Memorial Library is being considered as an incentive for young book collectors to make themselves known.

Now if we could only come up with a precise definition of “book collector.”

William G. Reeder

Acquisitions/Gifts

Family of first engineering dean donates historical books to library

Descendants of the first dean of the College of Engineering, John Butler Johnson, have donated nineteenth- and early twentieth-century books to UW–Madison’s Wendt Library of Engineering. Edward Daub, emeritus professor in the School of Engineering, worked with the family to facilitate the gift.

Two of the books are signed copies from Johnson’s personal collection. The titles are *A Practical Treatise on Foundations, Explaining Fully the Principals Involved* (1893) and *Elements of Precise Surveying and Geodesy* (1899). The materials are currently in Wendt Library Special Collections. Johnson served as dean from 1899–1902.

Milestone *(continued from page one)*

called themselves the “Civic Understudies,” *The Sojourner* reported local, home-front activities, and monitored overseas postings and war-front experiences of Manitowoc County servicemen and women.

Technology enhancements

JPEG2000, a new image format, markedly improves use of large digital images through enhanced zoom and rotate tools. Plat maps in the Wisconsin Public Land Survey Records are presented using this format. Created between 1833 and 1866, these maps provide valuable original land survey information and help document Wisconsin’s vast landscape history. Blueprints, drawings, and maps from the Kennecott Flambeau Mine Process Documents are also available as JPEG2000 images.

The “gallery view” display format allows for a quick review of books that contain illustrative material. This technology is currently available for electronic texts included in the Digital

Library for Decorative Arts and Material Culture and the Arts Collection.

Collegial collaboration

In early 2005, seven Wisconsin public libraries received Library Services and Technology Act grants to create digital resources in cooperation with the UWDC. This spring, the Appleton Public Library and the UWDC completed the first of these projects, Appleton Plat Books, which presents late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Outagamie County atlases and maps. The remaining six projects also feature local history materials—including county and city directories and histories, and image collections—and will be available throughout the year as part of the State of Wisconsin Collection.

One-millionth page mystery

As work continues to create new digital resources, the identity of the landmark “one-millionth page” remains unknown. Will it be a Wisconsin Civil War

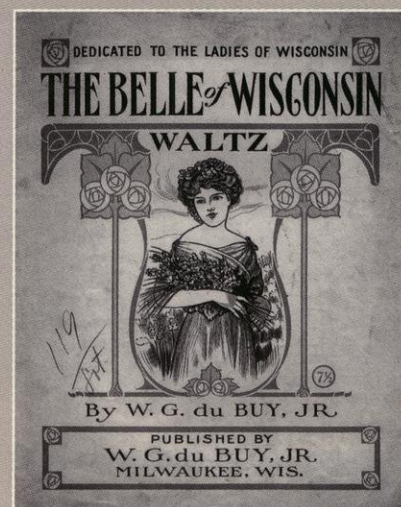
widow’s memoir? A nineteenth-century geological survey of Wisconsin? Documents revealing the history of Wisconsin lumbermen? For access to all UWDC collections, including the forthcoming milestone page, visit <http://uwdc.library.wisc.edu>.

UWDC Americana Collection

In partnership with Mills Music Library and funded through a Friends of the UW–Madison Libraries grant, the UWDC digitized sheet music from the Mills Music Library’s Wisconsin Sheet Music and Americana collections. The Americana Collection contains sheet music published in North America prior to 1900. The Wisconsin Sheet Music Collection contains music dating from 1850 to the present, written by Wisconsin composers, published by Wisconsin publishers, or whose subject matter is Wisconsin.



The shipwrecked America from the UW Digital Collections Great Lakes Maritime Collection. The Milwaukee Public Library houses the Great Lakes Marine Collection, which contains more than 7,000 files on ships that sailed since 1679 and some that sail on the Great Lakes today.



Belle of Wisconsin, a self-published composition by W.G. du Buy, Jr., from 1890. The image is part of the Wisconsin Sheet Music Collection. The original is housed in the Mills Music Library Special Collections.

A long record of service

After many decades of collective service, five members of the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries board of directors are retiring. Each, in an individual way, contributed to the deliberations and activities of the Friends over the period of their respective tenures. The majority of the specific activities and accomplishments of the Friends have been organized and managed by the several committees which meet as needed during the course of the year. Each of the retirees participated in several of these active committees each year.

In addition to the nine board meetings, the total time dedicated to the Friends by an active board member is very substantial. Most of the retirees had been president of the board at one time and thus guided the activities of the office and the direction of the organization. Rarely are the board members adequately recognized for their time and dedication, but we wish here to acknowledge and extend highest appreciation to these individuals.



Trudy Barash has provided important guidance for Friends activities based upon her many years' experience as an

independent bookseller and friend of authors. Her connection with that most important segment of the book-producing and book-using community was influential in organizing the programming for Friends lectures and other events.



Anne Lambert, curator of education at the Chazen (formerly Elvehjem)

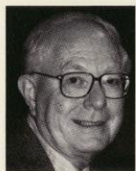
Museum of Art, served as a liaison between the Friends and the museum staff. Her experience serving the public, Madison and the university community created ways in

which the Friends and the UW-Madison Libraries could better accommodate the needs of the public.



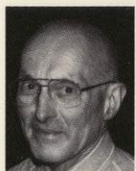
Ann Nelson, for more than two decades, represented the reading public. As a former teacher and major donor of

important books to the library, she provided an example of public service in planning and execution of public events and her very active participation in the book sales.



Ellsworth Snyder was a tireless advocate of service to the young people of Madison and the university. As a former professor, he

was especially in tune with the needs and desires of students and was most influential in attempts of the Friends to serve student needs. His organization of musical events for the Friends was most appreciated by all.



John Toussaint has served as a tireless volunteer in Special Collections, maintaining two of the specialized catalogs over a

period of approximately twenty years. For the Friends, he organized the semiannual book sales which have provided the major source of income in recent years. His care and accuracy in keeping the board's records provided an archive of very high standards.

It is difficult to attempt to summarize years of activities, deliberation, and concern in short paragraphs. Suffice it to say that the membership and the present board of the Friends will miss our colleagues very much, but we shall continue to call upon their experience and wisdom from time to time.

William G. Reeder, president of the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries

In honor of service

In honor of recent retirees from the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries board of directors, board members, other Friends, and the UW-Madison Libraries have jointly purchased two unique sets of materials to commemorate the longstanding service these individuals have contributed to the Friends as well as the libraries.

The first, *L'Esprit de la lettre* by Denise Lapointe, is a set of twenty-six beautifully handcrafted pamphlets, one for each letter of the alphabet, each typographically experimenting with the relationship between typeface, spacing, font size, and the shape of the page. This limited edition set will be housed in the Memorial Library Department of Special Collections.

The second is a facsimile of the full manuscript score of Puccini's *Tosca* in a three-volume, 528-page set. The set is printed in four colors and is cloth bound with a leather back and gold ornamentation. It features several essays in English and Italian. The volumes were published by Casa Ricordi Historical Archives and will be housed in Mills Music Library.



L'Esprit de la lettre by Denise Lapointe. One of two gifts purchased for the library in honor of retirees from the Friends board of directors.

Volunteer profile

Jim Dast

Those who have witnessed a Friends of the UW–Madison Libraries semiannual used book sale know that it is a highly efficient event, from the processing of books months in advance to the moment the doors are opened and buyers descend on the tables of books in room 116 Memorial Library.

Much of this efficiency can be traced back to the volunteer efforts of Jim Dast, a senior academic librarian emeritus at the UW–Madison, who succeeds John Touissant as chief organizer of the sale.

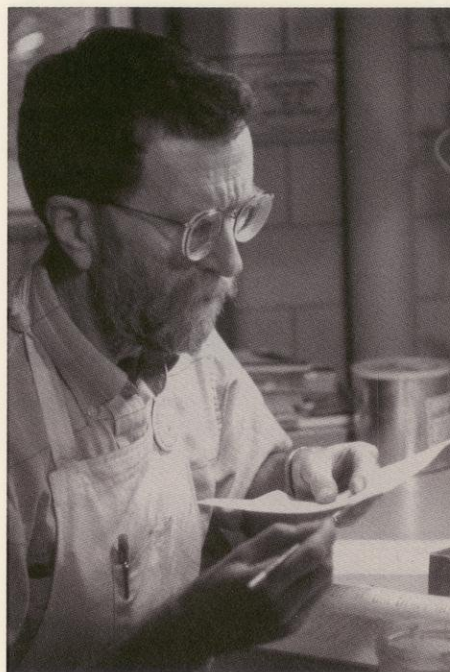
Dast began volunteering for the libraries in the mid-1990s, when Friends book sales were monthly events. Dast would unpack and shelve books during his lunch hour and afternoon break at Memorial Library.

As the sale began to take its present, semiannual shape under the direction of Touissant, and thus attract more serious book buyers from around the country, it became clear the materials would need to be sorted and organized as part of an ongoing process, an opportunity Dast felt he would enjoy.

"I began to volunteer because it meant I could unpack boxes of books, which I have always enjoyed, hoping to find a treasure. Rarely finding one, but always hoping," Dast said.

Although he rarely found that coveted treasure, the experience also provided Dast with a repository of books he could read at his leisure. "More frequently, I would find something I wanted to read, read it, and then put it back into the sale."

Dast has since assumed responsibility of the entire sale, including sorting, organizing other volunteers, and maintenance of the sales accounts. All told, Dast now dedicates roughly 500 hours each year to help raise money for



Volunteer Jim Dast in Memorial Library's Conservation Laboratory.

the Friends through these sales.

"I enjoy the challenge the Friends book sale offers me and I like the social interactions with other volunteers and library staffers in the course of my work," Dast said.

It appears patrons of the sale are enjoying Dast's efforts as well. Book buyers paid nearly \$20,000 for the books Dast spent months organizing and sorting; money that will be spent supporting Friends programs like Grants to Libraries, Grants-in-Aid for visiting scholars, and regular lectures by scholars and specialists in book-related fields.

It does not appear Dast will be slowing down any time soon. "I like being in libraries and having books all around me, and I am sure I always will," he said. "The work the Friends do is important and I am pleased to have a significant role in it."

Friends sponsor two students at Rare Book School

Two UW–Madison graduate students from the School of Library and Information Studies (SLIS) received funding from the Friends and the General Library System to attend the week-long Rare Book School this summer at the University of Virginia.

Ann Myers, a student in the history department as well as SLIS, has an interest in special collections, rare books, and archives. She currently serves as a student assistant in the Department of Special Collections.

Deirdre Joyce has received her graduate degree in history and is currently enrolled in a dual-track program at SLIS in library studies and archives administration.

At Rare Book School, both will be taking "Introduction to Descriptive Bibliography," a demanding course devoted to the physical examination and description of printed books, especially those printed between 1550 and 1875.

The Rare Book School at the University of Virginia is an independent institute founded in 1983 that provides about forty, five-day courses per year on topics concerning old and rare books, manuscripts, and special collections, with prominent faculty drawn from a number of institutions.

Map Library provides window to the past as it looks toward a digital future

by Gabriel Miller, Library Communications

The science of mapping is rooted, in some sense, in our ability to extrapolate an image into an experience. And as maps have gotten more expansive and more detailed, the bridge between the image and the experience has become easier to cross.

For the last sixty-five years the UW-Madison Arthur H. Robinson Map Library has paralleled this growth, expanding from a small collection of WWII-era flat maps into a complex collection of maps, reference materials, and aerial photography that includes the latest technology in computer-based mapping. Currently, the library holds more than a half-million items, making it the second largest collection of maps in the state (after the American Geographical Society library at UW-Milwaukee) and an invaluable source of information for students, faculty, engineering and environmental consulting firms, the general public, and government agencies.

The early history of the Robinson Map Library is deeply intertwined with the life of Robinson himself. Before coming to UW-Madison, Robinson worked during World War II as chief of the map division of the Office of Strategic Services, the precursor of the CIA. After arriving at UW-Madison in 1945, Robinson donated these maps to the university, formally creating the first official map collection at the UW, a collection that would grow with donations from other faculty members. Robinson would become the Map Library's namesake in 1982.

A division of the UW Department of Geography, the Robinson Map Library continued to grow over the next three



A facsimile of *Recen, Et Integra Orbis Descriptio* by cartographer Oronce Fine, 1536.

and a half decades, acquiring flat maps, aerial photographs, DNR photography, and historical photos of Wisconsin.

One of the most significant recent projects the map library has contributed to is an ongoing effort by the state's Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection to locate pre-1950 apple or cherry orchards where lead arsenate pesticides may have been used. This research will ultimately be used to create a Web site that residents may use to check on potential contamination that may exist on their property.

Recently the library has begun transitioning to digital geospatial data. This mapping and analysis technology extrapolates computer data to create highly accessible digital maps, maps that help bridge the gap between the real and perceived expanse of our world.

But according to Jaime Martindale, head librarian at the Map Library, the more traditional maps remain an integral part of understanding the library, and the science of mapping itself. "Oftentimes it is either the new mapping technologies or the paper map collection that initially draws people to the library," she said. "But it's the presence of both the new mapping technologies and the paper map collection, available together in one location, that makes this a special place."

Friends book sale update

The Friends held their spring used book sale March 2-5 in Memorial Library, raising nearly \$20,000 to support Friends programming, including grants to UW-Madison libraries, grants to visiting scholars, and the Friends fall and spring lecture events. Nearly 15,000 books were sold.

The Friends are currently accepting donations for the fall 2005 book sale, which will be held Wednesday through Saturday, Oct. 12-15, and coincides with the annual Wisconsin Book Festival. The fall sale is the tenth anniversary of the semiannual event.

Donations may be placed in the Open Return book drops located in most UW-Madison Libraries. Materials may also be dropped off at the Lake Street loading dock of Memorial Library weekdays, 7 a.m.-3 p.m. For larger collections, contact the Friends for help with packing and transportation.

The semiannual sales held every spring and fall are billed as Wisconsin's largest used book sales, events which have raised nearly \$350,000 to support the UW-Madison Libraries. The spring 2006 sale will be March 22-25.

For more information, contact the Friends, (608) 265-2505; <http://giving.library.wisc.edu/friends/book-sales.shtml>.



Three Grants-in-Aid scholars brought to campus this summer

This summer the UW–Madison Libraries host three visiting scholars in the humanities as part of the Friends Grants-in-Aid program. The Friends award a small number of grants each year designed to provide access to collections for scholars who live beyond commuting distance. The grants, each one month in duration, foster awareness of the diverse resources of the UW–Madison Libraries and generate increased scholarly use of specialized research collections.

Barbara Emrys, an associate professor and chair of the English department at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, will be in residence during June and July researching rare, out-of-print materials for a work titled “A New Assessment of the Novels, Short Stories and Other Writings by Vera Caspary.”

Silvia Maria Mantini, a researcher with the history department at l’Università degli Studi dell’Aquila in Italy, will be researching the Spanish kingdom of Naples between the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries during her residence at the UW–Madison Libraries in July and August. The research is for a work titled “Society and Culture in Seventeenth-Century Spanish Italy: The City of l’Aquila and the Historiography of the Kingdom of Naples.”

Elena Boonora, associate professor in history at the University of Parma in Italy, will be arriving August 1 to continue her research into the Papal politics of the sixteenth century.

Grants to libraries awarded

The Friends board of directors recently awarded twenty-one grants to campus libraries for materials or projects not covered by existing budgets. Typically the grants support the acquisition of new materials or the preservation of existing collections.

This year the Friends awarded grants totaling over \$19,500 for projects as diverse as the acquisition of Native American language publications and the conservation of the Meggendorfer moveable books material in Memorial Library’s Special Collections.

This year grants were provided to the following libraries or selectors for library departments: American Indian Studies, Astronomy Laboratory, UW Archives, Art Library, Biology Library, European History, European Humanities, Map Library, Law Library, Micro-imaging Laboratory, School of Library and Information Studies Laboratory Library, Letters and Sciences Learning Support Services, Music Library, Plant Pathology Library, Preservation Laboratory, Memorial Library Reference Department, Silver Buckle Press, Special Collections, Social Sciences, Water Resources Library, and Women’s Studies.

Coming this fall...

On Thursday, September 15, Martha Glowacki, currently a co-director of the James Watrous Gallery of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, will deliver a lecture titled “Narratives and Visions: Using Treasures from the University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries to Shape the Exhibition *Starry Transit*.” Glowacki will discuss the exhibition and research conducted in Memorial Library’s Department of Special Collections.

On Thursday, September 22, FELIX: A Series of New Writing features Linh Dinh and William Waltz. Linh Dinh, whose work has appeared in *Best American Poetry*, *American Poetry Review*, and *Sulfur*, will discuss writing and publishing in contemporary Vietnam as well his experience living and writing in Certaldo, Italy, as a guest of Cities of Asylum Network of the International Parliament of Writers. Waltz is the founder and editor of the journal *Conduit*. His first book, *Zoo Music*, was selected by Dean Young as the winner of the Second Annual Slope Editions Book Prize.

From Wednesday, October 12–Saturday, October 15, the Friends will host their semiannual used book sale

featuring more than 15,000 books ranging from literature and history to reference books and the sciences.

On Thursday, October 20, FELIX: A Series of New Writing features Matvei Yankelevich and Anna Moschovakis, editors of The Ugly Duckling Press, a press which specializes in translations and publishes chapbooks, broadsides, and the journal *6X6*. Yankelevich and Moschovakis will read from their poetry as well as discuss the challenges and rewards as editors of The Ugly Duckling Press.

On Thursday, November 17, Paul Collins will discuss his most recent book, *The Trouble With Tom: The Strange Afterlife and Times of Thomas Paine*, which details an eccentric quest for the bones of one of America’s founding fathers, whose remains were stolen by an admirer in 1819. Collins has published several nonfiction books and is the editor of The Collins Library, an imprint of McSweeney’s Books.

Times, locations, and more details will be published in our fall newsletter. For current, updated information please visit giving.library.wisc.edu.

*Preservation***Encouraging preservation awareness in children**

by Andrea Rolich, Collection
Preservation Librarian

Anyone with an opportunity to observe young children interacting with books knows that proper handling is not necessarily a natural tendency. However, preservation education may begin at a very early age and continue until children become careful and responsible users of books.

To keep books in good condition, designate a shelf where children can neatly store their own books in an upright or flat position. Provide a separate shelf for library books and have the young borrowers practice counting them, so that they know exactly how many must be returned. Children can learn to use a calendar by finding and noting the due date.

Stress that large or heavy books must be given special treatment. To prevent injury to both books and kids, encourage them to ask for help in transferring heavy volumes to a table where they can be

opened
with
proper
support
and used

easily. Large-format or oddly shaped books and those with special features (e.g., pop-up pages) might be tied shut with brightly colored, heavy-gauge yarn after use, both to prevent inadvertent damage and to remind youngsters that these books need careful handling.

Children can be shown how to turn pages—not by lifting with their thumbs from the lower edge of the page near the binding (which is more likely to result in tearing), but by carefully lifting the lower right corner or fore-edge of each page, then using the palm of the hand to help turn the page. Combine practice in turning pages with other skills that youngsters must master to succeed in school. If a child flips rapidly and inattentively through a book, ask the child to look through again, perhaps to find a particular picture. This encourages



proper handling, attention to content, and practice in focusing on a task.

For books that cannot be read in one sitting, help discourage such habits as placing books face down, turning down corners, or using pencils or other bulky items to hold the place by having attractive bookmarks available. A flat piece of paper is the safest type of marker. Clip-on bookmarks are very popular, but should be avoided; they often have sharp metal or bulky plastic edges that can easily damage paper.

When transporting books between library and home, minimize exposure to the elements and other potential hazards by keeping books in backpacks or plastic bags.

When begun at an early age, good book-handling habits become second nature.

Friends news

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