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Southern Kentucky Festival of Books 2002

AUTHORS, BOOKS, FAMILY FUN!

by Earlene Chelf

The Southern Kentucky Festival of Books 2002 is shaping up to be the biggest and best ever!

This year, festival organizers have lined up more than 200 authors, 50 more than last year. Headliners are Karen Robards, Marsha Mason, Homer Hickam, Jim Huber, Eileen Goudge, and Christopher Whitcomb. Besides meeting the public and signing books, these authors—and many others—will do special breakout sessions, giving fans an additional opportunity to interact in a more intimate setting.

Other new and exciting things occurring at this year's festival are:

New and Expanded School Day Activities. As was true last year, Friday, April 19th, will be devoted to programming and activities for area schoolchildren. Of the 200 authors scheduled, 50 are children's authors, including Jessica Harper, Donna Jo Napoli, Jennifer Holm, Jared Lee, DeLoss McGraw, and Will Weaver. Most are scheduled to interact directly with young people through storytelling, readings, or other special activities. In addition, there will be performances by Lexington Children's Theatre and Madcap Productions, plus a variety of new and fun make-and-do activities, costumed literary characters, and more. Many of the activities scheduled for School Day will be repeated on Saturday.



Some of the featured authors at the Festival in April: top, left to right, Karen Robards, Christopher Whitcomb; bottom, left to right, Will Weaver, Marsha Mason (Photo of Karen Robards by David Middleton / www.januarymagazine.com)

Final Summons

by Jonathan Jeffrey

Some today would consider a funeral invitation a bit macabre: not so in the 19th-century. Funeral customs and rites have evolved dramatically over the last 150 years. Part of this evolution is documented in the Sue Lynn Stone Funerary Collection, which Stone recently donated to the Kentucky Library. The collection consists of approximately 240 pieces, chiefly funeral invitations and mortuary cards that date from 1820 to 1930. Stone started collecting funerary items in the early 1980s, when she completed her M.A. in History at

Western Kentucky University. Her 1983 master's thesis, "Expressions of Grief in South Central Kentucky, 1870-1910," related to funeral customs in the region.

Printers produced funeral invitations immediately after a person's demise, and family members disseminated them quickly throughout the community. Offset printers often used pre-printed papers, some elaborately decorated, for publishing the news about the deceased's funeral arrangements. These charming tokens were the 19th-century equivalent to today's newspaper obituary and included the deceased's full name, date and time of the funeral, and the place of burial. Invitations sometimes included the name of the clergyman officiating at the service, other speakers,

Southern Kentucky Festival of Books 2002

continued from Page 1

Poetry Café. April is National Poetry Month and the festival boasts about a dozen poets, including James Baker Hall and Richard Taylor, Kentucky's current and former Poet Laureates, respectively. All day Saturday, poetry lovers can stop by the Plaza Hotel Café, buy coffee and dessert, and hear world-class poets read their work.



C-Span 2 Book TV will be at the Southern Kentucky Festival of Books on Saturday, April 20*.

Salute to Kentucky's Literary Giants. Borrowing James Baker Hall's philosophy—that Kentucky has an outstanding literary heritage—the festival will draw attention to some of "the greats": Robert Penn Warren, James Still, Harry Caudill, Jim Wayne Miller, Jesse Stuart, and Harriette Simpson Arnow. Besides featuring their work, friends and family members will be at the festival to talk about the authors and their books. We especially hope schoolchildren and teachers will take special note of these Kentucky writers and gain a deeper appreciation for their literary heritage.

These are just some of the new activities taking place at this year's festival, scheduled for April 19th and 20th, at the Sloan Convention Center in Bowling Green. A perennial favorite, to be held this year on Friday night, is the exciting "Meet the Authors" party. Additionally, last year's successful high school film/video competition will be featured again.

The Southern Kentucky Festival of Books, now the largest literary festival in Kentucky, would not be possible without the support of many people. The festival organizers, Western Kentucky University Libraries & Kentucky Museum, Bowling Green Public Library, and Barnes & Noble, acknowledge with appreciation the contributions of several hundred people who work tirelessly to make the festival a success.

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and pallbearers. An unusual invitation from the collection indicates that women acted as the pallbearers for one young lady's funeral. "Failing to attend a funeral to which you had received an invitation," noted Stone, "was a breach of etiquette."

Mortuary cards were late-19th and early-20th-century funeral souvenirs. They generally

contained the person's name, death date, and exact age at death, down to the number of days, in a small center panel. Printers surrounded this information with bricabrac or funeral symbols, such as the gates of heaven flung open, doves, open Bibles, or sheaves of wheat. The cards usually featured a piece of sentimental Victorian verse. Family members distributed these cards to relations and friends, particularly those who could not attend burial services. Persons could order these mementos by direct mail, from funeral homes, or from stationery stores. One of the most prolific printers of this genre of cards was the Wendell Company of Leipsic, Ohio, and all but two of

the cards from the Stone Collection represent that firm. Because of the occasion's somber overtones, printers generally limited the colors on cards to black, white, and gold.

"The Stone Collection represents a significant addition to our funerary collection," said Connie Mills, Kentucky Library Coordinator. Indeed, the collection doubles the Library's holdings, which already includes funeral books, sympathy cards, funeral home fans, mortuary advertisements, funeral programs, mourning stationery, and catalogs from tombstone carvers, casket dealers, and embalming equipment distributors. Librarians will catalog each piece from the Stone Collection and add the information to the Kentucky Library's Ephemera Index. "By placing this collection in the Kentucky Building," Stone noted, "I've secured its protection and have made it accessible to others."



Mortuary cards were late-19th and early-20th-century treasured souvenirs. Printers often decorated the announcements with symbolic designs.

Collections Connections

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Gift from Lila Greene to Create Enhanced Listening Library at WKU

by Carol Cummings



Lila Greene is giving back to an area of Western Kentucky University for which she feels a special bond: the University Libraries. Greene, a 1943 alumna from Bowling Green, worked at the Library as a student and after graduating.

"I have always understood the importance of our Libraries," said Greene. "They are the only entity on a campus that touches the life of every student, faculty member, and academic discipline."

Greene's gift of property will be used to equip and maintain the Listening Library of Helm-Cravens Library. According to Michael Franklin, WKU's senior circulation assistant, Department of Library Public Services, the Listening Library provides students, faculty members, and other patrons with opportunities to study classical and other music, as well as oratory, historical events, and theatrical performances in both audio and video formats. "Because this program is highly technology based, equipment is in constant need of upgrading as well as occasional repair," he said. "The Library also needs to

purchase supplies and resources related to serving the patrons who use this service."

WKU Professor Emeritus Dwight Pounds says it is extremely good news that the Listening Library, so essential to Music History and Music Appreciation courses, is being upgraded at this time. "Considering that the price of required recordings is prohibitively expensive for some of our students, the listening facility is essential for daily assignments and an absolute necessity for a good grade," he said.

Associate Professor Mary Wolinski agrees. "Listening to music is an important source of satisfaction for any person," she said. "We have a good basic collection of recordings. Now it will be more accessible in the Library. An expanded listening center will mean that students will have more opportunities to listen to a wide variety of music. It will also give teachers more options in what they can assign for listening."

Professor Mike Binder, WKU Dean of University Libraries and Museum, says the Library is grateful for Ms. Greene's leadership support. "Support for focus collections, the Kentucky Library, and electronic library resources will allow the Library system to maintain and expand its collections to support the University. Private support is necessary to enhance the collections and services of the University Libraries and to continue to expand technology."

Lila Greene taught school for several years after leaving Western. She was the owner and operator of the Broadway Washeteria and has been the co-owner of B.G. Consolidated with her brother, Charles Hardcastle, for more than 40 years.

"I am pleased to have the opportunity to make this commitment," she said. "It is my hope that the proceeds from this gift will ensure that the Listening Library maintains and enhances its offerings for years to come."

National Library Week 2002

by Sean Kinder

With spring blooming all around us, the National Library Week 2002 committee members are busily planning this year's celebratory events. We plan to offer a little something for everyone, from preschoolers to seasoned researchers. Plans have been made for Mayor Sandy Jones and Judge Executive Michael Buchanon to sign a proclamation declaring April 14-20 as National Library Week 2002 in Bowling Green and Warren County.

@your library™

Watch upcoming announcements on the Western Kentucky University Libraries Topper InfoPortal (TIP) (www.wku.edu/library/tip/) for additional information about these and other fun activities at the WKU Libraries and Museum. Join in the fun by celebrating, participating, and exploring the wealth of materials, resources, and services available @ your libraryTM.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK April 14-20, 2002

Monday, April 15

Guest Speaker Joe Duvall, Park Guide Mammoth Cave National Park "Story of Floyd Collins: Entrapment, Death and Burials" 7:00 p.m., Helm Lobby

Monday-Thursday, April 15-18

Scholastic Book Fair, 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m., Educational Resources Center; Tate Page Hall 366

Tuesday, April 16

Launch New Web-Based Library Service Haiwang Yuan, University Libraries Website and Virtual Library Coordinator 10:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m., Helm Lobby

Guest Speaker
Dr. Raymond L. Cravens
WKU Professor Emeritus
"The Spirit of Lost River"
6:00 p.m.–6:30 p.m., Helm Lobby

Performance Lost River Band 6:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m., Helm Lobby

Wednesday, April 17

Storytelling 9:00 a.m.—9:30 a.m. Jones Jaggers Hall 113

Open House Glasgow Regional Center Library 4:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. Refreshments served.

Thursday, April 18

Guest Speaker
Dr. Dwayne Buttler, Schneider
Endowed Chair For Scholarly
Communication,
University of Louisville
"Issues in Copyright and Scholarly
Communication"
11:00 a.m.—12:00 noon
Cravens 111

Fifteenth Annual
Western Authors Reception
Faculty Library Award
presented At 2:45 p.m.
Galleries K & I, Kentucky Building
2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

International Talk
Dr. Robert Hoyt, WKU Biology Dept.
"Scotland"
7:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m.
Barnes & Noble Café
1680 Campbell Lane
Part of the Far Away Places series
sponsored by Coca-Cola

Friday, April 19

Southern Kentucky Festival of Books School Day Activities Bowling Green 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Slaan Convention Center

Guest Speaker
Chuck Decroix, Park Guide
Mammoth Cave National Park
"The Longest Cave: A History of
Exploration"
2:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m., Cravens 111

"Meet The Authors" Reception (Southern Kentucky Festival of Books) 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. Galleries K & L, The Kentucky Building For tickets, call (270) 745-5263.

Saturday, April 20

Southern Kentucky Festival of Books Activities for Children and Adults 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Sloan Convention Center Bowling Green

Connect @ WKU Libraries' National Library Week Website: www.wku.edu/Library/nlw

Southern Kentucky Festival of Books Website: www.sokybookfest.org

National Library Week 2002 was underwritten by WKU Friends of the Libraries.

P SI Love You:

by Sue Lynn Stone, University Archivist



On May 11th at 2:00 p.m., the Hilltoppers and their fans will gather at the Kentucky Building for the opening of the "P.S. I Love You: The Hilltoppers" exhibit. This event celebrates the 50th anniversary

of the Hilltoppers' release of their Van Meter Auditorium recording of Billy Vaughn's "Trying," using a piano and portable reel-to-reel tape recorder. The Kentucky Museum exhibit explores the musical successes of the talented 1950s musical group. Researching their story has been a wonderful adventure. Not only is this show an opportunity for the public to get to know the Hilltoppers–Jimmy Sacca, Don McGuire, Seymour Spiegelman, and Billy Vaughn–but also to enjoy a decade of American music and the 1950s teenage experience through fans like noted author Bobbie Ann Mason.

On October 26, 1952, the Hilltoppers appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show. This television appearance brought these four young men with Western Kentucky University ties into the homes of 30 million Americans. Promoted as college students in their "W" sweaters, beanies, gray flannel slacks, and white bucks, the Hilltoppers then performed on popular nationally syndicated television shows hosted by Perry Como, Patti Page, Kate Smith, Milton Berle, Steve Allen, Dick Clark, and Eddie Arnold. Twelve of their hits reached the Top Ten. Despite interruptions for military service, the

Hilltoppers kept their popularity with the American and British audiences, ranking No. 1 with the Juke Box Operators of America in the 1953 Cash Box poll. In 1955, Jimmy Sacca organized a Hilltoppers tour, during which the group performed at nightclubs, college events, and public openings across the United States, Canada, Great Britain, France, Germany, and Japan.

Remembering Our Hilltoppers

Thanks to the generosity of the Hilltoppers and their fans, this exhibit showcases wonderful memorabilia from the group's heyday. Items include a beanie, a "W"



Nostalgic fans will enjoy reminiscing about the popular 1950s musical group, the Hilltoppers, at the upcoming Kentucky Museum exhibit. "P.S. I Love You."

sweater, the tape recorder that first recorded "Trying," a tuxedo, a straw hat, newsletters, programs, publicity photographs, fans' snapshots, Bobbie Ann Mason's letters and spiral notebooks, ticket stubs, and records (45s, 78s and 33 LPs). Such nostalgic treasures transport us back to the days when teenagers swayed to Jimmy Sacca and the Hilltoppers in front of diner jukeboxes and black-and-white television sets. 3

Calendar

April 1 - April 30

Student Art Workshops, The Kentucky Museum. A Felts Log House tour will be followed by a small exhibit of hand-woven textiles and a textile design workshop demonstrating the design principle of pattern. Workshops are available on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. There is a limit of 30 students per workshop. For additional information or to sign up for a workshop, call Lynne Ferguson or Laura Harper Lee at the Kentucky Museum at Western Kentucky University, (270) 745-6082.

April 11 - 7:00 p.m.

Kentucky Live: "Duncan Hines: The Cake Man" (Jonathan Jeffrey, Kentucky Library), Barnes & Noble (1680) Campbell Lane). For additional information, visit the web site or call (270) 745-6111.

April 14 - 20

National Library Week 2002: Western Kentucky University Libraries & Kentucky Museum. Guest speakers, storytelling, and several more surprises. For additional information, see page 5.

April 15 - 18 - Monday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m. — 8:00 p.m.

Scholastic Book Fair: Educational Resources Center, 366 Tate Page Hall. Featuring children's and young adults' books for sale from Scholastic Books. Bring the family to browse and buy at everyone's favorite book fair! Call (270) 745-4552 for more information.

April 18 - 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Fifteenth Annual Western Authors Reception, Galleries K & L, Kentucky Building.



April 18 - 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Scotland. A "Far Away Places... With Strange Sounding Names" presentation,

sponsored by Coca Cola, at Barnes & Noble (1680 Campbell Lane). Offered by WKU Libraries. Call (270) 745-6115 for more information and to ensure seating.

April 19 - 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Southern Kentucky Festival of Books-School

Day Activities at the Sloan Convention Center, Bowling Green. Contact (270) 745-5263 or earlene.chelf@wku.edu.

April 20 - 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Southern Kentucky Festival of Books, at the Sloan Convention Center, Bowling Green. For more information, contact (270) 745-5263 or earlene.chelf@wku.edu.

April 25 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

BellSouth Community Internet Workshops:

Travel Web Sites (Brian Coutts, Library Public Services Dept.). Join us as we take you to exotic places and show you how to book reservations on the web. WKU South Campus, Carroll Knicely Conference Center, Room 116 (the computer lab). To register, contact (270) 745-6125 or web.reference@wku.edu.

May

May 1 - May 31

Student Art Workshops, The Kentucky Museum, A Kentucky Museum tour will be followed by a Scottish Heritage exhibition and a design workshop using mixed media to demonstrate the design principle of emphasis. Workshops are available on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. There is a limit of thirty students per workshop. For additional information or to sign up for a workshop, call Lynne Ferguson or Laura Harper Lee at the Kentucky Museum at Western Kentucky University, (270) 745-6082.

May 11 - 2:00 p.m.

"Hilltoppers" exhibit opening, The Kentucky Museum. For more information, call (270) 745-5263.

June

June 1 - 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Professional Development Session, The Kentucky Museum. This three-hour session will include hands-on activities for the classroom that encompass the design principles of pattern, balance and emphasis, using various world cultures. Cost: \$15.00. For additional information or to sign up for a workshop, call Lynne Ferguson or Laura Harper Lee, (270) 745-6082.

September

September 12 - 7:00 p.m.

Kentucky Live: "The World Through the Eyes of a Kentucky Artist" (Helen Crocker, Kentucky artist). Barnes & Noble (1680 Campbell Lane), For additional information, contact (270) 745-6111 or web.reference@wku.edu.

September 26 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. BellSouth Community Internet Workshops: Antiques and Collectibles (Sandy Staebell, Kentucky Museum). Learn how to research a family heirloom or your most recent flea market find. Suggestions will also be made on how to use the Internet to locate an appraiser or conservator, WKU South Campus, Carroll Knicely Conference Center, Room 116 (the computer lab). To register, contact, (270) 745-6125 or web.reference@wku.edu.

Don't Forget About the Kentucky Museum Store!

You'll find a great selection of Kentucky-made gifts for any occasion.



Tuesday - Saturday 9:30 - 4:00 Sunday 1:00 - 4:00 (Closed Monday)

(270) 745-6080

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Dr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Baird Barnes & Noble Booksellers **BGMU Electric Division** BGMU Water/Sewer Division Mr. and Mrs. Ray B. Buckberry, Jr. Dobson & Hatcher PSC Graves Gilbert Clinic Kentucky Trust Bank Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rodes Kirby Logan Aluminum, Inc. Hon. and Mrs. John Dean Minton, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. George Michael Murphy Scott Murphy and Daniel Sumitomo Electric Wiring Systems Weyerhaeuser Paper Company Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP

"The city as a center where, any day in any year, there may be a fresh encounter with a new talent, a keen mind, or a gifted specialist-this is essential to the life of a country. To play this role in our lives a city must have a soul-a university...as well as the libraries and museums and galleries that bring past and present together. A city must be a place where groups of women and men are seeking and developing the highest things they know. " Margaret Mead,

1901 - 1978, U.S. anthropologist



Famous-Barr Used Book Sale: Bargain hunters by the hundreds turned out to shop at the second annual Famous-Barr Used Book Sale. Feb. 15-17. Due to a huge increase in the number of books, CDs, and videos available for sale and an equally impressive turnout of buyers, the sale was extended to a second weekend. The event was an unqualified success, yielding \$17,258 to benefit the Southern Kentucky Festival of Books. Festival organizers are grateful to Famous-Barr CEO Jerald Manning and his staff for spearheading the project, to area media for outstanding promotion, and to everyone who donated or bought books.



Celebrating Reading Year Round: The Educational Resources Center (ERC), 366 Tate Page Hall, showcases reading all year long. "Guys Read" features books, videos, and audiobooks that are appealing to boys (and girls, too!). Titles are based on the suggestions of John Scieszka's website, www.guysread.com.



Women Author's Display: The University Libraries' Displays Committee featured "Women Authors in the 19th and 20th Centuries," in celebration of Women's History month in March. Displayed were symbolic representations of 9 women who unmistakably influenced public awareness of human rights, especially those of women through their writing.



'Well, let's go at it.'

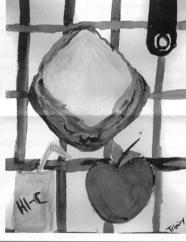
Cartoon Exhibit:

In October, the Kentucky Museum will exhibit 40 cartoons by WKU alumnus William "Whitey" Sanders. Sanders was an editorial cartoonist for 34 years. capturing the accomplishments. foibles, and faux pas of America's elected representatives. Exhibit sponsored by Firstar.





Photo by Sandy Staebell





New Glasgow Library: Glasgow's brand-new library at the South Regional Postsecondary Education Center now serves students who are part of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, as well as students registered at Western's extended campus in Glasgow.



WKU Friends of the Libraries & Friends of the Museum

Now you can access full-text journals and newspapers from your home or office computer using databases from WKU Libraries and the Kentucky Virtual Library. Contact the Reference Center at (270) 745-6125 or email web.reference@wku.edu for access instructions.



Visit the Kentucky Building without leaving home! www.wku.edu/Library/kentuckybuilding

Topics include

Diaries Exhibits

Letters

William H. Natcher

Photographs

Postcards

Posters

Steamboats and more

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Department of Library Special Collections
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A Letter from the WKU Libraries and Museum Development Director

Dear Friends of the Libraries and Museum,

As the newest member of the University Libraries and Kentucky Museum family, I am proud to represent and share our treasures with the campus community and region. Western Kentucky University Libraries served nearly 90,000 patrons last year, based on Circulation



records. The Library houses more than one half-million volumes and another million-plus in bound periodicals, serial subscriptions, government documents, and other materials. Special community programs include the BellSouth Community Internet Workshops; Far Away Places, sponsored by Coca Cola; the annual Southern Kentucky Festival of Books; and Kentucky Live! sponsored by Trace Die Cast of Bowling Green.

The Kentucky Building hosts 20,000 visitors per year and provides educational opportunities to more than 7,000 area schoolchildren annually. The Kentucky Library and Museum offer a variety of traveling, temporary, and permanent exhibits, and house a large collection of ephemera, books, manuscripts, and artifacts used for research and education. Special community educational programs include the Tour of Folk Music, sponsored by Pepsi Cola, and book discussions through the Landmark Association in conjunction with the Kentucky Humanities Council.

Libraries and museums are my natural passion. In college I served as a library student assistant and during vacations I assisted in the adult and children's areas of my local public library. When visiting new cities, I visit local museums to experience area history and culture.

Western has been home since 1998, with my husband, who is an alumnus. It has been my pleasure to work in various roles with Western's alumni, parents, friends, and students in the office of annual giving and alumni relations.

I welcome the opportunity to visit with you to share our visions and our challenges for the future. Please do not hesitate to contact me and inquire about opportunities for your involvement.

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