

The Thomas Cooper Society serves as a volunteer support organization for the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections.



Pat Conroy and Richard Smith

## *In this issue*

The Pat Conroy Archive	1
Report of the President	2
Student Book Collecting Award	2
The Elmore Leonard Archive	3
Why I'm a Member	3
The World in 1914	4
The Book as Art	4
Meet Robert Smith	5
Now Online	5
Meet Jessica Crouch	6
Collectors' Group	7
Calendar	8

**Irvin Department** of Rare Books  
and Special Collections

## ***The Pat Conroy Archive***

# **Donor's generosity is a family tradition**

**T**he Pat Conroy Archive is now at home in the University Libraries thanks to Dorothy Brown Smith, a woman whose quiet strength and generosity continues to run strong throughout the generations of her family.

"She always encouraged us to really get involved, and she set the example by giving her time and money to so many groups," said Richard Smith, one of her three sons. After she passed away in October 2012, her family created The Dorothy Brown Smith Family Fund for the Pat Conroy Archive at the University of South Carolina.

"My mother believed in the value of education and the central role a library plays," said Richard Smith. "She enjoyed reading and literature. And she loved the work of Pat Conroy. She even met him and had lunch with him several years ago. I don't think we could have done anything better to honor her. The Conroy Archive is a gift from the Smith family in honor of my mother. Everyone was involved in the decision, even our two daughters and our two nieces. It shouldn't stop with us. We're passing it on to the next generation."

*Cont. on page 6*



Donors Richard and Novelle Smith

# Report of the President

By Lynn Robertson

*Thomas Cooper Society President, 2014-15*

It is an honor to assume the presidency of the Thomas Cooper Society. I remember the founding of the Society and have looked at the succeeding presidents with admiration, never thinking that I would one day hold this office. I am reminded of the oft-cited observation of Bernard of Chartres in the 12th century: “I am but a puny dwarf perched on the shoulders of giants.”

One of those giants on whom I am perching is immediate past president Ardis Savory. I look forward to continuing the many significant initiatives started under her watch. The mission of the Society, as approved



at the annual meeting, is now fully focused on supporting the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. Dean of Libraries, Tom McNally, engaged us in a long-term project to establish a gallery for the department’s outstanding natural history collections and five Board members assisted with the first step toward that goal, the conservation of the 435 engravings of John Audubon’s *Birds of America*.

We are also continuing to expand the ways in which area teachers and students use library resources. The pilot project with Dreher High School was successfully initiated last year and will continue to grow in the coming one.

There are also some new and exciting initiatives. A collectors group within the membership has just been launched. It will provide educational and social opportunities to learn more about collecting and collectors. Probably the most immediately noticeable change is in your hands. It is the new design for our newsletter. What better way to communicate the look and feel of Society events, and Irvin Department holdings, than color?

In closing I will return to my giants and dwarf metaphor and acknowledge the huge presence of the Libraries’ staff, and in particular Elizabeth Sudduth, in helping to make the work of the Society both easy and meaningful.

## Student award announced

Congratulations, Drew DeLorenzo! How did he top an appearance on *Antiques Roadshow*? By winning the 2014 Thomas Cooper Library Student Book Collecting Contest. His “Illustrated Editions of the 19th and 20th Centuries” documented changes in the illustrated book and in book design during the Industrial Age. The collection shows careful attention to the aesthetics of book production and includes several signed and limited editions. One book from his collection was featured on the PBS show *Antiques Roadshow* earlier this season. “We are quite proud of Drew,” said Department Director Elizabeth



Sudduth. “He began working in the Irvin Department in his sophomore year after he asked about working with

the department’s natural history collection. He graduated in May as a marine science and biochemistry

double major. He is now pursuing a Ph.D. in chemical engineering at Washington University.”



# Elmore Leonard Archive announced

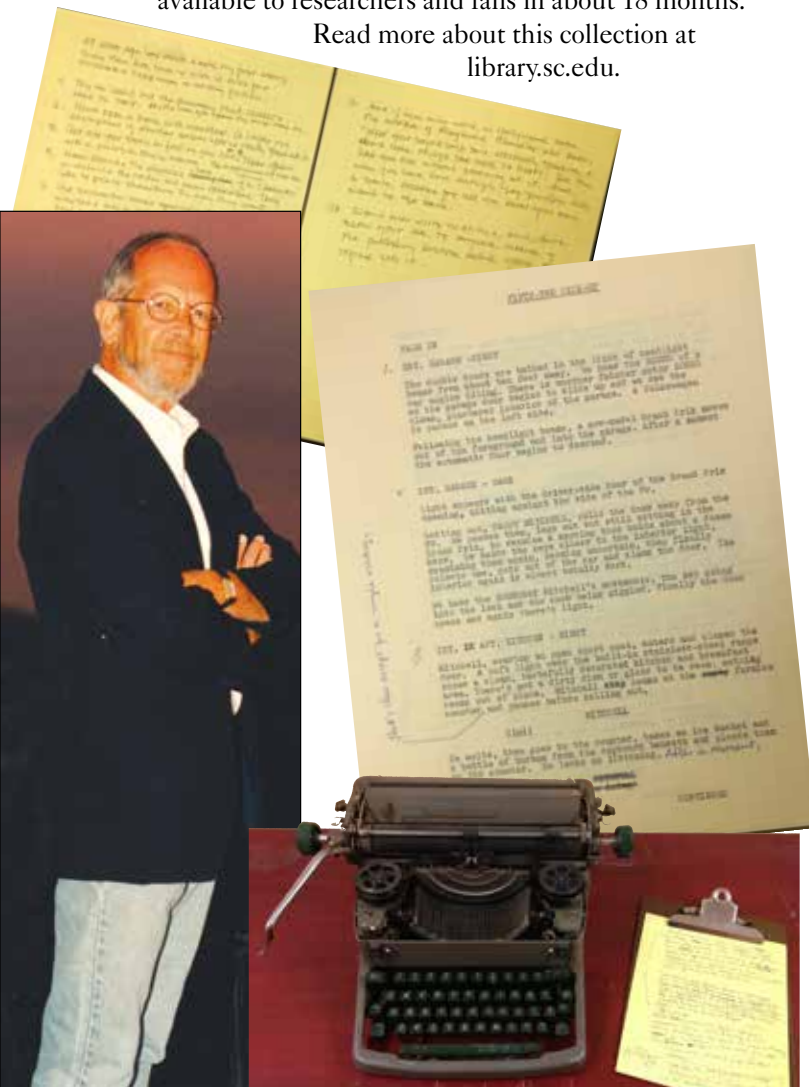
The Elmore Leonard Collection now resides in the Irvin Department, as announced during a media event on October 15. The prolific “master of American crime fiction” was the author of 45 novels and numerous short stories and magazine articles. Many of his writings were made into movies, including the novels *Get Shorty* and *Hombre*, and the short story “Three-ten to Yuma.”

A friend of the USC Libraries, Leonard (1925 - 2013) spoke at the Hollings Library and received the Thomas Cooper Medal just months before he died.

The complete Leonard archive includes more than 450 drafts of manuscripts, short stories and screenplays, typed on his signature yellow paper. It features all of his 45 novels, magazine pieces, appointment books, extensive research files, letters, photographs, director’s chairs from movie sets, the National Book Foundation award for distinguished contribution to American letters, as well as his desk and typewriters. There are even a few of his iconic Hawaiian shirts and a pair of sneakers. In all, the collection includes 150 boxes holding 2,400 linear feet of documents.

The full collection is being archived and will be available to researchers and fans in about 18 months.

Read more about this collection at [library.sc.edu](http://library.sc.edu).

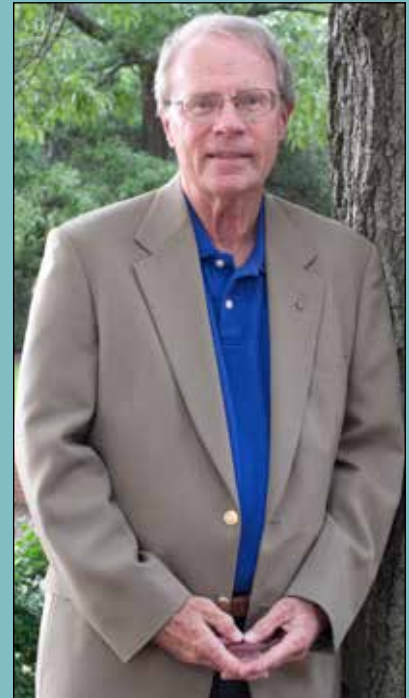


# “Why I’m a member”

“The University of South Carolina is well known for its athletic programs and for the many fine academic departments that are well respected by other universities across the country. Perhaps not so well known are the University Libraries. They are also considered to be excellent resources for faculty, students and researchers from around the world.”

By Rodger Stroup

The Thomas Cooper Society was established in 1990 and is a volunteer support organization for the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. The Society encourages community interest in the department and promotes a fuller understanding of its programs, purpose and potential. By volunteering at events and encouraging gifts and donations, the Society supports the further development of the collections of the Irvin Department and works to promote awareness of the Department’s holdings.



After receiving a Ph.D. from the University, I spent the next 35 years working in the public history arena in Columbia and stayed loosely connected to the University Libraries. When I was asked to join the board of the Society two years ago, I saw it as an opportunity to reconnect with the University Libraries and learn more about current activities.

The past two years have been an eye-opener! I continue to be amazed at the depth of the Irvin Department’s resources, the breadth of the programs offered by the Libraries, and the scope of acquisitions that are now housed in the Hollings Library.

# “THE WORLD IN 1914”

By Jeffrey Makala  
*Librarian for Instruction and Outreach*  
*Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections*

In the spring of 1914, the possibility of a global war centered in the European continent was practically nonexistent. Each major European power had domestic issues to contend with that were far more pressing.



*Jeffrey Makala talks with students.*

Great Britain in 1914 was on the verge of civil war. A growing insurrection of Protestants in Northern Ireland rebelled against the government’s proposed adoption of Irish Home Rule from Dublin. This led to the mobilization of 100,000 Ulster volunteers ready to take up arms against their countrymen – and the British civil authorities in Northern Ireland – in order to forcibly remain governed from London. In London and other major English cities, numerous incidents of direct action (or domestic terrorism) by militant suffragists had police and government officials on edge. Activists entered the National Gallery and Royal Academy on multiple occasions to slash paintings in protest against the treatment of their fellow suffragists in prison. Later that spring, they planted bombs in Westminster Abbey, in railway stations, piers, sports pavilions, and churches.

In France, Jean Juarès, the most prominent anti-war socialist in Europe, narrowly missed being appointed foreign minister in July. Had this happened, later that summer France may have delayed the war by leading a group of nations to



## The book as art



A number of hand-crafted books have been added to the Donna Sorensen Endowment for Southern Women in the Arts at University Libraries. Clockwise from left: *Cause and Effect* (2009) by Jessica Peterson, is about a race riot in Peterson’s hometown of Rochester, New York, and how it changed

everything in that town thereafter. *God Created The Sea and Painted It Blue So We’d Feel Good On It* (2013) is a boxed, 3-D seascape by Michelle Ray. *The High Road* (2011) by Suzanne Sawyer presents, accordion-style, text and art about the Blue Ridge Parkway. *Lugubrious Distance* (2013) by Ellen Knudson tells of the author’s time

spent in North Carolina, with sections entitled, “June Bugs,” “Honeysuckle,” and “Heat.” *A Natural History of Believability/The Believability of Natural History* (2012), also by Michelle Ray, is a brief, illustrated essay about how things such as taxidermy and ornithological prints shape our relationship to the natural world.



appease Germany to prevent its invasion of Belgium. Juarès was assassinated by a French nationalist later that month as he prepared to join a congress of The International to prevent the coming war.

Mexico was already in the midst of revolution. The United States government had at first armed Mexican peasants coalescing under Pancho Villa in their uprising, the only time the United States actively supported a popular revolution in Latin America. The Mexican

situation was also of great interest to the major European powers, as access to Mexican coal and other products were of vital importance. In a headline from the summer of 1914, an American magazine asked, in language that echoes contemporary foreign policy, “What Are We Doing in Mexico?”.

This exhibition looks at many of these events in an attempt to understand the world situation one hundred years ago. With modern advances in technology and the arts, the year 1914 can seem very similar to today. Yet the world in 1914 was also at the height of imperial domination by a small number of global powers, and irretrievably bound by soon-to-be-obsolete 19th-century traditions.

The exhibition also looks at the mixed feelings of nationalistic excitement and hesitation that arose out of the declarations of war in August. It shows the first mobilizations and traces the first months of the war in Europe, culminating with the “Christmas Truce” and the realization in December 1914 that the troops would not be coming home anytime soon.



Above: Even the women volunteered for defense when England's shores were menaced.



Left: Satirical caricature of a suffragette planting a bomb outside of a church, from Punch

**In the Gallery...**

**“THE WORLD IN 1914”**

On display through December 12  
Irvin Department of Rare Books and  
Special Collections Gallery • Hollings Library

For a schedule of special events and talks for  
this exhibit, visit [library.sc.edu](http://library.sc.edu).

**Meet Robert Smith**



If you have attended an event at the Hollings Library recently, you will recognize Robert Smith, the new building manager.

“My primary responsibilities are to coordinate the management of the building

and the stacks and to provide access,” he said. “For events, I am the liaison between Hollings Library and the event sponsor. Facilitating all audio and video services, including photography and videography, is also among my duties.”

Smith has worked on a number of special projects, including coordinating the packing and shipment of collections. In March, he was a member of the team that brought the Pat Conroy Archive to Hollings Library. He is currently processing the papers of Dr. William R. Stanley, a retired professor emeritus of geography whose focus is on Africa.

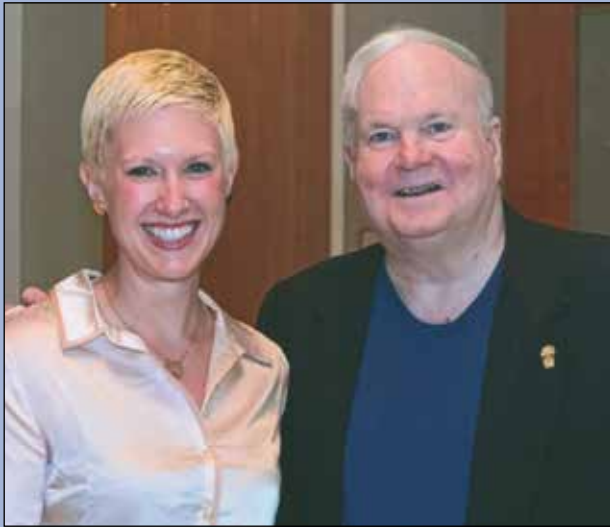
Smith has a master’s degree in library science from the USC School of Library and Information Science, and a bachelor’s degree of liberal studies in history and English from USC Lancaster. An avid bibliophile, Smith won the 2012 Thomas Cooper Library Student Book Collecting Contest for his “Historical Radio Book Collection.”

**Now online:  
The Osman Collection**



The John and Mary Osman Braun and Hogenberg Collection, which includes more than 400 hand-colored maps from the 16th and 17th centuries, was made accessible with support from the Maners-Pappas Endowment and the hard work of our graduate student employees. For more about these beautiful maps, visit [library.sc.edu](http://library.sc.edu).

# Meet Jessica Crouch



*Jessica Crouch and Pat Conroy*

*What is your role in processing the Conroy Archive?*

I'm the lead archivist, working with more than 10,000 handwritten pages, as well as screenplays, correspondence, and thousands of family photographs. The archive also will include everything Conroy writes for the rest of his life. I am organizing all the items, creating a finding aid and making the entire collection available to scholars.

*In general terms, how will you do this?* There is a multi-level progression when you process a collection. First I did an overall assessment: look at all the items, make sure I had a sense of what each box held, then put together a rough box list. This is the beginning of creating the all-important finding aid, which is what students and scholars will use to find primary sources for their research. I'm working on manuscripts in the Conroy Archive now, the various drafts of his novels, and arranging them in chronological order. I'll do this for the whole collection. After everything is in a rough order, we'll re-house the items by putting them into archival boxes, and finish the finding aid.

*What experience do you bring to the project?* My education includes a bachelor's degree from Wofford College (I majored in history, minored in English, and completed a Certificate of 19<sup>th</sup>-century Studies), and a master's degree in Library and Information Science from USC, with an emphasis on archives and special collections and academic libraries. As a graduate student, I processed the Matthew J. Bruccoli Papers, a two-year project that resulted in a 126-box collection and 119-page finding aid. After graduating, I was the College Archivist at Columbia College's Edens Library before returning to the Irvin Department.



*Dorothy Brown Smith, shown seated in this Smith family portrait, loved the work of Pat Conroy. At far right is Richard Smith; far left, his wife Novelle Smith; and center, their daughters, from left, Lisa Attaway and Stella Ball.*

*The Conroy Archive includes drafts of The Water is Wide with Conroy's handwritten notations.*



*Also part of the archive: Pat, the oldest of seven children, is wearing his Citadel uniform in this Conroy family portrait, circa 1964.*



# The Pat Conroy Archive

The Pat Conroy Archive includes family scrapbooks, personal diaries and handwritten manuscripts of Conroy's 11 books, including *The Great Santini* and *The Prince of Tides*. Collection items of special note include:

- Handwritten essays and remembrances about his time at The Citadel
- Drafts of all of Conroy's produced and un-produced screenplays, including the movie version of *The Prince of Tides*, for which he was nominated for an Academy Award
- 23 personal journals filled with story fragments and poems
- Juvenile writings including poetry written during his high school and college years
- Professional correspondence with editors, publishers, writers and other notables, including Barbra Streisand, John Irving, James Dickey, Jimmy Buffet
- Family and personal correspondence, including fan mail

- Letters written by Conroy during his time on Daufuskie Island, as well as letters written by his students. This experience would later become *The Water Is Wide*.
- More than 75 scrapbooks, referred to as the "ARCs," created by Conroy's father, Donald Conroy. The ARCs became the basis for Conroy's novel *The Death of Santini*.



For more about this comprehensive collection, visit [library.sc.edu](http://library.sc.edu).

## Collectors' group launches

By Mikel Smith, *Society Board Member*

Among the many exciting things now happening in the Society is that a new collector category of membership is being offered. After some discussion, several Society members perceived that perhaps a segment of our membership was being underserved. By establishing this new category, we mean to provide a forum for beginning and advanced collectors (and all those in between) to share their collecting experiences, their reasons for and their methods of collecting, as well as the joys and challenges associated with collecting.

Several events are being planned which we hope will be both educational and entertaining. We expect that these gatherings will be interactive and will offer opportunities for like-minded people to exchange thoughts and ideas.

Our first event was held at the Hollings Library on Wednesday, August 20. Our guest speaker was Dr. David Shields, McClintock Professor of Southern Letters in the Department of English Language and Literatures here at the University. In his presentation, "Detecting New Kinds of Collecting Treasures," Dr. Shields discussed the four traditional approaches to collecting, the benefits of using collecting as a mode of exploration, and several emerging areas of collecting.

This and all future events will be open to all Thomas Cooper Society members, regardless of membership category, as well as to anyone who loves books and enjoys the collecting of them. We hope to see you there.



Mikel Smith

Fall 2014

The Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter is published twice a year by the Society. Send correspondence to the editor at Thomas Cooper Library, Communications Department, University of South Carolina, Columbia SC 29208 or kdowell@mailbox.sc.edu.

**Editor**

Kathy Henry Dowell

**Graphic Designer**

Anna Petigout

**Photographers**

Kathy Henry Dowell

Robert Smith

**Editorial Board**

Jeffrey Makala

Elizabeth Sudduth

**Thomas Cooper Society Officers, 2014 - 2015**

President	Lynn Robertson
Vice President	Maureen D. Lee
Past President	Ardis Savory
Secretary	Elizabeth Sudduth
Treasurer	Lucille Mould

**Committee Chairs:**

Awards	Lynn Robertson
Finance	Lucille Mould
Membership	Maureen D. Lee
Nominations	Ardis Savory
Program	Christine Nicol-Morris
Publications	Kathy Henry Dowell

**Thomas Cooper Society Board Members,  
2014 – 2015**

James Baker  
Elise Blackwell  
John M. Bryan  
Madilyn Fletcher  
Katelyn Hayworth  
Mary Horton  
Brianna Hughes  
Charles Israel  
Dennis Kennemur  
Jessica Kross  
Jeffrey Makala  
Ginny Newell  
Mikel Smith  
Robert Smith  
Rodger Stroup  
Susie Thorpe

**Become a member!  
Find out how to join the  
Thomas Cooper Society at  
[library.sc.edu/TCS](http://library.sc.edu/TCS).**



UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTH CAROLINA**

University Libraries

Thomas Cooper Society  
Thomas Cooper Library  
Columbia, SC 29208

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit #766  
Columbia, SC

## CALENDAR

For up-to-the-minute information on these and other upcoming events and exhibits, visit [library.sc.edu](http://library.sc.edu).

### Exhibits

“The World in 1914,” Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections Gallery, Hollings Library, through Dec. 12

“ ‘A Force of Character and Courage’: South Carolina and Hugo,” commemorates the 25th anniversary of Hurricane Hugo with photographs, first-hand accounts, letters and other documents. South Carolina Political Collections Gallery, Hollings Library, through Jan. 9, 2015

“A Little Piece of the Cosmos: The Art of Roman Vishniac’s Scientific Microscopy,” Photographs of living organisms, such as the one seen here, as seen through a microscope. The original films, slides, negatives and papers relating to Vishniac’s biological endeavors reside at USC Libraries’ Moving Image Research Collections. Brittain Gallery, Hollings Library, through Jan. 30, 2015

“Christmas on the Potomac,” a selection of holiday cards, South Carolina Political Collections Gallery, Hollings Library, Dec. – Jan. 2015

### Events

Dec. 4, Holiday Coffee, 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., Hollings Library, Program Room

Dec. 4, Holiday Book Signing, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m., featuring authors of recently published books from USC Press, Hollings Library, Program Room

Dec. 6, Open Gallery, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Hollings Library Galleries. At noon, Dr. Jerred Metz will give a talk about his latest book, *The Angel of Mons: A World War I Legend*, and how he used Irvin Department collections in researching the book.

