

Spring 2008

Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter - Spring 2008

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The Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter

SPRING 2008

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COLUMBIA, SC

THOMAS COOPER MEDAL PRESENTED TO WIDOW OF NORMAN MAILER



Norris Church Mailer (center) is shown with the Thomas Cooper Medal for Distinction in the Arts and Sciences which she accepted in the name of her late husband, noted American author Norman Mailer. Interim Dean of Libraries Tom McNally and Thomas Cooper Society President Judith Felix presented the medal to Mrs. Mailer at her Brooklyn, N.Y., home on Feb. 27.

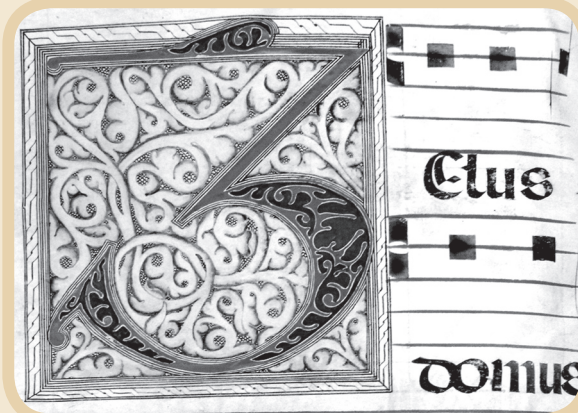
In recognition of Mailer's lifetime literary achievement, the society's Board of Directors had voted to present the medal to Mailer at a speaking engagement on campus last fall. The author's ill health prevented his being able to travel, and he passed away on Nov. 10, 2007.

Other noted recipients of the medal include Pat Conroy, Joseph Heller, James Dickey, John Updike, William Styron, Ray Bradbury, George Plimpton, John Jakes, Derek Walcott, Joyce Carol Oates, and Edward Albee.

MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS FROM ACROSS THE STATE EXHIBITED AT THOMAS COOPER LIBRARY

More than 150 historians, professors, librarians, students, artists, and musicians from across S.C. gathered at Thomas Cooper Library on Jan. 17 for the opening of an exhibit of illuminated manuscripts titled "Pages from the Past: A Legacy of Medieval Books in South Carolina Collections."

The exhibit featured rare and unique manuscripts from the University of South Carolina, Bob Jones



Medieval, continued on page 2

Medieval, continued from page 1

University Museum and Gallery, Wofford College, Furman University, Columbia College, the College of Charleston, and the Charleston Library Society.

Included in the exhibit were more than 90 books and manuscript leaves, ranging from small prayer books and pocket Bibles to lavishly decorated images from massive choir books which date from 1125 to 1600.

The University of South Carolina owns the state's largest collection of medieval manuscripts, many of which are illuminated in gold and silver and feature elaborate details and decoration, such as capital letters in brilliant colors, borders with flowery tendrils, miniature illustrations, and human figures.

"... BOTH LUXURIOUS AND UTILITARIAN"

According to Dr. Scott Gwara, University professor of medieval studies and curator of the exhibit, "The manuscripts are as aesthetically beautiful as they are historically significant and are considered both luxurious and utilitarian. These manuscripts are more than books. They are manuscripts, written and illuminated in great detail with pictures some centuries before the age of printing. South Carolina has a wonderful constellation of leaves of the Bible and medieval music, written in Latin and representing different uses for medieval books."

The exhibit is the result of Gwara's effort to collect, analyze, catalog, and digitally publish the medieval manuscripts and fragments in the state's collections and make them available for the public for the first time. The collection may be viewed online at <http://scmanuscripts.org> and www.pagesfromthepast.org.

Gwara's medieval manuscript census project was funded by the Humanities Council of South Carolina, which also provided funds for a full-color exhibit catalog.



Antiphonal, Spain, ca. 1500, from Columbia College. The letter "Q" is depicted over Christ's shroud showing his four nail wounds and his pierced side.



A depiction of the coronation of the Virgin, Southern Germany, ca. 1480, from the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections

"A SPLENDID EXHIBITION"

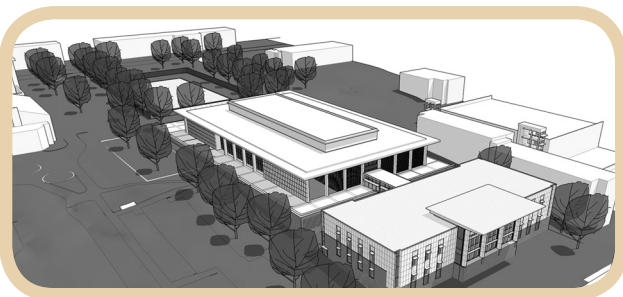
Dr. Consuelo Dutschke, curator of medieval manuscripts at Columbia University and director of the Digital Scriptorium, a database of medieval and renaissance manuscripts, said the exhibition and Web site will add to scholars' knowledge and understanding of medieval culture.

"Hand-produced items are, by definition, unique unto themselves, and yet their richness increases by standing in a community of like materials," said Dutschke, who plans to collaborate with Gwara through the Digital Scriptorium. "Professor Gwara has brought an otherwise unknown body of manuscripts to the world's awareness and has thus added that one piece more to our shared knowledge of every author, text, scribe, artist, place, and date of production that is represented in this splendid exhibition."

NOTABLE ITEMS

Among the jewels on display is the first medieval manuscript acquired by a library in South Carolina, an Italian Humanist manuscript of Horace (circa 1475) from the Charleston Library Society's collections. Other highlighted items include a Cistercian sermon manual written in 1269 and acquired by the University of South Carolina last summer as a gift from the Breslauer Foundation, a fragment of French polyphony from Columbia College's collection, which is one of only two such musical fragments in the Southeast, and two massive illuminated choir books (circa 1500) from Bob Jones University and Wofford College.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ADDITION TO THOMAS COOPER LIBRARY



Architect's drawing of University's new special collections library

The Thomas Cooper Library expansion plan has been revised from the construction of two wings on the east and west sides of the library to a single addition south of the library.

According to Interim Dean of Libraries Tom McNally, "This change achieved needed economies and produced a more efficient building through shared spaces.

"The University hired a construction management firm to undertake the project and to work in collaboration with the architects. This team came together in fall 2007 to produce detailed drawings for the revised building. The resulting drawings incorporated features from the initial plan and added a shared reading room and a shared major events area.

"The addition will provide attractive space for departmental activities, such as exhibits, teaching, public programs, and digital projects. Also included will be expanded and up-to-date study space for researchers, enhanced environmental conditions and security for both people and collections, and upgraded stack space to ensure the long-term availability of the collections.

"In spite of the change in design, the projected timetable date remains close to the original with completion by fall 2009."

RARE ROBERT BURNS MANUSCRIPTS ADDED TO THE ROY COLLECTION AT THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

At a ceremony on Jan. 25, Robert Burns' 249th birthday, Dr. and Mrs. G. Ross Roy formally handed over to Thomas Cooper Library their collection of rare manuscript materials relating to the Scottish poet.

In addition to about 20 manuscripts in Burns' own hand, the collection included a cameo and a statue of Burns as well as other Scottish items. The items join the library's G. Ross Roy Collection of Robert Burns, Burnsiana & Scottish Poetry, the largest collection of Scottish

poetry outside Scotland, which Dr. Roy transferred to the University in 1989. The new items, with a gift value appraised at more than \$150,000, will be displayed at the Thomas Cooper Library in an exhibit celebrating the 250th anniversary of Burns' birth in April 2009.

Especially noteworthy is a 1787 copy of the Burns Edinburgh edition of *Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect*, annotated by Burns for his friend Robert Ainslie, which contains Ainslie's ownership signature, an autograph letter from Burns to Ainslie dated October 11, 1788, and a portion of another letter from Burns dated October 18, 1788.

Another item is a signed letter from Burns to "Clarinda," Agnes M'Lehose, written in early 1787. The letter is part of the correspondence between the two using the names of "Sylvander" and "Clarinda,"

perhaps as a literary device or game, but perhaps also to disguise their identities.

A unique item in the new collection is Burns' wooden porridge bowl, which was displayed at the Glasgow Burns Centenary Exhibition in 1896.

Dr. Roy, an internationally recognized Burns scholar, is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English and Comparative Literature at the University of South Carolina. He earned doctorates from the University of Montreal and the Sorbonne and holds an honorary doctorate from the University of Edinburgh. He began collecting Robert Burns materials more than 50 years ago, building on a small Burns collection he inherited from his grandfather W. Ormiston Roy. The Roy Collection now comprises nearly 12,000 items on all periods of Scottish poetry, with more than 5,000 items by or about Burns himself. The collection regularly attracts scholars and researchers from around the world.

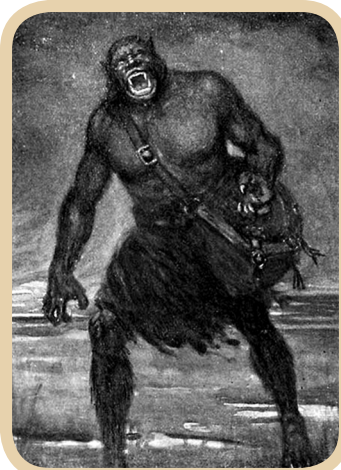


Robert Burns' porridge bowl

BEOWULF STORY INSPIRES EXHIBIT AT THOMAS COOPER LIBRARY



Beowulf depicted by William Ellery Leonard in a 1952 edition of the story



An image of Grendel from Henrietta Elizabeth Marshall's *Stories of Beowulf Told to the Children* (1908)

“Heroicons: Fantasy Illustrations of Beowulf and the Monsters” was the subject of an exhibit presented at Thomas Cooper Library last fall in connection with the opening of Robert Zemeckis’ film *Beowulf*. The exhibit was curated by Dr. Scott Gwara, professor of English. It explored images of Beowulf, Grendel, Grendel’s mother, and the dragon in works dating from 1884.

“People don’t often realize that images of Beowulf and the monsters existed at least a century before any movie version,” Gwara said. “Artists have been trying to imagine the world of this ancient epic for some time.” *Beowulf* was composed around 750 AD, somewhere in England. The work describes Beowulf’s fights with ogres and a dragon. “Grendel is obviously an ogre, but there’s something supernatural about him, too. He’s a curious hybrid: he is called a fiend from hell, so he’s part demon, but he also resembles a man. Illustrators really struggle with Grendel’s appearance.”

The exhibition depicted the mid-20th-century change from representational to impressionistic images. Major artists commissioned to illustrate editions of *Beowulf*, including Rockwell Kent and Leonard Baskin, were represented in the exhibit. Genres on display included fine press books, children’s books, academic translations, and comic books. “The comics are very creative,” Gwara observed. “The monsters of *Beowulf* already give it a touch of comic-book unreality, so the adaptation to the comic genre seems natural.” The exhibition also included ephemera such as games, coloring books, cards, and posters.

BRITISH AUTHOR PRESENTS LECTURE ON GIUSEPPE GARIBALDI

A lecture by Dr. Lucy Riall from the University of London marked the opening on April 3 of an exhibit featuring the University’s rich collection of materials about Giuseppe Garibaldi. Riall’s talk was titled “Garibaldi: The First Global Hero.” The exhibit, which will be on display in the Mezzanine Gallery of Thomas Cooper Library until June 30, is titled “Garibaldi in His Time: An Exhibit from the Anthony P. Campanella Collection.”

Riall is the author of *Garibaldi: Invention of a Hero*, which was published in 2007.

The Anthony P. Campanella Collection was presented to the University in 1997.



Dr. Riall signs a copy of her book about Garibaldi at the exhibit opening.

It is a resource of major significance on Giuseppe Garibaldi (1807–1882), Italian liberator and hero figure of 19th-century liberal nationalism, and on the Risorgimento, the 1860 reunification of Italy.

Dr. Campanella, who died in 2002, was the author and editor of numerous publications relating to Garibaldi. His magnum opus, the 1971 two-volume biography of Garibaldi, is a cornerstone of Garibaldian studies.

MICHAEL AND CAROL SMITH ENDOW EUROPEAN HISTORY LIBRARY FUND

Thomas Cooper Library's collection of materials about European history will be greatly enhanced through an endowment fund recently established as a bequest by Michael and Carol Smith. Michael has been a professor of European history at the University for many years, and Carol retired from her position as public information director at the University's School of Medicine.

Proceeds from the Michael S. Smith and Carol A. Smith European History Library Endowment Fund will be used to acquire materials related to the history of modern Europe (post 1500), including materials in European languages. Materials will be collected in traditional formats, such as books and serials, as well as microforms, DVDs, and other electronic formats. Input about selection decisions will be provided by the donors and members of the European history faculty.



Michael and Carol Smith

IN MEMORIAM



JOHN NEWMAN OLSGAARD

University Libraries faculty and staff were saddened at the passing of John Olsgaard on Dec. 7. Olsgaard was a long-time friend and supporter of the libraries, serving as acting dean of libraries from November 2001 through

June 2002. Olsgaard received a Ph.D. in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign in 1984. He became a faculty member in the School of Library and Information Science and served in a number of faculty and administrative capacities at the University, including 15 years as associate provost.

ROBERT D. THORNTON

Robert D. Thornton (1917–2006) was the donor of one of the most important works in the University's G. Ross Roy Collection of Robert Burns, Burnsiana, and Scottish Literature.

A gifted singer, Thornton specialized in Burns and Scottish song. He transcribed and edited *The Tuneful Flame: Songs of Robert Burns* (1957), as he sang them. This was followed by a book about the first editor of Burns titled *James Currie: The Entire Stranger and Robert Burns* (1963). Thornton gave his copy (one of only two in existence) of a 891-page typescript titled "James Currie's Robert Burns: A Publishing History of the First Edition 1797–1800" to the Roy Collection. Thornton was a consultant for the first two volumes of Serge Hovey's *Robert Burns Song Book*, edited by Esther Hovey. He was also a

skillful bookbinder, and there are examples of his work in the Roy Collection.

Thornton held a doctorate from Harvard University and taught at Carolina from 1957 to 1960.



KENNETH ELDRIDGE TOOMBS

Kenneth Eldridge Toombs, who was director of libraries at the University of South Carolina from 1967 to 1988, died March 4 in Columbia after a long illness.

A native of Virginia, Toombs served in the U.S. Army in World War II and the Korean War. He was a graduate of Tennessee Wesleyan College and Tennessee Polytechnic Institute. He also earned a master's degree in history from the University of Virginia and a master's degree in library science from Rutgers University. He began his library career at Louisiana State University in 1956 and later became director of libraries at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Much progress was made in the University of South Carolina library system during Toombs' tenure, including the addition of the millionth volume and the building of the Thomas Cooper and Law Libraries. Toombs co-founded the Southeastern Library Network, was listed in *Who's Who in Library Science* and *Who's Who in America*, and received the Rothrock Award, the highest honor of the Southeastern Library Association, for his contribution to the Solinet System. He was known nationally as an academic library building consultant.

EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS FOUR HUNDRED YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC PUBLISHING

An exhibit titled “Scholarly Communication in the Sciences, From Tycho Brahe to the CDC” was on display in Thomas Cooper Library from January through March.

The exhibit showed the ways in which scientists have used print culture to document their activities, disseminate information, and share discoveries. A major focus of the exhibit was on the increasing professionalization of science in the West leading to the Enlightenment.

The exhibit displayed materials related to the early modern Danish astronomer Tycho Brahe, who set up a printing press on his estate to publish the record of his astronomical observations, thus influencing Kepler and generations of later astronomers.



Illustration from Jerome of Brunswick's *Vertuose Boke of Distyllacyon* (London, 1527)

Other highlights of the exhibit included the Diderot/d'Alembert *Encyclopédie*, the great product of the French Enlightenment; papers documenting Charles Babbage's Calculating Engine, the 19th-century precursor to the computer; surgical advances from the Civil War and First World War; Einstein's first publications on special relativity; articles by Watson and Crick announcing the DNA double helix; Alan Turing on artificial intelligence; and recent documents from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from the library's new AIDS and Its Impact Collection.

TWO FITZGERALD EXHIBITS MOUNTED AT THOMAS COOPER LIBRARY

“Fitzgerald and Hollywood” and “Scottie Fitzgerald: The Stewardship of Literary Memory” were on display simultaneously at the Thomas Cooper Library last fall. Remarks at the exhibit opening were presented by Judith Felix, president of the Thomas Cooper Society, and by Professor Matthew J. Bruccoli.

Remarking on both exhibits, Felix said, “The best writing reflects and preserves the time in which it is written and as that time passes, the best writing becomes enshrined as great literature. But with the passage of time, materials and manuscripts which provide insight into an author's life are often lost.

“Few writers are as fortunate as F. Scott Fitzgerald to have a biographer and archivist with the drive and determination of Dr. Matthew Bruccoli. His early recognition of Fitzgerald's literary stature, his friendship with Scottie Fitzgerald, and his instincts for preservation have succeeded in assembling an unmatched collection for one of the greatest 20th-century American writers.

“The Thomas Cooper Library at the University of South Carolina is the fortunate repository of this remarkable collection and we are all truly grateful to Arlyn and Matthew Bruccoli for enriching our appreciation for and understanding of F. Scott Fitzgerald.”

“FITZGERALD AND HOLLYWOOD”

“Fitzgerald and Hollywood” featured materials from the Matthew J. and Arlyn Bruccoli Collection of F. Scott



Publicity poster for *Three Comrades*, a film for which Fitzgerald wrote the screenplay (Matthew J. and Arlyn Bruccoli Collection of F. Scott Fitzgerald)

Fitzgerald, as well as from the Warner Bros./Turner Entertainment F. Scott Fitzgerald Screenplay Archive. It was curated by Patrick Scott.

Throughout his career, F. Scott Fitzgerald (1896–1940) was involved with movies and the motion picture industry. The exhibition charted this professional involvement. Topics included Fitzgerald's early responses to the movie phenomenon, his experience with the movie industry, his treatment of movies in his fiction in the 1920s and 1930s, his major screenwriting work in 1937–1939, the posthumous publication of his final novel, and the role of movies in the Fitzgerald revival after World War II. The focus of the exhibition was

Fitzgerald, continued from page 6

on Fitzgerald as writer and screenwriter, rather than on Hollywood itself or celebrity culture between the two world wars.

Further information about the Fitzgerald Collection is available at www.sc.edu/fitzgerald and at www.sc.edu/library/spcoll/fitzgerald/intro.html. An illustrated introductory guide to the Fitzgerald Screenplay Archive is available at www.sc.edu/library/spcoll/fitzgerald/screenplays.html.

“SCOTTIE FITZGERALD: THE STEWARDSHIP OF LITERARY MEMORY”

“Scottie Fitzgerald: The Stewardship of Literary Memory,” an exhibition from the Matthew J. and Arlyn Bruccoli Collection of F. Scott Fitzgerald, celebrated the life and literary accomplishments of F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald’s only child. It was curated by Jeffrey Makala and Prof. Bruccoli.

Frances Scott Fitzgerald Smith, a.k.a. “Scottie” (1921–1986), traveled

with her parents throughout Europe in the 1920s, spending most of her early childhood in France.

After graduating from Vassar in 1942, she worked in New York and Washington as a journalist, publishing pieces in *The New York Times*, *the New Yorker*, *The Washington Post*, and other publications. The exhibit looked at Scottie’s life and focused on her role as the steward of the Fitzgerald estate. She made her personal archive available for scholarly research, placed the bulk of Fitzgerald’s papers at Princeton, and later collaborated with scholars, especially Prof. Matthew J. Bruccoli, to publish collections of writings by and about her parents.

The exhibit also highlighted Scottie’s connection with the University of South Carolina, including items of her father’s that came to the University through the Bruccolis’ gifts.



Scottie Fitzgerald in Paris in about 1928 (Matthew J. and Arlyn Bruccoli Collection of F. Scott Fitzgerald)

CAROLINA GUARDIAN SOCIETY MEMBERS HONORED AT LUNCHEON



Members of the Carolina Guardian Society were honored at a luncheon on Feb. 7 at The Zone in Williams-Brice Stadium. Shown at left are members of the society whose legacies benefit the University Libraries: seated, Dr. and Mrs. Stephen H. Ackerman; standing, Dr. William C. Schmidt Jr. At the luncheon, new and longtime members were recognized for including the University or its affiliated foundations in their estate plans.

According to Eleanor Foster Swarat, the University’s director of gift planning, “Carolina’s future is secured by inclusion in wills, life insurance, charitable trusts, charitable gift annuities, and other deferred means. Today, there are 570 members of the Carolina Guardian Society, including 35 anonymous members.

“Planned gifts allow the University Libraries to benefit through the creation and enhancement of acquisition funds, research funds, scholarships, and professorships.”

If you would like more information on including the University Libraries in your estate plans, please call 803-777-4196 or visit www.sc.edu/library/develop/bq.html.

EXHIBITS AT TCL

MEZZANINE GALLERY

April 3–June 30 “Garibaldi in His Time: An Exhibit from the Anthony P. Campanella Collection”

July 1–Sept. 30 “Mapping the World: A Visual History of Cartography”

MAIN LEVEL, WEST GALLERY

April 1–May 30 “Mummies and Egyptology before Tutankamen” (Thomas Cooper Library Student Book Collecting Contest winning entry by John Higgins)

June 1–July 31 “Penmanship and Writing Manuals from the William Savage Textbook Collection”

Aug. 1–Sept. 30 “Kazuo Ishiguro’s *Never Let Me Go*: An Exhibition for the First-Year Reading Experience, 2008”

HOSPITAL RECEIVES THOMAS COOPER MEDAL

The Thomas Cooper Medal for Distinction in the Arts and Sciences was presented to Australian-American author and University professor of English Janette Turner Hospital at the Thomas Cooper Society's annual general meeting on April 17.

Hospital is the author of seven novels and three short story collections. Her latest novel, *Orpheus Lost*, is described on her Web site as "achingly sensual, effortlessly lyrical, powerful and disturbing." Her other works include *The Last Magician*, *Oyster*, *Due Preparations for the Plague*, and *North of Nowhere*, *South of Lost*.

Hospital has taught at universities in Australia, Canada, England, France, and the United States. She currently holds the endowed chair of Carolina Distinguished Professor of English and received the University's Russell Research Award for Humanities and Social Sciences in 2003. Her literary awards include the Queensland Literary Award for fiction and the Patrick White Award for lifetime literary achievement, both in 2003.

Since coming to teach at The University in 1999, Hospital has established and directed a successful town/gown course called *Caught in the Creative Act*, linking the study of contemporary literature to the writers who create it.

The full text of Judith Felix's introductory remarks will appear in the Fall 2008 issue of this newsletter.



Janette Turner Hospital, center, holds the Thomas Cooper Medal presented to her by Tom McNally, interim dean of the University Libraries, and Judith Felix, president of the Thomas Cooper Society.

NATURAL HISTORY EXHIBIT

A new exhibit from Special Collections, "Nauralists in S.C." will be at the Upcountry History Museum in Greenville through Sept. 7. Society members will receive a post card offering reduced admission to the exhibit.

The Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter Spring 2008

The Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter is published twice a year by the society. Correspondence may be sent to the editor at Thomas Cooper Library, Room 417, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, or to nancyhw@gwm.sc.edu.

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NANCY H. WASHINGTON

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