



The Newsletter for Employees of the University of Louisville Libraries

Vol. 11, No. 2 x March, 1996

The Owl

The Owl of Minerva takes flight only as the dusk begins to fall. —Hegel

The Owl Profile:

Bob Roehm--Feet on the Ground (Floor), Head in the Stars

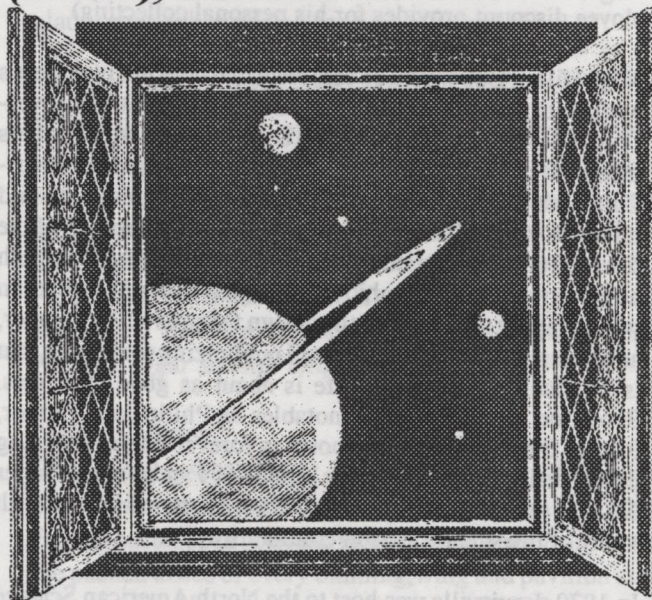
by Dave Meyer,

Office of Collection Management

Profiled this month is one of *The Owl's* own. Bob Roehm has served on the editorial board of *The Owl* since its inception, also having worked on the last few issues of its previous incarnation as *The Ekspress*. Bob's editorial forte is type and layout; as a consequence, we have him to thank for the current masthead and logo as well as *The Owl's* clean look.

Bob is a Hoosier by birth (which may commend him to some and condemn him to others), having been born in Tell City and spending his callow years on a farm near there. After graduation from high school, he headed for the bright lights of Jeffersonville, then home to Indiana University Southeast. There he had his first experience of library work. (I almost said he had his first experience working in a library, but that sounds a bit more racy than a Hoosier boy could handle.) Graduating from IUS in 1972, he then took a job briefly with the *Bloomington (Indiana) Herald-Telephone*, greatly confusing his grandmother who thought he worked for the telephone company instead of the local newspaper's circulation department. It wasn't long before he found himself back nearer to Louisville, spending several years as an apartment manager in Clarksville. ("Hell on earth," is his depiction of this period, which could be taken as a negative.) After a short period working at a halfway house for emotionally handicapped individuals, Bob made his way at last to U of L and the University Libraries in October of 1979, accepting a position in the Acquisitions Department.

Since that time, Bob's biggest move has been from the old library in Schneider Hall to Ekstrom. Even though he now works in the Office of Collection Management (more an organizational than a functional move), one of his primary duties remains the same as his first day at U of L--the processing of approval books (mainly university press publications). Well-versed in the mechanics of the publishing industry, Bob now has a hand in almost all aspects of acquisitions work. As many a librarian can attest, if an item can be found, no matter the format, chances are Bob will



have a pretty good idea of just where to look for it and who would be the best at supplying it. As may be expected, the Internet and the World Wide Web are but more tools to help in the search, and Bob is becoming adept at making use of it in acquisitions work.

Bob's affinity for acquisitions extends well beyond his work at U of L. He is a bookman to the bone, being cursed with the "gentle madness" of bibliophilia. He says he owns the first book he ever bought, when he was in high school. He's found it hard to put his wallet back in his pocket since, and now has a collection of over 7,500 books. Bob's major literary love is science fiction (don't make the mistake of calling it sci-fi around him, and he finds the term speculative fiction "better, but pretentious"), to which he was first attracted in his early teens by the work of Robert A. Heinlein. Over 5,000 of his books are science fiction. While his most valuable items may be his signed first editions of Stephen King's *Carrie* and *The Stand*, he prizes more his collection of books published by the science fiction specialty presses, primarily from the late '40's through late '50's, which specialized in preserving work previously published in the pulp magazines of this and earlier

periods. Bob lists Heinlein, Jack Vance, and Arthur C. Clarke among his favorite classic science fiction authors. More recent favorites are the newer school of British authors of science fiction, including Stephen Baxter, Ian McDonald, Iain M. Banks, and Paul McAuley; Jonathan Carroll is a favorite among contemporary American authors.

From 1982 to 1986, Bob (with three partners) also ran the Odyssey Bookshop in the Bonnycastle area of Bardstown Road. Science fiction was the sole genre purveyed, and it was known as one of the best stores of its kind in the country. Since closing Odyssey, he has worked several evenings a week at Carmichael's Bookstore in the Highlands, proving to be an asset in his selection of books for the Browsing Collection, as well as for other areas of the Libraries' collections (not to mention the added benefit that his employee discount provides for his personal collecting).

No profile of Bob would be complete that does not include his work with science fiction conventions, most notably RiverCon, the local convention he has been involved with since its inception in 1975. As an organizer and participant of RiverCon, Bob has the chance to integrate all his talents and interests. One of his main activities is the preparation of the convention publicity material and program book, for which he gets to use all his graphic tricks. Bob is rarely happier than when playing around with the design features of PageMaker, and being able to use this talent in publicizing something that is so much a part of his life is about as good as it gets. RiverCon has drawn such notables as Philip José Farmer, Robert Bloch (whom Bob notes is forever cursed as being parenthetically known as the author of *Psycho*), and Roger Zelazny over the years, putting Bob on a first-name basis with many of the science fiction community elite.

In 1979, Louisville was host to the North American Science Fiction Convention (NASFiC), which Bob also helped to organize and served as vice-chairman and program director. Bob's work with such conventions has earned him honors over the years. Two years ago he was made a Kentucky Colonel and just last month he was the Guest of Honor at ConCave 17, a science fiction convention held annually in Cave City, Kentucky. There he regaled the audience with his adventures in science fiction over the past thirty years.

Those of us familiar with Bob have seen his acerbic (droll, downright Grinchy?) side from time to time (e.g., "You don't have to know about something to express an opinion"), but recognize it as pretense. Even he, after all, could hardly fail to be cognizant of the great good fortune of being able to integrate so well his vocation and his avocation. And, for over fifteen years, the Libraries have benefited as well.

General News

Support Staff Cabinet Sponsors Patron Service Seminar 1996

Another cold winter with arctic temperatures was a challenge this year for the University Libraries Staff Cabinet's second presentation of the Patron Service Seminar on Friday, January 5, 1996, at the Ekstrom Library. Like last year, two sessions were available for library employees, the morning session or the afternoon session. Steve Noble gave a brief welcome and introduction for both sessions followed by a kick-off speech by Ralze Dorr, also given at both sessions. Letters (A,B,C) were used on the nametags to determine the order in which each participant would attend the programs. This meant it was ver-r-r-ry important to pick up a nametag before attending either of the sessions! The Break Out Sessions (Meet Me in the Middle, Cultural Diversity, Motivation, Listening, History of the University of Louisville and The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly) were presented quite successfully, as was as the video, *Library Challenge*.

There was a pasta buffet lunch served to those attending either session on the third floor atrium of the Ekstrom Library during which door prizes were announced and given away. The Staff Cabinet would like to thank and acknowledge the following businesses for their donations of gifts/gift certificates for our door prizes:

American Fitness	Baskin Robbins
Belle of Louisville	City Café
Fashion Shop	Louisville Sports and Recreation
Magic Sparkle Car Wash	McDonalds
TGI Fridays	The Seelbach Hotel
Kentucky Center for the Arts	
The Friends of the Louisville Free Public Library	
The Friends of the Iroquois Branch Library	

According to the Comment Forms returned, the seminar was very successful this year. Most of the comments were positive. Suggestions included the following:

"*Could have used a couple of more minutes in between sessions.*"
 "*The building should have been closed.*"
 "*Another time of year...January is too cold and is a busy time for many of us.*"
 "*Have more topics to choose from.*"

In closing I would like to say, on behalf of the University Libraries Staff Cabinet, we thank you for attending this year's Patron Service Seminar.

--Marcia Kotlinski, Vice-Chair, Staff Cabinet



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 Co-Editors: Robin Harris (852-6392) and David Horvath (852-8756); Editorial Board: Alice Abbott, Bill Carner,
 Amy Hanaford, Carolyn Hilger. Typing: Kathy Marsall & Erea Marshall. Layout: Bob Roehm.

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The Owl's purpose is to promote communication among the various libraries in the U of L system. Ideas and articles are welcome!

Deadline for publication is the 21st of each month.

Library/Dept. News

Ekstrom Library

DADS

DADS welcomes new student assistants Erika Wood, Shonta' Ware, Akesha Hill, and Walleed Abdalla.

Media & Current Periodicals

"Give me but one firm spot on which to stand, and I will move the earth." Eureka! We can get it now! Trish Blair and Eric Neagle successfully completed the move of over 10,000 reels of microfilm--in two days! All of Media and Current Periodicals' film reels now have homes in cabinets and are no longer alone and palely loitering on open shelves.

Michael Forman is a new student working with us, coming to our rescue after the unexpected and precipitous departure of a Student Who Shall Remain Nameless. After saving our skins, Michael will no doubt go on to a similar career in a broader arena (he jokingly referred to his plans to "save the world") with his Sociology degree. We are very glad to have Mike working with us.

Wendy Bronson will be a recipient of an award at the first annual Disability Awareness Award Banquet. The Disability Resource Center and the Barrier Advisory Board are sponsoring what they hope will be an ongoing event. Many people participated in nominating and voting for people in categories such as reader, note-taker, and teacher of the year, disabled alumni and student of the year, and persons assisting individuals with disabilities. Wendy is honored to be chosen as the Outstanding Academic Resource Person, and is particularly moved and pleased that the students she works with not only elected her for this award but also did much to plan and organize this event. Congratulations, Wendy!

Reference

Anna Marie Johnson will be presenting a mini-session, jointly with Mark Paul of the Kersey Library and David Horvath of M&CP, at the KLA Academic Section/ KLA Special Section/SLA Kentucky Chapter Joint Spring Conference on Friday, April 5. The title of the mini-session is "What Do You know? Connecting Teachers, Skills and Students in Broadening the Library Instruction Vista." See you there!

Special Collections

"Tarzan Lives! (again)"

A film crew from The ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK interviewed George McWhorter and filmed material from the Burroughs Collection in February for an upcoming episode of "Biography" on A&E.

"Save Your Pennies!"

George has written the introduction to a NEW Tarzan book, *Tarzan--The Lost Adventure*, published by Dark Horse Press. Joe Lansdale has written the ending to an unfinished Burroughs' manuscript and the December, 1995, limited edition is available for \$99.95. If you're still paying off your holiday charges you could wait for the trade edition to be published this month for a mere \$15.95. George will gladly sign either edition for no additional charge.

"Eddie Adams, Move Over"

Robin Wallace, one of our talented and loyal student workers, is working as a photographer and model on an advertising campaign to glamorize cigar smoking. You may have noticed Robin, a non-smoker, in the ads for Avalon in the Cardinal. (*Editor's note for our younger readers: Eddie Adams was the focus of a multi-year advertising campaign for Dutch Masters cigars and is the widow of Ernie Kovacs, cigar smoker extraordinaire.*)

"Farm News"

Bill spent his birthday at the National Farm Equipment Show. He reports that it is hard to believe that the Census Bureau has stopped counting farmers after squeezing through the packed aisles of every building, wing and pavilion at the fairgrounds. He also reports that he LOVED January's snow. Bill and his wife, Jennifer, gave each other cross country skis for Christmas and loved skiing around their farm during that all too brief time the ground was covered with the white stuff.



Kersey Library

Kersey's acquisitions assistant, Victoria Moon, headed out to the Great White North (Detroit, MI to be precise) February 22-25 to cheer on her husband, Stephen, and his band, Fishtales. Stephen is a regional finalist for The Gospel Music Association's Song of the Year competition, and Fishtales is a regional finalist for Artist of the Year in the same competition. Victoria will be shmoozing industry

bigwigs to help her husband get that recording contract, so she, Stephen and their two cats can be rich and famous...

Kersey is honoring the accomplishments of African-Americans in the fields of science and technology with an exhibit titled "Faces of Discovery: African-Americans in Science and Technology," researched and designed by Victoria Moon. The exhibit will be in the lobby of Kersey for the rest of the month. Please come and see it!

Victoria Moon, who is leading a rather exciting life lately, is proud to announce the newest addition to the family: her niece, Emily Elizabeth Austen. Emily was born November 28, and, according to Victoria, is the most perfect, beautiful girl in the universe--and she tells us she has the pictures to prove it! She and her husband are readily available to babysit, but so far prefer the idea of cats to children for themselves.

Kersey joined in with Speed School in order to celebrate Engineering Days, an annual Speed School event. Engineering Days this year were from February 21-25. Jan Kulkarni and Mark Paul, Kersey's reference librarian and electronic information coordinator respectively, offered guided tours through the library the 24th and 25th to anyone interested in learning more about Kersey and what it has to offer.

Remember that little cold snap we had a couple of weeks ago? Well, Kersey got to enjoy the tremendous challenge of attempting a productive work day with no heat in the building! Needless to say, we all huddled around space heaters and prayed for warmer weather. We've been told our heating system is back on track now--for which we're very thankful!

Finally, we wanted to send out a big WELCOME to Christian Dunaway, our new student assistant who hails from Alabama. Also, a warm WELCOME BACK to Matt Young, a returning student assistant. We missed you, Matt, and we're glad you're back!

Kornhauser Library Administrative Offices

The KHSL Friends of the Library annual dinner meeting will be at the Museum of the American Printing House for the Blind on Tuesday April 16, 1996. R.Ted Steinbock, M.D. will present MEDICAL BOOKS AS HISTORIC ICONS.

Reference

On January 7, Michel Atlas and her husband Ron, ran in the

Walt Disney Marathon. The whole family went. They had lots of fun, especially at the Orlando Magic's game and at the Tower of Terror of the MGM Studios.

ILL

Jason Warren is now working at Hopkinsville Community College. He is coordinating their Upward Bound program.

Technical Services

We are sad to announce that Gwen Snodgrass has left Technical Services at Kornhauser Library. She has accepted a position with Lexis while she attends Law School. We will all miss her.

Good bye to Nicole Vitello, Student Assistant in Technical Services. Nicole left at the end of February to do agricultural work in Senegal, Africa, for a year.

Law Library

FYI... On Sunday, March 31, from 9:00 - 10:00 p.m., Melissa Long will be interviewed on 84-WHAS. The program will highlight Seven County Services' ComPeer program. Melissa has been with ComPeer longer than any other volunteer, with four years of service. The radio program is hosted by University of Louisville Professor Stanley Frager.



The Louisville Mandolin Orchestra will present a public concert on Sunday, March 24, at 7:30 p.m. at the St. Frances of Rome Theatre (2117 Payne Street). Admission is free, although donations will be accepted gratefully! The first half of the program will feature the LMO's premiere of a medley of Russian balalaika tunes arranged by Professor Jack Ashworth of the UofL School of Music. The second half of the show will feature special guests

The Albeniz Guitar Duo. These German classical musicians are touring the U.S. and are stopping in Louisville to perform and to do some masterclasses. The LMO will perform Vivaldi's "Concerto in G Major for Two Mandolins" with The Albeniz Guitar Duo during the first half of the concert. For more information about this LMO event, please call Robin Harris at 6083 or send an email note to rrharr01.

Julia Nuss (Law Library Artist Extraordinaire) entered two mobiles in the Kentuckiana Metroversity Art Competition and was among the thirty finalists chosen to exhibit her art in the McGrath Gallery in Wyatt Hall at Bellarmine College. The exhibit ran from February 5-25. Congratulations, Julia!

LIFEstyle

Opening the Doors to Healthier
and Stress-Free Living
A column by Alice Abbott,
Technical Services, Ekstrom Library

Spring into action!

Spring isn't that far away and we have been given a few warm days to tease us for the season ahead. It seems as if most people suddenly become more active in the spring. Like many living creatures, we humans tend to hibernate in the winter, becoming less active and eating more to keep warm and cozy. So, when spring comes, do you find yourself wanting to start some activities to break up the feeling of cabin fever?

Now that spring is just around the corner, you may be wanting to find out some information about fun activities that are not too expensive and that most anyone can do. This past fall I conducted a survey over the e-mail system to find out what the good people of the University Libraries do in terms of exercise. The names are listed in alphabetical order. This is what I learned:

ALICE ABBOTT, Technical Services, Ekstrom: "Now a year and half after I began my weight loss program, my exercise has fluctuated from mild to hard to moderate. I currently enjoy cycling, dancing, and walking."

GRANVILLE BUNTON, Library Personnel Officer: "I go to Crawford Gym on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to play basketball with other faculty and staff of the University from noon to about 1:15. Very therapeutic. On Tuesdays, Saturdays, or Sundays I ride a stationary bike for about an hour and I exercise on a rowing machine periodically."

NIKKI GAINES, Media and Current Periodicals: "My favorite form of exercise is biking. I can use biking as transportation to and from work, which is a healthful alternative (albeit somewhat more dangerous than driving

or taking the bus) to dealing with the aggravations of morning and afternoon traffic."

KELLEY GRESHAM, Binding Assistant, Kersey Library: "Other than walking, I have found Kathy Smith's exercise tapes to be very interesting

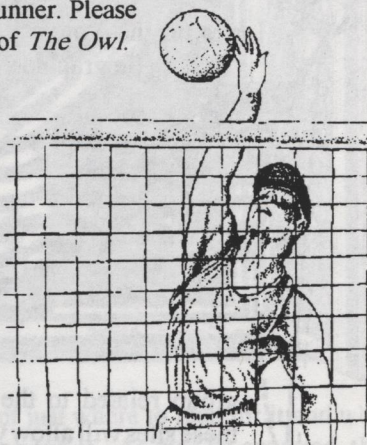


and helpful. She offers a wide range of tapes that have beginners and intermediate levels on one tape. She is very highly ranked in the physical fitness magazines for overall muscle tone and warm-up stretches."

MARCIA KOTLINSKI, Second Floor Supervisor/Binding/Serials/Media, Kersey Library: "The only way I can completely exercise is swimming. It is a total exercise without any stress to the body. I have always enjoyed swimming...coming from New England I was swimming in the ocean before I could walk."

MARGARET MERRICK, Associate Archivist, University Archives: Margaret is a loyal runner. Please refer to the October issue of *The Owl*.

DAVE MEYER, Collection Management Assistant, Ekstrom Library: "I really enjoy playing volleyball when possible. As far as something that can be done on a daily basis, walking is by far the exercise I am most likely to maintain when I get myself in the habit."



BILL MORISON, Director, University Archives and Records Center: Bill plays tennis and runs. He will be featured in the next issue of *The Owl*.

GLENDA NEELY, Professor & Business Reference Librarian, Ekstrom Library: "It seems like walking and housework are the main forms of exercise I get, although my favorite is racquetball."

MARGARET REYNOLDS, Serials Control, Technical Services, Law Library: "I should tell you about something I've rediscovered...bicycling."

So, if you are thinking of incorporating an activity into your life, consider these suggestions from your colleagues!

I want to thank everyone who responded to my survey for sharing the form(s) of exercise they enjoy.

G O P h e r

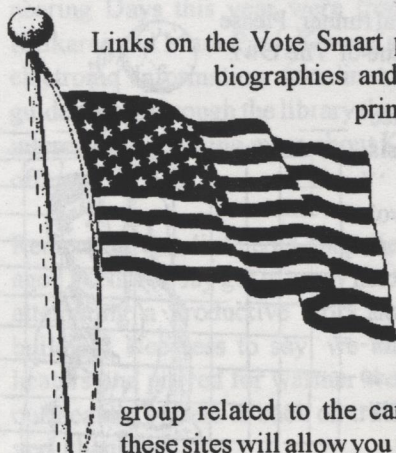
I t !

by Andy Anderson,
Photographic Archives



Politics on the Web

What do Lamar Alexander and Wyoming Wolf have in common in 1996? They each hold down one end of the alphabetical list of announced candidates for the presidency of the United States and both are on the World Wide Web. Dozens of Web sites have been established to provide you with more than you ever wanted to know about Campaign '96, but my favorite is Project Vote Smart (http://www.vote-smart.org/campaign_96/presidential/). The maintainers of this site state on their home page (<http://www.vote-smart.org>) that their mission is to "provide voters with factual information on candidates and elected officials."



Links on the Vote Smart page lead to candidate biographies and finances, info on the primaries and conventions, candidate Web sites, and interactive pages. The interactive page contains links to every known presidential opinion or issue poll, discussion list (listserve), and news-

group related to the campaign. Connecting to these sites will allow you to express your opinions by completing questionnaires, participating in a discussion or going nuclear on a newsgroup. They are also great for what they reveal about the opinions of others as we grind toward November.

These pages also contain links to other campaign resource sites such as Countdown '96 Home Page (<http://comeback.com/countdown/>) and Campaign Central (<http://www.clark.net/ccentral/campaign.html>). Campaign Central contains a link to Campaign Central Humor, for when you can't take any of it seriously anymore. Included in its links is one to the Unofficial Dave Barry Campaign Home Page.

Also on the lighter side is SCAMpaign '96 (<http://www.comedyusa.com/Home.html>), whose mottoes are "It is the responsibility of each eligible citizen of this democracy to hold their nose on the first Tuesday in November and VOTE."

Exhibits

PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVES

"Tarzan Meets the 21st Century"

Through March

RARE BOOKS

"Albert Hubbard and the Roycrofters"

Through May

ENSTROM LIBRARY LOBBY

An exhibit for Women's History Month will feature material from the University Archives' Women's Manuscript Collection (featuring seven prominent Louisville women) and other materials selected by archivist Kathy Johnson

MUSIC LIBRARY

An exhibit related to the American Musicological regional chapter meeting to be held March 23-25

SCHNEIDER HALL

"American Society of Interior Designers"

Through March 8

Belknap Gallery

"Master of Arts Thesis Exhibition"

Though March 8

Covi Gallery

"Allen R. Hite Art Institute Student Exhibition"

March 15 - April 12

Reception: Thursday, March 14, 4:30-7:00 pm

Belknap and Covi Galleries

Thank You

Alice Abbott

Robert Allen

Andy Anderson

Teresa Bowden

Wendy Bronson

Bill Carner

Amy Hanaford

Marcia Kotlinski

Missy Long

Erea Marshall

David Meyer

Victoria Moon

Susan Scheiberg

