

# REFLECTIONS

University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.

Spring 2005

## Thomas Cooper Library Special Collections Wings Project Expands

A project to house special collections holdings in new wings on either side of the Thomas Cooper Library (TCL) has been expanded to include space not only for the Rare Books and Special Collections holdings from the Cooper library, but for the Modern Political Collections as well. Construction is expected to begin in summer 2006, with completion in the summer of 2008.

The wing on the east side of the building (near the Russell House) will provide a 40,000-square-foot facility for TCL's Rare Books and Special Collections. State-of-the-art facilities to house the University's extraordinary collections will be a central part of this wing, together with space for staff, researchers, instruction, exhibits, and programs. A total of \$8 million of the \$10 million needed for this wing has already been committed.

A 32,000-square-foot wing will be built on the west side of the present build-



*Thomas Cooper Library will be expanded to provide new space for Rare Books and Special Collections and Modern Political Collections.*

ing (near Sumter Street) at an estimated cost of \$8 million. This wing will house the South Caroliniana Library's Modern Political Collections and will support political, public policy, and other research. In addition to providing space to house the

collections, the facility will have exhibit and research areas as well as facilities for public programs. Exhibits will focus on the political history of South Carolina and should be of interest to many groups ranging from school children to academic researchers. Sufficient funds are in hand to construct this wing.

A campaign to raise the remaining construction funds will be coordinated with a "bricks and mortar" grant application to the Kresge Foundation for about \$1 million. If the project achieves LEEDS certification as a "green," or energy efficient, building, Kresge will provide an additional matching grant of \$150,000.

A feasibility study for the expansion project was completed in 2002, and a program review and final design are now underway. The University Board of Trustees has approved construction of the wings and the architectural firm Watson Tate Savory has been hired for the project.

## USC Libraries Choose New Integrated Library Service

By the start of the fall 2005 semester, USC faculty and students will have access to a more powerful research tool designed to serve both novice and expert searchers. In conjunction with the Partnership Among South Carolina Libraries (PASCAL), the University Libraries have selected Innovative Interfaces, Inc., to provide Millennium software and other products for a new integrated library system (ILS). The system, which will be installed in phases between now and the end of the summer, will replace the NOTIS system, which has been in operation at USC since 1988.

The library catalog is the public face of an ILS while the system's management sections operate such functions as acquisitions, cataloging, and circulation. Library users will have more search capabilities at their fingertips and will find greater integration of the library's print collections, digital resources, and online services.

"Innovative Interfaces' software is very user-oriented," said Marilee Birchfield, reference librarian and ILS implementation coordinator. "The software anticipates common search mistakes and either ignores user errors (such as entering an initial

article in a title search) or offers alternative strategies. Search options will be more obvious. Library users won't have to know codes in order to do sophisticated searches. In our current catalog, a person has to know to type in 'v.gmd.' to restrict a search to videos. In the new catalog, people will use pull-down menus to limit searches. In addition, USC faculty, staff, and students will be able to save search strategies and be alerted to new materials as they are added to the collection," explained Birchfield.

The new ILS goes beyond the library catalog. With a product called MetaFind,

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## New Music Library Special Collections Room



*The new Music Library Special Collections Room (306C in the School of Music) houses the library's rare materials and includes an area for conservation of books and scores.*

## Library 100: A New Information Literacy Course

Forty students are enrolled this semester in Library 100, the new one-credit-hour information literacy course offered by the reference department at Thomas Cooper Library. This class introduces students to the methods and ethics of information research.

Special emphasis is placed on analyzing and exploring information needs of students. They determine the type and amount of information they need to successfully complete a research project, articulate a search strategy, and refine it, if necessary. Secondly, students learn about various Web browsers and search engines. Students learn to search effectively and efficiently by using appropriate thesauri, help screens, and other tools; they also formulate optional search strategies, terms, and concepts. Finally, students learn appropriate criteria to critically evaluate information for relevancy, accuracy, authority, objectivity, and currency.

A few of the “mini lectures” designed to improve students’ research and information literacy skills include: what research is, plagiarism and academic dishonesty, evaluating Web resources, finding local information, finding statistics and government information, and locating primary and secondary materials. Students get hands-on experience during the second half of each class period.

In this pilot course, students are compiling, organizing, and presenting information effectively and appropriately by completing a final project. Their annotated bibliographies provide summaries and evaluations of the sources they used and demonstrate their understanding of appropriate citation methods. The two sections of the course use traditional grading, and students are expected to participate in class by completing all the practical, hands-on activities.

The classes are taught by reference faculty members Sharon Verba and Rose Parkman Marshall.

## Exhibits at Thomas Cooper Library

### John Masefield

The first exhibition from the G. Ross Roy Collection of John Masefield, which was donated by Professor Roy in 1999, was on display at TCL from January through March.

John Masefield (1878–1967), now best known for his sea poems *Salt-Water Ballads* and his narrative poem *The Everlasting Mercy*, was a dominant figure in early-20th-century British poetry and was poet laureate from 1930 until his death.

The exhibition featured items about Masefield’s boyhood as a merchant navy cadet and as an apprentice on a sailing clipper, through his late teens in America, working in a Yonkers carpet factory, his friendship with Yeats and others in London in the late 1890s, his early success as a professional writer, the revolutionary impact of his poetry just before World War I, his wartime reporting and lecture tours in America, and the long decades of productivity and public recognition that followed.

Highlights of the exhibition included a copy in Masefield’s own hand of his best-known poem, “Sea Fever” (“I must go

down to the seas again”), and a number of small watercolor sketches of sailing ships or other scenes that he painted in inscribed copies of his books.

### Henry William Ravenel

An exhibit featuring S.C. botanist Henry William Ravenel (1814–1887) will be on display at TCL through the end of April.

The exhibit features samples from the Ravenel collection of botanical specimens (herbarium), which are cared for by the Department of Biological Sciences, together with material from the Ravenel diaries and manuscripts and some of the important botanical books that were in the library of South Carolina College while Ravenel was a student, from 1829 to 1832.

The exhibit is a collaborative venture between the library’s Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, the South Caroliniana Library’s Manuscripts Division, and the Department of Biological Sciences’ A.C. Moore Herbarium.

### Ralph Waldo Emerson

A selection of materials about Ralph Waldo Emerson from the Joel Myerson



*H.W. Ravenel*

Collection were on display in the Graniteville Room in February.

The exhibit, mounted for visitors to the Comparative Literature Conference and for a meeting of USC’s Phi Beta Kappa chapter, featured manuscripts and first editions from all phases of Emerson’s life, including proofs for Emerson’s 1837 Phi Beta Kappa address (“The American Scholar”), a letter from Emerson to the PBK secretary who was arranging their lecture program, and a series of original satiric pen-and-ink sketches by C.P. Cranch showing contemporary response to this landmark in American cultural history.

## Joyce Carol Oates Is Thomas Cooper Society Speaker



Shown, left to right, are Donna Sorensen, Andrew Sorensen, Joyce Carol Oates, Jennifer Whittle, and Lucille Mould.

Noted American novelist Joyce Carol Oates was the featured speaker at the Thomas Cooper Society's annual dinner meeting in January. After her talk, Oates was presented with the society's Thomas Cooper Medal for Distinction in the Arts and Sciences by Dean of Libraries, Paul Willis, and society president, Lucille Mould. Oates was introduced by Jennifer Whittle.

Oates charmed her listeners with reminiscences of her girlhood in rural New York state, where she went to the same one-room school that had been attended by her mother when she was a child. This school contained the first library Oates had ever seen. It consisted of a single shelf of books that she read over and over. Oates also shared excerpts from her 2003 memoir, *The Faith of a Writer: Life, Craft, and Art*.

Oates has received the National Book Award, the PEN/Malamud Award for Excellence in Short Fiction, the Common Wealth Award for Distinguished Service in Literature, and the Kenyon Review Award for Literary Achievement. She is the Roger S. Berlind Distinguished Professor of the Humanities at Princeton University and has been a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters since 1978.

Among her most noted works are the national bestsellers *We Were the Mulvaney's* (1996) and *Blonde* (2000) as well as *Big Mouth & Ugly Girl* (2002), *Small Avalanches and Other Stories* (2003), *The Tattooed Girl* (2004), and *The Falls* (2004).

## Libraries Launch New Digital Activities Department

A new Digital Activities Department has been established in Thomas Cooper Library to digitize materials from the University Libraries' special collections and mount them on the Web. Kate Boyd has been named digital activities librarian and will head the department.

The first two collections that will be made available are Otto F. Ege's *Fifty Original Leaves from Medieval Manuscripts* from TCL's Rare Books and Special Collections and the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps from the South Caroliniana Library, which include more than 2,000 maps of South Carolina. These images will be available from the Library's Digital Collections Web site at [www.sc.edu/library/digital/](http://www.sc.edu/library/digital/).

OCLC's database, CONTENTdm, is used for housing and accessing the images. An advisory team assists in choosing projects from the Thomas Cooper, South Caroliniana, Map, Music, and Film Libraries.

## USC Libraries Acquire New Databases

USC's libraries, through membership in a consortium of more than 50 South Carolina academic libraries called Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Libraries (PASCAL), have acquired a collection of 12 databases from EBSCO that provide access to over 12,000 full-text titles in core academic disciplines, health sciences, and business.

The two cornerstone databases in the package are Academic Search Premier, one of the world's most valuable and most abundant collections of active full-text peer-reviewed academic journals, and Business Source Premier, the definitive scholarly business database. Other full-text databases new to USC are Psychology and Behavioral Sciences, Computer Source, and the Military and Government Collection.

The EBSCO package also includes the major nursing and allied health sciences database, CINAHL; the Modern Language Association's MLA International Bibliography; the education database, ERIC; and the medical database, MEDLINE.

The PASCAL consortium contract with EBSCO capitalizes on the buying power of the group to save each library money, which can then be used to acquire other vital resources. For more information, consult PASCAL's Web site, <http://pascal.tcl.sc.edu/about.html>.

### About EBSCO

EBSCO is a worldwide leader in providing information access and management solutions through print and electronic journal subscription services, research database development and production, online access to more than 150 databases and thousands of e-journals, a full-featured open-URL link resolver, and e-commerce book procurement.

EBSCO has served the library and business communities for more than 60 years. Additional information on EBSCO is available from [www.ebscoind.com](http://www.ebscoind.com).

# South Caroliniana Library Receives Ball-Gilchrist Family Papers

By Allen Stokes

Ever mindful of the need to preserve historical papers for future generations, Alexander (Sandy) Gilchrist donated a large archive of family papers to the South Caroliniana Library in 2003.

If Sandy sensed that someone shared his interest in the history of his native state, that impression provided an opportunity for Sandy to regale the listener with stories about his Ball family, which established roots in South Carolina in the 1690s with the arrival of Elias I (1676–1751).

The publication of Edward Ball's *Slaves in the Family* (1998) intensified Sandy's interest in the Ball family papers that were kept under a bed and in the attic of his sister's home. Sandy came into possession of the collection after the death of Jane Ball Gilchrist and began the laborious process of sorting and arranging the papers.

The Ball-Gilchrist Collection includes correspondence, business papers, estate and legal papers, plantation journals and diaries, literary compositions, recollections of life on various Ball properties, and photographic images ranging from daguerreotypes to snapshots of individuals, family gatherings, churches, and other buildings. There are 2,158 loose papers—letters, bills and receipts, literary pieces, and genealogical notes and recollections—ranging in date from 1746 to 1999.

Three distinct units comprise the bulk of the correspondence. From 1848 until 1901, Catherine Theus, Jane Shoolbred, and Eliza C. Ball corresponded with Julia Saffery Obear, wife of the Reverend Josiah Obear. In the 1890s, James Poyas Foster, a salesman with the Charleston firm of Edmonds T. Brown, corresponded with his fiancée and later wife Jane Ball, as he made the rounds of towns from the coast to the sandhills. Correspondents in the 1920s and 1930s include Jane Ball Foster and her daughter Jane, who married Gilbert Alexander Gilchrist, as well as Mary H. Gibbs Ball and her daughters, Eleanor Ball Combe and Lydia Child Ball, who was an organizer of the Plantation Melody Singers. She also wrote a history of the group from

1925 through 1933, recorded the lyrics of spirituals they collected, and listed concerts performed from 1925 to 1927.

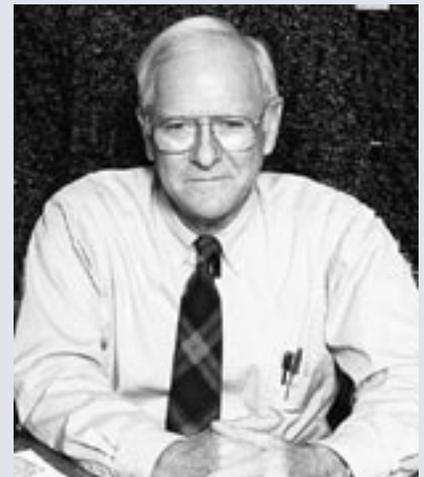
Among the earliest documents in the collection is Henry Laurens' itinerary from Nov. 9 to Dec. 9, 1779, as he traveled from Schuylkill, Pa., to Charleston via Mepkin Plantation, listing mileage and expenses each day. Among the loose papers in the collection are bills and receipts for household and plantation supplies, medical bills for the treatment of family and slaves, estate papers, accounts with overseers, tax returns, and sales of rice. Other documents concern the purchase of slaves, the valuation of slaves, and the distribution of cloth. Elias Ball III's (1752–1810) tax returns from 1798 to 1809 reveal that his acreage increased from 9,746 to 13,881 while his labor force grew from 330 to 575.

Information about the family's holdings of slaves and land is found in the collection's 42 volumes. These records span the period from 1783 to the post-Civil War years and document lists of slaves at Pimlico, Hyde Park, Quenby, Cedar Hill, Midway, St. James, Kensington, Belle Isle, Limerick, Jericho, and Halidon Hill plantations; the distribution of cloth, blankets, and provisions; births at Quenby with the name of the child and mother; postwar labor agreements; sales of land to African Americans; and William J. Ball's experiment with phosphate mining at Limerick.

Mathurin Guerin Gibbs (d. 1849) kept a record of agricultural and family activities at Rice Hope and Jericho plantations. The five volumes cover the period from July 30, 1838, to Sept. 8, 1845. Trained as a lawyer and classical scholar, Gibbs devoted more attention to the flora and fauna of the natural world than he did to agricultural pursuits, which may explain why he lost Rice Hope and was no more successful at Jericho. The Cooper River rice planters were members of the Strawberry Agricultural Society, whose activities are recorded in a journal from May 5, 1847, to April 13, 1859, and from Dec. 1859, and in a treasurer's book, 1847–1859.

Prior to the gift of this collection, Ball family papers were housed at the South Caroliniana Library, the South Carolina Historical Society, the Southern Historical Collection at the University of North Carolina, and Special Collections at Duke University. The Ball-Gilchrist collection is thus the fifth substantial collection of materials about the Ball and related families to be archived and made available for scholarly research.

## In Memoriam



The University and the University Libraries lost a valued colleague when Alexander MacGregor (Sandy) Gilchrist, 74, passed away on Jan. 8, after a long illness. He had served the libraries since 1981, first as a reference librarian and later as head of reference and head of collection development.

Sandy received his early education in the public schools in Charleston, after which he earned an undergraduate degree in classical studies at USC and a Master of Library Science at the University of Kentucky.

## “An Afternoon with Donald Russell”

The University South Caroliniana Society presented a symposium on the life and career of one of South Carolina’s most distinguished citizens, the Honorable Donald Russell. Called “An Afternoon with Donald Russell,” the symposium was held April 9 at the Russell House.

A panel of speakers, moderated by the society’s president, John B. McLeod, presented various aspects of Russell’s life, including his roles as attorney, war mobi-

lizer, USC president, governor, U.S. senator, and federal judge.

In conjunction with the symposium, the South Caroliniana Library has mounted a permanent online exhibit of Russell’s contributions to the University and the state. Information and items for the exhibit were drawn from materials housed at Modern Political Collections and University Archives.

## New Integrated Library Service

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users will be able to enter a search that will run simultaneously across multiple electronic resources, including indexes and abstracting databases. The open-URL resolver software can match the record to the full text of the item if it is available, or search the library catalog.

According to Birchfield, “The technology works behind the scenes so it appears almost seamless to the user. Sometimes, it is hard even for librarians to keep up with all of the library’s electronic resources. MetaFind can help by leading searchers to the needed information regardless of the database. For some library users, MetaFind will be their sole tool for finding articles. For the in-depth researcher it can help target indexes to be searched more aggressively.”

Other members of the ILS Project Management Team are Linda Allman, Laurel Baker, Betty Boswell, Alma Creighton, Martha Mason, Jane Olsgaard, Joe Pukl, and Tucky Taylor.

## Statewide Cooperation

Thanks to state funding, under the umbrella of the Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Libraries (PASCAL), nearly 50 of the state’s academic libraries, using Innovative’s INN-Reach software, are combining their public catalogs. Students, faculty, and staff will be able in a single search not only to identify materials from any academic library in the state but also to request to borrow the materials from the combined catalog. Books will be delivered within two days. The combined catalog represents a collection of more than 12 million volumes.

## About Innovative Interfaces, Inc.

With more than 25 years of partnership with the library community, Innovative Interfaces, Inc ([www.iii.com](http://www.iii.com)) is the leader in providing Web-powered integrated library management systems. Its flagship product offering, Millennium, is installed in thousands of libraries in 42 countries throughout the world.

## Bilderback Named Archivist of the Year



*Beth Bilderback*

Beth Bilderback, assistant curator of manuscripts at the South Caroliniana Library, was named Archivist of the Year by the South Carolina Archival Association (SCAA) at its fall 2004 conference.

The statewide association of individuals interested in the management of, preservation of, and access to South Carolina’s historical records cited Bilderback’s numerous accomplishments as well as her “outstanding service to SCAA and to patrons of the South Caroliniana Library.” Bilderback was actively involved with the steering committee that established the organization in 1999 and subsequently was elected to its Executive Board as treasurer.

Bilderback is a graduate of Salem College and the University of South Carolina and has worked at the South Caroliniana Library since 1993.

## New Faces



**Jeffrey Makala**  
*Assistant Librarian  
Rare Books &  
Special Collections*



**Douglas King**  
*Special Materials  
Cataloger  
Thomas Cooper  
Library*



**Greg Wilsbacher**  
*Director  
Newsfilm Library*



A photograph portrait of Ken Toombs, director of libraries at USC from 1967 to 1988, was unveiled at a reception held in December in Thomas Cooper Library. Toombs is shown in front of the portrait with Mrs. Toombs (left) and Mrs. Davy-Jo Ridge, a long-time colleague of Mr. Toombs at the library.

## “Two Hundred Years of Student Life at USC”

The South Caroliniana Library is featuring an exhibit called “Two Hundred Years of Student Life at USC” through April 27 in the lobby of the library.

Produced by University Archives, the exhibit uses historical documents and images to trace the Carolina student experience since the school’s opening in 1805. Highlights include the Great Biscuit Rebellion of 1852, the student who was expelled for attacking the local police station, the admission of women and African Americans, and the streaking craze of the 1970s.

For more information, contact University archivist Elizabeth West at 803-777-5158.

## Gift from Deward and Sloan Brittain to Benefit South Caroliniana Library

Hartsville residents Deward and Sloan Brittain (USC graduates in 1942 and 1943, respectively) recently designated a substantial planned gift to benefit the South Caroliniana Library (SCL). The Brittain’s gift will establish an endowment, the proceeds from which will be used for acquisitions, preservation, internships, assistantships, staff development, and outreach.

As Mr. Brittain explained, “Through the years, my wife and I have kept our respect and affection for the University. This gift is to be used at the discretion of the University for projects related to the library. We don’t ask for anything in return—this is just a love gift.”

While reminiscing about his days at USC’s College of Journalism, Mr. Brittain told the following story. “While I was a student at USC, I lived in Tenement 10, which was Rutledge. The law school was located just around the corner. One day in

the early 1940s, one of the law students left a library book in my room. I found it after I had moved out and carried that book around for years, always meaning to get it back to the University. Paul Willis [director of USC Libraries] visited with us several years ago, and I told him that I had a library book that had been overdue since 1942. It turned out that only four libraries in the world had that book, the 1934 edition of *The Evolution of Parliament*.”

Mrs. Brittain has close ties to SCL, where she contributed and helped organize the papers of her late father, John C (*sic*) Hungerpillar, a 1908 graduate of USC and principal of schools in Hartsville for many years. Mrs. Brittain’s sister Gladys Hungerpillar Ingram was responsible for establishing an endowment to honor their father through the John C Hungerpillar Library Research Fund.

## Newsfilm Library Receives Federal Funding

The USC Newsfilm Library has received \$300,000 in federal funding to support activities related to its nationally significant Fox Movietone Newsfilm Collection.

The money will be used in conjunction with the Library of Congress, which also holds a large portion of the Fox Movietone Newsfilm. The goal of the project is to establish a cooperative relationship between the two institutions for better utilization of the collections. It is anticipated that the groundwork laid this fiscal year will result in an extended partnership between the two libraries and their newsreel collections.

The Newsfilm Library will also use the funding to develop midterm and long-term plans for the growth of the Newsfilm Library’s collections and facilities and for general film preservation needs.

## John Kenneth Adams Presents Lecture at Music Library

Distinguished Professor Emeritus John Kenneth Adams presented “Monsieur Croche, The Dilettante Hater: A Talk with Music” in the USC Music Library in November.

The event celebrated Adams’ gift to the Music Library of a rare first edition (1921) of Claude Debussy’s volume of music criticism, *Monsieur Croche Antidilettante*. The volume, on Edogawa Japanese paper, is number 15 of a print run of 50 and includes an otherwise unknown portrait of the composer. The book is on display in the Music Library Special Collections Room (Room 306C).

Adams also gave the library a limited-edition series of copperplate engravings (1930) by Bernard Naudin

(1876–1976). These engravings illustrate Ludwig von Beethoven in the context of his turbulent relationship with the “Immortal Beloved” (assumed to be Countess Therese von Brunsvik) and of the countess’ imagined connection to the “Appassionata” sonata. Other donations included a beautifully illustrated piano score of Debussy’s *La Boîte à Joujoux, Ballet pour Enfants* (1920) and several monographs related to French music and dance that Adams acquired on his last trip to Paris.

Adams, who retired from the School of Music in 2002 but continues to teach and perform widely, studied piano at Yale University and the Royal Academy of Music in London.



*John Kenneth Adams*



*Members of the Ex Libris Society Executive Committee are shown here at their organizational meeting on November 8. Seated are Bob Ackerman, Carol Winberry, Donna Sorensen, Lucille Mould, and Claude Walker. Standing are Carol Benfield, John Winberry, Patrick Scott, Louisa Campbell, Sam Erwin, John Herr, Wilmot Irvin, John McLeod, Steve Griffith, Warren Irvin, Paul Willis, Scott Derrick, Fred Miller, and Elliott Holman.*

*Claude Walker, who was elected president, led the group in a discussion about the purpose of the committee, which is to support the entire library system.*



*The dry-brush watercolor portrait of the late Dr. George D. Terry, vice provost and dean of libraries at USC from 1991 to 2001, was unveiled on April 13 at the Thomas Cooper Library.*

*The portrait is the work of Columbia artist Larry Leby, who is a graduate of USC and was a friend of Terry's. The portrait will hang on the mezzanine level of the library until it can be moved to the library's new special collections wing, expected to be completed in 2008.*

## University Libraries

### *Reflections* Spring 2005

*Reflections* is a publication of the University Libraries. Correspondence may be addressed to the editor at Thomas Cooper Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, or to NancyHW@gwm.sc.edu. Back issues of *Reflections* may be found on the libraries' Web site at [www.sc.edu/library/publications/pub.html](http://www.sc.edu/library/publications/pub.html).

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