

Spring 2012

Friends of the Library Newsletter Volume 6 Issue 1

Greenwood Library

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WWII Armed Services Editions

The library is pleased to offer a collection of very unique books referred to as the "Armed Services Editions." These small, pocket-size paperbacks were published between 1943 and 1947 for the purpose of providing entertaining literature to military personnel serving overseas during World War II.

Although the Library does not own the entire collection of the 1,322 titles that were published for distribution, the Library does have a representation of the titles that were made available to American soldiers.

The history of the Armed

Services Editions (ASE) is well documented in the book, *A History of the Council on Books in Wartime: 1942-1946*, by Robert Ballou. The following information is based on information from Ballou's book.

The Armed Services Editions



were produced as a result of the work of the Council on the Books in Wartime which was established in early 1943 to organize and manage the project that involved mobilizing the entire American book industry and departments within the United States government in support of this project.

After months of working out the details of the project with publishing houses and the United States government, the Council appointed an advisory committee whose members selected the titles that were to be reprinted as ASE editions. In selecting titles, this

(continued on page 3)

New Librarian at Greenwood Library

Please welcome Emily Cox! Emily joined the Janet D. Greenwood Library in July 2011 as Assistant Instruction and Reference Services Librarian. In May 2011, she graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill with her Master of Science in Library Science.

Prior to coming to Longwood, she worked as a graduate student assistant in the Undergraduate Library at UNC-Chapel Hill and as an intern in the Reference and Instruction Department at Meredith College in Raleigh, NC.

During her first semester this past fall, Emily worked closely with first year Longwood Seminar students in the classroom, in which students learn about conducting research using the Library through an

interactive, electronic *Librarian or Android* game, and for English 150, a writing and research course that requires students to complete their first in-depth research project at Longwood.



She recently shared with us the top five reasons she enjoys working at the Janet D. Greenwood Library:

- Students – it's exciting to engage with students who have diverse interests and perspectives
- Library staff – welcoming, helpful, and fun
- Innovative environment - OneSearch integrated library search tool, Longwood Blogs (<http://blogs.longwood.edu/library/>), and the mobile library website now available on Apple and Android devices (bit.ly/mlibrary)
- Social Media Engagement - Like us on Facebook ([Longwood University Library](http://LongwoodUniversityLibrary)) and follow us on Twitter (lulibrarian)
- The atmosphere – the Library is at the heart of student, faculty, and staff scholarly, information, and social endeavors

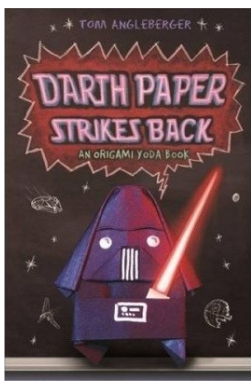
Upcoming Library Events



On Thursday, March 1, 2012, the Friends of the Janet D. Greenwood Library will host its first spring event, featuring an afternoon with children's author and illustrator, Tom Angleberger. Angleberger will regale us with his topic of *Origami Yoda: The Strange Case of The Paper Puppet that Changed My Life and How to Fold Your Own*.

Angleberger's *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda* was hailed as "delightful" by the *New York Times* and called "the most original novel of the year" by the *Boston Globe*. It has won many awards including the Library of Virginia's Fifth Annual Cardozo Award for Children's Literature, one of the 2011 ALA Notable Children's Books, and one of the Kirkus Best Books of 2010.

His writing may have been influenced by his varied past occupations including: newspaper reporter and columnist, juggler, weed boy, lawn mower part assembler, and biology research assistant (bug larvae and plant diseases). He is married to author-illustrator Cece Bell and lives in Christiansburg, Virginia.

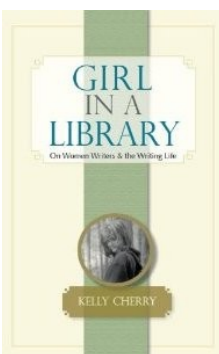


The second Friends of the Janet D. Greenwood Library event will take place on Friday, March 30, 2012, featuring Poet Laureate of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Kelly Cherry.

Cherry is the author of nearly thirty books of fiction, nonfiction, chapbooks and plays. From her website, we learned that she has received many awards for her works, some of which include The O. Henry Awards, The Pushcart Prize, PEN/Syndicated Fiction Awards, Dictionary of Literary Biography Award, Hanes Poetry Prize.

In 2010, Cherry became Poet Laureate of the Commonwealth of Virginia which is held for a two year term. In addition to her numerous awards, she has served on the Associated Writing Programs Board of Directors and the Discipline Advisory Committee for Fulbright Awards.

Cherry has held various jobs in Richmond, New York City, and Wisconsin including teaching at University of Wisconsin-Madison for twenty two years. She has also been Advisory Editor of *Shenandoah* and Contributing Editor for *The Hollins Critic*. Since retiring from UW-Madison, she has held a number of named chairs and professorships at various universities and continues to consider short-term teaching positions.



Message from Dean Suzy

My first semester at Longwood has been exciting. I've had the opportunity to meet many long-time Friends of the Library and to welcome some new members into our family.

We may be in the age of the Internet, but the Greenwood Library is a happening place. In the fall 2010 we averaged 40,000 visitors to the Library – an impressive figure for a university of our size. So what are all these people coming into the Library to do? Students, faculty and staff borrowed nearly 15,000 books and 20,000 DVDs. And they also came to use, and borrow equipment from, our expanding Multimedia Lab. Our laptops circulated approximately 2,900 times and other types of multimedia equipment almost 2,800 times.

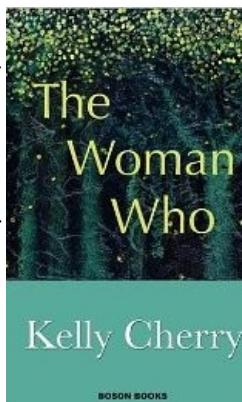
As a library, we live by the saying "there's no such thing as a stupid question." I'd add there's also no such thing as too many questions: during the fall semester, Learning Commons' staff responded to almost 5,000 questions, ranging from equipment help to simple directions to more in-depth assistance with a research paper or other class assignment. Librarians play an active role in assisting faculty with preparing students to do research by conducting library instruction sessions within the Library or the faculty member's classroom. In the fall 2010, they taught about 150 classes, reaching more than 3,000 students.

While we remain among the most popular physical locations on campus, our growing collection of electronic resources – electronic journals and e-books – are accessible beyond our walls. In just the last semester, nearly 600,000 searches were performed in our electronic databases.

The Greenwood Library truly has something for everyone. Thanks for being a part of our success!

"Dean Suzy"

Suzy Szasz Palmer, Dean of the Library



Armed Services Editions (cont.)

committee was asked to consider what each book had to offer in terms of improving morale and providing entertainment and information.

The lists of titles were then sent to Army and Navy officials for their approvals. The approved titles then went to press. The project started with the production of 30 books a month and that number eventually expanded to 40 books per month. The titles selected by the advisory committee covered a vast array of literature that included westerns, poetry, short stories, biographies, and best-selling novels. Over 123 million volumes were printed and given to military personnel between 1943 and 1947.

In the article, "Book Venture Ends" printed in the June 22, 1947 issue of the *St. Petersburg Times*, columnist Jean Meegan wrote that "these books were made for use, not for care or preservation, and attained a place in servicemen's affections somewhere between letters from home and pinup girls." Obviously, some World War II veterans thought enough of these small treasures to hold on to them long after the war had ended. The small paperback books that have survived the ravages of time and the elements are considered to be collectibles because they are tangible representations of a special era in American history.

The history of how Greenwood Library received its collection of the Armed Services Editions is unknown.

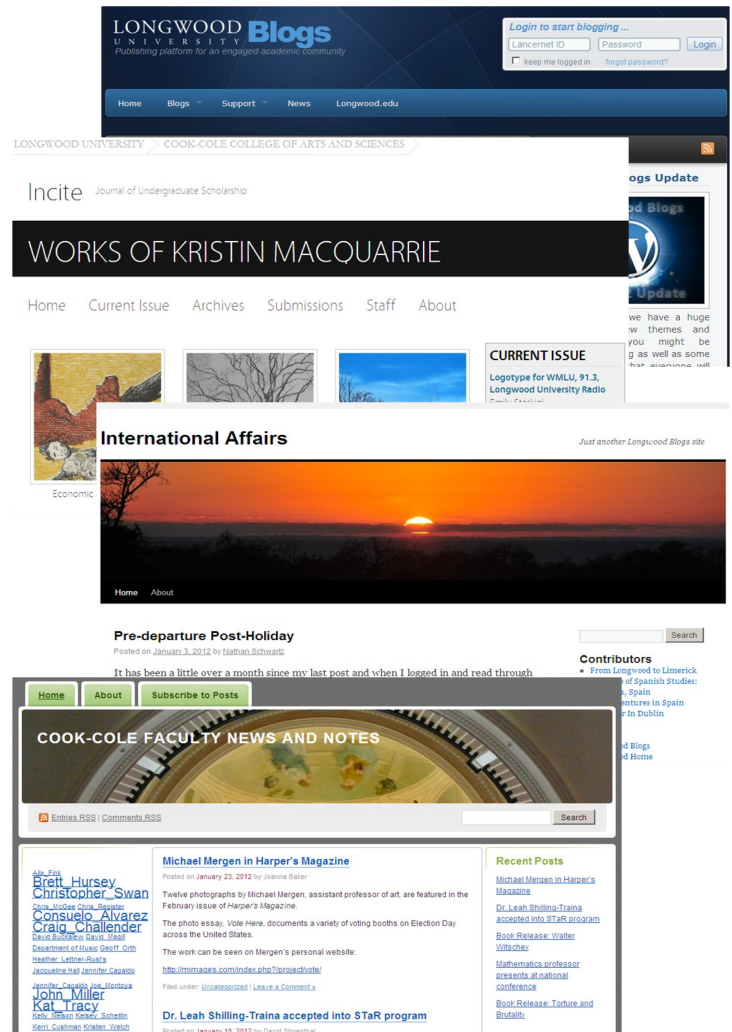


Sometime during the 1980s, they just seemed to appear in the processing room of what was then the Lancaster Library. No one on the staff knew where they came from or what to do with them, so the books were moved from storage room to storage room. With the opening of the new Library in 1991, this collection of rare books eventually received a place of honor in Greenwood Library's Special Collections Room.

Because they are so rare and fragile, the books in the Armed Services Editions collection may not be checked out. Most of the titles within this collection are ones that exist in general library collections, and therefore they are easily accessible to the public. During the spring, a selection of the World War II ASE paperback books will be featured in the display case located just outside the Special Collections Room on the second floor of the Greenwood Library. For additional information about this collection, please contact the manager of the Archives and Special Collections, Lydia Williams, at williamslc@longwood.edu or at 434.395.2432.

Longwood Blogs

Longwood Blogs is a web-based publishing platform, developed and sponsored by the Janet D. Greenwood Library, Information & Instructional Technology Services, and University Public Relations. Officially launched in the spring of 2011, Longwood Blogs were modeled on the University of Mary Washington blogging platform in 2007.



Longwood Blogs provide Longwood faculty, staff, and students with opportunities to:

- make connections between what is learned in the classroom and the real world
- share professional activities and scholarship (e.g., [Cook-Cole Faculty News and Notes](#))
- showcase academic research projects and talents (e.g., [Incite: Journal of Undergraduate Scholarship](#))
- reflect on their experiences abroad (e.g., [International Affairs](#))

Currently, there are 547 sites and 1,260 users on Longwood Blogs. Almost daily, new users launch publishing adventures discovering how best to create meaningful digital footprints with insightful posts and captivating multimedia. The Library is an integral part of assisting students achieve this, with timely instructional and trouble shooting support.

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

Levels of Giving

Author: \$10 to \$99

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

Editor: \$100 to \$249

- One (1) bookplate in honor or in memory of an individual of your choice
- 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 \$1,249

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

Collector: \$1,250 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" under "Allocation" 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 and 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 visit the Friends website at www.longwood.edu/library/friends or contact Suzy Szasz Palmer, Dean of the Library, at 434.395.2083 or palmerss@longwood.edu.

LONGWOOD
UNIVERSITY



The Janet D. Greenwood Library
Redford and Race Streets
Farmville, Virginia 23909

Phone: 434-395-2633
Fax: 434-395-2453
E-mail: libweb@longwood.edu

