

Fall 2002

Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter - Fall 2002

University Libraries–University of South Carolina

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/tcl_news



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

University of South Carolina, "University of South Carolina Libraries - Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter, Fall 2002". http://scholarcommons.sc.edu/tcl_news/18/.

This Newsletter is brought to you by the University Libraries Publications at Scholar Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter by an authorized administrator of Scholar Commons. For more information, please contact digres@mailbox.sc.edu.

The Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter

FALL 2002

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COLUMBIA, SC

THE THOMAS COOPER SOCIETY EVENTS, 2001-2002

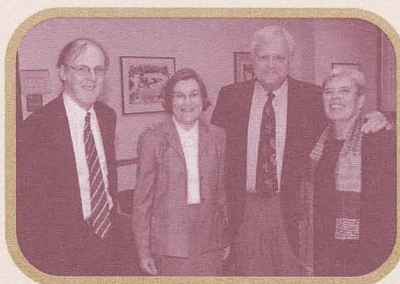
by Betsy G. Miller, president 2001-2002

In the twelfth year of its existence, the Thomas Cooper Society has demonstrated its strength and flexibility in a year of change and transition. The society was saddened by the loss of Dr. George D. Terry, former dean of the libraries and a founding member of the Thomas Cooper Society. Like the nation, we also were affected by the tragic events of September 11. Thanks to the support of a capable library staff, the Thomas Cooper Society continued to function smoothly.

In early August, a reception was held for Dr. Kenneth Simpson of the University of Strathclyde who was the recipient of the W. Ormiston Roy Fellowship for this year. Dr. Simpson, a Robert Burns scholar, was quite complimentary about the extent of the library's Burns collection.

In the same month, the Thomas Cooper Medal for Distinction in the Arts and Sciences was presented to author Ray Bradbury following a video he had made especially for viewing by the incoming freshmen as part of their First Year Reading Experience. The freshmen had read Bradbury's book *Fahrenheit 451* prior to seeing his filmed interview, which was an impressive affirmation of society's need to preserve the written word. The medal was accepted for Bradbury by Anne Hardin whose extensive Bradbury collection was highlighted by a display in the library.

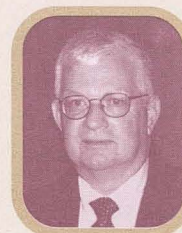
An exhibit of the works of Ernest Hemingway opened in September in conjunction with USC's Hemingway Symposium. These events emphasized the significance of the library's recent acquisition of the Speiser and Easterling-Hallman Foundation Collection of Ernest Hemingway. A distinguished panel discussed "'Hemingway's Spain' from Movietone News: Politics in the Thirties," and noted historian Dr. Dan T. Carter gave a talk about "The Thirties and America." Professor Matthew Bruccoli spoke about the significance of this new collection. Mr. Edward Hallman was recognized with an Honorary Life Membership in the



Shown at the TCS spring luncheon are, left to right, Patrick Scott, Betsy Miller, and Mr. and Mrs. John Jakes.

A MESSAGE FROM PAUL WILLIS DEAN OF LIBRARIES

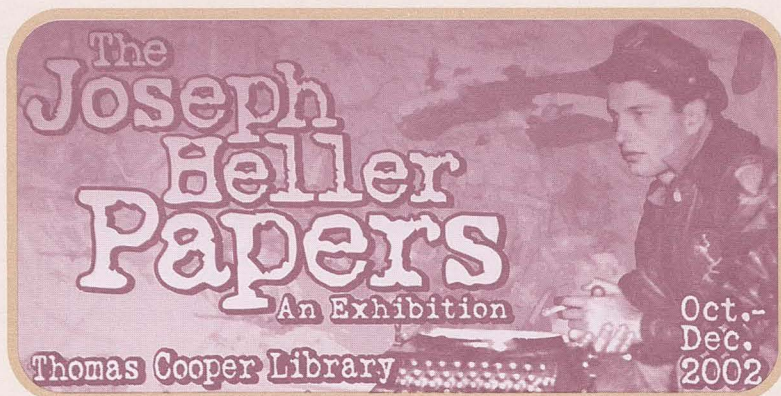
I am pleased to be at the University of South Carolina and am grateful for the warm welcome which my wife, Barbara, and I have received from the faculty and staff of the libraries, members of the Thomas Cooper Society, and from the University community as a whole.



At USC, I have found strong and unique library holdings, an extremely competent staff, a University administration—including President Andrew and Donna Sorensen—interested in, and supportive of, libraries. In most organizations, and certainly in libraries, we build on those who preceded us. I knew George Terry and know Ken Toombs and I came not to replace them but will follow in their footsteps. I want to build on the momentum which is underway in the libraries and continue to strengthen our collections, both print and electronic, as we strive to provide excellent service to our many patrons. I look forward to working with President Stephen Fitzer and the friends of Thomas Cooper Library to continue to advance all components of the University of South Carolina Libraries. I was very pleased to learn that the 2001 Association of Research Libraries ranking

SOCIETY CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

WILLIS CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



“THE JOSEPH HELLER PAPERS” EXHIBITION OPENS AT THOMAS COOPER LIBRARY

Thomas Cooper Library’s current exhibition features the life and writing of American novelist Joseph Heller (1923–1999). The exhibition is chiefly drawn from USC’s Joseph Heller Archive which houses over 150,000 pages, drafts, typescripts, and items of correspondence documenting Heller’s achievement over a period of 30 years.

To mark the opening of the exhibition, the Thomas Cooper Society sponsored a talk by American author, Christopher Buckley, on October 10 which constituted the Thomas Cooper Library event in this year’s USC Literary Festival. The exhibition, the first since the archive came to USC, will continue until the end of December.

The exhibition charts Heller’s career, from his New York childhood and war service in North Africa and Italy, through his early writing and screenplays and the great success of *Catch-22* (1962) as book, film, and play, to the succession of major novels that followed—*Something Happened* (1974), *Good As Gold* (1979), *God Knows* (1984), *Picture This* (1988), and *Closing Time* (1994), in which he returned to Yossarian and the characters of *Catch-22*.

Alongside the manuscripts for several novels are the distinctive file cards on which Heller recorded ideas and tried out one-liners for his novels. Also on display is Heller’s scrapbook of reviews and publicity for *Catch-22* as well as posters for the film. The library’s own holdings of Heller’s published books are supplemented by first editions from the personal collection of USC Prof. Matthew J. Brucoli.

The Joseph Heller archive, acquired by USC in 1997 with Heller’s active involvement and support, is the largest single collection anywhere supporting research on Heller’s work. Since then, Valerie Heller has donated a substantial group of the foreign editions of her late husband’s books.

Regularly ranked among the top 10 American novelists of the 20th century, Heller did air-crew training in South Carolina during World War II, and he returned here most recently in 1996, to receive USC’s Thomas Cooper Medal for Distinction in the Arts and Sciences.

Prof. Matthew J. Brucoli and Prof. Park Bucker, of USC Sumter, have recently co-authored *Joseph Heller: A Descriptive Bibliography* (University of Pittsburgh Press/Oak Knoll, 2002).

LIBRARY RECEIVES NEW JAMES ELLROY MATERIALS

American novelist, James Ellroy, has donated a major group of research materials for his literary archives at Thomas Cooper Library. Ellroy, author of 15 books including *The Black Dahlia* (1987), *L.A. Confidential* (1990), and the memoir *My Dark Places* (1996), selected USC as home for his literary papers in 1999.

Since then, Ellroy has added a second group of papers, and Dr. Richard Layman, a USC alumnus and former president of the Thomas Cooper Society, has donated the autograph manuscripts for *L.A. Confidential* and Ellroy’s novel, *White Jazz* (1992). “Of the writers of this generation,” Layman believes, “Ellroy is among those most likely to be read by the next.”

This summer, as Ellroy prepared to move back from Kansas to his native California, he made a third major donation: the manuscript and multiple typescripts for his latest novel *The Cool Six Thousand* (2001); file copies of his magazine contributions; over 300 different editions, reprintings and translations of his books; and a large collection of framed posters, photographs and other visual materials.

“Ellroy’s writing has a worldwide following,” says Tom McNally, University Librarian for Public Services, who went to Kansas City to arrange transportation for the latest gift. “The books and visual materials in this latest gift complement the manuscripts by showing the huge public response to his work.”

Since the original gift, Thomas Cooper Library’s Rare Books & Special Collections staff have worked with several television and other media projects on Ellroy and his work. The James Ellroy Archive is part of USC’s continuing initiative to build research collections documenting modern American literature, publishing, and the profession of authorship.

GEORGE PLIMPTON SPEAKS AT THOMAS COOPER SOCIETY LUNCHEON

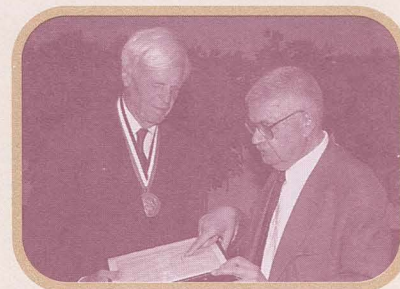
Noted American author and *Paris Review* editor George Plimpton spoke to the members of the Thomas Cooper Society at a luncheon on August 19. Following his remarks, Plimpton was presented with the Thomas Cooper Medal for Distinction in the Arts and Sciences for a lifetime of achievement in literature. The luncheon also gave society members an opportunity to meet the University's new president, Dr. Andrew Sorensen and the University Libraries' new dean, Paul Willis.

Plimpton was introduced by USC's Jefferies Professor of English, Dr. Matthew J. Bruccoli, who characterized Plimpton as "the busiest literary figure in America" and the *Paris Review* as "the best journal in the English language." During his remarks, Plimpton reminisced about his long and varied literary career and about other awards he has received recently including induction into the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the French Legion d'Honneur as a Chevalier. Following his remarks, Plimpton presented Bruccoli a framed, hand-written manuscript page from Ernest Hemingway's short story, "The Battler." The page had been given to Plimpton by Hemingway in the 1950s in connection with an article for the *Paris Review*. The article was instrumental in revising public perception of Hemingway from a writer who liked to role-play as a tough guy into a sympathetic figure who was a committed artist. The manuscript page had hung in Plimpton's office for the many intervening years and Plimpton presented it to Bruccoli in appreciation for his support of the *Paris Review* and his literary accomplishments, including publishing the *Dictionary of Literary Biography*. Bruccoli stated that he was very surprised and pleased to receive the unique gift and that, after enjoying it awhile, he would present the framed page to the

Thomas Cooper Library Department of Rare Books and Special Collections.

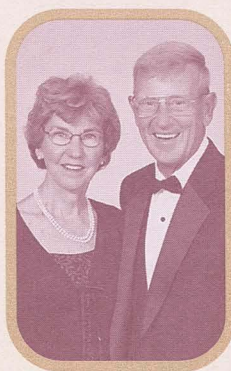
George Plimpton is a native of New York City and was educated at Harvard and King's College, Cambridge. He is noted for the range of genres within which he has worked and for the breadth of topics he has treated, from sports to literature. Among his celebrated books are *Paper Lion* (1966), *Shadow Box* (1977), and *Home Run* (2001). Plimpton has also appeared in cameo roles in several films including *Reds* (1981), *Little Man Tate* (1991), *L. A. Story* (1991), and *Good Will Hunting* (1997). His familiar voice played a major role in Ken Burns's PBS television series *The Civil War*.

Over the past decade, Plimpton has been a regular visitor to Thomas Cooper Library, most recently in 2000 when he participated in a symposium entitled *Humor in Literature* and starred as F. Scott Fitzgerald in his dramatic reading *Fitzgerald & Hemingway: A Dialogue*.



George Plimpton, left, presents rare Hemingway manuscript page to Dr. Matthew J. Bruccoli.

The Thomas Cooper Medal for Distinction in the Arts and Sciences was inaugurated by the Thomas Cooper Society and the Thomas Cooper Library in 1995. Thomas Cooper, for whom the main library is named, was the second president of the University and a friend of Thomas Jefferson. In keeping with the medal which bears his name, Cooper was distinguished both as a scientist and a political economist. Previous medal winners include Pat Conroy, James Dickey, William Styron, Joseph Heller, Matthew J. Bruccoli, John Updike, Ray Bradbury, and John Jakes.



LOU AND BETH HOLTZ ANNOUNCE INCREASE TO ENDOWMENT

On August 19, at a gala dinner in their honor, Coach Lou Holtz and his wife, Beth, announced that they were adding \$25,000 to the Lou and Beth Holtz Library Endowment for Undergraduate Resources, which they established in 2001. The endowment's purpose is to provide for the addition of library materials and resources for USC's undergraduate students and to encourage athletic and academic partnerships.

A special guest at the gala was author and editor George Plimpton, who had made a presentation at the fall semester's Freshman Year Reading Experience and had been the featured speaker at the Thomas Cooper Society's fall luncheon earlier in the day.

Coach Holtz has always believed in the importance of academics in the lives and careers of his players. In support of this belief, he worked out an arrangement with Thomas Cooper Library beginning in 1999 to give members of the football team a place to study in the library and help with using computers for research projects. According to Holtz, the players' grades have risen at least partly as a result of this arrangement.

Funds from the Holtz endowment will be used to purchase books, journals, and audio-visual materials as well as to enhance collections and provide access to Web-based resources utilized by undergraduate students.

Thomas Cooper Society for his splendid contribution to the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. The day concluded in Longstreet Theater with the talented assistance of the faculty of the Department of Theatre, Speech and Dance who staged a reading of Hemingway's play, *The Fifth Column*. Others sponsoring the event were the Thomas Cooper Library, the College of Liberal Arts, the Departments of English, History, and Theatre, Speech and Dance, the Center for Literary Biography, and the USC Bicentennial Commission.

The Thomas Cooper Society and the Thomas Cooper Library were co-hosts in October for a special conference session of the Southeast College Art Association. The meeting was held in the Graniteville Room to allow visitors to view some of the University's original Havell engravings from John James Audubon's *Birds of America* and other early books of ornithology. Professor Boyd Saunders of the University Department of Art spoke about the significance of the Audubon art and about early print-making. Dr. Patrick Scott discussed the items exhibited from the University collection. The Columbia Museum of Art contributed to the display with Audubon prints from its collection. The event was followed by a reception.

In November, the society hosted a reception for the announcement of the Joel Myerson Collection of Nineteenth-Century American Literature. Professor Myerson gave an amusing and informative talk about the collection, and guests were able to view some of the extensive and varied items gathered by Professor Myerson over a period of many years.

Novelist John Jakes was the guest speaker for a well-attended luncheon in January. Jakes made a touching tribute

in memory of Dr. George D. Terry with remarks about their long association and about the influence Dr. Terry had on Jakes' work as well as on the University Libraries. The Thomas Cooper Medal for Distinction in the Arts and Sciences was presented to Jakes for his work in many fiction genres and for his contributions in the field of historical fiction. Also, an Honorary Life Membership in the Thomas Cooper Society



Book Collecting Award winners are, left to right, second-place winner Harry Hootman and first place winner Tonya Wertz-Orbaugh.

was awarded to Dr. Francis Lord for his contributions to the library's Civil War collection and for his many efforts on behalf of the University Libraries.

Priscilla Juvelis, a leading New York book dealer and past president of the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America spoke in February about her experiences as a book dealer especially in regard to her field, the books of American women writers. On display for this event, sponsored jointly with the Departments of English and Women's Studies, were items by women writers from several collections, including the Joel Myerson Collection of Nineteenth-Century American Literature. Juvelis brought some intriguing items from her own collection pertaining to American suffragettes. Later in the month, the society was ably represented at the 2002 Book Festival and Antiquarian Book Fair by Patrick Scott who exhibited items from the library's collections.

At the Annual General Meeting in April, Edward J. Larson, the Pulitzer Prize-winning historian, was guest speaker to a crowded room of interested listeners. Following his fascinating talk on the Galapagos Islands and a lively question-and-answer session, guests were able to view recent gifts and acquisitions including additions to the C. Warren Irvin Jr. Collection of Charles Darwin. It should be noted that in the last year, the Thomas Cooper Society purchased several items for Special Collections which included a first edition of Charles Darwin's *Geological Observation on the Volcanic Islands* (1844) in recognition of the C. Warren Irvin Jr. collection; two first editions by Isaac Rosenberg, *Youth* (1915) and *Moses* (1916), purchased in recognition of the Joseph M. Bruccoli Great War Collection; and a signed limited first edition of *Confessions of Nat Turner* by William Styron purchased in memory of Dr. George D. Terry.

During the Annual General Meeting, it was announced that George Plimpton will be the next recipient of the Thomas Cooper Medal. Mr. Plimpton has been editor of the *Paris Review* for many years and is the author of many books and articles on a variety of topics. Honorary Life Memberships are to be awarded to Dr. and Mrs. John Palms for their outstanding service to the University.

On behalf of Bruccoli Clark Layman, Dr. Bruccoli presented the Student Book-Collecting Awards to Tonya Wertz-Orbaugh for her collection of early 19th-century literary annuals and to Harry E. Hootman for his collection of first editions of John McPhee. With great generosity, Hootman has since donated his collection to the Thomas Cooper Library. The Thomas Cooper Society is grateful to Bruccoli Clark Layman for its continuing support of these awards.

At this meeting, society members welcomed Patricia E. Mason as their new president-elect. Newly elected board members are Robert B. Patterson, Clyde

H. Dornbusch, Julian B. Shand Jr., and Nancy Gordon Darby. The society is grateful for the work of outgoing board members William Edmiston, Warren Irvin, Harris Pastides and Ruth Patterson.

It has been a pleasure to serve as president of the Thomas Cooper Society and to work with a diligent board of directors. The society has enjoyed strong support from University President Dr. John Palms and from Dr. John Olsgaard, interim vice-provost and dean of Libraries and Instructional Services. The Thomas Cooper Society could not function without the assistance of many capable library staff members including Reda Rietveld, Elizabeth Sudduth, John Brunswick, Paul Schultz, Sallie Ruff, Mary Anyomi, Zella McDonald, and Allison Thiem. We are also grateful for the development team of Carol Benfield, Louisa Campbell, and Carroll Peters and for the expertise of Tom McNally of library administration.

Special mention goes to Nancy Washington who did an excellent job of editing the new *Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter* when budget reductions caused an end to *Ex Libris*, the annual publication dedicated to highlighting the collections of the University Libraries. Lynn Barron has been our hard-working treasurer, and we are delighted that she will continue in that post. As always, Dr. Scott as secretary kept the society moving smoothly despite unexpected scheduling changes and a tight budget.

The Thomas Cooper Society looks forward to continuing its support of the University Libraries in the next year under the leadership of incoming president, Stephen Fitzer. The society also welcomes the chance to work with newly appointed Dean of Libraries Paul Willis and incoming USC President Andrew Sorensen. It remains the goal of the society to enhance the collections of the University Libraries and to make them known not only to University scholars but also to the greater community.

USC DEDICATES ARTHUR E. HOLMAN, JR. CONSERVATION LABORATORY

The USC Libraries' conservation laboratory was dedicated on September 18 to the memory of Arthur E. Holman Jr. The facility, which opened in 1999, will be called the Arthur E. Holman, Jr. Conservation Laboratory. Honoring Mr. Holman in this way was made possible by a donation from John E. Swearingen who was Mr. Holman's USC classmate and lifelong friend.

Present at the dedication ceremony were Mrs. Arthur E. Holman Jr. of Anderson, and her children, A. Elliott Holman III, and Emily Holman Sands (Mrs. George), as well as Mrs. Andrew Sorensen, wife of the University's new president, and Mr. and Mrs. Guy Lipscomb. Mr. Lipscomb was a classmate at USC with both Swearingen and Holman Jr.

Those attending the dedication were welcomed by Mr. Paul Willis, dean of the University Libraries. Willis expressed his gratitude for Swearingen's generosity in support of the conservation facility, regretting that Swearingen could not be present for the event. He recalled that the late George Terry, former dean of University Libraries, had toured the Library Annex and Conservation Laboratory with Swearingen shortly after it opened.

A. Elliott Holman III, spoke about his recollections of the friendship between his father and Swearingen and of their mutual love for the University. He also mentioned his father's love of history, especially South Carolina history, and expressed his certainty that his father would have been very pleased to be associated with the work of a conservation laboratory and its dedication to preserving precious literary and historical materials. In conclusion he said, "On behalf of my mother, my sister, and our 'extended' Carolina family, I thank John Swearingen and his powerful example of loyalty, friendship and generosity to my father and to the University of South Carolina."

The Arthur E. Holman, Jr. Conservation Laboratory contains 2,300 square feet of work space. It houses state-of-the-art conservation equipment including custom-made moveable work tables, fume hoods, an industrial-strength dust collection system, a leaf caster, a surgical-grade microscope, and a large collection of finishing tools for fine bindings. Preservation Librarian and Conservator Holly Herro is in charge of the laboratory's operations.



Shown at the dedication of the Arthur E. Holman, Jr. Conservation Laboratory are, left to right, A. Elliott Holman III, Mrs. Arthur E. Holman Jr., and Emily Holman Sands.

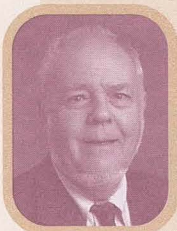
UPCOMING EXHIBITS AND EVENTS

February 2003: Thomas Cooper Library, Graniteville Room, Exhibit of "Robert Burns and Others" to welcome the Southeast Association of Eighteenth Century Studies conference

March 2003: Thomas Cooper Library, Mezzanine Exhibit area, Exhibit for the Ralph Waldo Emerson Bicentenary

ROSS ROY RECEIVES HONORARY DEGREE

Dr. Ross Roy, distinguished professor emeritus of English and comparative literature at USC, was recognized by the University of



Edinburgh with an honorary doctor of literature degree in July.

Roy, a renowned authority on Scottish literature and a leading scholar on Scottish poet, Robert

Burns, is the founder and editor of the scholarly journal *Studies in Scottish Literature* which is now in its 32nd volume.

Roy is also curator of the Thomas Cooper Library's G. Ross Roy Collection of Robert Burns & Scottish Literature which attracts researchers to USC from Scotland itself. Among the highlights of the collection are separate editions of the poet's works (some with distinctive bindings), almost every book-length study of the poet, and numerous pamphlets. However, the collection also encompasses the whole field of Scottish poetry.

For more information about the Roy Collection, visit its Web site at www.sc.edu/library/spcoll/britli/roycol.html.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS EXPANDS WEB PRESENCE

TCL's Department of Rare Books and Special Collections staff have completed several new or expanded Web exhibits and collection descriptions together with the first stage of a new on-line project LitCheck.

A new focus, supervised by Special Collections cataloger, Elizabeth Sudduth, is to provide finding lists for papers in several recently-cataloged groups of literary papers. The department's Web assistant during the summer was Eva Moore, a graduate student in linguistics. Web-page maintenance is now being done by staff member, Zella MacDonald. The Rare Books and Special Collections Web address is www.sc.edu/library/spcoll.

Full-scale exhibits are now available for both the Speiser & Easterling-Hallman Collection of Ernest Hemingway and the C. Warren Irvin, Jr., Collection of Charles Darwin & Darwiniana.

New collection-descriptions have been prepared for the Gilbert S. Guinn Military

Aviation Collection, the Joel Myerson Collection of Nineteenth Century American Literature, the Jules Furthman Screenplay Archive, the James Dickey Library & Poetry Seminar Room, the Wallace Markfield Collection, the John Jakes Papers, the Frederick Karl Papers, and the John Manners Iggulden Papers.

LitCheck is planned as a large-scale on-line bibliographical checklist of post-1950 English-language novelists, providing accessible first-point-of-reference information for collectors and students. The project makes available research listings prepared by William R. Cagle, director emeritus for the Lilly Library, who has contributed his research without charge in support of TCL's Center for Literary Biography. The first author sections are now available at www.cla.sc.edu/ENGL/LitCheck/LitCheck.html.

F. SCOTT FITZGERALD'S LITERARY AGENT

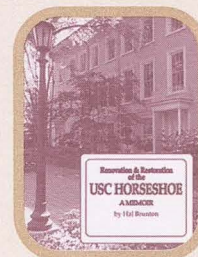
Anonymous donors have recently made a significant addition to the Matthew J. & Arlyn Bruccoli Collection of F. Scott Fitzgerald. In so doing, they have helped Thomas Cooper Library fill out the picture on a relationship of great importance both to Fitzgerald's literary career and his personal life.

This new acquisition comprises seven office copies of Fitzgerald's books from the Harold Ober agency. Harold Ober (1881-1951) was one of America's most respected and successful literary agents. He played an integral role in the cultivation of Fitzgerald's career, offering professional counsel as well as financial assistance, and often giving him advances against unsold stories. In turn, Fitzgerald dedicated his book, *Taps At Reveille*, to Ober. The Bruccoli Collection already contained significant correspondence between Fitzgerald and Ober.

After Fitzgerald's wife Zelda became ill, and even more so after Fitzgerald's death in 1940, Ober and his wife Anne took especial care of the Fitzgeralds' daughter, Scottie. They even lent her money so that she could complete her education at Vassar.

LIBRARY ENDOWMENT PUBLISHES HORSESHOE RESTORATION VOLUME

The University Libraries' Caroline McKissick Dial Endowment has just published *Renovation and Restoration of the USC Horseshoe: A Memoir* by Hal Brunton. Brunton was USC's vice president for business affairs in the 1970s and 1980s when major renovations were made to all of the buildings on the Horseshoe and to Longstreet Theatre. The book was edited by the director of publications for the University Libraries, Nancy Washington, and layout and design were done by Mary Arnold Garvin, recently retired from University Publications.



USC ACQUIRES JOSEPH COHEN COLLECTION OF WORLD WAR I LITERATURE

A major collection of works by the World War I poet-painter Isaac Rosenberg (1890–1918) has been acquired by the Thomas Cooper Library. The collection includes Rosenberg's first and rarest book, *Night and Day* (1912) as well as material on other Great War poets. The new collection came by gift-purchase from Rosenberg's biographer, Prof. Joseph Cohen. In announcing the acquisition, Paul Willis, dean of libraries, said, "Combined with the Joseph M. Brucoli Great War Collection, this new material positions the TCL collection among the leading American research resources for the study and teaching of the literature, history, and culture of World War I."

Told of the new collection, the literary critic Harold Bloom, Sterling Professor of Humanities at Yale University and Berg Professor of English at New York University, called Rosenberg "comparable to Wilfred Owen in terms of genius and imaginative endowments." Owen is also strongly represented in the Cohen Collection. Rosenberg's best poems, Bloom said, "are among the permanent contributions to the poetry of the English language. Any archive or discovery of Rosenberg's work is an important contribution to literary scholarship."

Isaac Rosenberg, recognized as the first significant Jewish poet in English literature, was, with Rupert Brooke and Owen, one of the three major poets killed in the Great War, and the only one who served in the ranks. He died on the Somme in 1918.

Items in the Collection

Before his death, Rosenberg published three poetry pamphlets. Produced by a small print shop in London, they are among the great rarities

in 20th-century English poetry. The Cohen Collection's copy of *Night and Day* has an additional manuscript poem by the author. Copies of Rosenberg's other two pamphlets are in Thomas Cooper Library's Joseph M. Brucoli Great War Collection. Only two other libraries in the world (Yale and Oxford) have all three of Rosenberg's publications.

Other highlights of the Cohen Collection include a letter from the trenches in July 1917, where Rosenberg reports, "I managed to jot down some ideas for poems now & then.... They are actual transcripts of the battlefield"; Rosenberg's charcoal drawing "Hark, Hark, the Lark" (1912), together with a self-portrait, and other sketches; autograph letters from Robert Graves, Ezra Pound, Osbert Sitwell, and others; extensive research files preserving Cohen's contacts in the 1950s with those who had known Rosenberg and Owen before and during the Great War; over 300 volumes by or about the Great War poets (notably Owen, Graves, and Siegfried Sassoon); and contemporary anthologies and periodicals.

The Collector: Professor Joseph Cohen

Professor Joseph Cohen's World War I literature collection was started in 1952 when he was a graduate student in the English Department of the University of Texas. Cohen, undertaking research for a dissertation on Wilfred Owen, began to identify and contact surviving family, friends, and acquaintances of the poet; to locate and acquire the poet's work including all his appearances before his death in 1918 and all posthumous editions and appearances; and to collect all related published literary criticism, scholar-

ship, memoirs, and ephemera. While his primary focus was on Owen, Cohen began simultaneously to collect material on Isaac Rosenberg, Siegfried Sassoon, Robert Graves, Rupert Brooke, and other Great War figures. Joining the English faculty at Tulane University, Cohen continued to build his Great War collection. His research in the field culminated in his book *Journey To The Trenches: The Life of Isaac Rosenberg 1890–1918* (London and New York, 1975).

USC's World War I Collections

At Thomas Cooper Library, the Cohen Collection joins and enhances the Joseph M. Brucoli Great War Collection. Dean Paul Willis described the new collection as "a notable example of the library's policy of building to strength, complementing the Brucoli Collection." The Joseph M. Brucoli Collection was begun in 1997 by Arlyn and Matthew J. Brucoli. It is an in-progress research archive for the literary, historical, and cultural aspects of World War I. Its fields of specialization are the literature of the American Expeditionary Force, British novels and poetry of the war, the air war, and trench warfare. The collection includes sheet music, posters, original art, manuscripts, correspondence, photo albums, scrapbooks, and glass slides. Among recent additions donated by Professor and Mrs. Brucoli are a large group of French Great War posters.



Private Isaac Rosenberg (1890–1918), inscribed by Rosenberg to poet-dramatist Gordon Bottomley (from the Joseph Cohen Collection/Joseph M. Brucoli Collection, University of South Carolina.)

WILLIS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of the USC libraries is 53rd among all research libraries in the United States.

It has been said that information is the fuel which drives the modern research university and I believe that the type of library and information services provided to students, faculty, and staff can increase their competitiveness in a world which has itself become increasingly competitive. Much of the information which scholars use in 2002 is in a digital format so that, in some instances, information from the USC Columbia libraries can be shared not only with the other USC campuses, but also with citizens throughout the state of South Carolina. It seems to me that expanding access to information resources—be it to a physician, K-12 teacher, professional, business person, those involved in distance learning, or the public at large—has the potential to influence economic development in the state as well as to enhance the general quality of life. Working in cooperation with other college, university, school, and public libraries as well as the South Carolina State Library, the University Libraries are pursuing the goal of a state-wide virtual library.

My vision for the research library of the 21st-century is to provide students, faculty, and staff with all relevant information products when needed, with

coverage that is both current and comprehensive. We must provide a single entry point to this information from computers in the libraries, offices, labs, homes, and residence halls where our patrons do their research. The USC libraries must continue to position themselves to manage the digital information environment in which they now work and must prepare themselves to deal with other significant changes close at hand which impact scholarly communications.

The libraries at USC must collect and preserve the intellectual and cultural heritage of South Carolina by building on the great strengths in the South Caroliniana Library and expand access to these collections by digitizing key primary source materials. By the same token, the distinguished special and rare collections in Thomas Cooper Library must be maintained and strengthened.

I have two major University library initiatives underway this year. These include a review of the libraries' organizational structure and working toward a rare books addition to and renovation of Thomas Cooper Library. Private funding will be required for the rare books addition.

I look forward to seeing you at many society events this year and I welcome and appreciate your support.

Yours sincerely,
Paul A. Willis

THE THOMAS COOPER SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

FALL 2002

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.

EDITOR

Nancy H. Washington

EDITORIAL BOARD

Carol Benfield Tom McNally
Patrick Scott Paul Willis

THOMAS COOPER SOCIETY OFFICERS, 2002-2003

President, Stephen Fitzer
Vice President, Patricia E. Mason
Past President, Betsy Miller
Secretary, Patrick Scott
Treasurer, Lynn S. Barron
Program Committee Chair, Elizabeth Sudduth
Membership Committee Chair, Jan Cambre
Finance Committee Chair, Lynn S. Barron
Publications Committee Chair,
Nancy Washington

THOMAS COOPER SOCIETY BOARD MEMBERS, 2002-2003

Joan Assey Lucille Mould
Pamela Baker Stephen C. Osborne
Nancy Darby Robert Patterson
Michael Dewey Rosemary Reisman
Clyde Dornbusch Julian Shand
Melodie Lamm Marsha Watkins

At its meeting on August 8, the Thomas Cooper Society Board of Directors voted to keep the name *The Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter*, which was suggested by several members. The Board extends sincere appreciation to all members who offered suggestions for the newsletter's name.



THOMAS COOPER SOCIETY
THOMAS COOPER LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COLUMBIA, SC 29208

Non-profit
Organization
**U.S. POSTAGE
PAID**
Permit #766
Columbia, SC