

Friends of the Library Newsletter

Swem Library • The College of William and Mary

Fall 2002 No. 28



From the Dean

The students have now arrived and the excitement of a new fall, a new

beginning is upon us. For returning students, they find more changes in the library. Even the front door has moved since last spring! The front door is to the far right of the new wing, tucked behind Millington Hall. Circulation, Reserves, and pickup for Interlibrary Loan are now located immediately inside this new entrance.

For many students, the big change is the disappearance of the stand alone computer cluster at the front of the building. Library and Information Technology (IT) staff have been working together to incorporate the IT managed computers into workstations on the 2d and 3d floors of Swem. This is another step in our progress toward a fully wired "information commons" environment of the new library. Students may use any of the library workstations as full productivity stations; to work with their electronic courses, create files and save to their campus server space, and search and locate information on any of the library's databases. We now have wireless capability throughout the new addition, as well as hundreds of data ports for laptop use. We collaborated with IT to provide a program of check-out laptops for use in the building. Last year was a success with 10 laptops practically constantly in use. This year we will have 15 laptops for checkout.

Another noticeable absence this fall is the Swem Café, our local Starbucks. Renovation of the old buildings did not

allow us the space to continue the café during the renovation. Luckily campus dining services has located the café in the Dodge room of PBK for the next couple of years.

As I write this column we not only face the challenges of serving 1300 freshmen and all of our returning students, but we face meeting those service needs with a greatly reduced budget for collections and services.

Overall, Swem is facing \$580,000 of cuts in our \$6M budget this fiscal year and into the next fiscal year. We have cancelled 230 journals and will be looking at

reducing the book budget and cutting services. It is a critical time for the College and for Swem Library. We continue to progress on our building project and have had very positive response from the students who have now had a year in the addition. We opened the library until 3:00 a.m. during exams last year and hundreds of students used the library to study. So it is particularly hard to contemplate cutting out those opportunities for success stories.

You are a part of those success stories. We list in this issue those individuals who support our programs, who enable use to acquire books, journals, databases to provide the information for our students and faculty, now and for the future. These are precious gifts that you give to us. They are always treasured, but perhaps even more so when we face cutbacks in state funds.

Many thanks to all of our donors.

Connie Kearns McCarthy,
Dean of University Libraries

First Impressions of the New Addition

If student opinion is anything to judge by, the new addition to Swem Library is a smashing success. In a random survey, William & Mary students enthusiastically endorsed the new building as a "great place to study." They especially like the

addition's airiness and open spaces with plenty of room to spread out books, laptops, and notebooks, but their highest praise is reserved

for the excellent lighting throughout the new addition.

Windows that run almost from ceiling to floor and state-of-the-

art lighting fixtures provide a much brighter environment than in the old building. One senior said, "I love it! I had stopped coming to the library to study, but the new addition is so much brighter, airier, and more open, I use it all the time now."

Bettina Manzo, Reference Librarian



Renovation Brings Changes; Entrance Temporarily Relocated, Story page 5



VIVA's Virginia Heritage Project Makes W&M Treasures Known Worldwide

Since 2000 Swem Library's Special Collections has been participating in the Virginia Heritage Project (VHP) which was funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities to facilitate and vastly improve access to its finding aids by making them available in a union database on the Worldwide Web. Under the leadership of the University of Virginia, 14 Virginia repositories began working together to convert the estimated 25,000 guides, inventories and finding aids into fully searchable online documents that conform to the latest standards of the profession.

Why is it important to start and maintain such an ambitious, time-consuming and technologically challenging retrospective conversion project? The answer lies in the nature of archival and manuscript material. Unlike books, journals, and other published materials, manuscript and archival collections cannot be described by a catalog entry alone. Guides to collections are often small publications themselves, and researchers depend on the detailed descriptions of record groups, series, or even folders and in some cases items like single letters to gain access to valuable materials. Until recently, those guides and finding aids, carefully compiled by generations of archivists and curators, were only available in the repositories themselves and it was not possible to perform searches across several collections or multiple repositories for subjects,

names, places or key words pertaining to a researcher's area of interest.

The Virginia Heritage Project brought a radical change to the accessibility of countless valuable documents that represent the history and cultural heritage of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the founding years of our country. By opening previously hard to find collections to students, scholars and the interested public, the Virginia Heritage Project strives to make education and research more efficient, thus taking a financial burden off researchers and the institutions and foundations that sponsor their scholarship.

During the first two years VHP's efforts to create this large union database of fully searchable finding aids have been enormously successful. The group of 11 initial institutions and three new repositories has surpassed by far its goal of encoding 17,500 pages. By June 2002, six months before the end of the grant period, the total number of pages had topped 38,000. Under the directorship of Susan Riggs, Manuscripts Cataloger, William & Mary received a share of the NEH grant money to hire two assistants who have encoded over 5,000 pages or a total of 80 guides. With more and more researchers and students making the web the starting point of their research, the importance of the newly created VHP database cannot be stressed enough.

The NEH grant will end in December 2002. However, VIVA will provide funds to sustain the server-side of the project so that the University of Virginia can continue to receive encoded finding aids, publish them online and maintain the union database. Due to the involved technologies applied in making encoded tagged text freely available on the Internet, the joint approach with shared expertise has proven to be the most efficient way for all participants. Furthermore, this approach also assured the development of and adherence to common standards among the Virginia institutions, which benefits researchers and repositories alike.

For Swem Library, the Virginia Heritage Project has been an exciting possibility to reach out to a larger research community and to vastly improve access and increase use of rare and valuable treasures. It has opened a window to the worldwide user community, and Special Collections is going to do everything it can to keep it that way – even after the NEH funding runs out this summer.

For more information, please visit the Virginia Heritage Project at www.lib.virginia.edu/vhp/index.html, or contact Susan Riggs at sarigg@wm.edu.

Ute Schechter, Burger Archivist

The **Ben & Jerry's** ice cream shoppes in Williamsburg held their annual program supporting Swem Library in October 2001 and will do so again this year. Each October, the Library receives 50 cents from every sundae sold at Ben & Jerry's during the month. Since the program began in 1990, more than \$13,000 has been contributed by the local proprietors.

Parents Gift Book Program Marks its 11th Year

Beginning with the Class of 1992, parents of seniors were asked if they would like to honor their graduating family member with a book in Swem Library. Each purchased book bears a bookplate with the name(s) of the donors and the graduating student. To date nearly \$50,000 has been contributed and nearly 1000 books have been purchased

Nancy Marshall brings Christmas to Swem

Bringing “Christmas in May” to Swem, Nancy H. Marshall, Dean of University Libraries, Emerita, launched the sale of her book *The Night Before Christmas: A Descriptive Bibliography of Clement Clarke Moore’s Immortal Poem*, with a slide presentation and lecture.



Encouraged to write the book by Professor Terry Meyers of the English Department, and after having written descriptions of her own large collection of editions of the poem, Nancy travelled to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Carnegie-Mellon University, and

Brown University doing additional research on their libraries’ holdings of *The Night Before Christmas* editions. Friends she met along the way as well as friends and colleagues from William & Mary gathered May 8 to hear Nancy describe her “obsession” with collecting Christmas memorabilia and editions of Clement Clarke Moore’s *A Visit from St. Nicholas*, the poem’s first title.

Noting that the book took “3 ½ years of my life,” Nancy was assisted in the preparation of her bibliography for publication by a Whitney-Carnegie grant awarded by the American Library Association’s Publications Committee.

The book features 1,001 entries each with full bibliographic and physical description, 144 color covers of *The Night Before Christmas* editions, and 80 black/white illustrations of early St. Nicholas engravings/lithographs.

“Without the generosity of Maurine S. Dulin, William & Mary Class of 1939, the 144 color illustrations which make this a unique bibliography would not have been possible,” says Nancy.

Connie Kearns McCarthy, Dean of University Libraries, wrote the foreword and Karen H. McCluney, Swem’s graphic designer, took the photographs.

Nancy plans to leave her extensive collection to the Special Collections Division of Swem Library where it will be kept together as a unique resource, accessible to scholars and researchers, and used in exhibitions. As Dean of University Libraries at William & Mary from 1986 to 1997, Nancy saw firsthand how the Earl Gregg Swem Library and the College respect and adhere to donors’ wishes, an important criterion for her in deciding where to place her beloved collection in perpetuity.

The book was published by Oak Knoll Press and may be ordered directly from the publisher at 1-800-996-2556 or online at www.oakknoll.com. It is also available at local bookstores. The cost of the volume is \$75.

For more information about the book and Nancy’s collection visit her web site www.nightbeforechristmas.biz.

Ellen Strong, Assistant Curator of Manuscripts & Rare Books and Cataloger

Profile of a Board Member: John P. Kyle '67



The fifth chair of the Friends of the Library Board, John Kyle, has been “raising the flag” for William & Mary since he arrived in Williamsburg from Roanoke as a freshman in the fall of 1963. Lettering in golf and joining ROTC and the Newman Club, John majored in English, but his interest in business was evident even then as he served as President of the William &

Mary Chapter of the Society for the Advancement of Management (SAM).

John has been a member of the Friends Board since March 1997 and Chair since March 2000. A resident of Bethesda, Maryland, he is married to Kay Kyle. They have two sons, Harold and Gordon. Harold graduated from Carleton College in 1998. He owns and operates Boxcar Press in Syracuse, New York, which produces fine letterpress hand-printed books. Gordon graduated this year from Dartmouth College,

and he is presently working on an environmental research project in California. Both of John’s parents and an aunt graduated from William & Mary.

When not working as senior managing director in the Washington office of Julien J. Studley, Inc., a commercial real estate firm, John devotes much of his time to his *alma mater*. At the Library he has assisted with the building expansion and the Friends Conservation Endowment. He recently provided Swem Library mugs, with the Library logo which have been presented to visitors and to graduating Library student assistants. During his term as Chair, support from members of the Board has increased significantly.

In addition to his service to the Swem Library, John is a former member of the Endowment Association Board (1984-96) at the College. He is also a member of the President’s Council. Among the other recipients of John’s generosity to the College are W&MAEF (Men’s Golf) and Student Advancement Association (SAA) scholarships.

Swem Staff Recognition Breakfast Honors Many

The seventh annual Staff Recognition Breakfast, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, was held in the Burger Reading Room of Swem's new addition on May 23.

Recognized for the overall and sustained excellence in quality of work and outstanding commitment to the job, the Library and the College, and/or exemplary completion of a special project, awards were presented to The Librarian of the Year and The Paraprofessional of the Year. Each recipient received a plaque and a check for \$500 given by the Friends of the Library.

◆ This year **The Librarian of the Year Award** was presented to **Susan Riggs**, Manuscripts Cataloger. Susan was instrumental in planning, writing, and submitting the proposal that resulted in a \$250,000 grant from the NEH (see page 2) to improve access to primary source materials in Virginia. Susan's vision, leadership, and hard work have made an extraordinary contribution to Swem Library and to historical research in Virginia.

◆ Graphic Designer **Karen McCluney** was presented **The Paraprofessional of the Year Award**. Karen's talents are visible everyday and everywhere in Swem Library and its branches. She infuses her work with humor, creativity, and excellent design. Her artistic talents give us our positive public image, on and off campus.

◆ Receiving **Outstanding Achievement Awards** for creative contributions, exceptional service, ideas for improving work methods, innovation, initiative, and excellence in work performance were: **Sheila Brown, Jessica Fischer, Wayne Graham, Brenda Greene, Trish Kearns, Marcia Kirby, Mary Molineux, Glenda Page, Cindy Sadler, Norma Southard, Ellen Strong, Hope Yelich, and Victoria Yoder.**

◆ **Team Outstanding Awards** were presented to **David Morales** and **Carole Conger** for the laptop computer check-out program, **Cay Davis** and **Delores Lee** for the transfer of reference and Reves materials to the general stacks, and **Glendora James, Norma Southard, and Kathryn Blue** for the Government Microfilm Project.

◆ **Length of Service Awards** are given for every five years of service. Recognized for 20 years of service

were **Norma Southard** (Cataloging) and **Morlié Young** (Acquisitions). **Stephen Clark** (Acquisitions Librarian) and **Pat Hausman** (Science Librarian) were recognized for 15 years of service. **Stacy Gould** (University Archivist), **Marcia Kirby** (Serials), **David Morales** (Circulation), **Nancy Hadley** (Senior Archivist), **Charlotte Jackson** (Circulation), and **Connie McCarthy** (Dean of University Libraries) were recognized for 5 years.

*Cindy Sadler,
Preservation Library Specialist*

Adopt a Book

Friends who would like to underwrite the cost of conserving items in our collections are welcome to do so. The following are in need of conservation, and the estimated cost of preserving them is indicated.

- ◆ A gift to the Library from the King of France in 1784.

Jean S. Bailly's *LETTRES SUR L'ATLANTIDE DE PLATON* (1779) addressed to Voltaire needs the fly leaf and the front cover repaired. This treatise showing Plato's interest in the island of Atlantis is one of only two volumes of 200 given by Louis XVI to have survived the College fire of 1859, which destroyed practically all of the Library. **\$150**

- ◆ One of the earliest extant examples of music known to have been played in 18th-century Williamsburg.

A bound volume of sheet music duets for harpsichord or pianoforte needs its cracked spine replaced and the text block re sewn. The volume was previously owned by the daughter of Philip Barraud, a physician in the former capital of Virginia in the 1790s. **\$250**

- ◆ A unique book from the library of St. George Tucker (1752-1827), second professor of law at the College of William and Mary.

A bound volume which includes a printed and manuscript work by St. George Tucker and a previously unknown pamphlet by his brother, Thomas Tudor Tucker, needs an appropriate acid-free preservation box to protect it from dust and to ensure its longevity. **\$100**

Margaret C. Cook, Curator of Manuscripts and Rare Books

Renovation Brings Changes; Entrance Temporarily Relocated

Swem Library's expansion and renovation project continues, bringing changes and improvements to the library and its services. This past spring, the library entrance and front lobby temporarily shifted to the east side of the new wing, adjacent to the Class of 1950 Veterans Memorial Plaza. A series of outdoor signs direct patrons to the new, first floor doorway.

Most of the public access services are now clustered within the new entry area. The leisure reading alcove and new books display are to the right of the door, across from a row of computer workstations. Circulation and Reserves Services occupy a combined desk near the center of the room. Duplicating Services, which was on the ground floor, has an office on the left side of the lobby.

Moving the library entrance signaled the beginning of the renovation of the first floor of the original building, while the remodeling and refitting of the second and third floors continues. As that work progresses, the upper floors of the addition are being used to house the collections and provide reader seating.

New features on those floors include compact shelving and the availability of individual lockers. To save space, mobile compact shelving was installed in the new wing. The movable shelves are designed to be operated manually. Banks of self-service lockers on each floor provide a place for library users to store their personal belongings while they are in the building. The renovation also resulted in the temporary transfer of Swem's first floor PAC Lab to carrels on the second and third floors, an added convenience for those studying there.

One of the best features of the new facility is the upgraded wiring system. There are several hundred Internet and electrical connections, scattered throughout the public areas which allow individuals with personal computers to access the campus network. Students, faculty, and staff are also able to borrow laptops at the library circulation desk for use in the library. The laptops connect to the campus network via a wireless network card, making them very portable.

For that latest information about the expansion and renovation of the library go to www.swem.wm.edu/Building/building.html or contact Kay J. Domine, Building Project Librarian, kjdomi@wm.edu or Haskell C. Brown, College of William & Mary Project Manager, hcbrow@wm.edu.

Carol McAllister, Bibliographer/ Reference Librarian

Friends of the Library Newsletter

John P. Kyle, Chair, Friends of the Library

Connie K. McCarthy, Dean of University Libraries

John D. Haskell, Jr., Editor

Karen H. McCluney, Graphic Design & Photography

Exciting Acquisitions in Special Collections

The Manuscripts and Rare Books Department is pleased to announce recently acquired gifts and purchases which add immeasurably to the collections.

From a tourist in town for a family reunion, we acquired a previously unknown U.S. President John Tyler letter. The donor found his way to the Special Collections Annex in Toano and presented a note by President Tyler to his son Robert, dated November 24, 1854, concerning an illness and mentioning several prominent Williamsburg people. Our Tyler Papers are extensive, and one of the best sources extant for knowledge of this prominent family.

From a former faculty member, Virginia LaCharite, we acquired, through the good auspices of Professor Emeritus Ludwell Johnson, a most unusual slave document. Mrs. La Charite's great grandmother at age three was given, by a family friend, a six year old slave. This transaction is documented in a Mississippi agreement dated February 23, 1855. Slave documents passed down through families are in one way a sad commentary, and in another, a rich source. Purchased with income from the Johns-Pollard Fund and the H. Lester Hooker Fund is a voluminous collection of Maury family letters, documents, charts, literary writings, and even a portrait to enhance an already existing collection relating to this prominent family of Huguenots and their descendants. The heroine of the family is Ann Maury (1803-1876), Victorian spinster, historian and writer who kept the family together through trials and the Civil War, and who luckily preserved all the papers recording the individual members' lives, achievements, and family ties including letters of Matthew Fontaine Maury, the famous 19th-century oceanographer.

The University Archives has received on deposit a lovely miniature of William Byrd Harrison of "Brandon" from a descendant. Harrison, a supporter of the College, was appointed to the Board of Visitors in 1849. His was the 8th generation of Harrisons associated with the College since 1693 when Benjamin Harrison was appointed a trustee of the newly founded institution.