



A Newsletter for Employees of the University of Louisville Libraries  
Vol. 28, No. 1 ♣ February, 2012

# The Owl

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

## Louisville's 1937 Flood *A 75th Anniversary Exhibition*

*By Bill Carner*

Late last year the Photographic Archives obtained rights from Getty Images to exhibit ten of Margaret Bourke-White's *LIFE* magazine photos of Louisville's 1937 Flood, including the one she called "At the Time of the Louisville Flood," the ironic image of flood refugees lined up in front of a billboard at 13th & Broadway proclaiming "The World's Highest Standard of Living." At the time, 60,000 of these billboards were placed all over the country by the National Association of Manufacturers as a part of an optimism campaign to discredit the need for Roosevelt's New Deal programs.

*LIFE* sent Bourke-White directly to Louisville when she finished photographing Roosevelt's second inauguration on January 20, 1937. She came to Louisville on the last plane to land here until the flood waters receded in February. She was met at Bowman Field by Louisville Realtor Corwin Short. He was also a prize-winning amateur photographer, which led Barry Bingham to give him and *LIFE* photographer Margaret Bourke-White "the key to the city" so that she could photograph flood conditions in Louisville for *LIFE*.



Bourke-White stunned everyone at Bowman Field by wearing a sky blue jumpsuit as she got off the plane. Shortly afterward, Bourke-White and Short were in a boat headed down Broadway to Louisville's west end, Bourke-White's jumpsuit no doubt covered by a heavy overcoat to ward off the late January chill. Short had his cameras with him, taking pictures of Bourke-White at work and recording scenes of the flood for himself as well. These pictures often had Short's wry comments written on the backs. Bourke-White apparently borrowed Short's cameras, taking a picture of him in their boat



*Above: Margaret Bourke-White using one of Corwin Short's cameras. (photo by Corwin Short)*

*Below: The Ford Factory, West Louisville (photo by Indiana National Guard 38th Division Aviation 113th Photo Section)*

and he photographed her using his Rolleiflex. There are three examples of scenes that they both photographed in the exhibit. Exhibiting Bourke-White and Short's photographs together for the 75th anniversary of the 1937 Flood seemed like a natural combination.

Corwin Short, Jr. loaned his father's photographs to the Photographic Archives in 1987 for the 50th Anniversary exhibition and donated the photographs to the collections in 2002.

The Photographic Archives received gifts of aerial photographs made by the Indiana National Guard 38th Division Aviation 113th Photo Section in 2000 and 2010. These images have not been exhibited here before, and their scale presents a different perspective on the 1937 Flood than the up close and personal photographs of Bourke-White and Short.



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Co-Editors: Robin Harris (robin.harris@louisville.edu, 852-6083) and Amy Purcell (apurcell@louisville.edu, 852-1861).

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*The Owl's* purpose is to promote communication among the various libraries in the UofL system.

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Opinions expressed in *The Owl* are not necessarily those of the University Libraries or the University of Louisville.



# Library and Department News

## Ekstrom Library

### Office of the Dean

#### *New Hire*

**Vanessa Carroll** accepted the position of Technology Consultant II with the Office of Libraries' Technology, effective December 19, 2011, reporting to Weiling Liu. (See New Employee Spotlight, page 6.)

#### *Retirement*

**Judy Wulff**, Head of Collection Development and Resource Planning at the Kornhauser Health Sciences Library, is retiring effective April 16, 2012. Judy joined the Kornhauser Library Faculty as a reference librarian in 1991. From 1988-1989, she held an appointment in the Ekstrom Reference Department. Prior to receiving her MLS from Columbia University, Judy was a science teacher, computer curriculum coordinator, laboratory research technician and college teaching assistant.

## Reference

#### *Cross-Training*

The Reference and Information Literacy Department is working with the Media Resources Department to cross-train student assistants. Currently, we have three Media students assisting at our desk. A big welcome to Ashley M., Tyler, and Miriam! A hearty and thankful welcome back to our returning students Angela, Alex, Payne, Bethany, and Dom!

#### *ALA Midwinter*

Fannie Cox and Latisha Reynolds tried to escape the cold and flew to Dallas, Texas for the American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter conference. Ha! Turns out we are having a warmer winter in Kentucky! Better luck next time, ladies! Latisha is incoming chair of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Library Residency Interest Group. Fannie is a member of a number of ALA committees as well, and has been appointed to serve as Co-Chair of the 8<sup>th</sup> National Conference of African American Librarians (NCAAL), August 8-12, 2013.

#### *Library Meet and Greet*

Ekstrom Library hosted a "Library Meet and Greet" on January 18 as part of WinterFest 2012. Representatives from the Reference Department, the Writing Center, REACH, and the Digital Media Suite promoted academic support services available in the library and served donuts and cider. We also gave away an Amazon Kindle and a Barnes and Noble Nook to two lucky students. More than 100 people participated in the event. Toccara Porter and Rob Detmering were the masterminds behind this well-received event.

#### *Lincoln Exhibit*

Fannie Cox applied for and was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to bring the *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War* exhibit to Ekstrom Library. This exhibition, developed by the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia and the American Library Association Public Programs Office, will arrive by the end of February. Look for more news about the opening and events surrounding this major exhibit.

["Research Papers Have Always Seemed Very Daunting": Information Literacy Narratives and the Student Research Experience](#) by Rob Detmering and Anna Marie Johnson was published in portal: Libraries and the Academy, v. 12, n. 1, January 2012.



## Special Collections

### *William Stone Engraving of the Declaration of Independence*

Using the BetterLight scanner in Digital Collections, Bill Carner scanned this rare engraving of the Declaration of Independence for the Mayor's office. The event was documented, along with this picture (taken by Beverly Bartlett), on the Mayor's Facebook page.

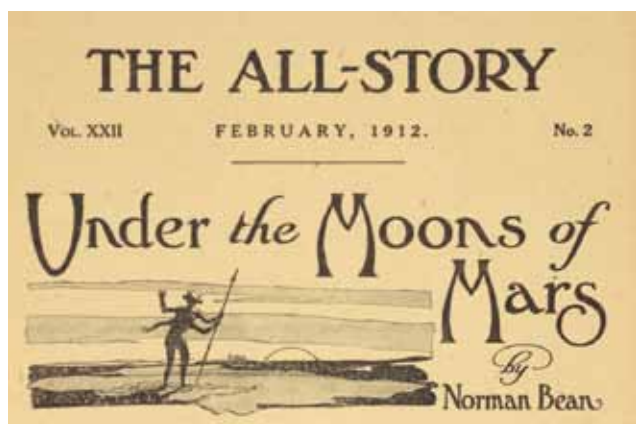
From [Mayor Fischer's Facebook page](#):

"Last week, the city's rare, early copy of the Declaration of Independence was digitally scanned at the University of Louisville. The high-resolution image will allow us to have the document appraised and make sure that it is properly insured. It may also give us insight into anything we can do to protect it."



### *"Normal Bean"*

Much has been made of the error in spelling of the pseudonym used by Edgar Rice Burroughs for the publication of his first story: "Under the Moons of Mars." Originally Burroughs submitted the story under the pseudonym "Normal Bean" so people wouldn't think he was crazy for writing a story about little green men on Mars. But the editor thought this was a typo and changed "Normal" to "Norman," thus spoiling the author's little joke. Burroughs was somewhat miffed when the editors made this change. However, the advance notice for the story (printed in the January issue of *The All-Story*) does, in fact, spell the pseudonym exactly as submitted by the author.



## Kornhauser Library

### *175 Years!*

2012 marks the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the medical library at the University of Louisville. When the Louisville Medical Institute opened its doors in the fall of 1837, it was noted that "the Institute has been provided with a sufficiently extensive Library..." and that the city had appropriated "\$20,000 for the purchase of a Library, Chemical and Philosophical Apparatus, and other necessary means of instruction." The Library was said to contain, "as valuable a collection of Medical works as the bookstores of the United States afforded." (Louisville Medical Institute. *Circular Address of the President and Faculty of the Louisville Medical Institute*. Louisville, Ky.: Prentice and Weissinger, 1837. p. 4-6.) There are a plethora of events planned to celebrate this anniversary, so watch this space for more information!

### *“World Class” Librarians Receive Praise*

Michel Atlas and Elizabeth Smigielski recently received a lovely “thank you” note from a fourth-year medical student after a literature search session. It was two postcards long, but some of the complimentary highlights include: “... with all sincerity, you all have been the MOST empowering teachers I have ever had.” You “have taught me how to apply my knowledge base and run with my curiosity...” and last, but not least, “Having studied at Vanderbilt, Cambridge, the Sorbonne and several regional university libraries, I can say with confidence that my library scientists at Kornhauser are exceptional, world class and truly unequalled.” Whew! Heady praise, but Michel and Elizabeth seem to be taking it all in stride.

### *Welcome, Student Workers*

Kornhauser welcomes two new student assistants this semester: Naga Srinija, who started January 14, and Niki Denney, who began work January 21. We would also like to welcome back our returning students: Chayla Boyd, Shanice Brown, Elliott Paul, Michael Wakefield, Andrew Coleman, Andy Nett, Brandon McKinney, Chike Ilorah, Nathan Wessel and Rolisa Jones. We are lucky to have such a great group of student assistants!

### *Inaugural Music*

Betsy Osoffsky performed as a member of the Owensboro Symphony Orchestra for the Grand March portion of the Governor’s Inauguration in December. Unfortunately, she was unable to watch the action from her vantage point, and due to tight security the orchestra was sequestered in the Law Library for the day (including dinner), but the orchestra was honored to be invited to participate. The OSO last performed for Governor Patton’s 1999 inauguration.

### *Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature: Exhibit – Lecture - Films: February 15-March 21*

This traveling exhibit developed by the National Library of Medicine in collaboration with the American Library Association, explores Mary Shelley’s world that gave birth to *Frankenstein*. The exhibit examines how playwrights and filmmakers have transformed the Frankenstein story into one of the Western world’s most enduring myths. It considers how Mary Shelley’s unfortunate creature frequently provides a framework for discussions of contemporary biomedical advances such as cloning, which challenge our traditional understanding of what it means to be human. The opening reception was Friday, February 17, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Four lectures on various topics relating to Frankenstein will be presented on Fridays from noon to 1:00 p.m. A series of films will be shown at various times on Wednesdays. For a complete schedule of events go to: <http://louisville.libguides.com/Frankenstein>. These events are part of the 175th Anniversary Celebration of Kornhauser Health Sciences Library.

## **UARC**

### *January in Florida*

Ron and Kathie Johnson spent a sunny, yet a bit chilly, week in the St. Pete area of Florida the first week of January. Ron is retiring from Habitat for Humanity Metro Louisville in March, and the Construction Division gave him a week at a condo as a retirement gift. They invited friends from Baton Rouge to join them and all had a wonderful time walking on the beach, toasting the sunsets, reading, eating great seafood, reminiscing, and relaxing with no schedules or alarm clocks.

### *Young Survivors Benefit*

It has been over five years since Kathie Johnson’s daughter, Megan Schanie, was diagnosed with breast cancer and allowed the *Courier-Journal* to document her life as she went through the treatment. Seeing a need for a specific kind of support for young women, Megan also started a local group called the Young Survivors, for women under age 40 diagnosed with this disease. This group soon became a part of the Norton Cancer Institute Breast Health Program.

To raise funds for this program, the Young Survivors put on a benefit and auction once a year. This year’s event was Friday, February 17 at the Frazier Museum. Admission was only \$10 and covered great food, music, and over 100 items to bid on, ranging in value from \$5 to \$1000s. It is a fun and affordable evening out, supporting a wonderful cause. Ron and Kathie worked the registration table.

# From the Dean of Libraries . . .

**By Bob Fox, Dean, University of Louisville Libraries**

I want to thank all of you for your contributions to our new strategic plan. We went through a very comprehensive effort to create this plan and, in the process, talked to people from each library and department. We also reviewed the plan with a number of groups outside the libraries. The final version is on our website at: [http://louisville.edu/library/about/docs/Strategic\\_Plan\\_2012\\_2020.pdf](http://louisville.edu/library/about/docs/Strategic_Plan_2012_2020.pdf)

I encourage you to take a look at the final version and note how your position fits into our overall goals and strategies. I plan to talk about the plan at our upcoming Information Exchanges. On the Belknap campus, this will be February 21 at 2:00 in the Chao Auditorium. We are scheduling a similar session for the Kornhauser Library. At the Information Exchange, we'll also talk about budgets, the hiring freeze, and any other items of interest. I hope to see you there.

## NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**Name: Vanessa S. Carroll**

*UofL position and department:* Technical Consultant II / OLT

*Hometown:* Anderson, South Carolina

*Significant Other/Family Members:* My 3 children - Alec, Griffin & Alyssa

*Pets:* Zoe, a 12-year-old Black Lab, and Jasper., a 2-year-old Golden Retriever rescue

*Unusual previous positions:* US Army Field Hospital, IT Resource Coordinator for State of South Carolina Department of Mental Health, Systems Analyst for the federal government

*Zodiac sign:* Sagittarius

*Favorite Books:* Dean Koontz is my favorite author. I love all books about history, especially Civil War stories. Fiction or Non Fiction

*Favorite Movies:* *Gone with the Wind*, *The Lost Boys* (original), *Alice in Wonderland* (old and new)

*Favorite Food:* Sushi

*Favorite Vacation Spot:* Las Vegas

*Favorite Quote:* "Your life is the sum result of all the choices you make, both consciously and unconsciously. If you can control the process of choosing, you can take control of all aspects of your life. You can find the freedom that comes from being in charge of yourself." - Robert F. Bennett

*Anything else you would like to tell us about yourself:* I Love Cars!! I grew up in the south so I didn't have a chance. I love MOPARS. I own a 2009 Dodge Charger that I have modified for performance. I love drag racing at a few of the drag strips nearby. I also show my car and have won a few trophies. I love spending time outdoors with my children doing just about anything. I enjoy volunteering, especially when it is for or with my children. I also volunteer to coach my daughter's cheer squad. Cheerleading and racing seem like they go together, right?





# DigiNews

## Digital Collections Update

*By Rachel Howard, Digital Initiatives Librarian*

The [Digital Collections](#) are about to be upgraded to the next version of CONTENTdm software, which, as we have learned from past upgrades, will make some improvements to the user experience while also compromising some of the customized improvements we've created. (We're working hard behind the scenes to migrate as many of those customizations as possible.) Watch for an announcement soon about the new version, as well as updates to content.

As of late November 2011, the last time any content was updated before the upgrade process began, Digital Collections boasts 29 published collections with over 52,000 items. We added four brand new collections in 2011, and significantly updated six more, including completing the [Royal Photo Company](#) collection.

In 2011, the site received 3,512,458 views from 287,958 visitors. Our customized [browse pages](#) (those for Louisville neighborhoods and streets, in particular) and our [Kentucky Maps](#) and [University of Louisville Electronic Theses and Dissertations](#) collections consistently rank among the most visited portions of the site, although each collection was accessed by over 1,000 visitors during the course of the year. Users typically find us through the home page, through a web search, or through links on Wikipedia and Facebook. Statistics reveal that they increasingly using mobile devices and even gaming devices to access digital items.

In 2012, new additions to the site will include historic newspapers and sheet music, as well as more of the ever popular maps and electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs); images of Louisville past and present; and contemporary oral histories.



# Library Exhibits

## **Ekstrom Library**

### **First Floor, East Wing**

*Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*  
March – April 12, 2012

### **Photographic Archives Gallery**

*75th Anniversary of the 1937 Flood Exhibit*  
Thursday, January 26 – Friday, March 9, 2012

#### *All Over the Map*

Photographs by Steve Plattner taken on his world travels.

"My experience as a curator researching the Roy Stryker, Standard Oil Company (NJ) and Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation collections informed my own photographic work in a huge and enduring way. Out in the field, I often find myself remembering how one of the FSA or Standard Oil photographers approached a place or subject, how they documented the significant details or built trust and rapport with people. My work would be very different had I not had the privilege of poring over Stryker's papers and viewing tens of thousands of images at the Photographic Archives and the entire FSA photo file at the Library of Congress in the 1970's." – Steve Plattner.

March 23 – June 8, 2012

Reception & Gallery Talk March 29, 2012, 5:00 – 7:00 pm



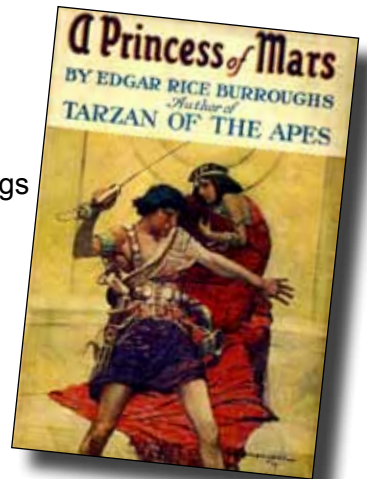
*Mammy's Cupboard, US 61, near Natchez, MS, September 2010*

## **Kain Gallery, Rare Books**

### *John Carter Comes to Louisville*

Celebrating the 100th anniversary of Edgar Rice Burroughs' characters first publication – Tarzan of the Apes & John Carter of Mars – with the first printings and comic strips of John Carter, along with images from the upcoming *John Carter* movie

March 1 – 25, 2012



## **Second Floor, East Wing**

### **UNBOUND**

Permanent exhibit produced by UofL photography professor Mary Carothers, and her Advanced Photography class and funded in part by CODRE (UofL Commission on Diversity and Racial Equality)

## **Kornhauser Library**

*Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature: Exhibit – Lecture - Films:* This traveling exhibit developed by the National Library of Medicine in collaboration with the American Library Association, explores Mary Shelley's world that gave birth to *Frankenstein*.  
February 15-March 21



## **Music Library**

### **First Floor**

*Works of Esa-Pekka Salonen - Winner of the 2012 Grawemeyer Award for Music Composition*

### **Third Floor**

*Music Therapy @ UofL – 10 Years and Counting*



# THANK YOU HAPPENINGS



Thanks to **Craig Patton and Terri Holtze** for patiently working through the challenges of the CONTENTdm upgrade to version 6.1. – *Rachel Howard*

I'd like to thank **Chad Owen and Max Baechle**, (one of our student workers) for traveling to Lafayette, Indiana to help me pick up a donation (actually, they did all the picking up). And several extra rounds of thanks to Chad for changing my flat tire during that trip! –*Carrie Daniels*

Thanks to **Karen Nalley** and everyone else who assisted with the "Library Meet and Greet" WinterFest event on January 18. –*Rob Detmering*

I'd like to thank **Andy and Cody Clark** for installing the new shelves in the 3rd Floor Stacks area. Thanks to **Diane Nichols, Anna Marie Johnson, Reference staff, and Margo Smith** for making that happen. The installation of these new shelves improves the users experience in this extremely compact 3rd floor collection area. –*Rob Guillen*

Thank you to **Meredith Fehler, Karen Nalley, Claudene Sproles, Anna Marie Johnson, and Rob Detmering** for helping with the WinterFest Library Meet & Greet. – *Toccara Porter*

## REWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

*The Rewards and Recognitions Committee announce the recipients for this period:*

**Faculty winner: Margo Smith**, nominated for her ongoing commitment to good supervisory practices, most notably her consistent efforts to maintain a high level of communication with her staff. "Very few people take the time to maintain this level of communication with staff who report to them."

**Staff winner: Amy Purcell**, nominated for being "creative, responsive, attentive to quality... and a superb liaison with University Printing Services." Amidst a demanding and varied workload, Amy designs distinctive and engaging posters and invitations for events (sometimes with very short notice), resulting in donors frequently asking for copies of her work.

## Thank You

**Bill Carner  
Gwendline Chenault  
Bob Fox  
Rachel Howard  
Anna Marie Johnson  
Kathie Johnson  
Melissa Laning  
George T. McWhorter  
Mary K Marlatt  
Jessie Roth**

*... for contributing to this issue of The Owl!*