Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter - Winter 2013

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The USC Libraries are now home to the most complete collection of Ernest Hemingway’s published work, thanks to a newly-acquired collection of more than 1,200 items.

The comprehensive collection was put together by Dr. C. Edgar Grissom of Mississippi, who began collecting Hemingway’s work more than 50 years ago. He assembled a collection of Hemingway items that includes editions, printings and issues of books, periodical appearances, galleys, keepsakes, translations and anthologies. The collection includes some of the rarest print Hemingway titles, such as the first and second editions of *Three Stories and Ten Poems*, the first and second printings of the American edition of *In Our Time*, and the first edition of *The Sun Also Rises*. In addition, the collection includes sets of advance uncorrected proofs and salesman’s dummies.

The C. Edgar and Julie Grissom Collection, combined with the university’s other extensive Hemingway holdings, establishes USC as the premiere research center for the study of Hemingway’s print works.

“These are research collections. We get these because they are valuable to our faculty and our students for their research,” said Tom McNally, Dean of University Libraries. “We don’t buy these collections to put them on the shelf. We specifically select items that are going to enhance research at the university.”

McNally said the collection, part of which was on display in September and October 2012 in the Irvin Department Gallery, will draw scholars to Carolina from all over the world.

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It is a privilege and an honor to serve as the President of the Thomas Cooper Society and to work with the talented group of individuals who serve on the Board. I believe that the succession to the presidency of the Society is seamless as each President is able to build upon the achievements of their predecessor because of the support provided by the very talented library staff.

Please note the passing of six friends of the University Libraries, and the Ernest F. Hollings Library in particular: Mrs. Dorothy Smith, Mrs. Peatsy Hollings, Mr. Nick Zeigler, Mrs. Mary Kennemur, Dr. G. Ross Roy and Mrs. Barbara McQuillan. They will be missed.

INITIATIVES
The Board has met with members of the Libraries’ Communications Team to develop a plan to raise awareness of the Society and the Thomas Cooper Society Medal by using media resources to reach a wider audience and build membership.

The Honors College is sponsoring Thomas Cooper Society membership for undergraduate research award recipients and their faculty mentors. Through membership, these students and faculty will have the opportunity to use unique primary source materials from our extensive special collections firsthand. The students and faculty will receive one of the Thomas Cooper Society broadsides produced for the Cooper Medal or the Grissom Collection events. In this age of electronic media, they can experience the tactile pleasure of working with original documents and the visual sensation of seeing the original engravings of John James Audubon, Mark Catesby and Clara Maria Pope, among others.

PROGRAMS
The Society sponsored its first event of the current academic year with a reception celebrating the opening of the “Writing America” exhibition, which featured a lecture by USC’s Naturalist-in-Residence, Rudy Mancke. Mancke provided us with new insights into the world of explorers, historians and poets, while pointing out the significance of the material on exhibit. This was followed by an event announcing the acquisition of the C. Edgar and Julie Grissom Collection of Ernest Hemingway on September 25 with an exhibition opening, lecture by James L.W. West, the Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of English at Penn State University, and a reception sponsored by the Society.

The acquisition of the Grissom Collection generated nationwide media attention and Edgar Grissom has shown continuing interest and involvement in the library as a member of the Ex Libris Society.

On November 2, Melissa Makala, Professor of English at USC Aiken, gave a lecture entitled, “Dickens and His Contemporaries,” at the opening of the exhibition “A Sort of Brilliance in the Room”: Two Hundred Years of Charles Dickens.” The Thomas Cooper Society Board held a reception for the library staff who work in support of the Society on Tuesday, November 13, to recognize their many contributions. And the Holiday Coffee held on December featured a dramatic reading by Dr. Joseph Stukes, Professor of History Emeritus from Francis Marion University.

CURRENT AND UPCOMING EXHIBITS
“Abecedaria! Fine Press and Children’s ABC Books,” through April 27
(At right, the letter “A” from A Gardener’s Alphabet, by Mary Azarian, 2000. Gift of Dr. Martha Jane Zachert.)
“The Battle of Gettysburg: A One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary Exhibition,” May 1 – July 31
“Art in the Library: Original Artwork from the Collections of the Irvin Department,” August 1 – October 31

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
JOHN MARK DEAN, PRESIDENT 2012-2013
“Visit the library” was at the top of Eliot Dudik’s list of things to do once he arrived on campus as an art instructor in 2011.

“I wanted to check out the special collections,” said Dudik, whose courses include ARTS 564 The Art of Bookmaking. “I met with Jeffrey Makala, and he offered to show some of those collections to my students. As a class, we visited the Irvin Department early in the semester, and it was a huge benefit for the students to be able to see some of the handmade books in the libraries’ collections.”

Later in the semester, Dudik was struck by the level of artistry, creativity and originality he saw in his students’ book art. And he is at least a fair judge of art — he was recently named “One of the 100 New Superstars of Southern Art” by The Oxford American magazine.

“My students were making some incredible things,” Dudik said. “For the final project, students make any kind of book they want using the techniques they’ve learned in class. The course is open to anyone across campus. I’ve had students from the math department, English, criminal justice, and other areas of the art department, and they all bring a different experience to the class and create all types of books.”

When Dudik talked to Makala about housing some of the books created in the class, Makala was interested, certainly, but wanted to see how the work was progressing.

“I wasn’t expecting this quality of student work,” Makala said. “The sheer range of what everyone did amazed me. Some of the books are photography, some are memoir, others employ graphic design or screenprinting. Many of them are elaborate pop-up or cut-out books. Any of these books a collector would find attractive and want to buy.”

“I now want to build a student archive from every iteration of the class,” Makala said. “Students in the course make two copies of their books; they are required to be able to reproduce it and make a small edition. If they want to be part of the library collection, they submit three copies. And most of the students have.”

“We’ve selectively acquired student works in the past, but we have never accepted student art en masse,” Makala said. “To date, we have approximately twelve books. They will be cataloged and available to patrons. I see a lot of studio art students on a semester basis, and these books will also be part of our teaching collection. And because these books are so visually interesting, I can guarantee we’ll have them on exhibit in the future.”

Above, Venture: A Story in Pictures by Caitlin Carter is a sketchbook that tells a story. At left, Untitled by Ting Ting Young features a series of elaborate cut-outs, such as the carousel shown here, which has tiny paper pieces that move with gravity as the wheel turns, mimicking the movement of human riders. Other student work includes a patchwork brochure made from recycled materials and bound with a used guitar string; a photographic essay of one students’ hometown in England; and a book of photographs dedicated to a student’s father and bound in a pair of his faded blue jeans.
Kathleen McCallister worked in the department as a graduate student, then accepted a full-time job in Thomas Cooper Library’s cataloging department, and returned to the Irvin Department this year as a cataloging librarian.

“I like to bring order out of chaos,” she said. “There is something appealing about taking items or lots of information and bringing order to it. There is an element of creativity to it. There are rules, but you can work in different ways while fitting inside the rules and still create something that can be understood by general library patrons.”

After growing up in Milwaukee, McCallister sought a warmer climate for college. She has a B.A. in English from the College of Charleston and a master’s degree in library science from USC.

At USC, she has worked on the cataloging of the Robert J. Wickenheiser Collection of John Milton, the Robert J. Wickenheiser Collection of John Bunyan, the William Savage Textbook Collection, and the Joel Myerson Collection of Nineteenth-Century American Literature. She is now cataloging the C. Edgar and Julie Grissom Collection of Ernest Hemingway.

“This is a very challenging project,” she said of cataloging the department’s newest collection. “It is so extensive, and there are lots of editions, different issues, some with minuscule changes, like maybe a change in a binding or maybe the only change is a small variation on the back cover. Fortunately, I have Dr. Grissom’s bibliography as an aid.”

“The importance of doing this is not just to catalog the content of the books, what is between the covers, but to also note the history of printing and publishing. With Hemingway, who was published exclusively by Scribner for years, you can also track how a publisher’s history changed. With rare books, it’s not just about content, it’s also about history.”

New Stacks Manager Rob Roseberry is the son of military parents whose last station was Beaufort. He attended USC Beaufort before transferring to USC Columbia, where the avid reader worked as a student shelver for the libraries. He graduated in May 2012 with a B.A. in English and joined the Irvin Department in October.

“My job duties cover, well, just about everything,” he said. “I am the go-between when there are special events; if there is a problem, I solve it. My daily duties are varied. I am in charge of the stacks. I help with cataloging. I have a background in book repair and conservation, so I may help repair a small injury to a book. There is a lot to learn and I’d like to learn as much as I can, especially from Elizabeth Sudduth. She is very savvy about what she does for the department. I’d like to pursue my MLIS degree while I work here. I think librarianship and I would be a good match.”

NEWS FROM THE IRVIN DEPARTMENT

STUDENT COMPLETES INTERNSHIP

Katharine Thompson Allen completed an internship in the Irvin Department for the Public History and School of Library and Information Science Programs in August 2012. Her projects included processing the papers of Charles Brandt recently donated by his daughter, Charline Brandt; enhancing the catalog records of a group of the Oz series books by L. Frank Baum donated by Rosemary Reisman and sisters, Patricia Sasser and Rachael Puckett; and two digital projects, the completion of the metadata for the Camilla Urso Collection, donated by Betsy G. Miller, and a project she designed and planned: the digitization of the posters from the Joseph M. Bruccoli Great War Collection. In addition, she worked on an involved reference question researching the South Carolina College Library’s acquisition of the Description de l’Egypte in the mid-nineteenth century. She completed her master’s degree in the joint program in December 2012.
IN MEMORIAM

Dr. G. Ross Roy, Curator of the Scottish Literature Collection and Distinguished Professor Emeritus at USC, died February 19. He came to USC in 1965 as Professor of English and Comparative Literature. In 1989, he transferred his Scottish Literature Collection to the university’s Rare Books and Special Collections Department. The G. Ross Roy Collection of Scottish Literature is the largest collection of Scottish Literature outside of Great Britain.

Dr. Roy was born and educated in Montreal and earned degrees from Concordia University, the University of Montreal, the University of Strasbourg, including two earned doctorates from the University of Paris and the University of Montreal. His edition of The Letters of Robert Burns remains the standard edition in use today. He founded Studies in Scottish Literature, the first scholarly journal in the field of Scottish Literature, and served as its editor for forty-five years.

Board Member Mary Devonald Moorman Kennemur died November 11, 2012. She grew up in Columbia and received a bachelor’s degree in business administration from USC. Her long and successful business career began with South Carolina National Bank and took her to Merrill Lynch, where she became one of the firm’s seven national managing directors. Dedicated to her community, she served on many boards and was very active at USC.

Rita Louise “Peatsy” Liddy Hollings, wife of U.S. Senator Ernest F. “Fritz” Hollings, died October 14, 2012. She and her husband were longtime supporters of the libraries. Her husband’s papers are housed at South Carolina Political Collections.

Dorothy Duval Brown Smith, a devoted friend of the university and its libraries, died October 9, 2012. Mrs. Smith was a proud USC graduate, Class of 1951. An active member of the Columbia community, Mrs. Smith had great respect for libraries and was instrumental in supporting the building of the Hollings Library.

Attorney, historian, legislator and Civil Rights advocate Eugene “Nick” Zeigler Jr. died October 8, 2012. His papers are housed at South Carolina Political Collections.

AP PHOTOS

FEATURED

In October 2012, the Hollings Library hosted an exhibit of poster-size Associated Press photographs that gave a special view of the lives of America’s presidents. The exhibit was part of the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies’ weeklong series of events on politics and the media known as I-Comm Week.

OPEN GALLERY EVENTS HELD THIS SPRING

The Hollings Library hosts regular Open Gallery events throughout the year that offer opportunities for the public to enjoy exhibits that are typically open for viewing only during the week. This spring, the events are being held on Saturdays and feature exhibits in the Irvin Department Gallery and the South Carolina Political Collections Gallery. The last Open Gallery of the spring semester is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 27. For more information, visit library.sc.edu. Regular hours for the exhibit galleries are 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Friday.

FUND CELEBRATES FIRST RECIPIENT

Dr. Mary Ellen Bellanca, Assistant Professor of English at USC Sumter, is the first recipient of a grant from the Travel Research Fund for Studies in the History of Natural History. The grant will enable her to use the Irvin Department Collections, in particular books by Jane Wells Loudon from the Phelps Memorial Collection of Garden Books and recent acquisitions from Graham Arader and the Treasures Acquisitions Program. The fund was established by an anonymous donor to strengthen the study of the history of natural history by assisting USC’s own faculty and students in conducting research at other institutions and assisting researchers from elsewhere to conduct research at USC. The fellowship pays for travel expenses. Additional contributions would strengthen this outreach effort. For more information, contact Carol Benfield at (803) 777-1278.

NATURALIST SPEAKS AT EXHIBIT OPENING

USC naturalist-in-residence Rudy Mancke spoke at the exhibit opening for “Writing America: From Columbus to Wendell Berry” on August 15, 2012. The exhibit explored the role of the land and landscape of the Americas.

Rudy Mancke

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Recent Gifts and Acquisitions

A 15th-century Book of Hours was acquired at auction in London with significant financial support from the B.H. Breslauer Foundation in New York. USC’s manuscript is illuminated with a dozen lush, full-page miniature paintings highlighted by liquid gold panels. The sumptuous artwork is securely ascribed to the 15th-century artist Robert Boyvin.


Charline Brandt, Class of 1958, donated the papers of her father, Charles Brandt, which include three scrapbooks all related to his service during WWII. The Irvin Department’s first collection of papers that focus on the second world war, the archive spans several years and includes numerous photos; the touching, insightful letters and postcards mailed by Brandt daily to his wife while he served overseas; and poetry written by Brandt, much of it patriotic in subject.

Keith Revelle, a retired librarian and former director of the Anchorage Library in Alaska, donated more than 250 books in memory of Robert W. Books, including a rare 1833 edition of Voltaire’s *Histoire de Charles XII*, and numerous books by W. Somerset Maugham and Earle Stanley Gardner.

Don Rosick, bookman, archaeologist, collector and former member of the Thomas Cooper Society Board, donated more than 750 books on the history and civilization of Mezo-America.

Robert J. Wickenheiser donated more than 120 volumes of Milton, Bunyan and Miltoniana and twenty-five works by contemporary artists illustrating Milton’s *Paradise Lost*. The artists represented include Terrance Lindall, Robert S. Beal, Bienvenido Bones Banes, Alan Beck, Troy Frantz and Agnieszka Szyfter.

Student Assistant Fund Has Been Established

In the fall of 2012, a USC couple made the first gift through the Family Fund to establish a fund to support student hires in the department. There have been additional contributions since. Undergraduate and graduate student employees and student interns have long been an integral part of the department’s program. Through the efforts of these bright, highly motivated young people, the department has been able to integrate newly acquired materials move forward with digital initiatives, complete numerous processing projects, and foliate the Breslauer Bible. With additional funding, the department will have the flexibility to fund student employees during the summer, retain graduating students, and continue interns as paid student assistants. More gifts are needed to effectively promote these opportunities. Please consider making a donation to the Irvin Department Student Assistant Fund - Account # A31801. Mail to Gift Processing, 1600 Hampton St., Suite 736, Columbia, SC 29208.
As a boy, Grissom was drawn to Hemingway’s tales of fishing and big game hunting. His collecting began with Hemingway’s *Green Hills of Africa*, and continued during his military service, while he attended medical school and then as he practiced medicine. As his collection grew, he found editions, issues and examples of Hemingway’s work that were not recorded in standard bibliographies. He realized that no one had ever attempted to collect and examine every printing of every Hemingway title, which he believed was necessary to write a true comprehensive bibliography.

“Most of the primary work of Ernest Hemingway is available if you are willing to pay enough money for it. The fun I had was discovering the undiscovered,” Grissom said. “In that sense, I would say that my greatest contribution in the collecting world was to identify a lot of unknown items – they weren’t unknown to the booksellers but they were unknown to the scholastic world.”

While doing his research, Grissom visited all of the major repositories of Hemingway material, including USC. In 2011, Grissom’s work resulted in the publication of *Ernest Hemingway: A Descriptive Bibliography* (New Castle: Oak Knoll, 2011). While working on the bibliography, he found a home base in USC’s Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, establishing relationships with McNally and the late Matthew J. Bruccoli, Professor of English and collector of works by 20th-century American writers, including Hemingway and F. Scott Fitzgerald.

This is USC’s second major acquisition made possible by the Donald C. Easterling-Edward S. Hallman Foundation. In 2001, the university acquired the Hemingway collection belonging to the late Maurice Speiser, a Philadelphia lawyer who had represented Hemingway and became an adviser to many of the world’s leading arts and literary figures in the first half of the 20th century. A gift from USC alumnus Edward Hallman, Class of 1950, was instrumental in purchasing the Speiser collection.

These collections have put USC on the map for students and Hemingway scholars from around the world interested in learning about one of the 20th century’s most significant American writers.

“The University of South Carolina will now have the best Hemingway collection that I know of in the world, a Hemingway collection that is the most complete and most oriented to scholarly work,” Grissom said.
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

American novelist and screenwriter Elmore Leonard will be joined by his son, crime novelist Peter Leonard, for a conversation about the writing life at this year’s Thomas Cooper Society Annual Dinner on Thursday, May 2.

Elmore Leonard began his writing career at an advertising agency and wrote Western stories on the side. In the 1950s, he wrote five novels and thirty short stories. Two of those, including “3:10 to Yuma,” were made into movies.

In 1961, he left his agency job to write full-time. He finished his first non-Western, *The Big Bounce*, which marked the beginning of a string of work sold to Hollywood, including *Hombre, The Moonshine War, 52 Pickup, Rum Punch* and *Get Shorty*. Still a master of his craft, he received some of the best reviews of his career for his forty-third novel, *Road Dogs*, in 2009. Now in its fourth season, FX’s acclaimed drama series “Justified” is based on his 2000 novella, *Fire in the Hole*.

Elmore Leonard has won numerous writing awards, including best novel by the Mystery Writers of America for *LaBrava* in 1984, Cartier’s Diamond Dagger Award in England, The F. Scott Fitzgerald award in 2008, and the PEN USA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2009.

In 2008, writing became a family business when Peter Leonard published his first novel, *Quiver*, and father and son began doing bookstore appearances and book festivals together. A partner in an advertising agency, Peter Leonard left that world for the life of a full-time writer. To date, he has published three more novels: *Trust Me, All He Saw Was The Girl*, and *Voices of the Dead*.

For more information, visit library.sc.edu.