



A Newsletter for Employees of the University of Louisville Libraries
Vol. 29, No. 1 ♣ February, 2013

The Owl

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

J. Blaine Hudson: A Remembrance

By Tom Owen, Archives & Special Collections

I got to know Blaine Hudson well in the late 1970s when he was a PhD student doing research at the University Archives in our collections related to the history of the Louisville Municipal College, 1931-1951, an undergraduate college for Blacks run by UofL. (In 1981, he finished his dissertation at the University of Kentucky on the closing of that college.) As a researcher, Blaine was friendly, focused and determined.

In fact, our paths had unknowingly crisscrossed at UofL a decade earlier when I was an MA grad student and later full-time Instructor in the History Department and Blaine was an undergraduate activist organizing protests with the Black Student Union. I am confident I followed him, as he and other Black protestors in 1969 occupied University President Woodrow Strickler's office, calling for the recognition of the African American experience in the University curriculum. The next year Blaine and I ALMOST passed one another in the hallway of the brand new Office of Black Affairs; he was a tutor there in the Spring of 1970, and just months later I

Blaine Hudson gives an historical review during the Granville Bunton African American collection opening, Ekstrom Library October 1997. Photo by Tom Fougrousse.

began teaching a course in Black History through that same office.

Years later, after Blaine joined the faculty in the Pan-African Studies Department in 1992, he came back to the University Archives to do research on his book, *Fugitive Slaves and the Underground Railroad in the Kentucky Borderland*, and more recently *Two Centuries of Black Louisville*, which he co-authored with Ken Clay and Merv Aube-

Blaine Hudson (left) with Bob Cunningham at the Carl Braden Center in 2003. Photo by Peter Fosl.



spin. Over the same decades, when I was paired on the same local history program with Dr. Hudson, I always learned new facts, but even more importantly came to view the topic from his fresh perspective. Without histrionics, his manner effused scholarship, directness, and a love for his community and the university. Blaine Hudson believed that THE TRUTH truly would set you free!

The past several years I served on the UofL College of Arts and Science's Hall of Fame award selection committee, where I watched Dean Hudson (our chair) navigate disagreements, nudge us toward consensus, and sometimes steer us where he wanted to go without the appearance of a heavy hand. His low-

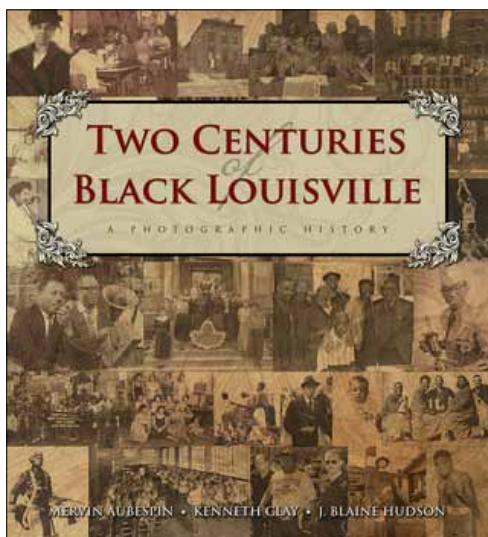
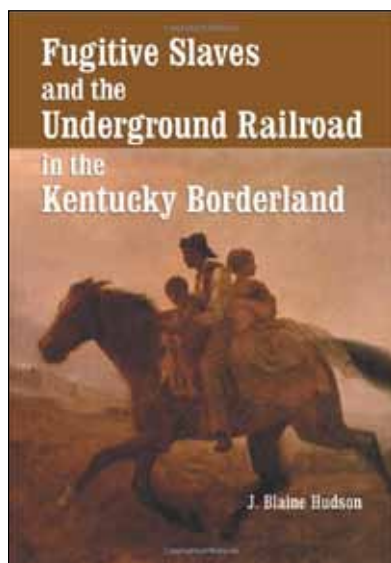
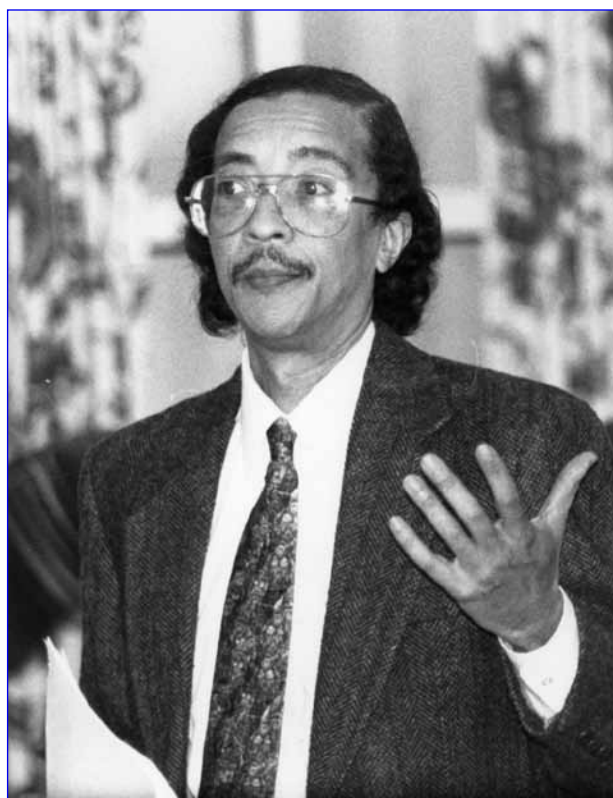
key manner, slow speech, and melliferous voice kept anyone from hunkering down on a position early in the deliberations.

My most cherished memory of Blaine Hudson occurred just last May when the UofL Alumni Office paired the two of us on a Sunday af-

ternoon historical boat tour on the Ohio River. As we cruised along from Harrods Creek down to the basin in front of downtown and back, we seasoned Louisville natives and local historians without notes or rehearsal talked of the river and its banks from our unique perspectives. While there isn't a "white" history and a "black" history, it became clear that OUR Ohio River history was much richer because the narrators were shaped by our different racial experience. The tour I believe is a classic example where one plus one equaled much more than TWO! Eight months ago, if I had known that Blaine Hudson would be gone by January, I would have insisted that our Ohio River history "rap" be preserved on tape!

J. Blaine Hudson's contributions to our university, community and scholarly guild are multi-layered and enduring. He was a hard-nosed communicator of sometimes uncomfortable history truths, a skilled administrator, a poet, a careful researcher, and always an activist conspiring to make sure we never overlooked the story of the African Diaspora. While I was in no way his close friend, I'm privileged and blessed to have crossed paths with him for almost forty-five years.

Revisit Dean Hudson's feature, "[Economic Justice and Social Responsibility](#)" in the February 2007 issue of *The Owl*.



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Editorial Board: Anna Marie Johnson, Jessie Roth.

Book Editor: Chris Poché. Layout: Bob Roehm.

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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

Archives & Special Collections

It's the end of an era for the Photographic Archives. Bill Carner, the one and only "Photo Wrangler," has retired after 34 years of dedicated service to the University of Louisville. As the imaging manager, Bill spent much of his time in the darkroom, then eventually at the scanner and printer, creating beautiful copy photographs from the collections for researchers, local businesses, documentary filmmakers, and everyday photography lovers. In addition, Bill mounted countless exhibitions in the gallery, supported numerous student workers, and with his unparalleled memory and intimate knowledge of the collections, was the "go-to" guy for any and all photography questions. Bill has left an indelible mark on the collections of the Photographic Archives, which he has helped build over the years through accessions, fine print purchases, and even his own donations of Louisville photographs collected from eBay. The Photo Wrangler will be missed, but assures us that he will return to Louisville after his three-month trip to Paris in the spring.



A specially-designed belt buckle was a retirement gift for Bill Carner from the Special Collections staff.

Office of the Dean

Retirement

Dave Meyer retired from the University Libraries after 35 years of service on January 31. We wish Dave all the best for his retirement.

New Hires

Heather Fox joined the University Libraries Faculty on February 4 as the Archivist for Metadata and Scholarly Communications. Ms. Fox was identified during the search for the Archivist for Manuscript Collections/Co-director of the Oral History Center. The Archivist for Metadata & Scholarly Communications position became available while that search was underway, and Ms. Fox was found to be an ideal fit for the Metadata position based on her prior experience. Archives & Special Collections faculty and staff extend a warm welcome to Ms. Fox.

Maurini Strub has accepted the position of User Experience/Assessment Librarian effective March 11. This newly-created position was an outgrowth of our most recent strategic planning conversations.

Resignations

Erea Marshall ended her temporary assignment with the Office of the Dean of Libraries effective January 29, 2013.

Robert Guillen resigned his position as Library Assistant, Ekstrom Stacks Maintenance effective February 8, 2013.

Reference & Information Literacy Departments

Fannie Cox and Latisha Reynolds traveled to Seattle for the American Libraries Association Mid-winter Conference.

Josh Whitacre coordinated our Learning Commons Winterfest event on Wednesday January 16, 2013. This was a welcome-back to campus event for students that offered free cider and donuts, the chance to win a Kindle Fire,

and the opportunity to learn about the services available in the Learning Commons including research, writing, and computer tutoring assistance from the staff of the Reference Department, the Writing Center, and REACH Computer Resource Center. The Digital Media Suite staff were on hand with a green screen to take pictures of students with their background of choice. Check out the Ekstrom Library Facebook page to see the very excited winner of the Kindle and the DMS FB page to see Rob Detmering shaking hands with President Obama.

Two of Claudene Sproles' articles ("An Analysis of Entry-Level Librarian Ads Published in American Libraries, 1982—2002" and "What the Teachers Are Teaching: How MLIS Programs Are Preparing Academic Librarians for Instructional Roles") were cited in the article, "Beyond the Job Ad: Employers and Library Instruction" published in *College and Research Libraries*: <http://crl.acrl.org/content/74/1/24.full.pdf+html>.

The article "Research Papers Have Always Seemed Very Daunting" by Rob Detmering and Anna Marie Johnson was used as a key source in the literature review of an article called "The Apprentice Researcher: Using Undergraduate Researchers' Personal Essays to Shape Instruction and Services" published in this quarter's *portal: Libraries and the Academy*.

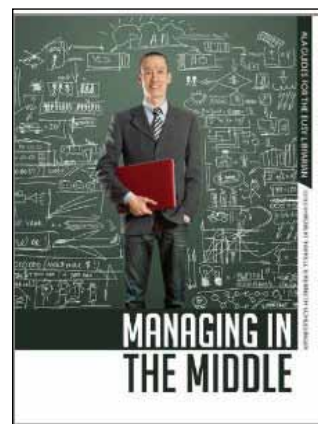
Rob Detmering has taken over responsibility for information literacy. Josh Whitacre will now report to him.

Kornhauser

Neal Nixon and Melissa Laning have published a book chapter titled, "Expertise, Influence and Magical Thinking: Interviews with Middle Managers," in *Managing in the Middle*, from ALA Editions, 2013.

MISSING: "Swipecy" the Reference Department's mascot has been lost! Swipecy is very important to UofL students as he allows their Cardinal Cards to be read in the UnipriNT card readers so that students can print! He is an off-white colored Kroger bag. If you have seen him, please let us know. A reward will be offered for his safe return.*

*Reward to be determined by department, including but not limited to the answer to a burning reference question, a small mint, and perhaps a used staple.



Kornhauser will be hosting the 2015 Midwest Chapter/Medical Library Association annual meeting. Michel Atlas will serve as chair.

THANK YOU

Evan Butler
Gwendline Chenault
Justy Engle
Peter Fosl
Rachel Howard
Anna Marie Johnson

Melissa Laning
Mary K Marlatt
Tom Owen
Elizabeth Reilly
Jessie Roth

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



--Media Resources News--

THE PEOPLE HAVE VOTED

By Evan Butler, Student Assistant, Media, Ekstrom Library

The human race has survived many events that were predicted to be the end to “life as we know it.” We are still here after Y2K, the predicted return of Jesus in 2011, the Mayan Apocalypse, and the 2013 *MTV People’s Choice Awards*.

For anyone who missed it, I am going to catch you up to speed right now. Jennifer Lawrence, *The Hunger Games*, and Katy Perry walked away with more awards than any other person or movie. Since Jennifer Lawrence is from Louisville, I should be satisfied with the outcome when she (or the movies in which she plays) take an award, but I can’t overlook the injustices that resulted from her victories. Let’s be honest, *The Hunger Games* is a good movie based on a better book, but there’s no way that the 2012 release was better than *The Dark Knight Rises* or *The Avengers*. In the same way, Katniss is a great hero but Black Widow and Catwoman rank way above her in smoothness of combat and overall heroism. I am not saying she was terrible or that I hate *The Hunger Games* but the fact that it reigned over movies that were clearly better makes me lose faith in humanity (or at least the voting system for these awards).

There were two specific moments of justice throughout the awards ceremony on January 9. The first was the fact that Justin Bieber walked out without a single award. We can bask in the fact that the people might not like him as much as he thinks.

The second was that *Supernatural* beat out *The Vampire Diaries* on two different occasions, because it’s clearly an awesome show. Either way, we have to ask ourselves if the people are really in charge of this voting process, or is it all a hoax for MTV to give an award to whom they deem the best? Who’s really the voice of the people in these so-called “People’s Choice Awards?”

We obviously can’t take what MTV says for law, but you can check out all these movies and TV shows at the Media Resources desk in Ekstrom Library and decide what you think. May the odds be ever in your favor.



NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Name: Angela Kennedy

Preferred nickname: Angie

UofL position and department: Searches and Course Reserves Assistant, Circulation

Hometown: Lakeview, Ohio

Schools Attended: University of Evansville and University of Kentucky

Significant Other/Family Members: husband Jeff, son Ciarán, daughter Siobhán

Pets: one old, really fat cat named Melita

Unusual previous positions: I've worked in college and public radio as an on-air news producer/announcer in Evansville, Indiana; at the American Red Cross as an AmeriCorps VISTA in Disaster Services and as an emergency military case worker; filled catalog orders at the Kentucky Derby Museum; and I've worked in the public library, the library at JCTC and the library at a career college.

Hobbies/Activities: reading with my kids (doing all the voices makes it more fun), baking, cooking, crocheting, knitting and jewelry making

Favorite Books: *Pride and Prejudice* and the *Anne of Green Gables* series

Favorite Movies: Don't laugh, but I will always watch *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* (the old one with Gene Wilder) whenever it's on TV; my other favorites are *Yellow Submarine* and *UHF*

Favorite Food: Indian

Favorite Quote: "The greatest use of life is to spend it for something that will outlast it." –William James and "Knowledge is free at the library. Just bring your own container." –Unknown



Name: Sarah-Jane Poindexter

Preferred nickname: SJ, or Sarah-Jane... please, not Sarah.

UofL position and department: Archivist of Manuscripts/Co-director of Oral History Center, Archives and Special Collections

Hometown: Old Saybrook, CT

Schools Attended: Simmons College, Boston, MA

Pets: 'Bill,' the dog. A handsome and charming mutt, predominately a shepherd/collie mix.

Unusual previous positions: Archaeologist – Public Archaeological Laboratory, Inc. (Pawtucket, RI) & AMEC Earth & Environmental (Louisville, Ky); Groundskeeper for Katherine Hepburn (Fenwick, CT).

Zodiac sign: Taurus

Favorite Quote: When I do good, I feel good. When I do bad, I feel bad. That is my religion. – *Abraham Lincoln*

Name: Troy Plumer

UofL position and department: Technology Consultant II. Office of Library Technology.

Hometown: Seymour, Indiana

Schools Attended: Indiana University. Thomas M. Cooley School of Law.

Significant Other/Family Members: Engaged to U of L Assistant Professor, Social Studies Education, College of Education and Human Development, Dr. Caroline Sheffield. Mom, dad, youngest sister, brother-in-law and nephew still fine, well and farming near Seymour, Indiana and middle sister, brother-in-law and two nieces and a nephew in Edmonton, Alberta Canada.



Unusual previous positions: Personal aide to Indiana University Chancellor Herman B Wells.

Hobbies/Activities: As of late, learning all about the capabilities of my first smartphone ... a Samsung Galaxy Note II. Overall, visiting/dining/traveling with friends and family and getting to know those who are passionate about their interests.

Favorite Books: *Too Soon Old, Too Late Smart* by G. Livingston, M.D.

Favorite Movies: HBO's *Band of Brothers*

Favorite Food: Vietnamese crepe at Nam Nam Café in Louisville. You MUST try this hot off the stove AT the restaurant itself. Incredible!

Favorite Quote: To paraphrase, 'The next best thing to knowing ... is knowing how to find out.' —**Samuel Johnson**.

Anything else you would like to tell us about yourself: I'm very excited to be working in academia again. My colleagues in the OLT have been genuinely warm, inviting, appreciative

and understanding as I'm completing what is now my second full week of work. They are a bright, creative and collegial group. I count myself privileged to be a member on their team.

Name: Heather Fox

Preferred nickname: HFox

UofL position and department: Archivist for Metadata and Scholarly Communication

Significant Other/Family Members: husband, Joel McDonald; daughter, Ruby Fox (pictured, left); sister, Jill Fox; niece, Frances Fox

Zodiac sign: Aries

Hobbies/Activities: Play in (mostly) girl garage rock band.

Favorite Movies: *Spirited Away*, *Kung Fu Hustle*

Favorite Vacation Spot: Northern California and KY state parks

Anything else you would like to tell us about yourself: I am the daughter of the voice of the airport, Jack Fox. Yes, that's my dad telling you to that the moving sidewalk is ending and you should not leave your bags unattended. You can hear him in JFK, Detroit, Atlanta and other airports around the world.



Name: Jennifer Oberhausen

UofL position and department: Program Assistant Senior for Archives and Special Collections

Hometown: Louisville, Kentucky

Schools Attended: B.A. in History, B.A. in English, M.A.T. in Secondary Education from UofL, MLS from UK

Pets: four cats (Lily, Asia, Molly, Moody)

Hobbies/Activities: reading, writing, teaching dance, going to U of L football and basketball games, playing trivia, listening to music

Favorite Books: *Persuasion* by Jane Austen, *Harry Potter* series, anything by John Green and Sarah Dessen

Favorite Movies: *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, *The Cutting Edge*, *Cinderella*

Favorite Food: chicken and dumplings

Favorite Quote: "Music is the great uniter. An incredible force. Something that people who differ on everything and anything else can have in common." — **Sarah Dessen, Just Listen**

DigiNews

Digital Collections Update

By Rachel Howard, Digital Initiatives Librarian

February is African American History Month, an annual observance initiated by historian Carter G. Woodson and the organization now known as the [Association for the Study of African American Life and History](#) in 1926 and recognized by the U.S. government since 1976. This year's theme, "At the Crossroads of Freedom and Equality: The Emancipation Proclamation and the March on Washington," commemorates the sesquicentennial of the former and the quinquagenary (that's Latin for 50th anniversary) of the latter. The month of February was chosen in honor of two significant figures in African American history: President Abraham Lincoln, "the Great Emancipator," born February 12, 1809, and freed slave/abolitionist/orator Frederick Douglass (1818-1895), whose birth and death dates also fall in the month of February.

We will launch a new digital collection commemorating local African American history in the month of February – on Lincoln's birthday, if all goes according to plan. (The "we" specifically involved in the planning and executing of this project is Carrie Daniels, Terri Holtze, Randy Kuehn, Public History graduate student/intern Meredith Maple, and me.)

The [Louisville Leader Collection](#) features all extant issues of an African American community newspaper covering local, national, and international news published in Louisville, Kentucky from 1917-1950. The building which housed original copies of the paper was badly damaged by a fire, and the remaining issues, loaned by Kentucky State University and the widow of the publisher, were microfilmed by the University of Louisville, with the digital files created from that microfilm.



The long and winding road the texts have taken toward digital representation has made them less than ideal candidates for optical character recognition (OCR), which has difficulty transcribing faded, torn, or misaligned texts, even when they are readable to the human eye. We are therefore soliciting the public's help to make these articles easier to search and discover by [transcribing them](#). The transcriptions created through this "crowdsourcing" initiative will then be added to the digital collection, improving its accessibility. We are very excited about this approach, which incorporates outreach with tasks to improve usability. If it's successful in engaging the community in the creation of accurate transcriptions without undue burdens placed on libraries staff or servers, we hope to explore other uses of crowdsourced transcription in the future.

The addition of this new collection to our rich trove of digital collections, including the [African American Oral History Collection](#), provides increased opportunities for in-depth research into Louisville's African American community across our collections. For example, [Lattimore Cole](#), son of the *Leader*'s founder and publisher, I. Willis Cole, discussed the newspaper in his interview. Sociologist [Charles H. Parrish, Jr.](#) suggested to his interviewers (former University Archives and Records Center faculty members Bill Morison and Duane Cox) that *Leader* articles could clarify the details of a story he was telling; this prompted questions about where they could find copies of the paper, which hints at the origin of the microfilming initiative that resulted in its preservation (Oral history interview with Charles H. Parrish, Jr. [Transcript, tapes 206 & 207](#), p. 12).

I love discovering these interrelationships between and among our collections, and hope you will, too.

Library Exhibits

Ekstrom Library

Kain Gallery, Rare Books

Harlan and Anna Hubbard Collection

This first exhibit of the newly-combined library – Archives and Special Collections – includes correspondence, journals, literary production and artwork of Harlan and Anna Hubbard from the University Archives and Records Center.

February 21 – spring semester 2013

Photographic Archives Gallery

FSA in Kentucky

Documentary photographs of Kentucky taken in support of the Farm Security Administration during the 1930s and 1940s

February 8 – spring semester 2013

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

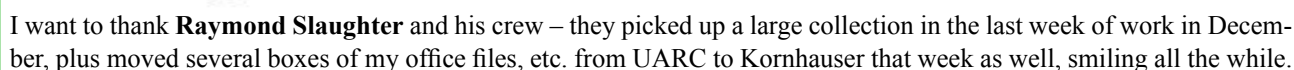
Through February



Above: Hubbard Collection. Sketch for cover design for *Payne Hollow, Life on the Fringe of Society*

Below: Hubbard Collection. Woodblock, River Bank





Thank you to **Melissa Horrar** for initiating the Workplace Relationships workshop with Tony Belak. It was a helpful and refreshing way to start the New Year!

Thank you to **Kelly Buckman** and **Claudene Sproles** for their reference desk scheduling wizardry. You both are amazing! —*Anna Marie Johnson*

I also wish to thank **Jessie Roth** for her quick rescue from a typo in the last issue of *The Owl*. Thank you, Jessie! —**Rob Guillen**