

# the Record

Vol. 60, No. 1 — Winter/Spring 2002

## FROM THE DIRECTOR *Donors Making a Difference*

Sometimes when one makes contributions to a non-profit or charitable organization, it's hard to tell whether the gift has a real impact. However, gifts to the WSU Libraries do make a real difference, regardless of their size. This issue of *The Record* recognizes the generous people who supported the WSU Libraries during 2001 through monetary contributions and gifts of materials.

These have enabled the Libraries to move forward in building depth in our collections and offering access to information in new ways.

Despite the increasing availability and growing popularity of e-books, the number of new titles published in print in the past year remained stable.

This continued to place great pressure on the Libraries' materials budget, which can support the purchase of only a small fraction of what is published. Thankfully, our ability to buy new materials was significantly increased through your donations to our endowed and expendable funds as well as your contributions of book and journal collections. Each item added to our collections extends the range of knowledge and thought from which WSU students and faculty can draw. Whether a gift enables us to purchase one book or many, it enriches the Libraries in supporting the entire WSU community.

The Libraries also benefited from your largesse by being better positioned to buy computer workstations and other equipment we need in order

to provide students and faculty with easy access to the databases and journals we license in electronic formats. One example of this is in the Owen Science and Engineering Library where we are planning to renovate the reference area. Thanks to Mrs. Owen and the gifts made to the Owen Library Endowment, we will be able to acquire all the hardware we need when we complete the renovation later this spring.

The faculty and staff of the WSU Libraries are most grateful for the support provided by our donors. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and loyalty. With your assistance, the WSU Libraries will continue to build strong research collections and deliver excellent services. Thank you!

— Virginia Steel  
Director of Libraries  
vsteel@wsu.edu; 509/335-4558



# Brief Notes from Manuscripts, Archives & Special Collections

MASC collections continue to grow thanks to several existing endowments and the support of our friends. Following are some highlights:

## Letter from Virginia Woolf



Dust jacket for novel *Love on Second Thoughts* by Berta Ruck

An exciting and noteworthy recent acquisition, to complement the MASC literary manuscript collections, is an unpublished letter from Virginia Woolf to a contemporary novelist, Berta Ruck. The typed letter—dated by hand “Xmas day” with a hand addressed envelope postmarked December 27, 1928—is signed in full, “Virginia Woolf.” In the letter, Woolf writes to Ruck that “I am more pleased than I can say that you survived my burial. Never will I attempt such a thing again. To think that you have bought my book!”

The “burial” refers to Woolf having used Ruck’s name in *Jacob’s Room*, with the minor change of adding an “h” to it (“Bertha Ruck”) and killing the character. Though Ruck initially considered a lawsuit, the authors, after exchanging letters, were reconciled.

In Quentin Bell’s biography of Virginia Woolf, he notes: “Somewhere Virginia must have seen that odd name and unconsciously distorted it a little, adding an h, an addition which did not save her from her lawyer’s letter pointing out that the real Berta was very much alive and inclined to be litigious on the subject of her literary extinction. ...Like Virginia she was married to a literary man, Oliver Onions, and it was he, indignant on his wife’s behalf, who refused to believe Virginia’s disarming reply to their solicitors’ letter: how could Mrs. Woolf never have heard of Berta Ruck, whose name and fame were emblazoned even on the tops of London

omnibuses? Fortunately his rage evaporated, and peace was made. ...When a year or so later at a Bloomsbury party, Berta Ruck gave a most spirited rendering of ‘Never allow a Sailor an inch above your knee’—a performance which filled Virginia with amazement and delight—all differences over tombstones had long been forgotten.”—C.f. p. 91-92

Woolf’s letter was acquired from Priscilla Juvelis Inc. in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and came with first editions of two Berta Ruck novels in their dust jackets, *Love on Second Thoughts* and *The Disturbing Charm*. This wonderful purchase was made with funds from the John and Mildred Bissinger MASC Excellence Endowment.

## The Merriam Collection

Don Merriam donated a collection of scrapbooks, photographs, and correspondence assembled by his mother, Florence Coardy Merriam. Florence Coardy Merriam moved to Pullman in 1945 when her husband Prof. W. B. Merriam accepted a position in the Geography Department. The collection documents her musical career as a concert singer and teacher, including service during W.W.II at Camp Adair. The copiously captioned photographs and scrapbooks provide a wonderfully detailed view of cultural life in Pullman between 1945 and 1962.



Happy Valentine’s Day photo 1944

## Additions to Three Existing Collections

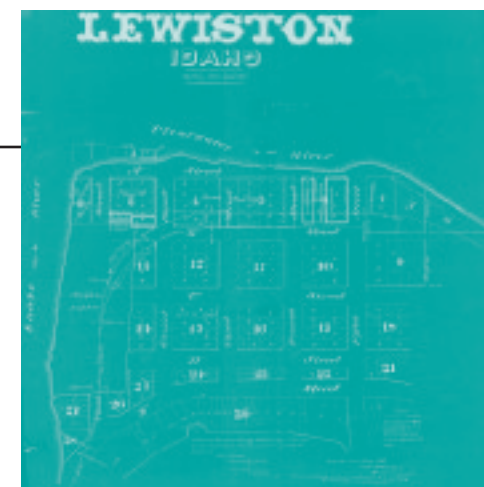
Ted Van Arsdol added photographs and documents relating to the Hells Canyon railroad survey to his grandfather’s (C. C. Van Arsdol) collection of papers, Cage 103. The gift also included Ted Van Arsdol’s histories of Hanford and Pasco as well as several early maps of Idaho and a group of blueprints drawn by C. C. Van Arsdol.

Mrs. Elizabeth Peck gave a stunning series of eight large photograph portraits, in addition to slides, and papers from her and her husband Charles’ 17-year stay with the Quileute people in Queets, Washington. The gift will nicely enhance the substantial Peck Collection of Northwest Coast Indian Life, 1958-1987, Cage 671. <http://www.wsulibs.wsu.edu/holland/masc/finders/peck.htm>

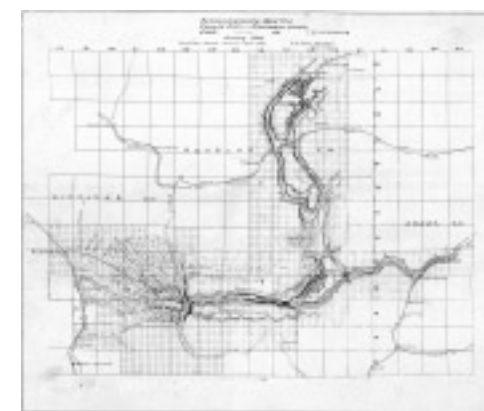
Susan and Mike Herron donated a beautiful collection of 11 hand-colored, titled and signed lithographs created by George Mathis. These lithographs illustrate the California Gold Rush Country, which George Mathis prepared for use on a 13-month calendar (2 of the lithographs were sold prior to donation). The eleven lithographs were added to the existing George Mathis Photo and Art Collection, Series VI, PC 90. <http://www.wsulibs.wsu.edu/holland/masc/finders/mathi.htm>



Howard Logan and Elmer McBride baking salmon at the Teen Center Dedication at Queets, WA., May 19, 1973. Photo by Charles Peck.



Blueprint of Lewiston, Idaho



Map of the Columbia River 1900

## Dryfoos Motorcycle Collection

Anyone who isn’t already a motorcycle enthusiast may well be after perusing the collection of motorcycle books given to the WSU Libraries by Walter G. Dryfoos in 2001. The books, collected over the past 30 years, are indicative of Walt’s passion for motorcycles. And when he wasn’t riding one, Walt was collecting highly illustrated and informative books about his avocation. The donated collection, numbering some thirty-four items, includes a 22-volume set entitled, *The World of Motorcycles: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*. WSU may be the only U.S. library to own this unusual set. Many of the books are out-of-print and several focus on Walt’s favorite motorcycle brand, Harley-Davidson.

Walt Dryfoos had a special relationship with the Libraries before making this gift, having worked as the Libraries’ first Development Officer (a quarter-time appointment) from January 1995-June 1997. During his eleven and a half years at Washington State University, Walt held several development positions, his last being Executive Director of Annual Giving Programs and Advancement Services. Walt left WSU at the end of March 2002 to assume the position of Associate Vice President for Advancement Services at the University of Washington. Our thanks and best wishes go with him, his wife Barbara, and his son David.

The Dryfoos motorcycle collection will significantly enhance the Libraries’ coverage in this area. The books in the collection may be checked out and enjoyed, but will be afforded the extra security provided by locked storage in Holland/New Library. Sharing his love of motorcycles motivated Walt to give his collection to the Libraries. These highly collectible and visually striking books will create fantasies of the ultimate road trip in the mind of even the most dedicated student. And with summer not far away, the fantasy could become reality. That’s probably what Walt was hoping!



Walt and David Dryfoos and their Hogs.

## Architecture Library collections

The Architecture Library staff were pleased to receive two large collections of books from WSU alumni in 2001. One collection was donated by Robert M. McConnell (Class of 1952), FAIA, Dean Emeritus, College of Architecture, University of Arizona. The other collection was a gift of Phillip Jacobson (Class of 1952), FAIA, AICP, retired principal of TRA Architects, Seattle. Phillip and Effie Jacobson also donate annually for the purchase of materials related to Scandinavian architecture and design. Also of note, the Architecture Library recently made significant purchases thanks to the School of Architecture Endowed Library Fund, which was established in 1994 to provide additional funds to purchase materials for the Architecture Library “...in an effort to ensure diverse and current resource materials for students within the School of Architecture and Construction Management.” Gordon Ruehl, retired principal of Integrus Architecture (Spokane), spearheaded the effort to create this Fund, and generous donations have come from alumni and firms across the Northwest. The most recent acquisitions made possible by this Fund include important books on the theory of architecture, Dutch architecture, and monographs on young architects.



## Welcome Diamond Grads and Golden Grads!

The Holland/New Library welcomes the Class of 1942 and the Class of 1952 reunion participants with a number of special library events. Please join us on April 24 from 2:00-4:00 and April 25 from 1:00-3:00 for special hands-on demonstrations of book making/binding/mending in the Atrium; tours of the Holland/New Library; demonstrations of an exciting array of electronic resources; and fun exhibits in the exhibit case, in the Atrium, and in Manuscripts, Archives and Special Collections.

## The 2001 Honor Roll of Donors

The Honor Roll of Donors recognizes friends of the Libraries from January 1 to December 31, 2001. Absent from the list are the names of many loyal supporters who have made gifts of library material and the names of anonymous donors, all of whom we thank as fully

as we do those whose names are listed below. We sincerely value the support and generosity of all our friends. If your name was inadvertently omitted or improperly reported, please contact Nancy Spitzer, 509-335-4558, or wagnern@wsu.edu.

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Kenneth & Terri Crowley  
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Seth Cutler  
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Charles Davis  
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Jerry & Elizabeth Julum  
Jay & Mariann Kallaher  
Ronald & Susan Kathren  
Kenton Keatts



*Call-A-Coug students telephoned WSU alums on Feb. 19-21, 2001 with a main goal of increasing the Owen Science and Engineering Library Endowment Fund. The Call-A-Coug program provides an opportunity for alumni and friends to communicate with student representatives of WSU. Whether an individual call results in a pledge for the Libraries or not, we hope that alums and friends feel and maintain a kinship with the larger WSU community.*

## Frances Penrose Owen

We are saddened by the passing of a woman who was very special to the WSU Libraries. Frances Penrose Owen, the namesake of the Frances Penrose Owen Science and Engineering Library, died in Seattle on March 9. Mrs. Owen had celebrated her 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday on February 16, 2002.

A native of Walla Walla, Frances Penrose Owen was involved with education, civic, church and charitable affairs throughout her life. She graduated magna cum laude from Whitman College, where her father, Stephen B.L. Penrose, was president for four decades. She did graduate work at Bryn Mawr and received a master of education degree from Harvard.

Mrs. Owen had the distinction of being the first woman appointed to the WSU Board of Regents, serving from 1957-1975. She served as president of the Board of Regents for two terms and remained the sole woman Board member during her 18 year tenure. Mrs. Owen was also a 22 year member and 4-time president of the Seattle School Board, and was president of both the Association of Governing Boards of Colleges and Universities and the Association of Washington School Directors. In 1991 she received the Medal of Merit, the state of Washington's highest award. In the ceremony held in Olympia during a joint session of the state legislature, Mrs. Owen reminded lawmakers and others assembled in the House chambers that with

Washington geographically divided by the Cascades, it is important to be a citizen of the entire state. Mrs. Owen's life work on behalf of both eastern and western Washington certainly epitomized the ideal of being a true citizen of the entire state.

We are indebted to Mrs. Owen for her dedication to education in the State of Washington and for her generous support for the Frances Penrose Owen Science and Engineering Library. The Owen Science and Engineering Library Endowment Fund (a substantial portion of which was donated by Mrs. Owen) enables us to provide a special level of excellence in library services and collections for our students, faculty, and staff in the College of Agriculture & Home Economics, the College of Sciences, and the College of Engineering & Architecture, as well as meeting the general scientific literacy needs of all WSU personnel. All of us at the Washington State University Libraries extend our condolences to her family and friends.



Frances Penrose Owen

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\*Deceased

SPRING EXHIBITS AT HOLLAND/NEW LIBRARY

Through Mar 31	"A Century of Graduate Education at Washington State University" (MASC exhibit)
Mar 7-24	A Women's Studies Dept. exhibit celebrating Women's History Month (exhibit case)
Mar 13-May 12	"Graduate Women of Washington State University" (a large photographic exhibit in the Atrium)
Mar 25-Apr 7	An exhibit by the India Students Association (exhibit case)
Apr 1-May 31	"Challenging the Advice of 'experts'...Fashionable Plus-size Women's Apparel" (MASC exhibit)
Apr 8-21	National Library Week exhibit honoring graduate education (exhibit case)
Apr 22-May 12	A nostalgic exhibit for the Class of 1942 & Class of 1952 (exhibit case)

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The WSU Libraries

<http://www.wsulibs.wsu.edu>

- ◆ Ernest O. Holland/New Library
- ◆ Architecture Library
- ◆ George Brain Education Library
- ◆ Frances P. Owen Science & Engineering Library
- ◆ Health Sciences Library
- ◆ George Fischer Agricultural Sciences Library
- ◆ WSU Tri-Cities Consolidated Libraries
- ◆ WSU Vancouver Library
- ◆ Consolidated Academic Library Services (CALs), WSU Spokane
- ◆ Betty M. Anderson Library, Intercollegiate College of Nursing, Sp
- ◆ WSU Energy Program Library, Olympia

