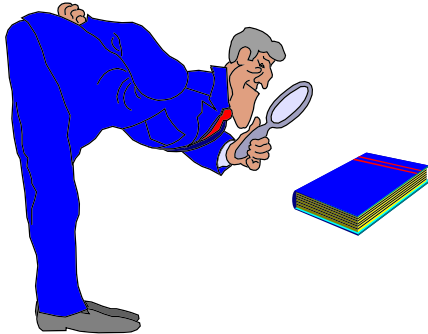




staff news

Issue 68

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Conservators Attend Bookbinding Conference

Peter Verheyen and Donia Conn attended the Guild of Bookworkers Standards of Excellence Conference in Alexandria, Virginia on October 5 and 6. Peter was one of four presenters. His session dealt with Vellum-over-boards binding and was very well received.

Along with Peter's presentation, Donia attended sessions concerning topics such as Techniques in Decorating with Leather, Page Design and Paste Papers, and Studies in Early Medieval Bookbindings. Donia attended the conference on a Guild of Bookworkers merit scholarship.

Donia Conn, Special Collections Department

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United Way Event Update

The United Way bowling party on October 6 was a great success. As usual, we had a big turnout from the library. Technical Services, the Library branches and Public Services were represented. Children, spouses, and grandchildren also joined in the fun to raise \$170 for the United Way. Thanks to all who supported and donated to this very worthy cause.

This year the United Way Team would like to expand the very successful auction we did last year. We know that there are many talented artists among us, so we would like to have a silent auction just for artwork. The team is calling all artists to consider contributing paintings, drawing, photographs, quilts, pottery ... whatever your passion is ... to our silent auction.

We will also have the 25¢ auction that we held last year. Please gather your white elephants and other goodies for the auction. It was really a blast last year. Both auctions will be held on November 14. Items will be on display in the 1916 Room on November 13 and 14. Contact any member of the United Way Team if you would like to contribute. Thanks!

Dorcas MacDonald and the United Way Team

Library Staff Help Launch Forums on Global Response to Terrorism

October 4 saw the first in a semester-long series of SU forums designed to reflect on events connected to the terrorist attacks of September 11. A website has been created in support of this series and is available as a link off the Library's homepage. A wide cross-section of Library staff, along with faculty from a variety of departments, took part in assembling this resource for the Syracuse University community.

The schedule of topics for upcoming forums follows.

October 25: US Foreign Policy in the Middle East: Is This the Key to Peace?

November 1: A Primer on Biological Terrorism

November 8: Protecting Both Civil Liberties and National Security: Striking a Balance

Michael Pasqualoni, Reference Department

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Peer to Peer Dialog Announces November Plans

On October 3 the Peer to Peer Group met to discuss Nickolson Baker's book *Double Fold: Libraries and the Assault on Paper*. In his book, Baker charges that librarians have systematically deprived future generations of irreplaceable resources through the microfilming process and have been lying, and continue to lie, about the fragility of paper. Marty Hanson explained that the Preservation Department is very conservative in its microfilming of books. Discussion focused on issues including the value of mass deacidification and conservation methods.

Our next Peer to Peer Library Dialog is scheduled for Wednesday, November 7 at 12:30 p.m. in the 1916 Room of E.S. Bird Library. Feel free to bring your lunch. Refreshments will be served. Our topic for discussion will be the "One Book One City Concept; everyone reads the same book at the same time." Our guest and lead facilitator for the discussion will be Heidi Holtz, Director of Communications and Special Events, Syracuse Stage, and adjunct faculty here at SU. Ms. Holtz has been most instrumental in bringing this one-book-for-all program to Syracuse and will be sharing ideas and suggestions with us about how we at SUL can participate and help promote the Syracuse citywide read initiative to students, faculty and staff.

Sarah Theimer, Bibliographic Services Division

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In Brief

... news about our staff



Take a look at SUL's multi-talented staff members.

Baldwinsville Theatre Guild Presents *BOO*

13 scenes from Halloween - one weekend only

The Baldwinsville Theatre Guild presentation gives families a really fun Halloween treat that is different from a haunted house or a hayride that everyone aged 8 to 80 can enjoy.

The first act is a string of 12 short Halloween sketches that runs from a lighthearted scene about a wife who tells too many knock-knock jokes to an overly ambitious grave digger looking to permanently replace his predecessor. **Jan Coombs** plays a nosy, menacing neighbor in scene 5, "A little Blackmail."

The second act is a mini-thriller with a twist ending. It involves a cursed picture frame bought by a couple who then place their daughter's picture in it. It will remind you very much of an old radio show.

There will be two intermissions with activities for kids. The first intermission features a costume contest, and the second includes a mummy-wrapping contest and pumpkin carolling. Refreshments will be available at intermissions.

Tickets will be sold at the door and Jan has 20 tickets available in the Preservation Department if you don't want to wait. Twenty is the ticket sales goal for all cast and crew. Help her reach her goal! Tickets are good for any show - Friday, October 26 at 7:00 pm; Saturday, October 27 at 2:00 pm or 7:00 pm; or on Sunday, October 28 at 2:00 pm. Youth (6-12) tickets are \$5. Adults (13-59) are \$7. There is no admission fee for children under 5 and seniors 60 and over.

The theatre is temporarily located in the old Dollar Store in Tri-County Mall, Baldwinsville, which was transformed for a very successful run of *Nonsense II* in March. The Guild is also in the early stages of planning for a Community Performing Arts Center. For more information, please visit www.baldwinsvilletheatreguild.org. Thanks for your support and we hope to see you at the show!

Jan Coombs, Preservation Department

OCC Hosts Onondaga Civic Symphony

Dorcas MacDonald will be playing with the Onondaga Civic Symphony Orchestra at Onondaga Community College. The concert will be held at 8:00 pm in Storer Auditorium on Monday, November 5. Parking is available in NW4. The orchestra will play Mendelssohn's *Violin Concerto*, featuring soloist Sarah Crocker, Schubert's: *Symphony #3 "Unfinished,"* Berlioz' *Hungarian March* from *The Damnation of Faust*, Rossini's *Overture to L'Italiana in Algieri*. The suggested donation is \$5.00. Students attend free. Please join us.

Dorcas MacDonald, Interlibrary Loan

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Syracuse Vocal Ensemble Concert Scheduled

Pamela McLaughlin, a member of the Syracuse Vocal Ensemble, announces SVE's first concert of the season, *Madrigals Old and New* on Saturday, October 27, 2001 at 7:30 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church, 140 Swansea Drive, Syracuse (adjacent to Shop City). The program contrasts early Italian and English works by Marenzio, Gesualdo, Morley, Weelkes, Farmer, Monteverdi and others, with two contemporary sets by American composers Edwin Fissinger and Morten Lauridsen. More about the program and the group is available at <http://www.syracusevocalensemble.org/sve/>.

Returning to the Syracuse Vocal Ensemble as a guest conductor for two concerts is Dr. G. Roberts Kolb, Director of Choirs and Professor of Music at Hamilton College. Dr. Kolb was SVE's regular conductor for several years in the early and mid-nineties (and a wonderful person, too!). He has selected an interesting, challenging program. Tickets are available from Pamela or at the door for \$12 each, \$10 for students and seniors.

Pamela McLaughlin, Access and Digital Services Division

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Personnel News

Daniel Neville, Library Assistant, started in the Maps and Government Information Department on October 18.

The Library is very pleased to announce the appointment of **Denise Stephens** as Associate University Librarian for Public Services, effective January 14, 2002. She will fill the position vacated by Carol Parke's retirement early this year.

Denise Stephens said, "It is an honor to join the talented and dedicated staff of the Syracuse University Library. I am impressed with the Library's forward momentum and its focus on meaningful client services at a time of continuous change. With great excitement, I look forward to working with my new colleagues and partners."

Denise Stephens is presently the Head of the Anschutz Library in the University of Kansas Libraries system, responsible for merging two distinct libraries into a single integrated entity in a new building. For the previous five years she was at the University of Virginia. She has also had several years of front-line experience at the University of Oklahoma library in Norman, Oklahoma, her home state.

It is with pleasure that SUL announces that **Marie Swearingen** has been appointed interim supervisor of the E.S. Bird Library Reserves/Current Periodicals unit, effective November 15, 2001. She will move to Reserves on October 16 to spend time in the unit prior to Ella Hannah's retirement, learning the operation and getting to know the staff. With Marie's departure, Empire Express activities and student assistants will be incorporated into Interlibrary Loan.

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West and Into the Nest

Since his arrival last August, so seamlessly has Special Collections Librarian Kenneth Lavender integrated himself into the Department, that it's almost as if he's been here forever. Perhaps, then, the Special Collections staff can be pardoned this too-long neglected introduction to the rest of the Library. In any event, our failure to extend the usual courtesies should not signal our lack of enthusiasm for Ken's arrival. In fact, we're delighted he's joined us.

Equipped with a Ph.D. in English from the University of California at Santa Barbara, an M.S. in Library Science from the University of Illinois, twenty years of curatorial experience at the University of North Texas at Denton, and extensive training in rare book conservation and preservation techniques, this "new kid on the block" is anything but a stranger to archival work. Ken also brings knowledge of French and Latin, a wide range of teaching experience in both literature and librarianship, and an impressive list of publications on topics that include preservation, Frederic Remington, and the portrayal in literature and art of military experience in World War II.

To the joy of his colleagues, Ken also has considerable experience with Library exhibitions. During a fifteen-year span, he curated exhibitions on Victorian bookbinding; research resources in Latin America; pop-up and movable books; wood, metal, and stone engraving in the printed arts; Pueblo Indian painting and pottery; fashion and costume research resources; documents, books and artifacts of the Civil War; rare maps of the Southwest; and representations of natural history in rare books. And if you think this eclectic scholar is probably a Luddite, you'll be surprised to learn that, in his spare time, Ken has mastered a number of computer applications to create graphic delights in the form of greeting cards, invitations, and keepsakes suitable for distribution to donors and friends of the Library.

Following Terry Keenan's departure, the Special Collections staff was particularly alarmed by the prospect of a diminution of our visibility on campus. Terry had expended considerable effort exposing faculty and students to the treasures of Special Collections, and suddenly, with the loss of our "teacher," the department faced an abrupt backslide in the progress that had been made in

local outreach. Yet, while the depth and diversity of Special Collections represent to most newcomers a formidably slow (if delightful) learning curve, Ken has impressively negotiated our manuscript and rare book stacks with both enthusiasm and aplomb. A soft-spoken natural teacher with an impressive range of knowledge, Ken has not only taught more than thirty classes, but has also brought to the Special Collections staff new insights and appreciation for the bounties in our back-yard.

Ken resides in Jamesville with his partner and two three-year old cats, Sophie and Darwin. Frequent visits from the local fauna indicate that Ken has fit into his new domestic landscape as easily as he has been assimilated into his new workplace. Please join us in this overdue welcome.

Kathleen Manwaring, Special Collections

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Sarah Morgan to Manage Library Publications

Sarah Morgan is one of the young, new faces at the Syracuse University Library. Sarah is assuming responsibility for Library publications until a permanent communications coordinator is hired. She can be reached at x 2130 and is located on the sixth floor in Mary Beth Hinton's old office.

When asked about herself, Sarah mentioned that she is a Central New Yorker who grew up in Clinton, New York, and graduated in 1999 from Cornell University where she studied music and government. This summer she relocated to the Syracuse area from Manhattan, where she had been working as an editorial assistant, to attend the MLS program at IST. She is in her first semester of full-time study.

Sarah lives in Cazenovia with her mother, stepfather, three siblings, three guinea pigs, and one fish. Sarah noted that she is happy to be working on the Library Connection and other Library publications because they bridge her previous professional experience with current coursework.



Oldenkamp is SUL's First Graduate Assistant

Now calling the Reference Department home is David Oldenkamp, the library's first graduate assistant. David will be in E.S. Bird as he works toward his MLS from the School of Information Studies. David graduated from John Brown University (named after a lay minister in the Salvation Army, not the fiery abolitionist) in Siloam Springs, Arkansas. Choosing JBU proved to have unexpected benefits for David. Since, in his words, there was *NOTHING* to do in Siloam Springs, he completed three bachelor's degrees in 4 ½ years, earning a BS in Broadcasting, a BA in Intercultural Studies, and another in History while working in the college library for 3 ½ years. After graduation, David moved to Oklahoma where he continued his budding library career working at Tulsa's public library as a librarian assistant while he scraped together enough to apply to graduate school.

To the question "Why Syracuse University?", David responds that SU accepted him and he was tired of living in the south. Southern conservatism had left him feeling a little chafed, making Syracuse more appealing. Coming from a family that changed states frequently, moving on seemed the natural thing to do. As for the graduate assistantship, it was a nice bonus that he wasn't expecting. Hopefully it will be a nice bonus for the Library and the School of Information Studies as well. According to Elaine Coppola, head of the Reference Department, "The Library is working to develop more partnerships with the School of Information Studies and to play an even more active role in preparing students for the library profession. A graduate assistantship is an excellent way for a student to participate in the library profession while working on an MLS degree. In addition, the Library benefits from the student's fresh perspective, enthusiasm, and developing skills. We in the Reference Department are delighted to have David Oldenkamp as part of our team."

What's it like being the library's first GA? "Well, I didn't realize I was going to be the first one," David says. "I'm still trying to figure out what a GA is supposed to do. But Kelly Hovendick is my mentor, and I've worked with Tasha Cooper on a project for CDRS. Collaborative Digital Reference Service is a pilot project of the Library of Congress in which the Reference Department is participating. (For more information, visit the LOC web site at <http://www.loc.gov/rr/digiref/>) I have hours on the Reference Desk and when the web chat reference project gets underway, I'll be working on that as well."

David's plans for the future are international in scope. Although it would be practical to spend some time working in a corporate library to pay down his student loan debt, he would like to be involved in information access in Central or South America. Particularly tantalizing is the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's grant to provide Internet access to the Chilean



public. (Check the Foundation web site at <http://www.gatesfoundation.org/pressroom/default.asp>). With David's interest in the history of the colonization and development of Latin America, helping to close the digital divide in Chile is an attractive prospect. Then there is the unique excitement of unfamiliar territory, a repeating theme in David's life from his hobbies (mountain biking and world literature), to the time he spent living in a girls' dorm at an all-girl Catholic college. Welcome, David, and here's to the unexplored territory ahead.

Darle Wright Doran, Reference Department

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Don't Try This at Home!

Kathleen Manwaring thought staff members might be amused by the Halloween advice that she uncovered in an 1826 publication, *Select Collection of Valuable and Curious Arts, and Interesting Experiments, Which are Well Explained and Warranted Genuine, and May be Performed Easily, Safely, and at Little Expense*. Kathleen strongly suggests that no one try it, just enjoy the curiosity.

87. TO MAKE A PERSON'S FACE APPEAR LUMINOUS IN THE DARK. - Prepare some phosphorized oil, (as directed 27.) and rub it over face. This oil, though it appears luminous in the dark, has not power to burn any thing, so that it may be rubbed on the face or hands without danger; and the appearance thereby produced, is most hideously frightful. All the parts of the face that have been rubbed, appear to be covered with a luminous bluish flame, and the mouth and eyes appear as black spots. — The luminous appearance may also be repeatedly heightened, by the friction of a handkerchief, being rubbed over the luminous part.

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Please send material for the next *Staff News* by Thurs., Nov. 1, 2001 to the editor at 219 E.S. Bird Library.

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