

Spring 2007

Friends of the Library Newsletter Volume 1 Issue 1

Greenwood Library

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Special points of interest:

- What's so special about special collections?
- The Information Center receives overhaul
- Options for becoming a member of The Friends of the Janet D. Greenwood Library

Volume 1, Issue 1

Spring 2007

The Friends of the Janet D. Greenwood Library

The Janet D. Greenwood Library Finds Its First Friends Group

I want to welcome you to the Janet D. Greenwood Library Friends Group and its first newsletter. As you read it, you will see the many new changes we have made over the previous two and a half years to make the library a welcoming, research minded, interactive and technology based environment. More changes are in the offing. We have applied for two grants to add more resources to Special Collections and to further the development of the Information Center—both featured in the newsletter.

Our group will support library services, facilities and collection development activities through fund raising events, membership and social gatherings.

The Greenwood Library provides informational resources that enhance learning within formal and informal learning and teaching spaces. We also extend our resources to public school teachers and administrators.



The Janet D. Greenwood Library

Your annual membership with the Friends of the Janet D. Greenwood Library can help us to expand the Multimedia Lab as well as maintain state-of-the-art library computing and technology resources. The Greenwood Library will also enhance print and electronic collections and pursue creative collaboration within Longwood and the Southside community. As important as updating the Library is, your

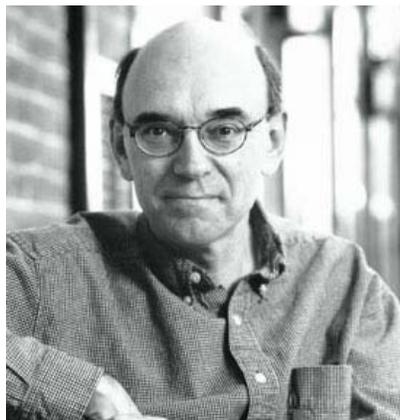
help can also provide assistance in Special Collections through volunteer activities in order to maintain the special treasures already available.

Please help us to continue our development of the Greenwood Library by joining the Friends Group. We want you to participate in our growth and join us for our Friends activities.

Wendell Barbour

Dean of the Library and Learning Services

Author Henry Wiencek to Speak at Inaugural Event



Author Henry Wiencek

The Friends of the Janet D. Greenwood Library will have author Henry Wiencek give a presentation and offer a book signing at the group's inaugural event on April 27, 2007.

Wiencek, who resides in Charlottesville, Virginia, is well known for his most recent publication, *An Imperfect God: George Washington, His Slaves, and the Creation of America*. He is a notable historian and accomplished writer, winning

the National Book Critics Circle Award for his book *The Hairstons: An American Family in Black and White*.

Wiencek's presentation and book signing will be the first of many semi-annual events held by the Friends of the Janet D. Greenwood Library. For details about this event, please contact Tonya Smith at 434.395.2431 or smithtl@longwood.edu.

What's So Special About Special Collections?



Lydia Williams, Archives and Records Manager, works in the newly established room for special collections.

"The room is a warm and inviting place to escape to in order to sit and read from one of the many treasures housed there."

The Janet D. Greenwood Library now has a very special room that is filled with a variety of unique collections of books. The collections include faculty publications, the Virginia Authors Collection, the Virginia Collection, the Edward Gorey Collection, the Droessler Collection, and a collection of rare books.

The collection of faculty publications includes books authored by faculty that have been published over the past 100 years. The oldest title dates back to 1908 when Columbia University Press published Cliff Winfield Stone's *Arithmetical Abilities and Some Factors Determining Them*.

The Virginia Authors Collection includes publications by authors born in Virginia or who live or who were living in Virginia at the time of writing. You may browse books written by famous Virginia authors of the early twentieth century such as Ellen Glasgow, James Branch Cabell, Virginius Dabney, and Mary Johnston. If contemporary writers are more your style, the collection holds titles authored by David Baldacci, Carrie Brown, Sharyn McCrumb, and

Richard Bausch, just to name a few. Works by local authors Billy Clark, William Hoffman, and Francis Wood are included in this collection.

The Virginia Collection includes books which relate to Prince Edward County and the town of Farmville, the surrounding Southside Virginia area, and Virginia as a whole. Many of the older titles are no longer in print, but the information they contain is timeless and valuable to historians. This collection would appeal to anyone who enjoys reading about the history and/or geography of the state.

The Edward Gorey Collection is unique in that it is filled with very small and unusual books that have special value because of their illustrations. Mr. Gorey (1925-2000) was a writer, illustrator, and designer. His distinctive style of drawing combined with a morbid wit and a taste for the bizarre earned him a reputation as being rather eccentric. While some viewers/readers will be fascinated by his works, others will be repulsed. This is a very special group of books that fall into the rare books category.

The Droessler Collection consists of numerous versions of Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* as well as some books about the author, Charles Dodgson. The collection includes versions that are in pop-up format and versions that are in different languages.

This collection was donated to the library in memory of Carol S. Droessler (Longwood Class of 1950) and presented to the University by her husband, Dr. Earl Droessler of Raleigh, North Carolina, in the spring of 1999.

The Rare Book Collection is filled with interesting items such as first editions of *The Pickwick Papers* and *The Virginians*. This collection holds treasures that are priceless—some because they are signed, some because of their illustrations, some because they are first edition classics, and some because they are no longer available in print but have an enduring value.

The room is a warm and inviting place to escape to in order to sit and read from one of the many treasures housed there. The furnishings are a mix of old and new. Not only are the books treasures, but so are many of the furnishings. The desk and table were purchased in 1939 for the then newly opened Lancaster Library. The shelving in the Special Collections Room was purchased in 1969 and used in the Children's Literature Room until the new library opened in 1991. A new book case and some comfortable new chairs complete the look of a room that invites you in to sit and read. What's so special about the Special Collections Room? You are invited to visit the room, browse the collections, and discover for yourself the answer to this question.

The room is open during the semester with hours posted on the Library's website and near the entrance to the room.

Information Center Receives Overhaul

The popularity of Barnes & Noble bookstores, “Googling,” and patrons who simultaneously use instant message, cell phones, troll RSS feeds, and conduct research for assignments have motivated the Greenwood Library staff to offer services and spaces that anticipate and meet students’ social, learning, and information needs. Given that today’s students are communal, multi-tasking, connected coffee drinkers, we’ve attempted to design spaces that encourage students to utilize the Greenwood Library as a research and learning space. The most recent installation of learning space furniture demonstrates the Library’s commitment to providing environments that enhance student learning and research.



Liz Kocivar-Weidinger, Instruction/Reference Services Librarian, helps two Longwood students.

“We’ve attempted to design spaces that encourage students to utilize the Greenwood Library as a research and learning space.”

To facilitate our students’ needs, the Library has recently purchased new furniture/working spaces for the Information Center. The Library staff worked with Chasen’s Business Interiors in Charlottesville to design creative spaces in which students may individually or collaboratively seek and create

knowledge. We worked closely with Vienna Romesburg, Chasen’s interior architecture designer, to create comfortable, flexible, and productive workspaces using Herman Miller’s Resolve line of furniture. The work areas include individual and group computing/work spaces that can be re-arranged by students to accommodate from 1 to 10 students.

The Greenwood Library’s Information Center has the design and service features that support learning, including a variety of learning spaces, knowledgeable staff and peer student assistance, a coffee shop in the library, classrooms, and the presence of writing and tutoring services. This recent project reflects our efforts to provide a centrally located, common intellectual space for students and faculty to interact and have full-service access to technology and expert research assistance.



Some of the changes in the Information Center include new furniture from Herman Miller.

Options for Becoming a Member of The Friends of the Janet D. Greenwood Library

Levels of Giving

Author: \$1 to \$99

- Greenwood Library Newsletter
- Invitations to special events, such as book signings and book groups

Editor: \$100 to \$249

- CD, DVD, and video check-out privileges
- And all of the above

Publisher: \$250 to \$499

- Two (2) bookplates in honor or in memory of an individual of your choice
- And all of the above

Patron: \$500 to \$999

- Five (5) bookplates in honor or in memory of an individual of your choice
- And all of the above

Collector: \$1,000 to \$2,499

- Ten (10) bookplates in honor or in memory of an individual of your choice
- Membership in the Longwood University President's Circle

- Recognition on a donor honor roll located in the Library
- And all of the above

Greenwood Society: \$2,500 and up

- Twenty-five (25) bookplates in honor or in memory of an individual of your choice
- Lunch with your favorite librarian
- And all of the above

Become a Friend of the Greenwood Library!

You may become a member of the Friends of the Library by making an annual tax-deductible contribution. Online contributions may be made through the Longwood University Foundation Office at www.longwood.edu/advancement. Please indicate "Greenwood Library" as your gift designation. You may also mail your contributions to Friends of the Janet D. Greenwood Library, Longwood University Foundation Office, 201 High Street, Farmville, Virginia, 23909.

Planned Gifts, Endowment Opportunities, or Other Options

Donors making qualifying gifts may request that a room be named in honor or in memory of an individual or organization. The naming of buildings, rooms, or other physical spaces is contingent on approval by the Board of Visitors. Call Franklin Grant at 1.800.281.4677, extension 3, for a confidential discussion about the opportunities available.

Contact Us

The Friends of the Janet D. Greenwood Library at Longwood University is governed by a steering committee composed of librarians, faculty, staff, students, and community members. For more information about the Friends of the Greenwood Library, please contact Wendell Barbour, Dean of the Library and Learning Services, at 434.395.2083.



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