Compiled by Amy Purcell

It’s been almost 10 years since The Owl was first published on the web. The maiden launch featured the first very popular pet pics issue, and we thought we were due for an update! Thanks to all for the fabulous response to our latest Pet Pics issue. We promise not to wait 10 years until the next!

Alice Abbott-Moore

*Top right:* Seamus with his bestest bud, Alice. Dr. Seamus Bunny is a Rex bunny, a.k.a “The Velveteen Rabbit” because of the breed’s velvety fur.

Amy Purcell

*Top left:* Sugar joined the Purcell household about a year ago. Ann Collins’ daughter Kelly has a knack for finding homeless dogs, taking them in and finding them homes. Sugar was found last November. She was filthy and had her head in a garbage can. Kelly named her Sugar because she’s so sweet. Well, she can still be sweet but she can also be a lot of other things – a log chewer, a spaz, a sock stealer, a flower trampler, but still a super cutie and very smart!

Angel Clemons

*Left:* Buster is an 11-year-old cocker spaniel who presides over the Clemons home. His favorite activities are sleeping, begging, riding in the car, barking at raccoons, despising small children, and playing with his Alleycat Advocate friends (of which there are six...but only two will tolerate him).

Duke is a 6-year-old cockatiel who, if he could have things his way, would spend the day staring at his owner, whom he believes is his mate for life. Duke was an avid outdoorsman before the Alleycat clan came along. He just doesn’t understand why they stare so much?! Now he prefers to stay indoors (a lot less stress) where he watches TV, throws seeds at Buster the cocker spaniel, talks to anyone who listens (his favorite, well...his only, phrases are “what are you doin’?” and “give me a kiss”), squawks when no one is in the room with him, rings his bell, and gives kisses to anyone brave enough to try.

Angela Slaughter

Jailbait (far right) is an African cichlid, commonly called a frontosa. Flash (near right) is a peacock.
Right: This is Snakie is around my twin sister Anita’s neck. Snakie is a Ball Python.

Barbara Whitener
Below left: Kate – 18 years old – is the queen of the household and Loper (below right), not quite two years old, is the pesky teenager. Kate thought that the new cat was an interloper – hence the name Loper.

Betsy & Michael Osoffsky
Left: Oliver loves to climb. Right: Mischa’s probably waiting to pounce on Oliver.

Bill Carner
Below right: Jackie Brown was “volunteered” from a litter of pups at the farm next door. He’s built like a tank and smart as whip. He’s all dog. Last year his sister, Sassy, joined us when we bought the farm next door.

Left: Katy’s an aged Morgan mare we’ve had for over ten years. She’s got a lot of pep for an old gal and she’s still the “boss mare.” She’s all go when you get into the saddle.
Right: ‘Bo is our young quarter horse, almost ten. ‘Bo is short for Breezy Dark Hobo, his AQHA registered name. He’s smart and flexible, and probably could have gone a long way in the quarter horse world with a rider who was smart and flexible.

Top left: Kimberly was named after a former work-study student who gave the same disdainful look when I’d tell a joke. This little red bull calf is about two weeks old and it’s her second one. Ferd is the proud papa. A few years ago he was so sick with an infected foot that I could walk up and give him a shot in the hip and he wouldn’t get up. I wouldn’t try that today. We inherited a few old brood cows, Ferd and some heifers that “couldn’t be caught” when we bought the farm next door. We thought Ferd was retired due to his earlier illness, so we were pretty surprised when the calves started popping out last spring. Left: Taz is foundation type quarterhorse. He’s got Wimpy, quarterhorse #1, in his family tree. Calm and steady, he’s a bomb proof horse. He’s 20+, too, and he’s not in a hurry to do anything.

Carrie Daniels

Right: Spot weighs in at 20 pounds, despite having been on “diet” cat food since 1998. He’s the only cat I’ve had that seems to enjoy lying on his back.

Dave Meyer

Left: This is Soda, or Soda Marie LaTour (when she tosses her tail around as if it were a feather boa). Soda is a Shamrock cat, having boarded with Karen Little post-rescue until we picked her up about nine years ago this month. We took her name from a Seinfeld episode (“The Seven” in season 7). When she was a kitten, the only thing fluffy on her was her tail, which was very dark unlike her (then) orange body. She “grew into” her tail within a year, and has been quite substantial ever since. Her hair makes her look more Rubenesque than she is, but she’s not petite.

Diane Nichols

Mr. Lynn (left) and Tiger (right) are the last of our animals. Mr. Lynn will always get in front of a camera — you have to sneak up on Tiger.
Jessica Waddell

*Top left:* Callie will be 17 years old in May. She is the Queen, or so she thinks. Callie is always putting the other cats in place and doesn’t stop there; she even bosses the dog around. My family and I joke that Callie will out-live everyone because of her mean, contrary attitude.

*Top right:* Casper is 12 years old and lives in our garage. She is a very sweet cat, but doesn’t like strangers. She’s odd because we’ve tried to get her to come in and stay but she always wants to go back out to sleep, eat, etc in the garage. She occasionally comes out to play with us or the dog, but usually if you want to see Casper you have to go to her.

*Left:* Luke is my favorite. He was my high school graduation present and is now four. He can be loveable, but won’t hesitate to let you know he’s had enough. You can usually find him in this position.

*Right:* Joey is two. I rescued him from the house around the corner. When they moved they left the mother cat and her kittens behind. We don’t know what happened to the rest of the litter or the mother, but Joey was the only one left. He is super sweet, but he’s possibly the dumbest cat ever. Sometimes he will just sit in the middle of a room and cry for no reason.

John Burton

Moli (above left) and Kali (above right) are long hair Rag Dolls, which our friends have nicknamed the Swiffers. Lily (right, sleeping with Ellen) is a seal point Siamese. She is the queen of the clan. Maggie (above right) is an American Short Hair Tabby. We raised her from three weeks and she think that we are hers. Sophie (above middle) is a Bengal. She is her father’s cat.

Julia Graepel

*Left:* Julia (formerly of the Music Library) and Lillie at the North Sea.
Marette Irwin

Right: The Lizard King is Marette’s Chinese water dragon who lives in a large terrarium and provides her and her family with much joy. He is tame and likes to be handled. Every now and then he does make his “big jump” so one always needs to have a firm grip on his back. At the moment he is enjoying a seasonal snack on a daily basis, i.e., earthworms! He will eat up to six at a time.

Mark Dickson

Top left: Artemis, my daughter’s 15-pound attack cat.

Mary Barbosa-Jerez

Left: Here is Una, the Newfoundland, and her kitten, Claribelle, sharing a cozy nap on the sofa. Not pictured is their crabby brother, Stitch del Gato, who NEVER stoops to sleeping with them. These three creatures are part of the Barbosa-Jerez/Sharpe family.

Mildred Franks

Right: This is Buffer (Thanks to Barbara Whitener who sent this cute picture in for Mildred who was away.)

Rachel Hodge

Below right: Wynston is our 7-year-old Golden Retriever. He is the sweetest dog ever. He also proved to be the perfect dog when our baby came into the family and turned his world upside-down! Left: Emily is our 6-year-old cat. You can always find her on the bed or soaking up the sun in the kitchen. She hasn’t taken to the baby as well, but knows to keep her distance.

Bottom left: These are the cats that live on my deck. I keep saying they are not my pets, but they do have names: Tugger, Fluff, and Mama Cat.
Robin Harris
Left: Jo Dog Cocker (JoD), abandoned at UofL during late summer in 1995, ended up in the parking lot behind the law school. I took her home and she’s been my buddy ever since. Here she strikes a pitiful pose.

Left, below: And now JoD has a sister, Makita Flowers, who came into my life and home when I married Ron Flowers, her “dad,” a couple of years ago. One of Ron’s friends found Makita wandering on the Outer Loop in fall 2000. Makita is part Akita and part Chow and as Ron says, she was “born to sniff.”

Terri Holtze
Right: Dexter, assistant gardener at the Holtze household, helps with the planting in hopes of growing his long-dreamed-of tennis ball tree.

Trish Blair
Franklin (striped): aged 1 year, 9 months; nicknames: Frank, lover, Mr. Mc Nubbins, Paunchy McFlippins, Nubby Mc Flipins. Likes: sleeping with my brother, biting, being mean, running through the house either being chased or chasing Nigel, instigating all activity in our house, playing kick the cat.

Nigel (grey): Aged 1 year, 3 months; nicknames: Pumpkin, Fat Bob, Santa, Nigella, Dickie. Likes: Sleeping with my brother, laying on my mama (his favorite blanket), chasing or being chased by Franklin, sleeping in the closet, licking people, playing fetch with crinkly balls

Franklin and Nigel are brothers. They have the greatest cat life known to man. They enjoy chasing each other around our house and sleeping together. They are BFF (best friends forever). Below are baby pictures of Franklin and Nigel.
**Vivian Harrison**

*Left:* Spike is a nine-year-old silver poodle. He doesn’t like having his picture taken, so this yawn is the best I could get of him. Spike will sit, roll over, or dance just to please. He attacks the TV when animals (especially dogs) appear.

*Bottom left:* Katie is a five-year-old red mini dachshund. She was given to me at five months old after going through three previous owners. She’s a busy and bossy little dog, and her previous owners didn’t keep her long enough to discover that she’s also very bright and sweet. She’s addicted to fetching.

*Right:* Cricket is a nine-year-old black and tan dachshund. She’s pretty much Katie’s opposite, very relaxed (i.e., lazy), has never fetched anything, but she will sit or roll over for a treat.
April was a most significant month for the libraries. We dedicated the Elaine Chao Auditorium in the new wing and we hosted the Grawemeyer daughters for the first time as part of the Grawemeyer celebration.

April 3-4 I, along with 365 other members, attended the Coalition of Networked Information (CNI) meeting in Washington, D.C. Two plenary sessions covered Cornell University’s arXiv (http://xxx.arxiv.cornell.edu/), the Internet open access e-print archive for articles in the sciences, described by Professor Paul Ginsparg, and “Can we create a democratic digital history” presented by Roy Rosenzweig from George Mason University.

Thirty-five breakout sessions covered an array of important information related to digitization, open resources archives, orphan works, digital repositories and library spaces. As usual it was difficult to choose among these intriguing sessions. The information gained was most helpful for planning many of our future activities. Anyone may see more details on this informative conference at http://www.cni.org.

The Faculty Senate Committee on Libraries (FSCOL) met on April 12 and received the Libraries’ final version of the Strategic Plan, the Deyta Survey information from faculty and the CPE (Council of Postsecondary Education) Action Plan. The annual Kornhauser Friends dinner will be held June 6.

On April 14 the Library Associates Board met and approved their bylaws. I briefed the members on the funding situation for journals, including the current deficit. The Board’s fundraising committee has begun to meet and is discussing a possible gift shop.

There are many activities and meetings right now regarding the multiple facility activities in place or about to start. A series of renovation projects will keep us all very busy as we are preparing for the move of the Kersey Library into Ekstrom Library.

— Hannelore Rader, Dean of University Libraries

“Many, many, many thanks to all who have helped with the initial load of the Robotic Retrieval Load. I will be writing a more detailed thanks soon, but I didn’t want to let any more time pass without writing of my appreciation!!!” —Alice Abbott-Moore

“I would like to extend continued thanks to Sheila and Mioshi for their prompt responses to the Music Library’s ongoing technical woes, whatever they may be.

I would also like to extend warm thanks to Trish Blair and her staff for their assistance in the use of The M&P microfiche printer for a recent project we had.” —Mark Dickson

“I want to thank Dave Loeffler, Raymond Slaughter, John Burton, and Giman Hong for helping me move my office to Room 212. They brought furniture and files from all over the building and helped me to rearrange it until it was just right.

“Also need to thank a long list of people for helping me coordinate a faculty senate event that was held in the libraries.

Erea Marshall provided assistance on just about every aspect but especially on the publicity and physical set-up for the auditorium and the lunch area.

Jessica Waddell did most of the labeling for close to 2000 announcements. Dave L, Raymond and Giman also helped, moving furniture once again. Mary Barbosa-Jerez and Elizabeth Smigielski also get special mention for helping me come up with a publicity plan. Thank you all very much. I really appreciate it.” —Melissa Laning

“I would like to thank Sheila, Calvin and our student assistant, Deyi, for the great job and efforts they did during our office move to the new wing. They cleaned up, moved and reorganized most parts (work room and servers) of the office. We really appreciate it.” —Weiling Liu

“I’d like to include a thank you to all the employees at Kornhauser who helped cover the hospital library during the last few weeks.” —Neal Nixon
Ekstrom Library

Media and Current Periodicals

Trish Blair, David Horvath, the student assistants and Carol Kraemer continue staying busy checking out Crash—it remains our number one blockbuster again this month. Some of our more exciting acquisitions are Capote, Memoirs of a Geisha, Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire and Walk the Line in the SGA collection. Other new additions that may be of interest are: Neon Genesis: Evangelion (Anime), Wonderfalls, the 5th season of “West Wing,” a Kabuki dance series, The American Film Institute Director’s Series and several new Portuguese films. Come check it out!

Margo Smith has begun joining us for staff meetings to help with planning for our transition this summer and fall. We are calculating space needs for the Kersey current periodicals, visioning the layout of the department and making plans for the Media move. We have finally accepted that our 605C Microfilm reader/printers are dead. They have been going for some time and are now available for anyone who might need a boat anchor or maybe some yard art.

As the semester comes to a close, we’d like to give huge appreciation to all of our student assistants who work so hard, get up early to open, stay up late to close and still manage to make it to class.

(As the new Owl “ace-reporter” from Media and Current Periodicals, I’m reminded of seeing a recent screening of “Shakespeare Behind Bars.” In the documentary, Hal is the resident reporter and is shown walking from person to person looking for news. In a prison, there’s precious little that is news, at least none that folks are willing to share. I’m hoping my experience is more fruitful. – Carol Kraemer.)

Office of Library Technology

Updates

SFX Implementation

The system is fully in production with about 29,900 links enabled. (All the subscribed full text journal targets available in SFX are activated.) All the subscribed databases that are OpenURL compliant are also enabled. Activation of targets and sources is an on-going process, so the number will be changing from time to time. OLT is now working with the Assessment Team on usability assessment for improvement feedback.

MetaLib Implementation

The system is now ready for internal review with 134 databases enabled. (All the subscribed databases available in MetaLib are activated. Note: this number is not a one-to-one match with the A-Z database list on the Libraries’ home web page.) Schedules for orientation demo sessions will be announced soon. The orientation demo outline is available on the Intranet at http://staff.library.louisville.edu/#M.

Robotic Retrieval System

The RRS is in production and about 71,000 items have been loaded as of April 25, 2006.

Equipment for the Instructional Labs in the New Wing

The first order of 42 laptops has been received, configured and ready for deployment for the new instructional lab #3. Orders for lab #1 and #2 will be received soon.

Thank You

Alice Abbott-Moore
Gwendoline Chenault
Leslie Faison
Carolyn Gettler Miracle
Gail Gilbert
Rachel Hodge
Marcia Kotlinski
Carol Kraemer
Weiling Liv
George McWhorter
Hannelore Rader
Office of the Dean

Personnel Announcement
Leslie Farison began work in Information Literacy April 10, 2006, as a Program Assistant Senior. Leslie reports to Anna Marie Johnson. Leslie previously worked this past semester as an intern for Suzy Palmer in Collection Development while completing her MLS degree. See page 11 for a report on one of Leslie’s intern projects.

Technical Services

EndUser 2006
Angel Clemons and Angela Slaughter attended the EndUser conference on April 20-22. This conference, held annually in Chicago, is hosted by Endeavor and designed for users of Voyager, Meridian, and other Endeavor products. Angela Slaughter was one of ten people awarded an EndUser Bon Voyage grant to attend the meeting. While there she presented a poster session on complex publication patterns. Angel Clemons attended the conference as a representative of the Libraries’ Voyager Cataloging Functional Group. The majority of sessions that she attended focused on the cataloging module of Voyager. Two sessions dealing with the Macro Express software were particularly useful to both Angel and Angela. The software is designed “to automate a task that you perform repeatedly or on a regular basis. It is a series of commands and actions that can be stored and run whenever you need to perform the task.” (source: www.macros.com) Angela points out that “it could be a powerful tool for use in the library.”

Kersey Library

Vacation
Jan Kulkarni and his wife will be visiting their son and family in Atlanta, Georgia in May and June. They will be there to see their granddaughters’ dance recital.

Music Library

Congratulations to student assistant Joseph Healy who is earning a Masters of Music (MM) for which he successfully submitted a composed score entitled “Sodom and Gomorrah, for orchestra.” He will be working on composition commissions this summer in Kent, Ohio.

Student assistants achieved a monumental goal during the last month. Our monthly average for reshelving is about 2500 items. During the month of March our students shelved over 5000 books and scores from both pickups and discharges. The photo at right shows Joseph Healy holding the 5000th book to be shelved.

SUMMER READERS’ PICKS

Next issue is the Summer Readers’ Picks! Watch for Book Editor Anna Marie Johnson’s request for your favorite summer books. The issue will be published in mid-July.
Earlier this semester, when Leslie Farison was working as an intern for Suzy Palmer in Collection Development, she undertook a special project to exploit some of the possibilities of WorldCat Collection Analysis. This product can be used to compare a library’s collection with those of its peers, identify unique titles and help in cooperative collection development, among other things. Leslie used Collection Analysis to determine the unique items in the Art Library’s collection as well as titles shared with up to five other libraries.

The WorldCat program sorts by divisions, categories and subjects, but not by library. The Art and Architecture division includes most of what is in the Art Library, but not everything. For example, the Art Library has many volumes in the D classification which includes antiquities, but those titles do not appear to have been included in the Art and Architecture division. In addition, some of the unique titles identified do not belong to the Art Library even though they fall within the Art and Architecture Division. About 40 guides to cameras are in Photographic Archives and a number of illustrated books are held in Rare Books.

Nonetheless, the Art and Architecture Division is a fairly good proxy for the Art Library’s holdings. The report was divided into categories (sculpture is an example of one of the 11 categories) and then by subject (mobiles as a subject within sculpture, for example).

Using the program, Leslie came up with 336 unique items in the Art and Architecture Division. That is a surprisingly large number and I was excited to find out what those titles were, thinking that a treasure trove of valuable materials was about to be revealed. What was revealed, though, was not the hoped for treasure trove, but more a reflection of the idiosyncratic history of the collection.

For instance, we have many, many books in Portuguese. Why? They were donated by the Portuguese Studies Program administered through the Department of Anthropology. When the program started in the Art Department, a library was established on site. With the change in sponsoring department came a change in the program as well, and the books were brought back to the U.S. by various students when they came home.

There were also a large number of books and pamphlets on historic buildings and churches from Russia, Eastern Europe and Finland. Those books came primarily from two of our donors: Bobbie Brooks, who worked in various embassies around the world and Will Morgan, former UofL architectural history professor, who specialized in Finnish architecture.

Titles on the list also reflect the origins of the library — for example, books donated by Justus Bier and other art historians whose personal collections formed the basis of the library. This explains the many books in German on German Gothic sculpture, Dr. Bier’s specialty.

Simple geography explains some of the other items: e.g., publications from local galleries in Kentucky and Indiana, Louisville and Jefferson County publications on neighborhoods and zoning, and studies on the economic impact of the arts in Louisville.

There are also items that reflect cataloging decisions made in the past. For example, we used to catalog typescripts and photocopies of dissertations, compilations of postcards, and students’ senior theses on topics of local interest like the Playhouse or Louisville artists such as Mary Spencer Nay. Also cataloged are individual auction catalogs and issues of journals. No wonder these came up as unique items!

By the same token, collection decisions account for other unique titles. We have a good-sized collection of artists’ books, individual works of art in book form made in small editions that are often purchased by collectors, not libraries. So understandably some of the ones we own are unique for WorldCat.
Then there’s the category of Who Knows Why We Have It, to wit, a 1963 volume on city planning in Beijing written in Spanish!

Of course, truly rare items appeared on the list like Twenty Six Italian bronzes of the fifteenth and sixteenth century from the J. Pierpont Morgan Collection, published in New York by G.T. Washburn, 191?. This large book, 51 cm. high, has 26 fine collotype plates and was already housed in our rare book room.

I did transfer one book from Ekstrom to the Art Library: Subject Index to Literature on Negro Art, published by the Chicago Public Library Omnibus Project, 1941, which turned out to be helpful to a graduate student working on an African American sculptor.

There is still more to be gleaned from the report and decisions to be made based on the potential rarity of some of the material. For Leslie, this experiment gave her wonderful experience with the WorldCat program. She thinks its most valuable use will be comparing our collections with our benchmarks to determine strengths, weaknesses and gaps. In the future, use of the program may facilitate cooperation with other libraries, perhaps saving some money. If so, that would be an additional benefit.
There have been many owls of fact and fable, but “Minaba” was a pet owl owned by Karen Blixen for a brief time during her years in Africa where she ran a coffee plantation from 1913-1931. But Minaba didn’t last for all of that time. One day he became interested in a plastic hand pull on one of Karen’s Venetian blinds, so he swallowed it to find out if it was good enough to eat. He flew up with the blinds and put a period to his existence. Karen was heartbroken, but has left a picture of herself with Minaba on her shoulder, gazing into literary eternity, and her modern fans continue to admire this photo.

I became a huge fan of Karen Blixen after reading her famous autobiographical novel *Out of Africa*, published in 1938 by Random House. My high school composition teacher, Mathilde Eiker, gave me a copy of the book as a graduation present in 1948, so for the rest of my life I associated Mathilde Eiker with Karen Blixen. Both were published authors, gifted scholars, and unique individuals. Forty years later, I donated my collection of Karen Blixen’s works to the Ekstrom Library at UofL as a memorial to Mathilde Eiker who was quoted in Kunitz’s *Twentieth Century Authors* as follows: “Unlike many persons who urge for the young writer constant practice in his craft, I believe that the formation of a sure taste and the development of habits of scrutiny are the first and most valuable assets.”

Karen Blixen is better known by her nom-de-plume of Isak Dinesen. She believed that comedy was the food of the gods, so she chose “Isak” (pronounced “ezock”) for her professional name because it means “He who laughs.” Her many books contain memorable anecdotes about all kinds of people and situations, all of which make for a delightful reading experience. Once, while on an ocean liner for a trip back to her native land of Denmark, she made friends with a small boy whose parents were planning a birthday party for him that night and told him he could invite anybody he liked. With the delightful directness of youth, he spied Karen Blixen lounging in a nearby deck chair, and ran up and asked: “Who are you?” She replied: “I’m a Hottentot.” The boy ran back to his parents and said: “She’s a Hottentot, but I like her. Can she come to my party?” Parties were given for this famous Hottentot for the rest of her life, and the Ford Foundation brought her to America in 1959, when she was 74 years old, to give lectures and record some of her stories (recited from memory) for the Encyclopedia Britannica Educational Corporation in Chicago. We have copies of these recordings in the Dinesen Memorial Collection, along with several TV documentaries of her life and movies made from her stories, such as *The Immortal Story* starring Orson Welles, and *Babette’s Feast* which won an Academy Award in 1987. Hollywood featured Meryl Streep and Robert Redford in a film about her life called *Out of Africa* (1985), and Julie Harris starred in a one-woman show by William Luce entitled “Lucifer’s Child” which toured the USA. I went to see the play at the Opera House in Lexington, Kentucky, and had a wonderful private talk backstage with Julie Harris after the show. She was most gracious, and I gave her a copy of *Library Review* which I had published on Karen Blixen, and she wrote me later that she had enjoyed it very much.

One of the most unusual items in the collection is a chip from the great shade tree which stood over Karen Blixen’s grave. The tree was struck by lightning, so they were giving chips to tourists for souvenirs. As fate would have it, our UofL Music Librarian, Marion Korda, was visiting her homeland at that time and stopped by Karen’s grave where she got one of these souvenir chips to bring back to me. There are about 150 books and related items in the Dinesen Memorial collection, and I just published an inventory of the collection, together with two articles I had written earlier for *Library Review*. The graphics and typesetting were done by an Edgar Rice Burroughs fan in Michigan, and the books arrived on April 18th. A few extra copies are up for grabs if anyone is interested.