



# The Owl



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



By Anna Marie Johnson, Information Literacy & The Owl Book Editor

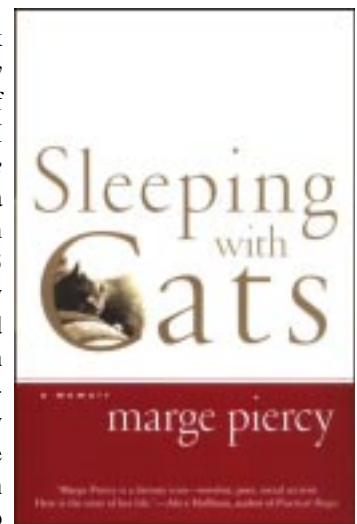
Reading is like eating for me. I can't eat too much of one type of food before I become bored. My husband can eat the same thing day after day and it takes him months to tire of it. (This trait is very endearing since I do the cooking — he's always happy.) He also reads the same books over and over. I rarely do that. I need to have a little bit of several genres to keep me balanced and happy. So I have picks from a variety of types of reading.

My mystery pick is *The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* series, which was also a pick for two of our other readers. They do a good job of describing it, so I'll leave it to them.

My non-fiction picks are *Einstein's Daughter: The Search for Lieserl* by Michele Zackheim (Ekstrom Browsing QC 16 .E5 Z33 1999) and *Sleeping with Cats: A Memoir* by Marge Piercy (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3566.14 Z477 2002). Zackheim recounts her search through Serbia and Germany for Albert Einstein's illegitimate daughter by his first wife Mileva Maric. The search itself is fascinating as is the story of Albert and Mileva. Zackheim traces the processes through each of the leading contenders and doesn't tell you her conclusion until the very last page of the book. At times the timeline can be a little difficult to follow, but it still makes for a gripping real-life mystery.

I do think you have to really like cats to appreciate how novelist and poet Piercy tells her story. She punctuates the momentous occasions in her life with tales and descriptions of the many beloved cats she has had as companions, and with her poems. She lived a volatile childhood in the slums of Detroit in the 1930s and was active in a wide variety of 1960s movements, had an open marriage in the late 60's and 70's and finally ended up with her soul mate, Ira Wood, in the early 1980's. Her story is fascinating and beautifully told.

My children's book pick normally would be *Harry Potter*, but in the interest of trying something new, I would recommend *The Headless Cupid* by Zilpha Keatley Snyder (Ekstrom Stacks PZ7 .S68522 H43 1985). This is a cute story about a blended family and a spooky mystery with witchcraft! This was actually recommended to me by a patron at the Reference Desk and she was right on target. It makes me want to do a Children's Book edition of Reader's Picks sometime...



My new science fiction favorite author (six months ago it was

Nancy Kress — I'm so fickle) is Neal Stephenson. His book *The Diamond Age* (Ekstrom Stacks PS 3569 .T3868 D53 1995) is set somewhere in the distant future when the world is no longer divided into countries, but rather into numerous phyles or tribes. The heroine of the story is a girl named Nell who is a part of the phyle-less peasant class and who by way of her sticky-fingered brother comes into possession of an electronic "book" (for lack of a better term) called the *Young Ladies' Illustrated Primer*, intended for another little girl from a far more privileged social class. This book in essence "raises" Nell through womanhood and the story of that upbringing is really extraordinary. *The Diamond Age* is about the power of story and the subversive effects of reading among many other things. Stephenson has a lot in common with William Gibson.

My fiction picks: *The Sharp Teeth of Love* by Doris Betts (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3552 .E84 S53 1997). This is the story of Luna Stone who is engaged to be married and headed across the U.S. with her fiancé to his new job in California. Midway there, Luna has a change of heart, leaves him and goes to camp in the Sierra Nevada mountains where she meets the ghost of Tamsen Donner of the ill-fated Donner party, stranded in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in a snowy pass and forced into cannibalism to survive. Luna also takes in a young, abused Mexican boy and together they hook up with a semi-deaf construction worker who came to the West to go to seminary. While the plot elements sound melodramatic, the story is actually quite believable — even the ghost. The dialogue is also very good.

*Some Things I Never Thought I'd Do* by Pearl Cleage (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3553 .L389 S66 2003). I really liked *What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day* so I picked this up. It is the story of a recovering cocaine addict who stands to lose her parents' house if she doesn't go back to work for the motivational speaker she worked for previous to her addiction, and with whom she parted on bad terms because of a relationship she had with the woman's son. Lots of discussion of serious issues in the African American community makes it an interesting read. There is an impossibly perfect love story with vestiges of past loves and looking for love across time—but then I'm a sucker for that kind of thing. It might be a turn-off for some others in a book that is seemingly realistic fiction. A little bit fairy tale, but a hopeful one.

*Blue Shoe* by Anne Lamott (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3562 .A4645 .B57 2002). Anyone who's read Lamott's non-fiction will easily be able to see her in Mattie, the main character of *Blue Shoe*, who is simultaneously dealing with raising her two small children after her divorce, keeping her failing mother out of the nursing home, her ex's new spouse and subsequent new

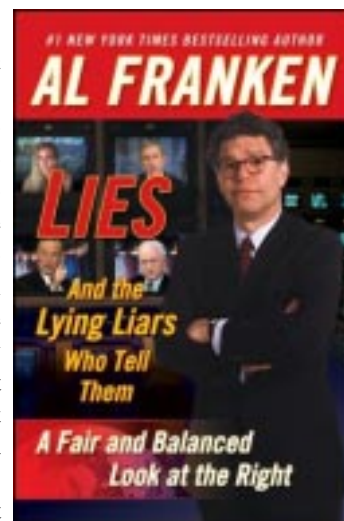
baby, and falling in love with the rat exterminator who couldn't bring himself to kill her rats. The story and the characters are charming. To quote a *New Yorker* review of her work: Lamott describes imperfect moments perfectly.

#### James Adler, Kornhauser Library

*The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3552 .R685434 D3 2003). Yeah, it's been included in previous Reader's Picks, but it's a real ripping yarn. I plan to read his other book, *Angels and Demons* (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3552 .R685434 A82 2000) as soon as I can get a hand on it.

Once the weather gets real cold, I plan to pull out some great big, fat Victorian novel, probably by Charles Dickens. I'm leaning towards *Our Mutual Friend* (Ekstrom Stacks PR 4568 .C67), *Hard Times* (Ekstrom Stacks PR4561 .A1), or *Little Dorrit* (Ekstrom Stacks PR4562 .A1) since I've never read any of those. These are the kind of novels that can totally sweep you up into their own self-contained world, and make you wish they would never end. At least I'm hoping that that's the case, which it always has been when I've read Dickens. The man does not write bad books.

Al Franken's *Lies and the Lying Liars Who Tell Them* (Ekstrom Browsing E885 .F728 2003) is good for stripping away the sickening hypocrisy and downright dishonesty that seem to be the defining features of mainstream media and political figures at this time. It's the collective Emperor's New Clothes, and they ain't got nuthin' on! Of course, that kid in the original story would probably get lynched in this day and age, but that doesn't mean he was seeing things wrong.



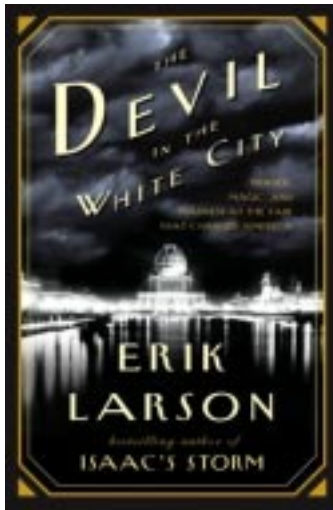
#### Gail Gilbert, Art Library

I'd recommend *The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair that Changed America* by Erik Larson (Ekstrom Browsing HV6248.M8 L37 2003). From the Amazon blurb: "Author Erik Larson imbues the incredible events surrounding the 1893 Chicago World's Fair with such drama that readers may find themselves checking the book's categorization to be sure that *The Devil in the White City* is not, in fact, a highly imaginative novel. Larson tells the stories of two men:



*The Owl* is published nine times a year by the University of Louisville Libraries, Louisville, KY 40292. There is no January issue and there is a combined June-August "summer" issue published in late July. Co-Editors: Robin Harris (robin.harris@louisville.edu, 852-6083) and Amy Purcell (amy.purcell@louisville.edu, 852-1861). Editorial Board: Bill Carner, David Horvath, Catherine Lavallée-Welch, Mark Paul, Elizabeth Smigielski. Book Editor: Anna Marie Johnson. Layout: Bob Roehm.

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*The Owl's* purpose is to promote communication among the various libraries in the UofL system.  
 Deadline for publication is the 21st of each month.



Daniel H. Burnham, the architect responsible for the fair's construction, and H.H. Holmes, a serial killer masquerading as a charming doctor. Burnham's challenge was immense. In a short period of time, he was forced to overcome the death of his partner and numerous other obstacles to construct the famous "White City" around which the fair was built. His efforts to complete the project, and the fair's incredible success, are skillfully related... The activities

of the sinister Dr. Holmes, who is believed to be responsible for scores of murders around the time of the fair, are equally remarkable. Combining the stories of an architect and a killer in one book, mostly in alternating chapters, seems like an odd choice but it works. The magical appeal and horrifying dark side of 19th-century Chicago are both revealed through Larson's skillful writing."

**Robin Harris, Law Library**

*Open Wide the Freedom Gates: A Memoir* by Dorothy Height (Ekstrom African American Collection E 185.97 .H444 A3 2003). A tireless crusader in the struggle for civil rights in our country, Dr. Dorothy Height was often the only woman in the room when the charismatic male leaders of the Civil Rights Movement gathered. In her memoir she chronicles a life of leadership and her encounters with a wide range of 20th century luminaries, including President John F. Kennedy, Eleanor Roosevelt, W.E.B. DuBois, and W.C. Handy.

If you've never heard of Dorothy Height, you're not alone. Even though she was onstage when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his "I Have a Dream" speech at the March on Washington in 1963, and even though she played a pivotal role in many closed-door policy meetings, her work behind the scenes for the most part went unnoticed until recently.

This is a look at history through the eyes of a "mover and shaker" who received little credit. In the foreword to the memoir, Maya Angelou asks: "Could one African American woman, born in the early twentieth century, bound on all sides by the seeming immutable laws of racial and sexual discrimination escape being devastated? How could she go further and achieve such an impressive curriculum vitae?" Dr. Height provides an illuminating and inspiring set of answers to those questions.

**Sarah Jent, Reference Department, Ekstrom Library**

*Atonement* by Ian McEwan (Ekstrom Browsing PR6063 .C4 A88 2002). An intense piece of fiction with an interesting premise.

*The Dive From Clausen's Pier* by Ann Packer (Ekstrom

Browsing PS3616 .A33 D58 2002). A tragic story with a touching ending.

*Friendship Cake* by Lynne Hinton. A wonderful story of friendship.

*The Girls' Guide to Hunting and Fishing* by Melissa Bank (Ekstrom Browsing PS3552 .A487 G57 1999). Enjoyable with an interesting format (short stories tied together with the same main character).

*Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* by J.K. Rowling (Ekstrom Browsing PZ7 .R79835 Ham 1999). Yes, I know I'm behind. This is the best of the three I've read so far. Looking forward to the next two. Hopefully I'll read them before #6 comes out.

*Juno and Juliet* by Julian Gough (Ekstrom Browsing PR6057 .O815 J86 2001). An enjoyable book with an interesting narrator.

*Ladies With Options* by Cynthia Hartwick. Entertaining and fun.

*Life of Pi* by Yann Martel (Ekstrom Browsing PR9199.3 .M3855 L54 2001). A triumphant and engaging tale.

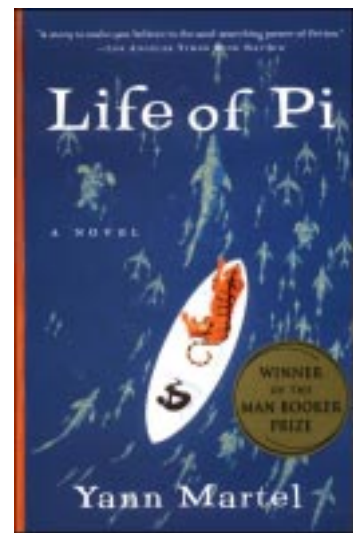
*The Mushroom Man* by Sophie Powell (Ekstrom Browsing PR6116 .O95 M87 2003). Enjoyable and a quick read.

*The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith (Ekstrom Browsing PR6063 .C326 N6 1998). I loved the main character and can't wait to read the sequels.

*Patron Saint of Liars* by Ann Patchett (Ekstrom PS3566 .A7756 P38 1992). A well-written story told from the perspectives of three different characters.

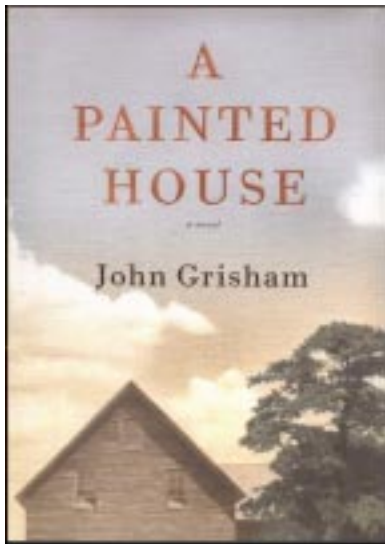
*A Recipe for Bees* by Gail Anderson Dargatz. Beautifully written.

*The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole* by Sue Townsend (Ekstrom PR6070 .O897 S4 1986). Adrian Mole is one of the most memorable characters I've come across.



**Kathie Johnson, University Archives/Kornhauser Library**

While on vacation I picked some beach reading and was very happy to have found John Grisham's book *A Painted House* (Ekstrom Browsing PS3557.R5P3 2001). I don't remember this book getting very good reviews, but I found the story of life on a cotton farm in Arkansas in the early 1950s as told through the voice of a seven-year old boy compelling. The book begins with the hiring of "hill people" and Mexican laborers to help a farm family harvest its unusually good cotton crop and ends just about month later, at the end of the season. The family consists of a couple who own the house and a few acres of land, while renting 80 acres for growing cotton; the son and his wife (a city girl) who live there with his parents working the farm; and the



younger couple's seven-year old son. Another son is off in Korea fighting but plays a vital role in the drama that takes place. It is a simple tale of hard work, poverty, yearning for something better, prejudice, human emotions, and even violence. Grisham is such a good writer that the reader can see the farmhouse, the 40 acres of bottom land, the muddy river, and the nearby town with its co-op, cotton gin, and

general store. The voice of the young boy who is confused by so much of what goes on around him sounds very authentic, making one wonder if this is somehow autobiographical.

**Melissa Laning, Assessment Team, Ekstrom Library**

*Dry* by Augusten Burroughs (Ekstrom Browsing PS3552 .U745 Z465 2003). Sequel to *Running with Scissors*. The second volume of Burroughs autobiography follows him through his 20's. He describes his experience of getting sober, going off the wagon, hitting bottom and becoming sober once again. His writing is so personal and finely detailed that you feel like you are there with him every step of the way. And he is still amazingly funny. You could easily read this volume without reading the first one.

**Catherine Lavalée-Welch, Kersey Library**

I started leafing through *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood (Ekstrom Stacks PR 9199.3 .A8 H3 1986) for the banned book week public readings and ended up reading the whole thing again. How interesting it was to see how it can relate to today's political climate in the States . . .

I also enjoyed Philip Roth's *The Human Stain* (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3568 .O855 H8 2000). Roth is verbose, to say the least, but the story is good, has a surprising twist (my lips are sealed) and the characters are interesting. Also it takes place in an academic setting, so it is amusing to see that setting rather ferociously described. I am intrigued now how the story will turn out in the movie (though still not quite sure about Nicole Kidman in the lead female role).

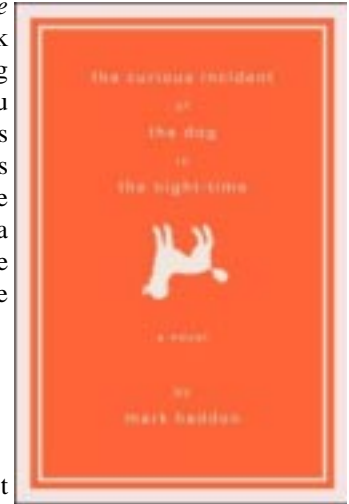
**Bill Morrison, University Archives**

Yann Martel, *Life Of Pi* (Ekstrom Browsing PR 9199.3 .M3855 L54 2001). OK, so how can a book about a shipwrecked boy in a lifeboat in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, with his only company a hyena, an orangutan, a wounded zebra, and Richard Parker, a 450-pound Bengal tiger, possibly be of interest? But this strangely compelling novel has won a bunch of prizes. It grabs you and doesn't let go. A terrific winter read.

**Amy Purcell, Special Collections, Ekstrom Library**

*The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri. (Ekstrom Browsing Collection PS3562.A316 N36 2003). The author of this book won the Pulitzer in 2000 for her collection of short stories. This is a story of a West Bengali couple who move to New England. The Indian parents have very American children but manage to blend the two cultures. It's a thoroughly enjoyable read.

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* by Mark Haddon. (Ekstrom Browsing Collection PZ7.H1165 Cu 2003). This book is written as a journal of an autistic boy. It's a funny read mainly because the main character can't tell a lie and the truth can often be pretty funny. It also taught me a thing or two about autism.

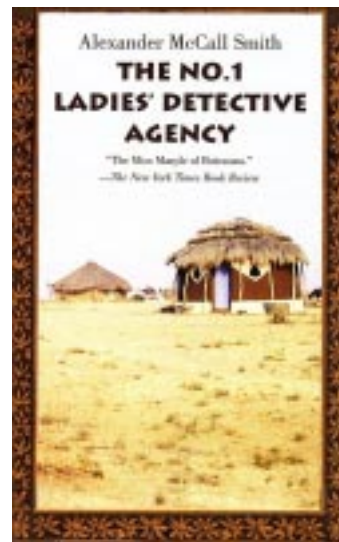


**Rebecca Rumbley, Media & Current Periodicals, Ekstrom Library**

*Middlemarch* by George Eliot (Ekstrom Stacks PR 4650 .E95

1895, vols. 13-15). Having recently agreed to drive up to Iowa for a long-overdue visit with an old friend, I stocked up on several audio-books from the LFPL. While I don't think I would have attempted this title in print, it being more than 700 odd pages long, I decided to give the audio version a try. It is, after all, supposed to be one of the greatest novels ever written. Actress Nadia May maintained consistent voices for each character, and there are quite a few characters. A story of provincial life in 19<sup>th</sup> century England, this book chronicles the lives of several inhabitants in the town of Middlemarch and its surrounding countryside. It is long, far too long for a mere 10 ½ hour drive to and from Iowa City, but I did manage to finish

listening to it one Saturday at home, reading along from the printed page, which I had found at Ekstrom, beautifully bound in green leather...the *Works of George Eliot*, printed in 1895, old and yet quite solid.



*The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith (Ekstrom Browsing PR 6063 .C326 N6 1998). This series, about a very clever lady from Botswana and her new detective agency was quite charming. Precious Ramotswa's approach to solving

the problems of her clients is a far cry from the methods employed by sleuths such as Kinsey Millhone (*A is for Alibi*,

# From the Dean of Libraries . . .

Suzy Palmer is the new leader of the Collection Development Team, which will be in full operation by January. The other members are Carol Brinkman, Karen Little, Neal Nixon and Angel Smith. Tyler Goldberg will serve as an ex-officio member. The mission of the team is to identify, evaluate, and select information resources in all formats for the Libraries in support of the University's mission "to become a premier, nationally recognized metropolitan research university." The team will work closely with the Collection Access and Management Team.

As announced during the Metroversity Library Council and the Information Technology Committee meeting on November 13, Metroversity Executive Director Jack Will resigned from his position, effective in December. This meeting was held at the Louisville Presbyterian Seminary and addressed strategic planning for 2003-2004. Participants reviewed purposes and priorities of both groups, while identifying common areas for them to work on as partners.

On November 13 Coach Denny Crum hosted the second reception at his home for members of the Library Associates who donated at least \$250 to the Libraries.



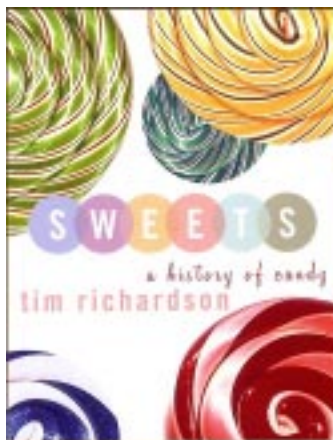
On November 21 I participated in the meeting of Endeavor and the Sapphire Group (ARL directors whose institutions are using the Endeavor system). Roland Dietz, CEO of Endeavor, together with several of his associates, addressed the most important issues related to Endeavor as outlined by the Sapphire Group. Endeavor presented their mission, direction and priorities while trying to address issues such as maintenance cost, new releases, and patron privacy.

— Hannelore Rader, Dean, University Libraries

etc.). You will learn a lot about Botswana, and that is fascinating. I found myself looking up towns in my world atlas at home, trying to picture this great country so far from Kentucky geographically and culturally. After this one, there are several other books: *Tears of the Giraffe*, *Morality for Beautiful Girls*, and *The Kalahari Typing School for Men*, all of which feature Precious Ramotswa and her friends. You will find them all in the Browsing Collection. I've read them all, and eagerly await the next one.

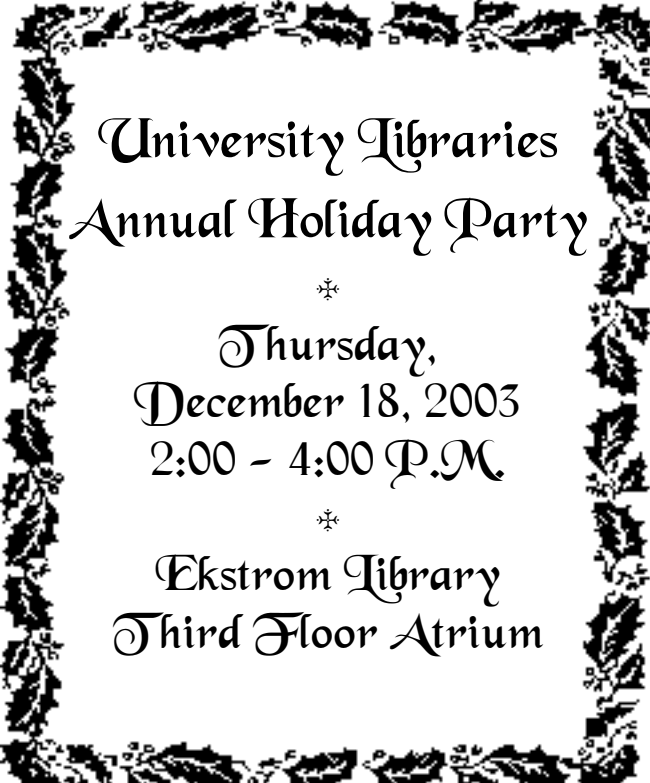
## Elizabeth Smigielski, Kornhauser Library

*Sweets: A History of Candy* by Tim Richardson (Ekstrom Browsing: TX784.R53 2002). A light, tasty, fondant of a book written by the grandson of a toffee maker and the son of a dentist. Richardson's self-proclaimed history of candy covers sweets from the Arabic precursor to our lozenges (ever wonder why they are fruit flavored and diamond shaped?) right on up to the Snickers bar and its British pseudonym, the Marathon bar. His discussion on taste differences between cultures is particularly intriguing. Full of British wit and humor, and plenty of personal asides from the author, including his top ten candies and a thoughtful reader's warning on the somewhat revolting preparation of white chocolate, this book will have you combing the web for long-forgotten goodies.



## Barbara Whitener, Reference Department, Ekstrom Library

I just finished *The Human Stain* by Philip Roth. Right now I'm reading *The Bounty: The True Story of the Mutiny on the Bounty* by Caroline Alexander (Ekstrom Browsing DU20 .A53 2003). This nonfiction book gives a fresh look at Captain Bligh and comes up with some interesting conclusions.



## University Libraries

### Annual Holiday Party

✧

Thursday,  
December 18, 2003  
2:00 - 4:00 P.M.

✧

Ekstrom Library  
Third Floor Atrium

# Library Dept. & Team News

## Ekstrom Library Circulation & Interlibrary Loan

### *Celebrations*

Happy birthday to Interlibrary Loan Lending Supervisor Ryan Stearman and all others celebrating birthdays around the holidays.



Happy Anniversary to Circulation Supervisor Katrina Butcher and her husband, Andrew.

## Office of Library Technologies

### *Kersey Lab Upgrade*

In November, 25 PCs in the Kersey Lab were replaced with new PCs.



### *Basic Computer Skills Training Sessions*

In response to the results of Technology Core Competencies Self-Assessment Survey, OLT will offer a series of training sessions on basic computer skills. Topics will include computer equipment care, network accounts, and file management. OLT is planning to offer these classes in the CLC twice a month for six months, beginning in January 2004. Please watch for detailed notices as the time approaches.

## Office of the Dean

### *Kornhauser Library Welcomes Library Intern*

John Chenault will join the Kornhauser Library effective February 3, 2004. John recently completed a Master's Degree in Pan-African Studies and was a graduate assistant to Dr. Jan Carew. He has worked in the health services field and is a published writer and lecturer.

### *Office of Library Technologies*

Samuel Kennedy resigned from OLT effective September 24, 2003. He accepted a position with Mercer Human Resources Consultants. Best of luck to Sam; he will be missed.

### *Congratulations, Raymond!*

Congratulations to Raymond Slaughter. Raymond, a Naval reservist, received the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal from the Secretary of the Navy for his duties as the unit training petty officer and Naval Reserve Accession Course (NRAC) coordinator with Naval Air Terminal Norfolk Detach-

ment 609, from February, 2003 to August, 2003. This medal is considered one of the highest awards that either active or reservist personnel can receive in the U.S. Armed Services. Also, congratulations to Raymond for winning his division in the National Scrabble Association tournament held in Eureka Springs, Arkansas November 21-23. He finished with an 11-5, record with +599 point spread.

## Reference Department

The audio tour of Ekstrom Library is updated and ready to be checked out at the Reference Desk. The tour is self-paced and uses a walkman and tape to guide the patron around the building. Mildred Franks updated the tour script and Tracie Wright, out Reference intern, recorded the script in the Delphi Center. It was truly a collaborative effort and sounds really professional.

## Special Collections

"Farmer Bill" Carner told Floyd County fourth-graders about farming 100 years ago during Farm Week at the Konkel family farm in Greenville, Indiana, last month. Bill was assisted by Carl Byerly and his two Halflingers, Spud and Spike. (That's Bill wearing the hat.)



### *Changing Hats*

In December, Suzy Palmer and Judith Niles begin to physically exchange offices. Suzy will be the Team Leader for Collection Development, and Judith will be working on special projects in Rare Books and Photographic Archives.

### *Fabulous Fruit Cake*

Suzy and Larry Palmer are featured in the holiday recipe article in this month's *Louisville Magazine*. They are pictured in their kitchen (with the new great granite counter tops!) displaying Larry's yummy fruit cake. The Special Collections staff have tasted this fruit cake and can attest to the fact that it is *really* yummy. Enjoying these home-made taste treats is one of



the many things that we will miss when Suzy changes duties.

## Kersey Library

### Home for the Holidays

Ashwin Mahavadi, one of our student assistants, will be heading home to India to visit family and friends. Jan Kulkarni and his wife will be visiting their son and his family in Cincinnati. Steve Whiteside will be going home to Indianapolis to be with his mother over the holidays. Joanne Lau, another one of our student assistants, will be entertaining a guest from her home in Japan. Most of us here at Kersey will be going home for the holidays and for some of us that's right here in good old Louisville, Kentucky!

### December Birthdays

Jan Kulkarni, Adam Lawrence, and Sophia John will be celebrating their birthdays this month. Kersey wishes to extend a Happy Birthday to the rest of you celebrating that special day in December.

### Holiday Greetings

From all of us here at Kersey Library our best wishes to all of you for the holidays and...see you in 2004!

## Music Library

Former Music Library student assistant David Crist, who is now in charge of the Metro Lab at Ekstrom Library, premiered his piece "Ethereal" Nov. 17 at the Student Composers' Concert held in the School of Music. Music Library assistant Calvin Falwell played bass clarinet for this work written for bass clarinet, two violins, and two cellos.



## Library Employees Honored at Staff Recognition Luncheon

Congratulations and a big THANK YOU to the following staff members for 165 years of combined service to the University Libraries! These individuals were among the 256 University employees honored at the Staff Recognition Awards Luncheon on September 26, 2003.

### 25 years

- Carol S. Webb (Content Access)
- Ben F. King (Content Access)
- Michael Osoffsky (Content Access)



### 20 years

- Sheila J. Birkla (Office of Libraries Technology)
- Calvin B. Miracle (Office of Libraries Technology)

### 15 years

- James M. Ryan (Ekstrom Library, ILL)
- Shlomo Michael Ben-Avraham (Law Library)

### 10 years

- Rachel D. Hodge (Music Library)
- Melissa Long Shuter (Law Library)

## UARC

Ron and Kathie Johnson celebrated their wedding anniversary with a week in November in the Turks and Caicos Islands, a British territory just south of the Bahamas. Warm sand, tropical breezes, water that defines the word aquamarine, and rum punch, all make for a romantic and relaxing get-away. They didn't realize when they married 33 years ago that November is still low season in most tropical locations, thus affordable celebratory trips to warm climates would be a possibility when the kids were all grown.

Tom Owen, University Archives, has released *Portland: The Independent Neighborhood*, his fourth video walking tour. Tom focuses on the stories and characters in that old resilient transportation-based Louisville community. His series, "Tom Owen's Louisville" includes three earlier videos on Historic Main, the Government Center, and St. James Court. Copies of all of Tom's videos are in the Ekstrom Media collection.



## Thank You

Alice Abbott-Moore  
 Gwendline Chenault  
 Anna Marie Johnson  
 Kathie Johnson  
 Marcia Kotlinski  
 Weiling Liu  
 Diane Nichols  
 Tom Owen  
 Hannelore Rader  
 Raymond Slaughter  
 Mike Smith



# WHAT IS WHAT

**An ever-growing list of technology terms:**

- **Federated Search (Cross database search, One-stop search)**

Federated Search refers to a system that provides a common user interface for searching and retrieving information across heterogeneous datasets over the Internet. Systems that provide federated search and widely known to the libraries include Endeavor's ENCompass, Ex Libris' MetaLib.



able packages of metadata and/or identifiers about an information object. Such packages are at the core of context-sensitive or open link technology." [Excerpt from [http://www.niso.org/committees/committee\\_ax.html](http://www.niso.org/committees/committee_ax.html), saved on 11/21/03]

"The OpenURL Standard, version 1.0 was released as a Draft Standard for Trial Use April 15, 2003 and the Trial implementation period will commence

May 1."

[Excerpt from <http://www.niso.org/committees/OpenURL/OpenURL-patent.html>, saved on 11/21/03]

- **Library Portal**

"The term portal can mean everything from a themed collection of links on a web page to a full replacement desk-top within a web page. For the library and information industry, the concept of the "information portal" could change the way we look at systems."

[Excerpt from [http://www.biblio-tech.com/btr11/S\\_PD.cfm?ArticleID=145&DO=A](http://www.biblio-tech.com/btr11/S_PD.cfm?ArticleID=145&DO=A), saved on 11/21/03]

A Library Portal is a single user interface for access to many electronic resources. It may include a library's own online catalog, catalogs of other libraries, subscribed electronic resources, selected websites, and even the Internet as a whole.

"It's not if libraries should be portals, it's not when libraries should be portals, it's how libraries should be portals." – Vinod Chachra, president of VTLS [Library Technology Reports, November – December 2002, <http://www.techsource.ala.org>].

- **Metasearch**

A project initiated by NISO (National Information Standards Organization). See "The Next Generation of Access: OpenURL and Metasearch." at [http://www.niso.org/news/events\\_workshops/MS-2003\\_workshop.html](http://www.niso.org/news/events_workshops/MS-2003_workshop.html), October 29 & 30, 2003 in Washington, DC.

- **OpenURL**

"The OpenURL is a protocol for interoperability between an information resource and a service component that offers localized services in an open linking environment. It is in effect an actionable URL that transports metadata or keys to access metadata for the object for which the OpenURL is provided. The target of the OpenURL is the user's institutional service component (ISC). The remainder of the OpenURL transports the object's metadata. The format specification for OpenURL can be found at <http://www.sfxit.com/OpenURL/openurl.html>."

[Excerpt from <http://www.sfxit.com/openurl/>, saved on 11/21/03]

"The OpenURL standard is a syntax to create web-transport-

- **Resource Description Framework (RDF)**

RDF "integrates a variety of applications from library catalogs and world-wide directories to syndication and aggregation of news, software, and content to personal collections of music, photos, and events using XML as an interchange syntax. The RDF specifications provide a lightweight ontology system to support the exchange of knowledge on the Web.

The W3C Semantic Web Activity Statement explains W3C's plans for RDF, including the RDF Core WG, Web Ontology and the RDF Interest Group."

[Excerpt from <http://www.w3.org/RDF/gen-col>, saved on 11/21/03]

- **Semantic Web**

"The Semantic Web is an initiative of the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) designed to provide a leadership role in defining this Web. It develops open specifications for those technologies that are ready for large scale deployment, and identifies, through open source advanced development, the infrastructure components that will be necessary to scale in the Web in the future."

[Excerpt from <http://www.w3.org/2001/sw/Activity>, saved on 11/21/03]

- **Shibboleth**

"Shibboleth, a project of Internet2/MACE, is developing architectures, policy structures, practical technologies, and an open source implementation to support inter-institutional sharing of web resources subject to access controls. In addition, Shibboleth will develop a policy framework that will allow inter-operation within the higher education community."

[Excerpt from <http://shibboleth.internet2.edu/>, saved on 11/21/03]

*Compiled by Weiling Liu, 11/21/03.*

*Note: This list is not meant to be comprehensive.*



## Shopping for Holiday Gift Giving — *Purchasing Big Ticket Items*

For many people, shopping for holiday gift giving means purchasing some rather big-ticket items, which in itself is a very stressful and uncomfortable task. Some of us dare not tread into this type of buying for the holidays. However, the same techniques can be applied to any large purchase.

Whether buying holiday gifts or other big-ticket items such as cars, houses, furniture, stereo equipment, or toys, certain techniques have proven useful in getting items reduced to a fairer price, thus reducing stress.

The Internet provides much information about items that consumers can research to find out what items really cost, thus leveling the shopping field.

Some tips before shopping for big-ticket items:

- Know your budget and plan to stick to it. If you don't have the means, then do not shop; instead prepare a strategy to save so that you can eventually shop. To help with saving, many banks and credit unions have "Christmas Clubs" in which a person can save throughout the year.
- Research, research, research. The Internet is quite a leveler for consumers. Shoppers can find out how much things actually cost before huge markups occur.

Due to the Internet, sales people have developed new selling strategies. So, be very alert and sharp when embarking on a shopping excursion. Here are some other suggestions:

- Make sure you have had something to eat — do not go shopping on an empty stomach.
- Don't overdo the caffeine.
- Use the restroom before you leave home.
- It helps to be in a good frame of mind. Before the



trip, try to talk to or, gather with friends. Have some fun! It helps to relax a bit before the shopping begins.

Some tips during the shopping experience:

- Stay focused. Have helpful information ready.
- Don't be pushed into quick purchases. If you are not sure of the item, its quality, and/or its price, then take the time to think about it or sleep on it.
- Make sure that you do not get too hungry or tired. If so, go take a break or go home. You can go out another time.
- Don't sign anything until you are certain of all the details. If unsure, ask questions. Still unsure? Keep asking questions until you are sure. If the salesperson gets impatient, too bad. This may be an indicator of whether or not you are getting a fair deal.

Shopping for big items is overwhelming for many people. But, it doesn't have to be so daunting! There is relief at the end, after methodical, researched, and focused effort.

Happy shopping!

# DARE TO SAY THANK YOU!

"I would like to say thank you to Anna Marie Johnson for teaching the Citation Management Software classes at Kornhauser and for becoming the resident guru about such software. I also appreciate her helping to facilitate the Citation Management Software Users Group. Without her service, I don't know what we would do!"  
—James Manasco



"My thanks to John Burton, Terri Holtze, Weiling Liu, and Vicki Niehaus for their expertise, guidance, and time to help me achieve the revisions of the Online Student Handbook. My thanks to John Burton for installing FrontPage on my PC. It made my editing of the Online Student Handbook far easier overall!!

My thanks to Terri Holtze for giving the two PowerPoint presentations a fresh, updated new look! They look so pretty!

My thanks to Weiling Liu for her instructions on how to edit the Online Student Handbook and for her loading the revised documents back on the web!

My thanks to Vicki Niehaus for showing how to use Word FrontPage and how to edit web pages. I appreciate greatly her time and her expertise!! She not only showed me how to do it, but was nearby as I went on my own, in the event I encountered snags.

If it weren't for these three people, this task wouldn't have been accomplished . . . at least by me! :) My gratitude and thanks."  
—AliceAbbott-Moore



"My thanks to Andy Anderson for the loan of his department's ShopVac. This wonderful tool enabled me to do a very dirty job far more efficiently and quickly! My thanks to Andy!"  
—Alice Abbott-Moore



"I know I speak for everyone who attended when I send out many thanks to Martha Parry and Rebecca Rumbley for organizing the Thanksgiving Pot Luck dinner. Also, thanks go out to everyone who contributed the sumptuous dishes. YUM!!"  
—Amy Purcell



## Art Library Belknap and Covi Galleries and Gallery X

*Selections from the U of L Collections — Kuba Objects & More*  
December 4, 2003 - January 11, 2004



## Ekstrom Library Lobby

### *Faculty Books*

UofL faculty donated more than 100 new books to the University Libraries in response to the libraries' request for faculty books published between 1990 and 2003. A selection of the donated books will be on exhibit through December 15. University Libraries has published a bibliography of these books and 1,000 others by UofL faculty already held in the libraries' collections to honor the faculty and to begin a yearlong series of programs on issues related to scholarly publishing.

### *Picturing Faith: Religious America in Government Photography, 1935 - 1943*

A traveling exhibit developed by Colleen McDannell, the Sterling McMurrin Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Utah (also in Photographic Archives Gallery)  
October, 2003 – January 9, 2004

## Special Collections Photographic Archives Gallery

### *Picturing Faith: Religious America in Government Photography, 1935 - 1943*

October, 2003 – January 9, 2004

## Rare Books Gallery

*Edgar Rice Burroughs: Tarzan and Beyond*  
July 28, 2003 - January 9, 2004, 2003

### *The Ron Whitehead and White Fields Press Archives*

October 6 - December 14, 2003

## Music Library First Floor Gallery

*American Orff-Schulwerk Association*  
November 10 - December 31, 2003