

A Newsletter for Employees of the University of Louisville Libraries
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The Owl

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

Summer Readers' Picks 2014



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Written and compiled by Christopher Poché, Ekstrom Library

"It was twenty years ago today," sings Paul McCartney at the beginning of the Beatles' classic 1967 album *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*. I was a new Beatle fan in 1987, and the felicitous coincidence of that opening verse with the album's actual twentieth anniversary seemed really cool to me. Time flies, and now Beatle anniversaries are counted in half-century terms. For the remainder of this decade, every album release, every major concert, and every other milestone of Beatles history will have its fiftieth anniversary.

The celebrations began modestly last spring with several magazine tributes to the release of their first album, *Please Please Me*, while the biggest celebration thus far has been the commemoration of the Beatles' arrival in the United States and their first performance on American television on the *Ed Sullivan Show* on February 9, 1964. The event was celebrated with a special broadcast of *The Night That Changed America: A Grammy Salute to the Beatles* on February 9, 2014. And the Beatles themselves celebrated their coming to America with the release of *The U.S. Albums* box set on January 21, 2014, the fiftieth anniversary of their first album release on a major American record label, *Meet the Beatles!*

This brings me to the first book I would like to tell you about: *The Beatles' Second Album*, by Dave Marsh (Music Library ML421.B4 M267 2007). This is the most informative and entertaining discussion of the whole tangled mess that is the history of the Beatles' album releases in the United States. From 1963 to 1966, the Beatles released seven albums on their British label Parlophone, a division of EMI. In roughly the same time span, Capitol Records, the American division of EMI, managed to release eleven Beatles albums by cutting and rearranging songs from the British releases and including songs released as singles. These eleven albums have not only different track listings but also different sound mixes and often different titles and cover art. The albums are so far from what the Beatles originally intended that they have largely disavowed them. But many American fans cherish them as the soundtrack to their youth, and so the albums have been re-released in *The U.S. Albums* box set. One of these fans is Marsh, whose book begins as a personal appreciation of the Beatles' second American album release (unimaginatively titled *The Beatles'*

Second Album). Marsh goes on to explain the various commercial and artistic factors that made the American albums what they are. He is harshly critical of Capitol executive Dave Dexter who supervised the creation of the American albums. Dubbed “the man who hated the Beatles” by Marsh, Dexter was a jazz enthusiast with a disdain for popular music, and he threw the American Beatles albums together with little concern except for their profitability. Yet, for Marsh, Dexter created an accidental masterpiece with *The Beatles’ Second Album*, whose track listing happens to bring together the early Beatles’ most American-influenced, rhythm and blues-style songs, producing a powerful album of soulful fun that’s not quite like anything in their standard British catalogue.

With or without anniversaries, books about the Beatles are constantly being published. I did an OCLC search for just the year 2013 and found 203 titles (filtering for duplicate records, alternate editions, and other ephemera, the real number is smaller though still substantial). I will tell you briefly about just two of them.

All the Songs: The Story Behind Every Beatles Release, by Jean-Michel Guesdon and Philippe Margotin (ML421.B4 G74 2013), is a fantastic combination of two previous books that cover similar ground and are well-known to Beatle fans: Steve Turner’s *A Hard Day’s Write: The Stories Behind Every Beatles Song* (recommended by Robin Harris back in the 2012 Winter Readers’ Picks) and Mark Lewisohn’s *The Beatles Recording Sessions*. Turner’s book examines the inspiration behind each song, while Lewisohn’s is a chronicle of the Beatles’ work in the studio. *All the Songs* really is the full “story” of the Beatles’ recorded work by combining both of these aspects. The songs are organized according to British release date, and albums are introduced with some basic information that contextualizes the songs in terms of the Beatles’ career up to that point and includes a profile of the instruments they used. Then, each song entry begins with a chart of basic information (kind of like the back of a baseball card), which includes: principle songwriter (Lennon or McCartney is identified in the case of the famous “Lennon/McCartney” song credit); who played what (the usual instruments played by the four Beatles, of course, but also any other studio musicians, including producer George Martin and classical musicians who performed any accompanying orchestral arrangements); the locations and dates of recording and of mixing; the number of takes; and the technical personnel (producers and engineers). The explanatory text for each song contains two to three sections. First is “Genesis,” which details



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the inspiration for each song, its historical circumstances, and how the songwriters developed the song. Second is “Production,” which describes the work in the studio. A third section not included for all songs and called “Technical Details” covers more complicated production issues. The latter two sections are more enjoyable to read than Lewisohn’s chronicle simply because all the relevant production information for an individual song is contained in one entry. Lewisohn’s book is organized according to the day in the studio, so following the story of one song is not always smooth. *All the Songs* is lavishly illustrated and is fun to read—all in all, a great addition to any Beatle fan’s library.

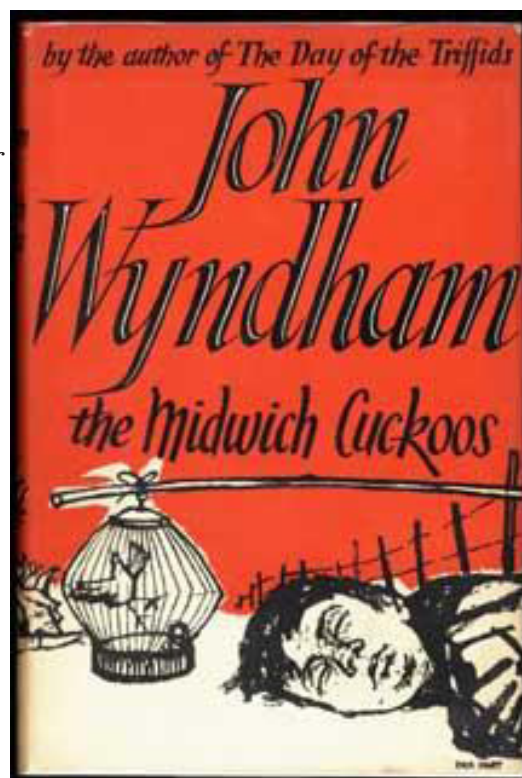
I almost feel guilty about saying anything remotely bad about Lewisohn’s book, which is a ground-breaking work. Lewisohn is one of the most knowledgeable Beatles historians, and his work is based on rare access to the Beatles complete recordings archive. Since his work on the Beatles’ studio history, he has embarked upon an ambitious project to produce the most comprehensive and in-depth history of the Beatles yet undertaken. The first fruit of his work has just been published: *Tune In* (Ekstrom Browsing ML421.B4 L47 2013), which is the first volume of a projected trilogy of books with the umbrella title *All These Years*. It is a hefty tome that covers the years of the individual Beatles’ childhoods up to the year 1962 when the group is on the brink of stardom. I’m only about a third of the way through, but so far I am impressed. I usually get bored with the first chapters of major biographies, since they often involve a lot of speculation about poorly documented parts of the lives of people who have not yet become the interesting people that I want to read about. Not so with *Tune In*. Lewisohn’s narrative is detailed but brisk, and deftly interweaves the lives of the individual Beatles (strong personalities even in their earliest years) within the dual contexts of the history of their home city of Liverpool and the development of early rock and roll. And Lewisohn is scrupulous in being clear about what the sources of his history warrants. For example, he has shed new light on an often-told story about an important episode in the early life of John Lennon when he was allegedly forced to choose between living with his mother or moving to Australia with his father.

It has taken ten years of work to produce *Tune In*. Beatle anniversaries may be counted in sixty-year terms by the time we get the next volume of *All These Years*. In any case, time will fly and numerous other Beatle books will be published to keep fans busy in the interim.

James Adler, Kornhauser Library

As summer gets underway, I’ve been devoting my reading so far largely to science fiction. To start things off, there’s *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, by Jack Finney (Ekstrom PS3556.I52 B63 1976). This is the book (with no less than four movie iterations) that the term “pod people” comes from; and it’s a real ripping yarn, let me tell you. Alien spores invade a small California town and replace individuals one by one in their sleep, leaving no discernible trace of difference. Yet, something is lacking, something vital and innate: while they can mimic them, the replicants cannot truly feel emotions. The town doctor Miles Bennell figures out what’s happening, and the race is on to prevent the pods from taking over Earth! Don’t go to sleep!

Of a similar nature is *The Midwich Cuckoos*, by John Wyndham (Rare Books PR6045.Y64 M53 1957). After an inexplicable occurrence in which the inhabitants of an isolated English village lose a day of their lives, retaining no memory of the event, all

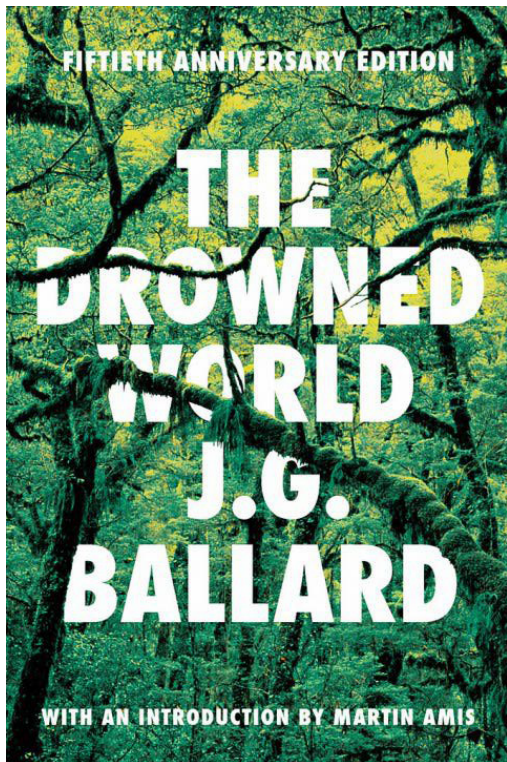


women of child-bearing age are found to have become simultaneously pregnant, most without having gone through the usual mechanism for getting pregnant. How do the residents of Midwich deal with this shocking knowledge? And what is it, exactly, that the women are carrying? How do you deal with an enemy that uses your own nature and your highest ideals against you? If you've ever watched a film called *Village of the Damned*, this is its source.

Appropriately enough, in these somewhat unsettled times, I've been reading a number of post-apocalyptic novels, starting with British author John Christopher's *The Death of Grass* (American edition titled *No Blade of Grass*; Rare Books PR6053.H75 D43 1958). A virus has attacked rice, creating a monumental famine in China that eventually spreads throughout Asia. Hundreds of millions die from starvation and as a result of social unrest. The West tries to help, and at last, western science creates an antidote to the virus. Hooray! Except that the virus mutates and no longer limits itself solely to rice, but now extends to all members of the grass family: barley, wheat, oats, rye. Famine strikes Europe, and most particularly England, where our story is set and where our heroes try to escape London en route to the relative safety of the countryside. Although I haven't read it, I would imagine this novel is pretty to similar to Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*; it is a brutal, grim, and harsh look at the way society can break down quickly in the wake of disaster. Morals fall by the wayside quickly as survival becomes paramount, and our protagonists are not immune.

Christopher was well-known for his post-apocalyptic novels, two more of which are on my reading list for this summer. First is *Wrinkle in the Skin* (American edition titled *The Ragged Edge*; Ekstrom PR6053.H75 R34 1965) in which Earth is largely destroyed by a series of earthquakes, with, as is the case with this sort of novel, the survivors learning to make their way in a bleak new world.

Pendulum (Ekstrom PR6053.H75 P46 1968) rounds out the John Christopher nightmare scenario of our reading program, with this novel detailing an economic crisis and subsequent governmental collapse in England. When the government falls, disaffected youth takes over. Shades of the rioting in the UK a few summers past, but on a much grander scale. Eventually, the pendulum swings the other way, and order (of a sort) is restored. This was written during the heyday of the hippie period, so I'm expecting a groovy time.



Continuing the post-apocalyptic lot is *The Drowned World*, by J.G. Ballard (Ekstrom PR6052.A46 D76 2012) in which a misbehaving sun has caused the polar ice caps to melt, with the result that most of the earth is flooded and beset by tremendous heat. Earth reverts to a Triassic age type environment, with giant lizards, outsized bugs, and immense plants reclaiming their legacy. A scientific team, sent to a flooded and destroyed London to study this new life, starts having strange atavistic dreams that seem to be leading them to reversions of their own. Dreamlike and hallucinatory, and strangely compelling.

The last of the end-of-the-world lot is *The Genocides*, by Thomas M. Disch (Ekstrom PS3554.I8 G46 1978). From the Amazon page: "In this harrowing novel, the world's cities have been reduced to cinder and ash and alien plants have overtaken the earth. The plants,

able to grow the size of maples in only a month and eventually reach six hundred feet, have commandeered the world's soil and are sucking even the Great Lakes dry. In northern Minnesota, Anderson, an aging farmer armed with a Bible in one hand and a gun in the other, desperately leads the reduced citizenry of a small town in a daily struggle for meager existence. Throw into this fray Jeremiah Orville, a marauding outsider bent on a bizarre and private revenge, and the fight to live becomes a daunting task." Sounds like a winner to me.

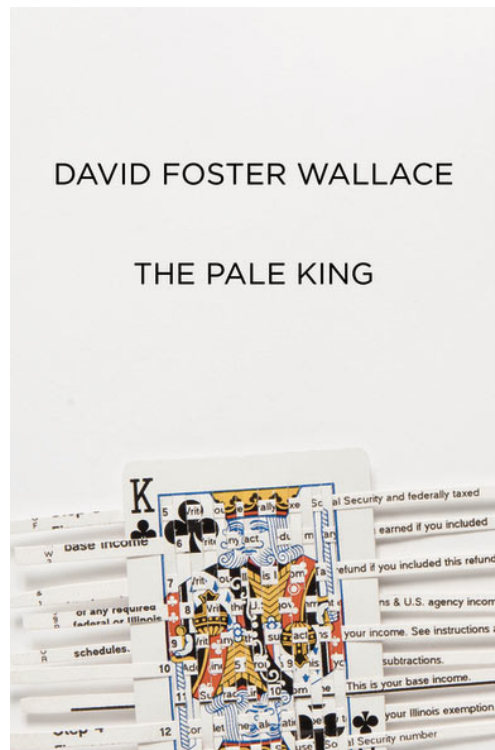
As a member of probably the last generation of Americans who were brought up on regular images of the cowboy as a cultural fixture, it came as something of a surprise to me to consider that I'd never read anything by Zane Grey, so I thought I would rectify that by reading his most famous book, *Riders of the Purple Sage* (Ekstrom PS3513.R6545 R5 1940). I'm quite glad I did. This has all the standard tropes: the mysterious gunfighter, dressed all in black; fast horses and stampedes; the noble, set-upon woman; the masked rider; mistaken and false identities; nasty villains (in this case, Mormons); and so on. The pace might be a little slow for the modern reader (though the second half races along like a prairie wind) and the action a little too tame, but the description of the land is lovely, and the story itself, mythic. I'll be happy to read more Zane Grey; in fact, I plan to read more classic westerns.

Meditations of Marcus Aurelius (Ekstrom B580.S8 1964). Here are just a few compelling quotes from the great classic of Stoicism:

"You have power over your mind—not outside events. Realize this, and you will find strength."

"Time is a sort of river of passing events, and strong is its current; no sooner is a thing brought to sight than it is swept by and another takes its place, and this too will be swept away."

"Here is the rule to remember in the future, When anything tempts you to be bitter: not, 'This is a misfortune' but 'To bear this worthily is good fortune.'"



Rob Detmering, Ekstrom Library

I recently finished the second edition of Ted Gioia's *The History of Jazz* (UofL owns only the first edition: Music Library ML3506. G55 1998). While not as comprehensive, unique, or just plain awesome as *Visions of Jazz* by Gary Giddins (which I read many years ago), Gioia's book is still very good. It offers an excellent overview of the music, and it renewed my interest in some artists that I hadn't listened to all that much in the past, especially Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers recordings. The later chapters aren't as good, but I probably felt that way because of Gioia's annoying and unfair criticism of A Tribe Called Quest.

Earlier this year, I also finally read David Foster Wallace's unfinished novel *The Pale King* (Ekstrom PS3573.A425635 P35 2011), which was fantastic and more accessible than some of his other fiction. And I enjoyed Don DeLillo's *The Names* (Ekstrom PS3554.E4425 N3 1982), a novel written just before his most famous string of masterpieces.

Mark Dickson, Music Library

Geary's Guide to the World's Great Aphorists, by James Geary (Ekstrom RRS PN6269.G43 2007). I love aphorisms. So this collection has been right down my alley. Not read at a gallop, but sipped like fine whisky.

My Friend Dahmer, by Derf Backderf (Ekstrom PN6727.D466 M9 2012). My daughter had this and let me borrow it. I am fascinated where graphic novelists are going with their stories.

Wastelands: Stories of the Apocalypse, edited by John Joseph Adams (Ekstrom PN6071.S33 W37 2008). Guilty pleasure, apocalyptic tales. I'm an unapologetic fan of this genre. I watch the TV shows with this theme. I read the books. I don't know why it appeals to me so much. I wouldn't make it long with all my "old man medicines" and poor eyesight. But read them I do!

Great Operatic Disasters, by Hugh Vickers (ML1700 .V5). A charming little book for people who love the drama that goes on behind classical opera performances.

A Feast for Crows (*A Song of Ice and Fire* #4), by George R.R. Martin (Ekstrom Kindles). Yes, one more book in the series down. I love the story—how big, complex, and interwoven it is. I have never stayed with anything this size except for the Harry Potter series. I might finish *War and Peace* after all.

A Dance with Dragons (*A Song of Ice and Fire* #5), by George R.R. Martin (Ekstrom Kindles and Browsing PS3563.A7239 D36 2011). That's right. Straight into book five. I noticed in the last TV season that material from the fifth book was woven into the narrative I knew from the previous books. I don't want to get caught watching something I haven't read about yet. And I wait for the DVDs to come out. So maybe I can get the sixth book, *Winds of Winter*, read in 2015 before the TV series guts it.

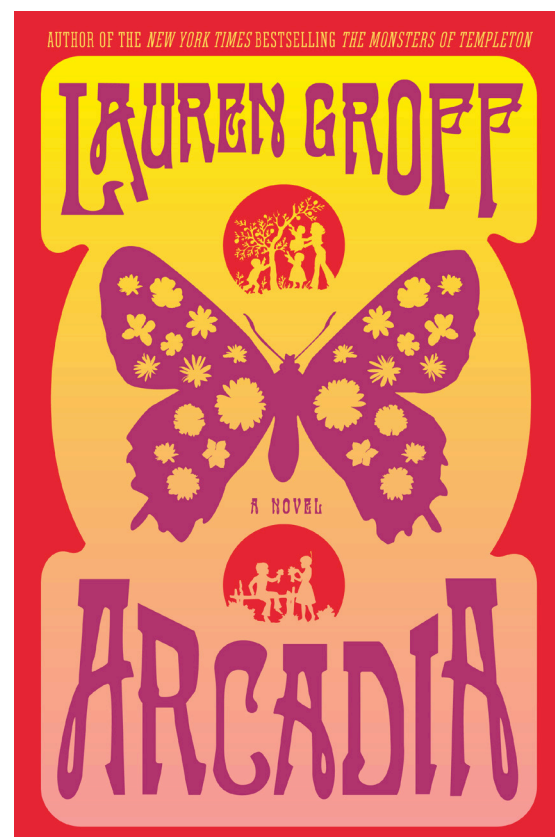
Collected Stories of William Faulkner (Ekstrom PS3511.A86 A6 1995). I've only read about one hundred pages into this one, but I love Faulkner and have never tackled the stories collected before.

Robin Harris, Law Library

Arcadia, by Lauren Groff (Ekstrom Browsing PS3607.R6344 A73 2012). Lauren Groff is a talented and award-winning young writer from Gainesville, Florida. Her second novel, *Arcadia*, arrived at my house in the snail mail one day, a surprise gift from my best friend, who lives in Gainesville, home to many writers, artists, musicians and actors. The message on the card: "Read this, Robin. You will love it!"

I did indeed love this story of a utopian community (a.k.a. commune) called Arcadia, founded in upstate New York in the 1970s. The protagonist and narrator is Bit Stone, a sensitive, artistic, and kind boy who happens to be the first baby born in Arcadia. In the mid-1980s, when he is fourteen, Bit and his parents, Hannah and Abe, are forced to move to the "Outside" (New York City) when the commune falls on hard times. The book then shifts to post-9/11 New York City, and finally to the year 2018, when global warming has taken its toll and a worldwide pandemic threatens thousands.

The novel's journey from utopia to dystopia covers almost fifty years, but it unfolds in short scenes, which seems exactly



right for Bit's story. The host of unforgettable characters along with Groff's stunningly beautiful and poetic writing quickly took hold of me and did not let go.

The Ten-Year Nap, by Meg Wolitzer (Ekstrom PS3573.O564 T45 2009). Meg Wolitzer's eighth novel is just as witty and entertaining as her other works I have read, but its plot line is a bit weak, and it's just not as "interesting" as my favorite Wolitzer novel, *The Interestings* (see *The Owl Summer Readers' Picks* 2013 for a review). The backdrop of *The Ten-Year Nap* is post-9/11 New York City and the action centers around four urban females—New York Gen Xers to be exact, friends who gave up trying to "have it all" when they had children. The main character is Amy Lamb, daughter of a very strong feminist. Much to her mother's chagrin, Amy gave up her law career when her son Mason (now ten years old) was born. Amy and her friends all have degrees from good schools and were full of promise in their younger days. None is quite sure what happened along the way, and Wolitzer captures their uncertainty and ambivalence, sometimes with heartbreaking clarity.

The Ten-Year Nap is a quick read and alternates between funny (and often sardonic) dialogue and evocative descriptive passages.

Anna Marie Johnson, Ekstrom Library

What to Look for in Winter: A Memoir of Blindness, by Candia McWilliam (Ekstrom Browsing PR 6063. C85 Z46 2012). I was looking for a biography of someone with blindness, and while this technically is one, it wasn't exactly what I was expecting. It does chronicle the author's experience with functional blindness (her eyes work fine but won't stay open) and her subsequent successful surgery to fix the problem, but it is more a memoir of her life that includes dealing with her mother's suicide and her own alcoholism told in a stream-of-consciousness style. She goes backward and forward in time, so it is difficult to follow at first (plus she is Scottish

so there are lots of words that I didn't know the meaning of). The book is beautiful and funny, though--if you are patient and slow down. It has gems of passages like "One of them kept a diary, which is downstairs. From it you gather the struggle and devotion required to plant and establish just one wisteria, the physical effort involved in creating this idyll on the edge of a moody body of water at the bottom of a cliff at the other side of the Simplon Pass which had not been open for that long. It's curious, this nineteenth-century English tendency to choose to domesticate the intractable."

In a similar vein: ***Crossing to Safety***, by Wallace Stegner (Ekstrom PS3537.T316 C76 1997). My church book club was divided on this one. One person called it "a celebration of life" and most of us enjoyed the fact that the book is an exploration of relationships and characters, but several others said they didn't like that "nothing much happened." It is the story of a deep and abiding lifelong friendship between two couples, but the main character is an author who comments on writing throughout the book.

For those who like a little more action, my eight-year-old son Henry recommends ***Measle and the Wrathmonk***, by



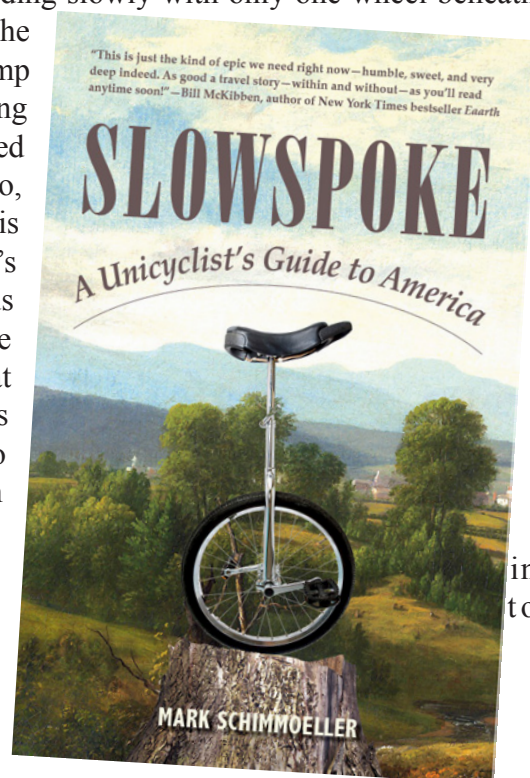
Ian Ogilvy (Ekstrom PS3612.A5477 D44 2012). Henry described this as having “lots of adventure” and “most of the time you turn the page, there’s a cliffhanger.” Measle Stubbs is an eleven-year-old orphan who lives in a dilapidated house with his horrible guardian Basil Tramplebone, until one day he uncovers the secret of Basil’s train set and brings about the downfall of his evil captor and discovers his true identity. First in a series of “Measle and the ...” books, much to Henry’s great delight.

A thriller for adults: *Defending Jacob*, by William Landay (Ekstrom PS3612.A5477 D44 2012). Is the main character’s thirteen-year-old son Jacob a murderer or isn’t he? The mystery divides a town and a marriage, and keeps the reader guessing until the last page.

You Are Not a Gadget: A Manifesto, by Jaron Lanier (Ekstrom HM851.L358 2010). Loved it. Am kicking myself that I did not go to ALA Chicago last year to hear him speak. Lanier is an artist, musician, engineer, computer programmer, and (obviously) author. The book is a rant in the best sense: a fair-minded critique of Web 2.0 and the web’s failure in general to be the far-reaching, impactful, society-changing technology that pioneers such as Lanier envisioned. Did I agree with everything he said? Nope, but it was refreshing and delightful to read someone as widely knowledgeable and articulate as Lanier.

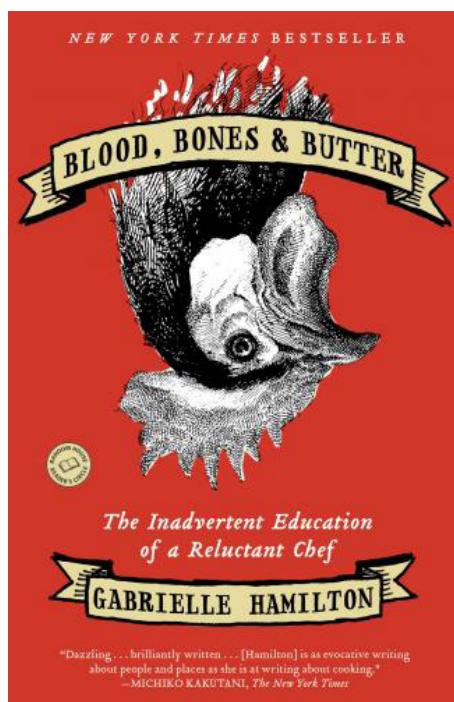
Ben King, Ekstrom Library

I enjoyed *Slowspoke: A Unicyclist’s Guide to America*, by Mark Schimmoeller (Ekstrom Browsing E169. Z82 S355 2013). The book is about the author’s adventures riding slowly with only one wheel beneath him through several states. He writes about how some people he encountered along the way were nice to him and would let him camp on their property. Others would not let him camp and sent him along his way. Once, a woman in a red Thunderbird pulled over, rolled her window down, and told him her speedometer registered zero, insinuating that he was barely moving. But the whole point of his trip was *not* to be in any hurry – to see America from a unicyclist’s point of view. The only part of the book that I thought was tedious at all was towards the very end, when he got to talking about some people who let him in and the religious rites and ceremonies that they performed, to supposedly “heal” this young man. But it was great to follow him along on his unicycle adventure. He tried to take side roads whenever possible but would sometimes end up on a busy road. I also admired his quest to save forest land close to his property by trying to buy it. Eventually several people pitched and the forest land was saved. To this day he still lives close the earth and uses a solar cooker that he made himself. He and his wife live as simply as possible, and I admire his concern for the earth.



I also enjoyed *Fire and Rain: The Beatles, Simon & Garfunkel, James Taylor, CSNY, and the Lost Story of 1970*, by David Browne (Ekstrom Browsing ML3534.B7746 2011), which tells the story of four landmark albums from 1970: *Déjà vu*, by Crosby, Still, Nash, and Young; *Bridge Over Troubled Water*, by Simon & Garfunkel; *Let It Be*, by the Beatles; and *Sweet Baby James*, by James Taylor. The author talks about how a lot has been written about 1968 and 1969, but not so much about 1970. The author says it took about a decade for the Beatles to develop enough frictions to break up, whereas CSN&Y did that in about eighteen months. You learn what is truly behind the song “Fire and Rain,” and what it is about, which is

partially that a good friend of James Taylor had committed suicide, and Taylor's close friends did not tell him for two or three weeks, fearing the news would affect his performance. There is a beautiful Simon & Garfunkel song called "The Only Living Boy in New York." You learn that the "Tom" in the song is Art Garfunkel. Before they were called Simon & Garfunkel, they were "Tom & Jerry." Garfunkel had just left to act in a film, and Paul is basically singing the song to Art. Simon also thought "Let It Be" by the Beatles sounded too much like "Bridge Over Troubled Water," and was concerned that the Beatles' song would overshadow his own that year. The book tells a lot about the "behind the scenes" activities of the bands, and I found it quite interesting.



Mary Marlatt, Kornhauser Library

Blood, Bones, and Butter: The Inadvertent Education of a Reluctant Chef, by Gabrielle Hamilton (Ekstrom TX649.H345 A3 2011). This memoir from the owner of the New York City restaurant Prune is sad, funny, and irreverent. If you had a rather ho-hum childhood and upbringing, this will fill you in on what you missed (and make you glad you missed it, at times!). She learns restaurant work from the ground up, starting as a dishwasher at age thirteen. Not a "feel good" book by any means. Food is the most important relationship she has, even though she marries and has children. I liked it, but many in my book club didn't.

Amy Purcell, Archives & Special Collections

The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3611 .I44 I58 2014). When I first learned of this book, I decided to read it based on the author. It wasn't until I got to the end and read the Author's Note that I found out it was based on the true story of Sarah and Angelina Grimké. In the beginning of the story, Sarah--a daughter of a wealthy family in Charleston, South Carolina in the

early nineteenth century--is presented with a young slave girl named Handful. Both girls are eleven years old. Sarah refused to own a slave. An interesting, entertaining, and often heart-wrenching story unfolds of Sarah's and Handful's life, culminating with Sarah and her younger sister Nina becoming (real life) pioneers of the Abolitionist and Women's Rights movements. Whole lotta Girl Power in this book. ☺

An author I love, Julia Glass, has a new book out – ***And the Dark Sacred Night***. In her books there is always a thread of a previous book and you end up with a fuller backstory. This story is of a young man, Kit, whose mother got pregnant at a summer camp for musical prodigies. Several times while growing up he'd asked his mother about his biological father, but she always refused to tell him. When Kit is an out-of-work father, starting to show signs of depression, his wife encourages him to find out more about his father.

I also recently read and highly enjoyed ***Mr. Mercedes*** by Stephen King (Ekstrom Browsing PS3561 .I483 M7 2014). *Booklist* calls this King's "most straight-up mystery-thriller of his career." Indeed! It's about a decorated, retired cop who spends a lot of time watching TV with his father's army-issue revolver at his side, until one day he gets a taunting letter from a killer in an unsolved case. Then with the help of several quirky characters, the cop sets out to find the "Mercedes Killer." The story was (of course) very well-written and King is a great wit. Mystery/thriller-lovers will enjoy this book.

Library and Department News

Ekstrom Library Office of the Dean

Personnel News

Farewell, Bryan!

Bryan Ricupero resigned his position as Library Assistant, Ekstrom Library Technical Services, on May 27, 2014. Brian accepted the Cataloging and Metadata Librarian position with the University of Wyoming. Farewell to Bryan and much success!

Farewell, Hannah!

Hannah Parks resigned her position as Library Technician with Media Resources, effective June 17, 2014. Hannah is moving to Atlanta, Georgia and will be working at Emory University's Pitts Theology Library. We bid Hannah a fond farewell.

Congratulations Adam!

Adam Lawrence, Technical Consultant II, has been promoted to Systems Programmer III with the Office of Library Technology, effective July 1, 2014.

Development News

As the University celebrates the achievement of the Charting Our Course campaign, the Library can celebrate another year of achievement with fundraising goals. Fiscal year 2013-2014 will be the third consecutive year that the library has met or achieved its goal of raising \$2 million annually through a combination of bequests, gift-in-kind and cash/pledges. Highlights from this past year include:

- The successful rollout of the Dean's Club – a gift club which recognizes donors who make a contribution of \$1,000 or more annually. Members enjoyed attending two events designed for them to learn about various aspects of our library system. In October, members learned about the challenges of preserving rare film from ASC Director Carrie Daniels. Former Congressman Ron Mazzoli, an enthusiastic library supporter, spoke in April about the Mazzoli Papers Collection, relating experiences of his time in state and federal government.
- An anonymous donor contributed a gift of \$620,000 (cash & bequest) to create a library endowment to purchase materials in support of academic programs within the College of Arts and Sciences.
- Rare Books received a grant of \$30,000 from the Stockman Family Foundation designated to the restoration of volumes from the William Marshall Bullitt Collection of Rare Mathematics and Astronomy.

If you would like to learn more about library development or know someone who may be interested in supporting the libraries, please contact Denise Nuehring, Director of Major Gifts (852-0238).

Reference and Information Literacy

Reference Weeding Completed!

The print reference collection weeding project has been finished! Claudene Sproles touched over 28,000 records since January! The collection has been reduced to approximately 15% of its original size. Many items in the P and Z call number class are located in a temporary holding area in the journal stacks on the 4th floor.

Congratulations, Toccara!

In case you have been slow to get to it, check out “A Focus on Reflective Learning at the Library Instruction Roundtable Retreat” by Toccara Porter in the Spring 2014 issue of *Kentucky Libraries*.

Outstanding Paper of 2014

Claudene Sproles, Rob Detmering, and Anna Marie Johnson’s article, “Trends in the Literature on Library Instruction and Information Literacy, 2001-2010” was named the *Reference Services Review* outstanding paper of 2014: <http://www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/authors/literati/awards.htm?year=2014>

Government Documents Roundtable Presentation

Claudene Sproles, Barbara Whitener, and Anna Marie Johnson presented on ten years post-merger of a government documents and reference department at the Kentucky Government Documents Roundtable meeting in Lexington, Kentucky on May 16. The archived online *Owl* issues proved helpful in preparing for the presentation!

“Twitterventions”

Rob Detmering presented “Twitterventions: Teaching Research-Based Writing and Information Literacy with Twitter” with UofL composition instructors Laura Detmering and Hollye Wright at the Popular Culture Association and American Culture Association National Conference in Chicago, Illinois on April 17.

LOEX Happenings

Rosie Linares and Samantha McClellan attended the annual LOEX Library Instruction Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Rosie presented her poster entitled “The Self-Reflective Learner: Measuring the Impact of Information Literacy Instruction through Thoughtful Inquiry” which analyzed the results of the reflection exercise that we do at the end of many of our IL instruction sessions.

Fannie Presents. . .

Fannie Cox is presenting a poster at the annual conference of the American Library Association in Las Vegas, June 26-July 1. Her poster is entitled “How to Win at the Slots without Losing Your House.” Err, scratch that. It’s actually entitled “Transforming Academic Libraries: What Are Association of Research Libraries (ARL) at Carnegie Designated Universities Doing to Support Community Engagement and Engaged Scholarship?” She was also invited to be on a panel discussing Ekstrom Library’s participation in “Money Smart Week @ your library.”

SLA News

From June 8 - 10, James Manasco attended the Special Library Association Annual Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia. He presented “Science and Engineering 101,” with Mary Frances Lembo (from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory). This was the 10th anniversary presentation for James and Mary Frances, and this year’s topic was a retrospective of their favorite sources and topics over the last ten years.

SLA President Kate Arnold has asked James to chair a task force on member priorities for the association. The group will look at data from surveys and other reports to help formulate a strategic plan to direct the activities of the board for the next several years.

Reference/IL Department Pet Round-up

- Kelly Buckman’s dog Jolene has a new boyfriend, neighbor dog Jimi.
- Claudene Sproles’ guinea pig Cortez turned one year old recently. The family got him a cucumber for his birthday.
- James Manasco and family adopted a mother cat and her four kittens. In James’ words: “Not by my choice, however. They are outdoor cats only. Dang kids!”
- Anna Marie Johnson and family recently acquired a free rabbit, free guinea pig, and 15 not free Black Australorp chicks, that are being fostered by Claudene’s family.

- The department is thinking about a petting zoo fundraiser for the Libraries. I mean, the Paws for Finals is nice, but everyone's petted a dog. How about a chicken?

Office of Libraries Technology

Update on NAT

IT implemented NAT (Network Address Translation) in May, 2014.

What does this mean?

Each wireless device connected to the wireless network on campus is now given an IP address (range: 10.200.*.*) that can be seen only on campus. This is similar to a home wireless, only the router's IP is public on the Internet. So, multiple wireless devices may share the same public IP addresses. This may affect functionality of certain applications and activities that may be restricted by IP, including Remote Desktop, File Shares, Secured website and databases. For example, a mobile device cannot be used to host a game, or be accessed from off-campus using Remote Desktop because this kind of use requires a static IP that is public on the Internet.

Will this affect the access to library resources?

Per our understanding of the document we received, there is no change (theoretically) since the public IPs are still in 136.165.*.* range.

Update on 2014 Technology Needs

About 49 needs requests were received. Those that were approved have been ordered and most orders have been received.

Server Updates

Per Music Library's request, a test server has been setup for Avalon Media system for music and video distribution. A few problems with the servers and storage devices housed in IT's data center were resolved with new parts. The server for Music Library's e-reserves and Archives and Special Collections' Oral History collection has been migrated to the Libraries' virtual center system.

Voyager Updates

2013-14 Fiscal Year Closing was done on 6/12/2014.

Voyager version 9 upgrade has been scheduled for August 13-14, 2014. Details will be available closer to the time of the upgrade.

Kornhauser Library

Knee Replacement (or "Thank you parents for the genetic gift of arthritis!")

There is truth to the rumor circulating that Kathie Johnson has been just lying around doing nothing since May 5. Unfortunately, this leisure has been accompanied by three days at Baptist Hospital, followed by seven days of rehab at Nazareth Home. Once she was allowed to go home, there continues to be physical therapy (a.k.a. "personal torture") three times a week, ice packs 3-4 times a day, and some pain meds which, although fairly effective, cause sleep problems. (Ask her about 3 a.m. infomercials.) As of June 5, she wasn't cleared to drive yet either.

There have been sightings of Kathie at Lakeside Swim Club a few times, but that is to use the workout room on non-PT days. July 1 is the target date for her return to work - and that cannot come a moment too soon!!!!

Grant Received

Belinda Yff, Hospital Librarian, received a Professional Development Grant from the Faculty Senate. She will use the money to attend a Systematic Review Workshop in Pittsburgh July 14-16.

Virtual Library Services for KentuckyOne

Kornhauser Library has signed a contract with KentuckyOne Health to provide virtual library services to all employees of eighteen KentuckyOne hospitals and numerous clinics throughout the state, effective July 1st. Services include literature searching, reference and interlibrary loan. Available resources include point-of-care clinical tools, evidence-based nursing resources, ebooks, and online journal access. Laurie Henderson, the hospital librarian at St. Joseph in Lexington, will be joining the Kornhauser faculty on July 1, and will manage services to the eastern portion of the state, including Mt. Sterling, Berea, and London. Belinda Yff will manage the western portion of the state from her base at University of Louisville Hospital, with help from assistant Susan Utterback. Belinda and Laurie will also visit each hospital in order to promote library access and offer instruction to patrons. Elizabeth Smigielski is managing the contract overall.

Law Library

On May 19, faculty members were recognized for their service to the University of Louisville with an awards ceremony at the University Club. Public Services Librarian **Robin Harris**, was honored for 30 years of service and Law Library Director **David Ensing**, was honored for 25 years of service. **Tyler Goldberg**, Head, Technical Services, Ekstrom Library (35 years) and **Melissa Laning**, Associate Dean, Assessment, Personnel & Research (30 years) are also pictured. Full Story: [“Faculty Service Awards add up to more than 1,700 years of service”](#) (UofL Today, May 27, 2014)

In other news, Library Assistant Marcus Walker recently received a Masters in Library Science from the University of Kentucky, and Circulation Assistant Jerome Neukirch, was named the law school’s Employee of the Month for April 2014.



NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Sarah Carter

Preferred nickname (if you have one): Carter

UofL position and department: Director, Bridwell Art Library

Schools Attended: Smith College (BA in Italian Language and Literature and Art History); Indiana University, Bloomington (MLS and MA in Art History)

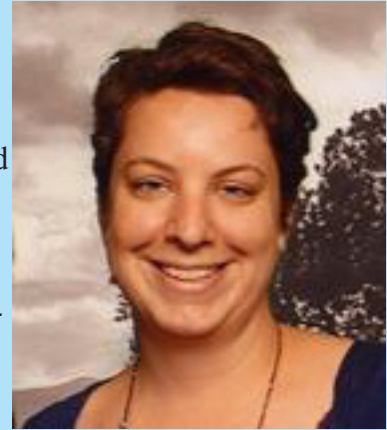
Hobbies/Activities: Knitting, watching roller derby, making and sending mail art, yoga

Favorite Books: *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*, *The Griffin and Sabine* series by Nick Bantock, *The Thursday Next* series by Jasper Fforde

Favorite Movies: *Strictly Ballroom*, *Moonstruck*, *Enchanted April*, *Howl's Moving Castle*

Favorite Food: I am a vegetarian, and love to eat different kinds of ethnic food – Thai, Ethiopian, Indian, etc!

Anything else you would like to tell us about yourself: I come from a family of librarians! My grandmother was a cataloging librarian for the Indiana Historical Society, my mother was a local history librarian, and my sister does community outreach at a public library in our hometown of Plainfield, Indiana.



This picture of a FHA billboard from the Digital Collection: R. G. Potter Collection, Photographic Archives, was used in the report mentioned in the DigiNews (next page).

DigiNews

Digital Collections Update

By Rachel Howard, Digital Initiatives Librarian

New additions to Digital Collections this summer: Oral histories and fanzines

Our two newest additions to [Digital Collections](#) chronicle different aspects of Louisville's present and recent past.

[Home for Us All: Fair Housing in Louisville-Jefferson County Oral History Collection](#) includes streaming audio and transcripts for 11 interviews conducted in 2012 as research for "[Making Louisville a Home for Us All: A 20-Year Action Plan for Fair Housing](#)," a 2014 report co-written by the University of Louisville Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research and the Metropolitan Housing Coalition and commissioned by the Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission. The interviews, now part of the University Archives and Records Center's Oral History Center, document Louisville's fair housing history and impact from the perspectives of land developers, city planners, housing advocates, racial and social justice activists, educators, and social services providers. Public



Mammoth Life was a long-time African American-owned business. In this photo (Urban Renewal Collection, Photo Archives 1989.26.r10.2902), an Urban Renewal billboard is affixed to the side of the building (i.e., this building was slated for demolition).

History graduate student Matthew Holdzkom created metadata and uploaded the interviews as an internship project.

The [Louisville Underground Music Archive Collection](#) is a growing collection covering the history and culture of the Louisville independent/underground rock music scene from the 1970s to the present. The first addition to this digital collection also [inspired the Louisville Underground Music Archive \(LUMA\) project](#): a complete run (31 issues) of The Official Burt, The Cat Fan Club Newsletter, published by Paul Curry from 1995-2002. Bryan Ricupero scanned most of the newsletters; Heather Fox completed their scanning, PDF conversion, metadata, and upload. Look for Heather and her band, Juanita, in the pages of Burt!

Other Libraries staff contributing to these projects include Terri Holtze (web design), Adam Lawrence (CONTENTdm server administration), Sarah-Jane Poindexter (oral history digitization), and Marcy Werner (scanning training). Thanks to all. We hope you enjoy these engagingly disparate collections.



Library Exhibits

Archives & Special Collections

Photographic Archives Gallery

Dog Days: A walk through the Photographic Archives collections (no leash required)

June 24 – August 29, 2014

Prospero 2, 2012 by Martin Usborne

Fine Print Collections, Photographic Archives



Kain Gallery, Rare Books

of beasts ...

An exhibit of early accounts and illustrations of animals in the Rare Book Collections

June 24 – July 30, 2014

From Topsel's *The History of Four-footed Beasts and Serpents*. London, 1658.



Music Library

Online

UofL Marching Band Historic Photos

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/uoflmusiclibrary/sets/72157633255910254/>

The music library holds a large collection of historic photographs reflecting the rich and varied history of the School of Music. Here are some photos of the UofL Band, taken primarily during the 1940s and 1950s.





I would like to thank everyone in the library for their support and assistance when Ekstrom hosted Money Smart Week @ the library on April 10, 2014. Thanks to everyone who was able to attend the sessions. The feedback was great from both attendees and presenters. We have some great artists and decorators in our midst. Thank you Ashley in Media for the art on the East entrance whiteboard and the eight foot dollar signs; thank you Toccara for decorating the tables, balloons, signage, and to both you and Rosie for the display, it was fantastic. Thanks Rob for helping me carry in the refreshments for the presenters; Thanks Kelly and Latisha for your assistance with making the presenters gift bags. I'm probably forgetting someone, so thank you all. I could not have done it without your help. — Fannie Cox



I'd like to thank Trish Blair, Kelly Buckman, Fannie Cox, Sue Finley, Terri Holtze, Anna Marie Johnson, Rosie Linares, Sam McClellan, Toccara Porter, Latisha Reynolds, Raymond Slaughter, Ashley Triplett, Josh Whitacre, and anyone else who provided assistance with the Composition Program's Symposium on Student Writing, held in Ekstrom Library on March 26. Over 330 undergraduate students participated in this important outreach event. Thanks for your help!

I'd also like to thank Sheila Birkla and the OLT staff, as well as Josh Whitacre, for their expert assistance in setting up a temporary solution to the projector problem in W104. — Rob Detmering



I'd like to sincerely thank those who helped to make the 1st floor assessment project run smoothly. At the core, the workgroup of Trish Blair, Melissa Laning, and Samantha McClellan were instrumental to completing the project. The staff and student assistants of the Office of the Dean, Circulation, Media and Reference for their support during the observations, posting and help creating promotional material for surveys and focus groups. And last, but not least, the faculty and staff of Ekstrom Library who contributed during focus groups/meetings. Your feedback was insightful and helpful. — Maurini Strub



Thanks to Carrie Daniels, Tyler Goldberg, Rachel Howard, Anna Marie Johnson, Randy Kuehn and Neal Nixon for providing responses to the first four ARL SPEC Kit surveys. Without the content these individuals have provided, UofL Libraries would not be represented in the publications that are created from the responses to the surveys. With their help, the libraries are part of a national discussion on emerging trends in libraries.

Many thanks to Troy Plumer and Jessie Roth for helping with a very last minute equipment set-up for a meeting in the Green Room. They made a potentially difficult situation very easy! — Melissa Laning



We'd like to express our gratitude to Vida Vaughn for being such a good cheerleader for our department. We appreciate her support, professionalism, humor--and her edible incentives!

We'd also like to thank Gene Haynes for joining our department. She's been a real asset to us—thorough, conscientious, and knowledgeable, plus she's fun to work with. (And she brings in snacks, too!) — Betsy Osoffsky, Destiny Minton, Paul Mattingly



I would like to thank Sheila, Adam, Sahab, Troy, Liren and Calvin, especially, Sheila, Adam and Sahab for completing the laptop replacement and upgrade project within four and a half days; including installing 44 new laptops, resolving related problems, wiping out 66 old ones and reimaged 22 to replace older loaning laptops. — Weiling Liu



A HUGE, GIANT, MONSTEROUS, AMAZING, WONDERFUL THANK YOU to all the folks who helped with the Ekstrom Reference Print weeding project from its inception in 2010 until it was finished last month: Alice Abbott-Moore, Kelly Buckman, Rob Detmering, Sue Finley, Randy Kuehn, Margo Smith, Rayanne Turner, many student assistants, (including especially Chelsea Cornell who seemed to enjoy measuring, marking, and counting the books), and last but not least, the woman who made it possible, Claudene Sproles who came up with the idea, created the process, and executed the bulk of the changes in Voyager. — Anna Marie Johnson

THANK YOU

Gwendline Chenault

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Rachel Howard

Anna Marie Johnson

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Weiling Liu

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Virginia Mattingly

Denise Nuehring

Christopher Poché

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Jessie Roth

... for contributing to this issue of The Owl