

A Newsletter for Employees of the University of Louisville Libraries
Vol. 28, No. 7 ♦ December, 2012

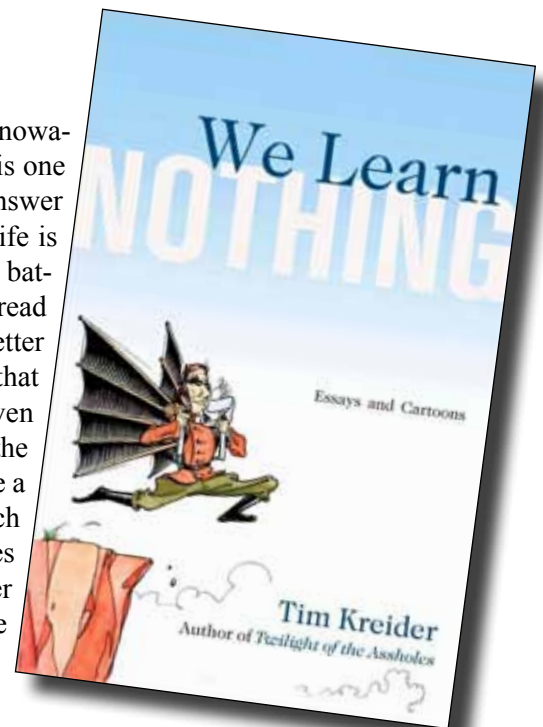
The Owl

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

WINTER READERS' PICKS

Written and compiled by Christopher Poché, Ekstrom Library

Writing this column has introduced a strange element into my reading life: nowadays, whenever I pick up a book I think to myself "Will I write about this one for *The Owl*?" And the sad thing is that I am now acutely aware that the answer most of the time is "No." I have found that the truth about the reading life is like this truism that sheds light on the character of baseball: even the best batters fail two-thirds of the time. I read all the time and yet most of what I read is not worth recommending. It might be the case that I need to exercise better judgment in my choices. Yes, perhaps. But I think that it's just a plain truth that there are many more not-so-good books out there than really good ones. Even if I were to limit myself to the generally acknowledged classics, I suspect the success rate would go up only a little. For a classic is not guaranteed to be a good experience for every reader. And such a limitation is literally that. Such exclusively high brow choices close off other opportunities and pleasures that can only be found by casting a wide net and being open to whatever may come one's way. Without such openness, I'm not sure I would have come across the following books.



Leading off is Tim Kreider's *We Learn Nothing: Essays and Cartoons* (Ekstrom Browsing PN6165 .K75 2012). Kreider is probably best known (if he's known at all) for his comic strip *The Pain: When Will It End?* Sadly, he no longer produces this comic. But, on the other hand, I think his true calling is writing and am happy that he is devoting his energies to it. For years I visited his website every Wednesday to check out his latest comic, but my greatest pleasure was in reading his "Artist's Commentary." The comic was always good for a laugh and the drawing well above average (his crosshatching is more the work of a fine artist than a cartoonist), but it was the commentary that made the visit mandatory. Here, Kreider would detail the inspiration and execution of the comic and expound, often at great length, upon its meaning. His writing explodes with energy, is highly opinionated and often cynical, but manages to be honestly self-reflective, broadmindedly critical, compassionate, and humorous all at the same time.

From the commentaries, the reader learns that Kreider spends a lot of his time drinking in bars and having great conversations with friends. The ideas for a great many of his comics were hatched during these conversations. And so it's not surprising that the best essays in *We Learn Nothing* are about friendship. Other topics include a near-death experience Kreider had after he was attacked by a mugger wielding a knife, politics (the bread and butter of his comic), and the adopted Kreider meeting his biological mother and her two daughters late in life.

Kreider created an amusing video to plug this book. He talks about his book with a friend by his side and in his natural habitat: a bar. It can be viewed [here](#). And since I brought him up, I have to recommend Kreider's essay-length review of *Eyes Wide Shut* in which he rescues Stanley Kubrick's final film from the critical disappointment that greeted it upon its release for not being "sexy" enough. It's the best piece of film criticism I have ever read, and it's unfortunate that it has yet to be collected in any of Kreider's books. It can be found in *Film Quarterly*, vol. 53, no. 3, Spring 2000 (Ekstrom Periodical Stacks xPN1993.H457).

The Chairs Are Where the People Go: How to Live, Work, and Play in the City, by Misha Glouberman and Sheila Heti (Ekstrom Browsing HD30.29.G585 2011), is a unique book of armchair philosophy. Glouberman is a performance artist and teacher living in Toronto, and Heti is a novelist and friend of Glouberman's who basically transcribed his musings from conversations they had. To say the book is "conversational" is a bit of an understatement. Glouberman expresses himself so simply that some readers may find this book annoying. Some reviewers on amazon.com found the book to be "navel gazing" of the worst kind. And at first I was tempted to see the book this way. I was irritated at first by all the sentences that begin with expressions such as "I think that" and "I find it interesting that." But this irritation gave way to admiration for the simple honesty and earnestness that these simple expressions reveal.

The short essays in this collection are completely idiosyncratic takes on the universal (for the most part) issues that have arisen in Glouberman's life and work. It's difficult to summarize what ties them together beyond that. Allow me to just list some of the chapter titles, which may give you not just an idea of the topics but of the flavor of the work as a whole: "People's Protective Bubbles Are Okay"; "Doing One Thing Doesn't Mean You're Against Something Else"; "There Are Some Games I Won't Play with My Friends"; "Is Monogamy a Trick?"; "Asking a Good Question"; "Making the City More Fun for You and Your Privileged Friends Isn't a Super-Noble Political Goal" (what a whopper!); and (my favorite) "A Decision Is a Thing You Make."

Jim Holt's *Stop Me If You've Heard This: A History and Philosophy of Jokes* (Ekstrom Browsing PN6147.H584 2008) is a small book that is only a slightly expanded version of an article the author wrote for *The New Yorker*. But being a glorified *New Yorker* article is actually quite a good thing. This little book turns over a fair number

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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.

of very interesting stones even if its lack of depth means it does not live up to its academic-sounding subtitle, which seems to promise a definitive treatment of its subject. Hmm, perhaps a grand subtitle for such a little book was meant as a joke. In any case, Holt introduces the reader to curious characters and joke collectors such as the Renaissance scholar and book-hunter Poggio Bracciolini and the more contemporary and comically named G. Legman. Throw in an analysis of Freud's theory of humor and the appearance of comedians such as Gary Shandling and Sarah Silverman and you've got yourself a fun page-turner, if not exactly a knee-slapper.

None of these recommendations are home runs. More like a double off the wall, followed by a solid single, and a blooper that scores a run. In the end, not a bad inning.

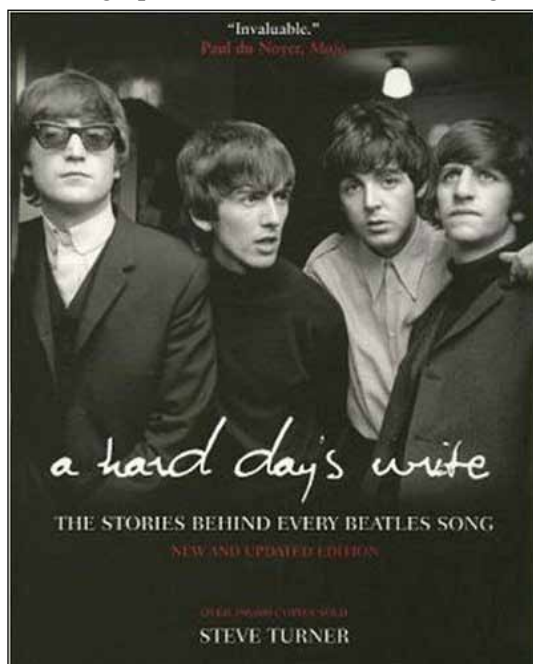
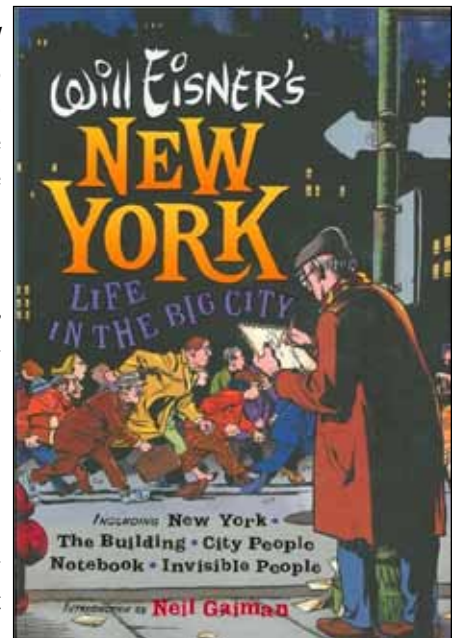
As always, my thanks to all contributors to the column. And best wishes to all for the upcoming holidays.

Mark Dickson, Music Library

Will Eisner's New York: Life in the Big City* and *The Contract with God Trilogy: Life on Dropsie Avenue, by Will Eisner (Ekstrom PN6727.E4 A6 2006 and PN6727.E4 A6 2006b, respectively). Continuing my recently discovered interest in graphic novels, I have read and thoroughly enjoyed these works by Will Eisner. Eisner's knowledge and understanding of urban life over several decades and generations are breath-taking. His art is sublime and his execution is masterly.

The Intellectual Devotional American History: Revive Your Mind, Complete Your Education, and Converse Confidently About Our Nation's Past, by David S. Kidder and Noah D. Oppenheim (Ekstrom E169.1.K485 2007). This little book was my bedside one-topic-per-day read for the last year. Enjoyed it so much I bought two more in the series.

Priceless: How I Went Undercover to Rescue the World's Stolen Treasures, by Robert K. Wittman with John Shiffman (no UofL holdings). I really wanted to like this book. My love of confidence men stories merged with art history should have been a no-brainer. Somehow the narrative never lived up to the premise. The stings were seldom spellbinding and the author's autobiographical details were distracting. Maybe I'll give it another chance at a later date. I don't know of any other options in this specific genre.



No Country for Old Men, by Cormac McCarthy (Ekstrom PS3563.C337N6 2005). Cormac McCarthy is my favorite contemporary writer.

The Wrecking Crew: The Inside Story of Rock and Roll's Best-Kept Secret, by Kent Hartman (Music Library ML421.W74 H37 2012). This book changed my view of the pop music I grew up listening to. There is no other book like it I know of, but it's revolutionary in revealing the truth about how hit pop records were made.

Mockingjay, by Suzanne Collins (Ekstrom Kindles and Browsing PZ7.C6837 Moc 2010). I finally finished *The Hunger Games* trilogy with this book. Though not a zealot, I enjoyed the series and am looking forward to the upcoming movies.

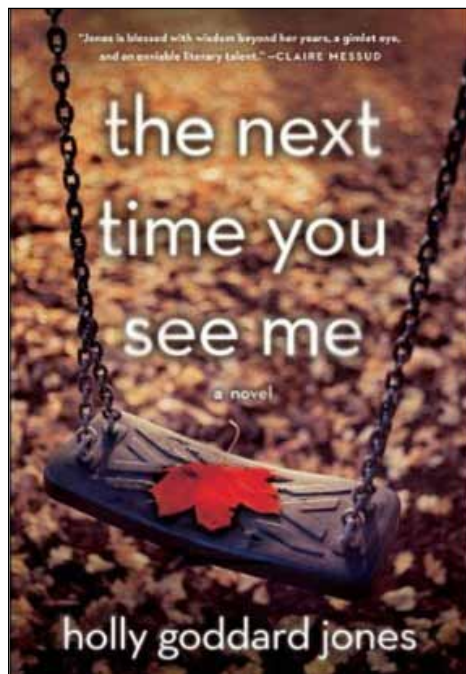
Robin Harris, Law Library

A Hard Day's Write: The Stories Behind Every Beatles Song, by Steve Turner (Music Library ML421.B4 T87 2005). Photographs

(in color and black and white) and well-researched essays about the background of every Beatles song make this an invaluable source for anyone of any age who cannot get enough of John, Paul, George, and Ringo. Based on interviews with dozens of people “in the know” and on research conducted in facilities as diverse as the Beatles Shop in Liverpool, ASCAP, the British Library, the Theatre Museum, and the UCLA Library, this book is a treasure (and one of my most-consulted Beatles books). And at 224 pages, it’s just the right length.

Working Class Mystic: A Spiritual Biography of George Harrison, by Gary Tillery (Ekstrom Browsing ML420. H167 T55 2011). Although many biographies of “the quiet Beatle” exist, this one focuses on the ups and downs of George Harrison’s spiritual journey. The four parts of the book (Living in the Material World, The Making of a Mystic, Taking the Word to the World, and The Inner Light) take the reader through Harrison’s quest for peace and happiness. We all know how it began in Liverpool, and sadly, we all know how it ended with George’s death from cancer in November 2001, but this book fills in the details, good and bad, of Harrison’s spiritual life. Throughout the book, Tillery suggests specific Harrison songs that illuminate the parts and chapters. An eleven-page chronology, a long notes section, and a helpful bibliography and index end the book. This is a terrific read.

You Never Give Me Your Money: The Beatles After the Breakup, by Peter Doggett (Ekstrom Browsing ML421. B4 D65 2009). “Fame is a curse, with no redeeming features,” according to Allen Ginsburg. That quote begins the sad story of the Beatles after their breakup. If you love the Beatles, you may want to skip this 350-page tome, detailing the struggles among the four musicians, along with their struggles against several unscrupulous “managers” whom they alternately trusted and distrusted. It is well-researched and may answer some lingering questions you have, but all in all, this is a depressing read. Not recommended for the holidays.



The Next Time You See Me, by Holly Goddard Jones, Simon & Schuster, to be published in February 2013. You may have heard of Kentucky’s own Holly Goddard Jones when her award-winning short story collection, *Girl Trouble* (Browsing Collection, PS3610.O6253 G57), hit the shelves in 2009. In 2013, you will be hearing a lot more about her, as Simon & Schuster releases her spellbinding debut novel, *The Next Time You See Me*. (I was fortunate to receive an ARC--advance reader’s copy--of this book one Friday afternoon, and I spent part of that weekend racing through it.)

A stirring tale of life (and death) in the fictional Kentucky town of Roma in 1993, *The Next Time You See Me* begins with the discovery of a body in a secluded area of Roma, and moves seamlessly through the story of the murder and its cascading effects on the community. Jones carefully introduces and develops a cast of characters whose backgrounds and actions eventually fit together to solve the mystery of the identities of the victim and the murderer. Teenagers, their teachers and parents, factory workers and their families, and lonely outcasts populate the book. Jones combines the major themes of failed dreams, teenage angst, and bullying in a truly unforgettable way. Other important themes (alcohol abuse, racial prejudice, class disparities, hypocrisy) simmer throughout, but it was the vivid

portrayals of the bullies and the bullied that made me squirm as I read. Even so, I could not put the book down.

The characters in *The Next Time You See Me* stayed with me long after I finished reading the book--so much so that I read it a second time this week, and found it even more captivating. I am already looking forward to Holly Goddard Jones’ next book.

Holly Goddard Jones will deliver the luncheon keynote address at the 7th Annual Kentucky Women’s Book Festival, on Saturday, May 18 at Ekstrom Library.



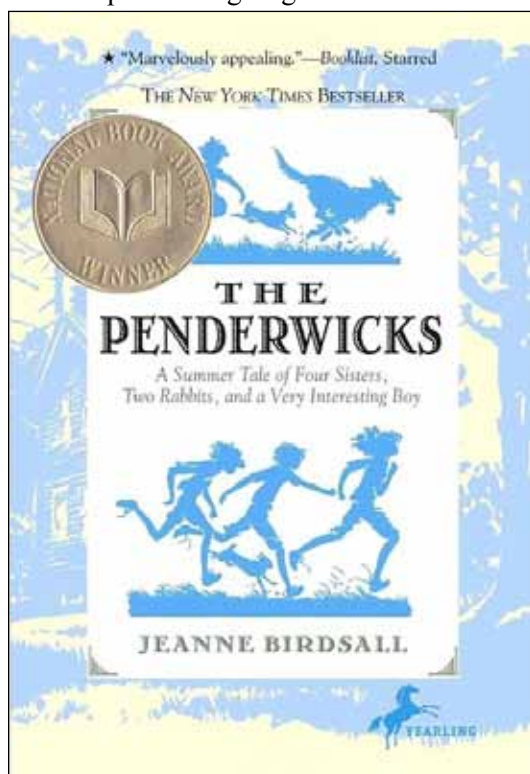
Anna Marie Johnson, Ekstrom Library

Big Bone Lick: The Cradle of American Paleontology, by Stanley Hedeon (Ekstrom Browsing QE705.U6 H43 2008). Anna Marie reading in the Qs? What gives? My family stopped at Big Bone Lick State Park on our vacation this past summer and enjoyed the visitor's center and bison herd. Our vacation destination was Cincinnati, and during the week we were at Hueston Woods State Park and in the city, we discovered a number of references to Big Bone Lick that piqued my interest. This is a slim volume written by a former Xavier University professor that tells the story of the discovery of the bones. It was intriguing to learn that this site was known all over the world and was of great fascination to some of the leading thinkers and scientists of that time (mid-eighteenth century), including our own Thomas Jefferson. The idea that animals could go extinct was a topic of great debate, and the furor around this question was created in large part because of the discovery of Big Bone Lick.

The Lightning Thief, by Rick Riordan (no UofL holdings). Grabbed my husband's copy on the way out to catch my plane to Savannah and was so happy I did. My K-graduate school education was almost completely deficient of Greek mythology. This is a delightful way to learn it. Can't wait to read this one to my kids. In case you've been hiding under a rock, the main character Percy Jackson goes off to "summer camp" where he discovers that his missing father is someone quite special, and he embarks on cross-country quest to prove himself and to stop an inter-celestial war.

Pride and Prejudice, by Jane Austen (Ekstrom PR4034.P7 1991). After I finished the above book, I was still sitting in an airport (on the way back) but fortunately had my Kindle with me and this was one of my free downloads that I kept meaning to get to. I had never read it, and I found it to be wildly humorous. I think it is an age thing

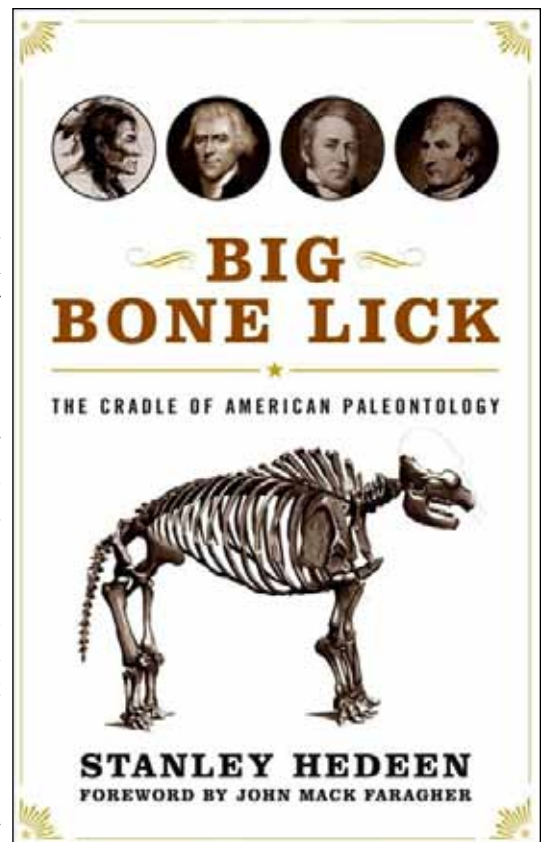
as I don't think I would have understood it or found it interesting as a kid/teen or maybe even young adult. It takes a little work, but Austen's wit and commentary on that period of English history is well worth it.



The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy, The Penderwicks on Gardam Street, and The Penderwicks at Point Mouette, by Jeanne Birdsall (Ekstrom PZ7.B51197 Pe 2005, PZ7.B51197 Pen 2008, and PZ7.B51197 Pef 2011, respectively). I read the first one to my two older children and am currently reading the last one to them. The middle one, my daughter Madeline is reading by herself. They are sweet stories about four sisters and their widowed father, written in a modern style but with an older sensibility. Nothing too serious happens, there isn't a lot of cynicism, and the friendship and love of the sisters are inspiring, even when they are being, well, normal sisters.

Kathie Johnson, UARC and Kornhauser Library

In the past when I traveled I brought back a t-shirt or a coffee mug as a souvenir. But one can only wear so many t-shirts and a cupboard can hold only so many mugs, so a few years ago I came up with a plan—books. They are easy to pack, not too fragile, not too large,

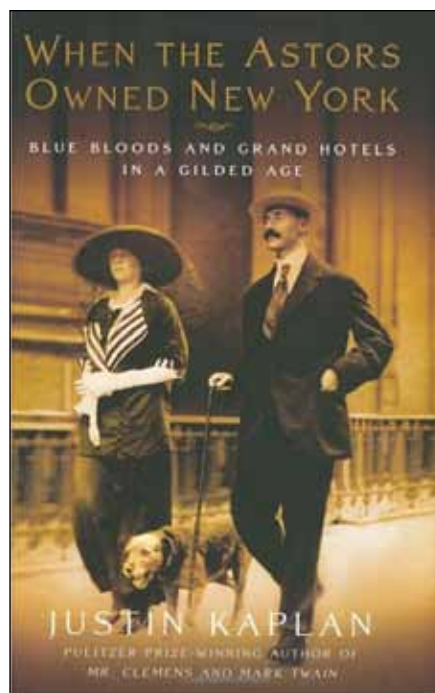


and usually not too expensive.

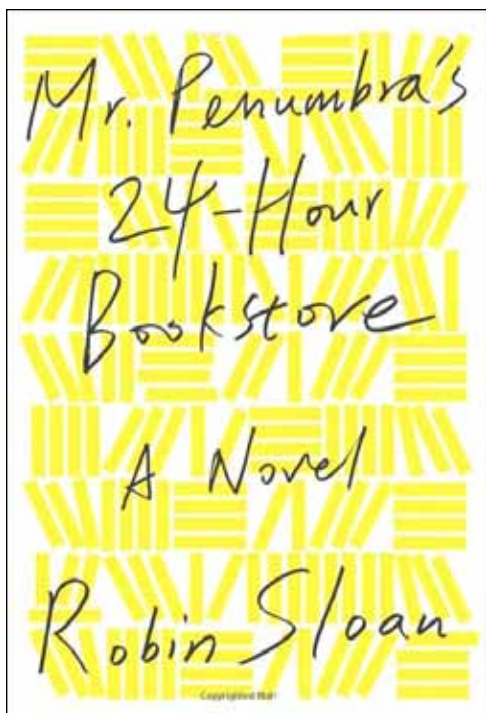
Since then I have tried to purchase a book set in the locale of my vacation as my keepsake. I write the dates of the trip inside the cover and relish reading about something related to my trip. I have brought home murder mysteries set in the small village of Chatham on Cape Cod, in Tampa, and in Santa Fe. I picked up an excellent biography of the “Unsinkable Molly Brown” in Leadville, Colorado, and this year when I went to New York City I could not make up my mind so I bought two interesting volumes, one fiction and one non-fiction.

31 Bond Street, by Ellen Horan, is a fictionalized account of an actual murder investigation that took place in 1857. Dr. Harvey Burdell is found brutally murdered in his own home at 31 Bond Street. Suspicion immediately falls upon a woman and her two daughters, who live in the house with him while the mother serves as his “house-mistress.” A young ambitious attorney observes that the woman is being railroaded and offers his service as her attorney. All of this is historical fact—the story that Horan weaves using newspaper clippings and official records of the trial is fascinating and very believable. As no one really knows to this day what really happened, she brings you one of many possibilities and an ending that is a complete surprise.

The other book I purchased was **When the Astors Owned New York: Blue Bloods and Grand Hotels in a Gilded Age**, (Ekstrom TX941.W33 K39 2006), by Justin Kaplan. Kaplan is a Pulitzer Prize-winning author of a biography of Mark Twain, so I expected much and was not disappointed. His history of the somewhat dysfunctional Astor family makes for good reading, but the book is more than just that. Kaplan covers other millionaires of the time and the new obsession with catering to the rich by building bigger and better hotels with more and more amenities. If you have ever stayed at such a hotel (or even just walked through the lobby such as I did in the Waldorf-Astoria) you will find something of interest in this very appealing volume.



Ekstrom does not hold the Horan title, but other books by Kaplan are available at Ekstrom, including his *Mr. Clemens and Mark Twain*. The Louisville Free Public Library has four copies of the Horan book and one copy of the Kaplan, so they are easily available locally. I recommend either or both over your holiday break.



Bob Roehm, Ekstrom Library

Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore, by Robin Sloan (Ekstrom Browsing PS3619.L6278 M77 2012). Clay Jannon is an out-of-work web designer who finds a job as the overnight clerk in an odd (to say the least) bookstore in San Francisco. There are few customers, and most who do come in are there to borrow the strange tomes that the bookstore keeps in stock and that Clay is not allowed to look at. Intrigued by the eccentric figures, and with the help of a friend from Google, Clay decides to “borrow” the customer logbook and create a digital map of the store. Secret societies, the intersection of technology and antiquity, and perhaps the fate of the world make this a delightful read. If Neal Stephenson had written this, it would be four times as long! Did I mention that the book has a cool glow-in-the-dark dust jacket?



Library and Department News

Office of the Dean

New Hire

Jennifer Oberhausen accepted the position of Program Assistant Senior, University Archives & Records Center, effective November 19, 2012. Ms. Oberhausen reports to Sherri Pawson.

Effective January 7, 2013 Troy Plumer has accepted the position of Technology Consultant II with the Office of Library Technology. Mr. Plumer will report the Weiling Liu.

Effective January 7, 2013 Angela Kennedy has accepted the position of Library Assistant with Ekstrom Circulation. Ms. Kennedy will report the Melissa Horrar.

OLT

Windows 7 and Office 2010

All the staff and shared workstations (model 760) have been replaced with new PCs with Windows 7 and Office 2010. All the staff and shared workstations (model 780) have been upgraded to Windows 7 and Office 2010. PCs in the CLC in Ekstrom Library will be replaced with new PCs with Windows 7 and Office 2010 starting November 5, 2012. PCs in the rest of the instructional labs in Ekstrom Library will be upgraded to Windows 7 and Office 2010 starting in mid-December 2012, excluding laptops.

Omega server

Omega server for online exhibits has been upgraded to the new virtual server environment.

Voyager 8.2 Upgrade

A minor version upgrade (8.2) has been scheduled by the consortium, December 17-19, 2012.

Reference and Information Literacy Department

Rob Detmering and Claudene Sproles published "Forget the Desk Job: Current Roles and Responsibilities in Entry-Level Reference Job Advertisements" in *College and Research Libraries*, v. 73, issue 6. Check it out: <http://crl.acrl.org/content/73/6/543.full.pdf+html>. This is Claudene's second article analyzing library job advertisements. Her first article on this topic has been cited a number of times, including the use of her methodology by another researcher.

Anna Marie Johnson, Claudene Sproles, and Rob Detmering published "Library Instruction and Information Literacy 2010" in *Reference Services Review*, v. 39, issue 4. This year's bibliography contained 404 citations—information literacy remains a popular topic in the library science literature! Available here: <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/journals.htm/journals.htm?issn=0090-7324&volume=39&issue=4>

Congratulations are in order for Fannie Cox who has been selected for the 2013-2014 cohort of the ARL Leadership and Career Development Program. The LCDP is an 18-month program to prepare mid-career librarians from traditionally underrepresented racial and ethnic minority groups to take on increasingly demanding leadership roles in ARL libraries. More information on the LCDP is available at: <http://www.arl.org/diversity/lcdp/index.shtml>

Barbara Whitener, Angel Clemons and Claudene Sproles attended the Kentucky State Data Center Affiliates meeting on November 2.

Special Collections

Special Collections will be closed December 14 in preparation for the January 2, 2013 merger with University Archives. We are currently working to consolidate our Reference Resources and move the most heavily used materials to the new shared reading room in LL17. These materials include books and extensive history files (in 23 filing cabinets!) as well as equipment for using microfilm and oral histories. We are enlisting help from Raymond Slaughter and his student assistants.

We are also involved in cross-training so we can provide reference assistance to the combined collections.

Kornhauser Library

Maura Ellison's youngest daughter, Sarah, will graduate from UofL December 13 with a degree in Business.

Mary K Marlatt will also graduate December 13 with a BA in History. She started taking classes in January 1982 at IUS. With several years off here and there, she has finally managed to amass enough credits (plus about 30 extra) to earn her degree. As she is still recovering from knee surgery, her walk across the commencement stage might be slow, but since the whole journey was slow, it seems somewhat appropriate.

Anthony Iles has returned to work after taking parental leave upon the birth of his first child, Michael. Anthony doesn't seem to be too sleep deprived — yet.

The Circulation Department held a bridal shower on November 15 for student assistant Sri Gummadi, who will be returning to India over the winter break to get married on December 26 with a traditional Indian wedding. Sri will return to Louisville next semester to finish her degree, and then move to Portland, Oregon where her future husband is employed.

The Harry Potter exhibit has been packed up and is off to its next destination. Kornhauser employees enjoyed all the fun events that accompanied the exhibit.

Neal Nixon's home was included in this year's Old Louisville Holiday Home tour. Over 5,000 people toured the house during the weekend of December 1-2.



Law Library

Recent improvements to the Law Library include the installation of new carpet tiles in the Reading Room and rubber tiles in the stairwell. New computers and a CanoScan LiDE210 have been installed in the Reading Room as well. The scanner is a free and easy-to-use alternative to the Xerox copy machines. Scanned images and documents can be stored on a USB thumb drive or attached to email messages. More photos have been posted on the Law Library's Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/University-of-Louisville-Brandeis-School-of-Law-Library/39470654022>).

UARC

On the Road Again

Kathie and Ron Johnson hit the road again on November 1 – this time for New Mexico. Kathie had purchased five nights at a private home in Santa Fe at the Young Survivors Benefit last February and this was the first chance they had to use it. They lucked out getting airfare during one of Southwest's sales and then getting a rental car during a Hotwire special. They spent four inexpensive nights in Albuquerque as well (compliments of priceline.com). Having lived in Nevada from 1971-1973, they were thrilled to be back in the southwest with its desert, mountains, and amazing wide skies. Highlights of the trip included the wonderful restaurants and shops in Santa Fe,

the beautiful blue sunny skies, great museums, a drive to Abique and Ghost Ranch (where artist Georgia O'Keeffe had homes), a half-day at Ojo Caliente (a spa about 30 miles north of Santa Fe), and an afternoon spent with Air Force friends whom they had not seen in 39 years. Kathie highly recommends the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque, the Palace of the Governors / New Mexico History Museum and the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe, Lake Abique and Ghost Ranch, and the spa which is worth a return trip for several days! There were many more museums and interesting spots to visit – will have to save for the next trip!!

Delphi Center

Celebration of Teaching and Learning

“Teaching in Harmony with the Brain: Applying Learning-Centered Science in Today's Classroom and Beyond”

Friday, February 8, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Shelby Campus

Mark your calendars and plan on joining your colleagues from across the university to explore learner-centered teaching during this day-long professional development opportunity. Dr. Terry Doyle, author of *Learner Centered Teaching: Putting the Research on Learning into Practice*, will be this year's keynote speaker.

Registration for the conference opened December 5. More information will be forthcoming. Check the Delphi Center for Teaching and Learning website for more info: <http://louisville.edu/delphi>.

2013 Ideas to Action (i2a) Institute

Monday-Wednesday, May 20-22 | Shelby Campus

We are pleased to announce the dates for our annual i2a Institute for faculty and staff. Registration opens in March and more information is forthcoming in early 2013. Learn about last year's Institute by visiting our website: <http://louisville.edu/ideastoaction/programs/institute>.



A Message from the Dean

By Bob Fox, Dean, University of Louisville Libraries

As I write this column, the calendar year is winding down and I think it is a good time to reflect on our accomplishments over the previous year. It's so tempting to focus on a budget cut or other difficulty faced during the year, but when you step back, it's easy to note how much we have accomplished in the three focus areas of our strategic plan: relationships, collections, and spaces.



Relationships

We have set ourselves on a course to learn much more about our users and their needs. A comprehensive survey conducted in the spring continues to yield valuable data on how we interact and serve our students and faculty. We created a new student advisory board that is actively working to improve the undergraduate experience and we have worked closely with the Faculty Senate Committee on Libraries (FSCOL) to update its focus. Externally, we have added new members to our Library Associates Board and have started to build a much stronger donor relations program.

We are promoting greater outreach to faculty. Here, we have added a second clinical services position at the Kornhauser Health Sciences Library and are adding a new social sciences librarian position at the Ekstrom Library to increase direct library interaction with faculty.

Collections

While budget cuts have prevented large additions to our purchased and licensed resources, a number of folks in the libraries have worked diligently to minimize the effects of these cuts on our users. I have been especially heartened by the addition of several special collections this year, including the Sam Thomas Research Collection and the photographic archives of *Louisville Magazine*.

Spaces

We have continued to make improvements to our physical spaces. The renovation of the old Ekstrom auditorium into new Archives and Special Collections space continues (right) and should be completed by the end of the year or early 2013. The Music Library houses new furniture on its first floor and has added new compact storage, freeing up a large portion of its third floor space for future development. The Art Library upgraded its instructional room, and we dedicated the Weiss Reading Room at Kornhauser and the Mazzoli Reading Room in UARC.



Short-term/intermediate goals for these areas:

Over the next year, I hope that we continue to make progress toward our strategic goals. Some of my priorities for this year will include: working closely with the FSCOL on open access initiatives, filling the User Experience/Assessment position, continuing to seek high quality special collections and archival materials of value to researchers, and working with students to refurbish and refresh the fourth floor of Ekstrom library into quality quiet study space.

I also plan to place special emphasis on growing our digital collections and developing the infrastructure to support research initiatives on campus.

I'm looking forward to an exciting 2013!

DigiNews

Digital Collections Update

By Rachel Howard, Digital Initiatives Librarian

Historic photos of Louisville from one of Photographic Archives' oldest and largest collections as well as a smaller, more recently-acquired collection have just been added to [Digital Collections](#).

Richard Gilbert (R.G.) Potter (1901-1987) was a salesman and sometime photographer who collected local history photographs dating back to the late 19th century which he then copied and peddled for use as decoration in many Louisville businesses. In 1945, he purchased the Walter Fischer Studio (which had been in business since 1927), with its collection of large-format black-and-white negatives of Louisville people, places, and events. Potter kept that studio in operation until 1950, and kept taking photographs through the 1960s.

The University of Louisville purchased Potter's collection of prints and negatives – some 13,700 images in all – in 1969, with a grant from the Courier-Journal and Louisville Times Foundation. The Photographic Archives had been founded in 1962, but the acquisition of the Potter collection marked its first significant foray into collecting local documentary photography. As Bill Carner quipped, "Many people thought the Photo Archives *was* the R.G. Potter Collection." The addition of the [Caufield & Shook](#) and [Royal Photo Company](#) collections cemented Photo Archives' essential role in preserving and providing access to photographic documentation of 20th century Louisville.

The [R. G. Potter Collection](#) has finally joined Caufield & Shook and Royal online, although, like the former, the digital collection represents but a small percentage of the physical collection, and will be augmented as additional groups of scans are cataloged and completed. Eventually, it is our hope that digital versions will be available for all unique original negatives and prints, excluding duplicates, copyrighted images, and images of particularly poor quality. Filtering the unique original images from the problematic ones is no small task when it comes to this collection, and explains why it has taken longer, and the work of several interns, to get even this small subset of the Potter collection online.

The [Louisville Storefronts & Saloons Album](#) digital collection, by contrast, includes all 114 extant photographs from the album donated to Photo Archives by Judy Werst on behalf of Patsy & Buz Unclebach in 2009. The photographs of commercial buildings around the Central Business



District, California, Portland, and Russell neighborhoods of Louisville ca. 1909-1912 are accompanied by forms documenting each property's street number, value, former owners, insurance company, and tenants. The information was likely collected for the Metropolitan Realty Company upon its purchase of the properties from the Central Consumers Company, a brewery consortium which had sought to dominate the local beer market by owning many of the saloons, groceries and potential business corner lots in the city. An examination of the advertisements on the storefronts and saloons shows the marketplace dominance of Central Consumers Co. brands including Fehr Brewing Co., Senn and Ackerman, and the Phoenix Brewing Co.

The local Falls City Brewing Company, founded in 1905, is notable by its absence.

Library Exhibits

Ekstrom Library

First Floor, East Wing

Main Floor Gallery — Media Resources

Voices of the Revolution

The Crane House collection features posters from the latter half of the Cultural Revolution produced by the Chinese Communist Party and influenced by Mao Zedong's call for a fusion of revolutionary realism and revolutionary romanticism.

November 7 – December 15, 2012



First Floor, West Wing Display Cases

Recognition of World AIDS Day

Items on HIV/AIDS & World AIDS Day, December 1

Through January 2013

Kain Gallery, Rare Books

Edgar Rice Burroughs Centennial Celebration 2012

August 2012 – January 2013

Photographic Archives Gallery

Bill Carner's "Swan Song," a final curatorial exercise

A Few of My Favorite Photographs from My Years at the Photographic Archives

November 8, 2012 – January 25, 2013



Photographic Archives & Kain Galleries

L & N Railroad

An Archives & Special Collection exhibit in the Photo Archives and Kain Galleries with photos, ephemera and textual materials from University Archives, Photographic Archives and Rare Books.

February 2013 (details will be forthcoming)



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).

Music Library

First Floor

Works of Michel van der Aa

Winner of the 2013 Grawemeyer Award for Music Composition

Through December



Thank you to Kornhauser student assistants **Brandon McKinney, Nathan Wessel, James Hightower, Elliott Paul, Shanice Brown, Zach Denzer, Sri Gummadi, Nicki Denny, Katie Lippert and Michael Mayfield,** as well as staff members **Kathy Rogers, Anthony Iles, Joan Nailon, James Adler and Tiffney Gipson** for helping me obtain approximately 385 pdfs via document delivery or interlibrary loan in support of a systematic review for the Department of Pediatrics, Emergency Medicine Division. —*Elizabeth Smigielski*



I want to thank the Circulation/ILL/RRS staff of Ekstrom Library: **Alice Abbott-Moore, Andrew Huff, Michelle Strickland, Brittany Sutton, Rick Jones, Nicholas Sweat, and Steve Whiteside.** The department has been understaffed one position since January, two positions since July, and three during Michelle's parental leave July-September. Everyone in the department has made a significant contribution toward providing uninterrupted quality patron service during this time. The day shift graciously volunteered for Saturday shift rotation, Nic ably and dependably managed the night shift alone for several months, several people accepted new job duties, and all actively looked for ways to assist co-workers in sharing the department's heavy workload. Special thanks to Michelle Strickland for working half of the Saturday shifts and for shouldering many of her previous job duties while energetically and competently performing her new ones. I thank each of you for trusting me through the departmental rearranging process to have your strengths and best interests in mind, and congratulate everyone collectively for the strong team bond we have forged having experienced this together. I am extremely grateful to have the opportunity to work with such generous, steadfast, and good-spirited folks. —*Melissa Horrar*



I want to thank **Dean Fox** for submitting two Ekstrom Circulation/ILL open position hiring exceptions to the Provost. Though the road has been arduous, come January 2013 one excepted position will be filled. Thanks also to **Diane Nichols, Melissa Laning and Gwendline Chenault** for helping me navigate, and for tolerating, the PCN scramble resulting from several job reassignments. —*Melissa Horrar*



Many thanks to **Matt Goldberg**, who shared his extensive knowledge of Kindles with me. The Law Library will begin lending Kindles to law students, staff and faculty in early 2013, and Matt's generosity with his time and expertise was tremendously helpful in our Public Services planning. Thanks to Matt, we will not need to "re-invent the wheel!" —*Robin Harris*



"To paraphrase a famous, holiday-movie line, 'No one is a failure, who has friends,' and the Student Assistant

Appreciation Halloween Party was a great success because of the generous help of so many of our colleagues.

A very big thank you to **Alice Abbott-Moore, Trish Blair, Andy Clark, Justy Engle, Jason Friedman, Terri Holtze, Rachel Howard, Andy Huff, Anna Marie Johnson, Ben King, Melissa Laning, Kathy Moore, Karen Nalley, Diane Nichols, Hannah Parks, Chris Poché, Bethany Poston, Elizabeth Reilly, Jessie Roth, Raymond Slaughter, Margo Smith, Claudene Sproles, Michelle Strickland, Kelly Buckman, and Erea Marshall** — who all donated their time and effort to the party. Thank you to the many staff and faculty who graciously donated a dessert, and helped us all feel warm and sugared for the rest of the week.

A special thank you to **Margo Smith**, who expertly talked me down from the ledge while preparing for the party.

And most of all, to every single one of our marvelous, hardworking student assistants, whose work contributes to our noble profession, and who make our jobs that much easier.” —**Rob Guillen**



Many thanks and much appreciation go to our long-time student assistant **Kayla Pilcher**, who is leaving us at the end of the year in order to start her student teaching next semester. Kayla has been a valuable part of Collection Development, and we will miss her cheerful personality and meticulous attention to detail. —**Vivian, Bob, Dave & James**



Grateful thanks to **Raymond Slaughter and the Student Assistants** in his office for bumping up their regular surplus item removal day. A big help when we really needed it in prep for the Special Collections/UARC merger. —**Pam Yeager**



Thank you to **Mike Wilson and Randy Kuehn** for helping me get the Distance Learning Library Services chat widget setup! This holds much promise for our being able to help people earlier in the process of their search when they land on the DLLS main page. —**Toccarra D. Porter**

