

# The Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter

SPRING 2007

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COLUMBIA, SC

## A LETTER FROM THE DEAN OF LIBRARIES

Dear University Faculty and Staff:

I am writing to provide an update concerning the new facility planned for Rare Books and Special Collections (Rare Books) and South Carolina Political Collections (Political Collections) at the University of South Carolina's Thomas Cooper Library.

A 2001 feasibility study for a Rare Books addition to the Thomas Cooper Library considered adding to the back of the present building, but recommended wings at the front of the building and estimated the cost to be \$250 per square foot, which was consistent with University construction experience in Columbia. Subsequently, Senator Ernest Hollings obtained approximately \$14 million to include political collections in the project, so one wing was designed for rare books and the other for political collections. Many individual donors have contributed funds for the project, including a number of deferred gifts. The final design for the wings as submitted for bids provided for a total of about 60,000 square feet. Altogether, we have a construction budget of \$15 to 16

million and a total project budget of about \$18 million. Shelving, furniture, and equipment, which are estimated to cost \$2 million, are not included in the project.

Construction was scheduled to start in July 2006, but just after our rare books groundbreaking in June, the cost estimator reported that the project was over the University and state-approved budget. In response to this, we took expenses totaling approximately \$4 million out of the project before we went out for bids.

We had only two bids. The lowest was nearly 40 percent over budget. Construction costs have, of course, increased in Columbia, but the cost estimates had taken that into account to some extent. I did not think it prudent to go forward with the lowest bid even if we could have done so. I believe that the bid process disclosed issues about the complexity of the plans and site which increased the bids. Some of these include:

- The Sumter Street wing would have gone over major University utilities, all of which would have had to be relocated.

*Continued on page 2*



**Kaye Gibbons**

### **KAYE GIBBONS ADDRESSES SOCIETY'S ANNUAL DINNER, DEPOSITS LITERARY ARCHIVE AT CAROLINA**

Noted American author Kaye Gibbons was the featured speaker at the Thomas Cooper Society's annual dinner on April 24, at which it was announced that her literary papers will be deposited at TCL's

Department of Rare Books and Special Collections.

To be called the Kaye Gibbons Archive, the collection includes notes, drafts, edited typescripts, and proofs for the author's works from her first novel *Ellen Foster* (1987) through her latest *The Lunatic's Ball* (2007), along with typescripts for

stories and essays, correspondence, and reviews. Gibbons' novels have won critical acclaim as well as wide readership. *Ellen Foster* received accolades from Eudora Welty and Walker Percy. Her other novels include: *A Virtuous Woman* (1989), *A Cure for Dreams* (1991), *Charms for the Easy Life* (1993), *Sights Unseen* (1995), *On the Occasion of My Last Afternoon* (1998), *Divining Women* (2004), and *The Life All Around Me* by *Ellen Foster* (2006).

Gibbons is a best-selling author and recipient of the Sue Kaufman Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Louis D. Rubin Writing Award, and the French Legion d'Honneur. *Ellen Foster* was recently recognized in London as one of the 20 top American novels of the 20th century.



**Karen Carlson-Loving contemplates the portrait of her grandfather, Brigadier General Evans F. Carlson (1896–1947), who was the subject of a symposium and exhibit, “Evans Carlson in China,” at TCL last fall.**

*A Letter from the Dean, continued from page 1*

- Because there is no convenient construction access to the proposed wing sites, there would have been extra expenses to create access to both sides of the TCL.
- Because the present building is mostly underground, its foundation would require protection from the excavation for the new wings.
- There was duplication in the plans, including expensive climate control and security systems for both collections, duplicate reading rooms, and large general meeting rooms.
- We had one project but were constructing two separate buildings with eight outside walls rather than four.
- The present building does not meet current building codes so “fire walls” would have been required between the two wings and the present library.

We are now redesigning an addition to go behind the present TCL, which is mainly a reconfiguration of what was in the wings plan. A single addition in the rear of Thomas Cooper Library will have shared space for rare books and political collections in terms of reading room, large meeting room, digitization space, etc. These shared rooms will be near the entrance. The rest of the building will be distinctly divided into two units—one for Rare Books and the other for Political Collections—to meet the needs of these two units. All naming commitments will be honored.

## **Thomas Cooper Society Elects Officers for 2007–2008**

At the society’s Annual General Meeting on April 24, members approved the following slate of officers and new board members to serve for the 2007–2008 academic year:

Vice President/President-Elect: John Lee

Secretary: Patrick Scott

Treasurer: Lynn S. Barron

New Board Members: Warren A. Darby, Manton Grier, Hyman Rubin III, and Robert M. Weir

The president for 2007–2008, Judith Felix, was elected in May 2006.

The addition will face Blossom Street, but will be some distance from the TCL so as not to block light at TCL and to avoid code issues. The ground slopes from the TCL to Blossom Street, so limited excavation will be required. The McBryde residence halls on Sumter Street will be removed in order to provide easy construction access to the site.

Initially, we were disappointed with the bids, but after some analysis, we believe that a single addition at the back of the TCL and the natural synergies that could be realized by one building will serve us well. We regret the delay very much.

Let me repeat my thanks to the many friends of the libraries who have shown great interest in what we do and who have supported our work and new building plan through gifts. The project is delayed, but we will move it forward as quickly as possible keeping in mind that the University has lived with the strengths and weaknesses of the Caroliniana since 1840. Universities do not build many libraries – or additions – and when they do, they serve the University for many years, so we must get the addition “right.”

Please let me know if you have questions about the status of this project or if you wish to have additional information. I would be pleased to meet with you as well.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Willis

Dean of the University Libraries

## UNIVERSITY STUDENT PUBLISHES PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN JOSEPH HELLER CHAPTERS

J.D. Thomas, a graduate student in USC's Department of English, has edited and published two chapters of a previously unpublished novel by Joseph Heller. Thomas came upon the typescript in the Joseph Heller Papers in the TCL Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. With permission from the library and from Heller's literary estate, he submitted the text to *The Paris Review*, where it was published in the Winter 2006 issue.

The two chapters, which are titled "Hagar" and "Ismael," are both written in the first person and are part of a 55-page, five-chapter unpublished typescript written by Heller in the mid-1990s. The other chapters, which appear first in the typescript, are "Isaac," "Sarah," and "Abraham."

Thomas' interest in Heller began when he read *Catch-22* as a freshman at Baylor University. He recalls being enthralled by Heller's "vivid and outrageous depictions of war" and went on to read other books by Heller. Thomas had completed research in TCL's rare books collections for papers in his English



J.D. Thomas

courses when he decided to explore the Heller Papers.

Thomas entered the English graduate program at USC because of its national reputation. He recently completed his MA in English with an emphasis in 20th-century American literature and will begin work on his doctorate this fall. He is currently in charge of the Department of English Writing Center.

## SCOTTISH POETRY EXHIBIT PRESENTED AT THOMAS COOPER LIBRARY

An exhibit titled "Hugh MacDiarmid and Friends: An Exhibit of 20th-century Scottish Poetry from The G. Ross Roy Collection of Robert Burns and Scottish Poetry" was on display in the Graniteville Room at Thomas Cooper Library in January.

The Roy collection covers the entire range of Scottish poetry from the 16th century to the present. Among its strengths is an outstanding collection of the writings of the founder of the modern Scottish literary renaissance, "Hugh MacDiarmid" (Dr. Christopher Murray Grieve, 1892–1978), whom Dr. Roy knew and who served on the board of Dr. Roy's journal *Studies in Scottish Literature*.

MacDiarmid is best known for his championing of vernacular Scots as a modern poetic medium, especially in his early volume *Sangschaw* (1925) and his groundbreaking longer work *A Drunk Man Looks at the Thistle* (1926). His career as a professional writer spanned 60 years. The Roy Collection includes more than 300

MacDiarmid titles, as well as comprehensive collections of the many Scottish poets whom his work liberated to write in Scots.

This exhibition, the first from the Roy Collection's MacDiarmid holdings since 1992, charted MacDiarmid's influence from the 1920s to the 1960s, by juxtaposing a selection of his own works with representative items from other Scottish writers whom he knew.

Special features of the exhibit included copies of MacDiarmid's early books inscribed to Dr. Roy, and a 1941 bust of MacDiarmid by the Scottish sculptor Benno Schotz. Other notable items were the fine editions of MacDiarmid's work printed at the Officina Bodoni (including one recently donated

through the Treasures Acquisitions Program), and the proof and inscribed first copy of the first MacDiarmid item printed by Duncan Glen before he founded Akros Publications.



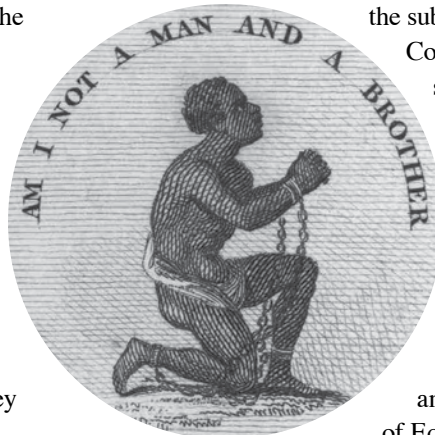
Hugh MacDiarmid and friends from about 1960

## RECENT EXHIBITS SUPPORT AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY

“Olaudah Equiano, An Exhibit Celebrating the Bicentenary of the Abolition of the Slave-trade in 1807” was on display in Thomas Cooper Library during February and March.

Reflecting that one factor in changing opinion about slavery was the publication of writings by African authors, this exhibit featured recently acquired early editions of three 18th-century African writers including Ignatius Sancho (1729–1780), Phillis Wheatley (1753–1784), and Olaudah Equiano (1745–1797).

Equiano’s autobiography *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, the African, Written by Himself* (London, 1789) went through nine British editions in only five years and



“History Keepers: African-American Librarians in South Carolina” was on display in the Thomas Cooper Library during February and March. The exhibit featured information about the lives and careers of two outstanding African-American librarians, Richard T. Greener who was USC’s librarian from 1875–76 and Augusta Baker, who was coordinator of children’s services at the New York Public Library before coming to USC as Storyteller-in Residence at the School of Library and Information Science. The University Libraries are the recipient of Dr. Baker’s extensive collection of children’s books.

another eight editions in the early 19th century. Among the subscribers listed in Equiano’s book is Thomas Cooper, of Manchester, who became the second president of South Carolina College and for whom the library is named.

Also on display were contemporary sources on the Atlantic slave trade and slavery in the century before abolition (including an engraving by William Blake), contemporary responses to the writings of the three authors (including Thomas Jefferson’s comments on Wheatley and Sancho, a 1789 review of the first edition of Equiano’s book, and a French commentary on

his work from 1808), and published documents from British parliamentary investigations and debates. Especially notable among these is an 1808 engraving of Thomas Clarkson’s well-known plan showing how slaves were packed into the ships for the Middle Passage.

## CLASS OF 1956 APPROACHES GOAL FOR LIBRARY GIFTS



Members of the Class of 1956 peruse exhibits in the TCL Graniteville Room during their Homecoming day reunion.

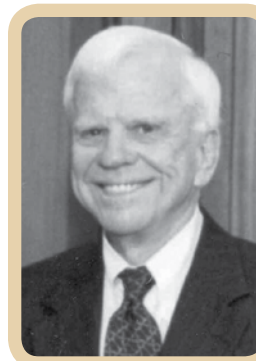
The University of South Carolina Class of 1956’s 50th anniversary gift project, which supports the University Libraries, has raised more than \$67,000 to date. The gift will be used to

establish the Donald S. Russell Lectureship and the Class of 1956 Rare Books Library Endowment Fund.

According to Lola Mauer, director of annual giving for the University’s Family Fund, “The Class of 1956 has truly set the bar for upcoming reunion class gift campaigns at the University. The commitment of the class of nearly 400 is a true testament to their love for Carolina. Having raised more than any other 50th reunion class in Carolina’s history, the Class of 1956 holds bragging rights as the most supportive reunion class in USC history.”

For more information about the projects, please visit [www.sc.edu/library/develop/1956.html](http://www.sc.edu/library/develop/1956.html).

## IN MEMORIAM



### EDWARD S. HALLMAN

University Libraries faculty and staff members noted with sadness the passing of Edward S. Hallman (March 29, 1930–Feb. 23, 2007).

Mr. Hallman was a 1950 graduate of USC and an account executive for Exxon Chemical Company until his retirement in 1994. He was a major benefactor to the Thomas Cooper Library, enabling the library to acquire a superb collection of books by and about Ernest Hemingway, along with correspondence, transcripts, and proofs, called the Speiser and Easterling-Hallman Foundation Collection of Ernest Hemingway.

## James Dickey Exhibit and Panel Discussion Offered at Thomas Cooper Library

In conjunction with the University of South Carolina's January conference titled "James Dickey: A Celebration of the Life and Works," Thomas Cooper Library mounted a major exhibition of the author's works and presented a panel discussion about Dickey and his publishers.

The exhibit, "James Dickey at Thomas Cooper Library: An Exhibition from James Dickey's Personal Library, the Matthew J. and Arlyn Bruccoli Collection, the Donald J. and Ellen Greiner Collection, and Related Collections" was on display through mid-March. The panel discussion, held Jan. 19, featured Dr. Matthew J. Bruccoli and Ms. Shaye Areheart, who was Dickey's editor at Random House.

Poet and novelist James Dickey (1923–1997) taught at USC from 1969 until his death, as poet-in-residence and First Carolina Distinguished Professor of English. The library's exhibition charted Dickey's extraordinary and prolific writing career, from his first published poem in a college literary magazine in the 1940s through a posthumous publication about his University classes on poetry (USC Press, 2004).

The exhibit drew on a number of different collections, which, taken together, make the University a major resource for research on Dickey's work. Since TCL last mounted a full-scale Dickey exhibition in 1993, in celebration of Dickey's 70th birthday, several major acquisitions have transformed the Dickey holdings available to students and scholars at USC. These include:

- James Dickey's personal library, purchased from the Dickey estate through the cooperation of its literary representative, Prof. Matthew J. Bruccoli, and of the

Dickey family—an estimated 15,000 volumes, providing evidence of Dickey's wide-ranging literary and intellectual interests;

- The Matthew J. and Arlyn Bruccoli Collection of James Dickey, donated in 2001—more than 400 first and other significant editions (many inscribed), periodicals and reviews, typescripts (including an unpublished early novel), proofs, and other material, including archival records relating to Professor Bruccoli's bibliographical and editorial work, and to the several Dickey works published by the firm of Bruccoli Clark;
- The Donald J. and Ellen Greiner Collection of James Dickey, donated in 2005—first and other significant editions (many inscribed, and in especially fine condition), typescripts, and proofs (with a full archive for the editing of Dickey's classes on modern poetry), and additional holdings of periodicals and ephemera, particularly relating to Dickey's years at USC.

In addition, the library also has acquired such significant Dickey materials as his correspondence in the 1950s with the poet and translator Ben Bellitt, and his working materials and correspondence for English verse-translations from the Russian poet Yevtushenko. Other recent acquisitions have included papers and proofs from Dickey's editor at Scribner's, John Hall Wheelock (purchased 2005), the literary papers of his former student and secretary Paula Goff (gift and purchase, 2000–2003), and an important group of Dickey materials donated by Mrs. Judith Baughman, including materials from the research of the late Prof. Ronald C. Baughman.

## NEWS BRIEFS FROM THOMAS COOPER LIBRARY

University Archivist Elizabeth West has been working for about a year to prepare reproductions of images from the libraries' special collections to decorate the new meeting rooms of the USC Board of Trustees at 1600 Hampton Street.

The main meeting room and dining room are decorated with images from University history. The committee meeting room has materials from the South Caroliniana Library and Thomas Cooper Library's Department of Rare Books and Special Collections relating to South Carolina history.

The University Libraries participated in the South Carolina Humanities Council's spring Book Festival in February by hosting the opening night keynote address and reception with noted South Carolina author Dorothea Benton Frank as speaker. About 250 participants from the University and the Columbia literary community enjoyed the presentation and reception.

The Thomas Cooper Society maintained a booth at the festival with information about the society and the libraries' special collections, exhibits, and events.

Longtime library friends and supporters Dottie and Steve Ackerman were selected to receive the South Carolina Library Association's Friend of Libraries Award for 2006. The Ackermans have contributed many hours of volunteer service both to the University's Thomas Cooper Library and to the Richland County Public Library.

With timely support from an anonymous donor, Thomas Cooper Library recently acquired advance first edition proofs for Raymond Chandler's novel *The Long Good-Bye* (1953). Chandler is widely recognized as one of the greatest stylists among writers of American hard-boiled detective fiction. His private-eye hero, Philip Marlowe, spawned numerous imitators.

*The Long Good-Bye* was first published in Britain and, like Chandler's first novel, *The Big Sleep* (1939), has become a trophy book for collectors of modern first editions. The survival of this proof version was previously unknown to Chandler scholars and collectors.

## AS GOOD AS GOLD: LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS CLYDE AND JOAN DORNBUSCH

By Elizabeth Sudduth

While many recognize Clyde and Joan Dornbusch at Thomas Cooper Society events, few probably realize the extent of their work as volunteers for TCL's Department of Rare Books and Special Collections.

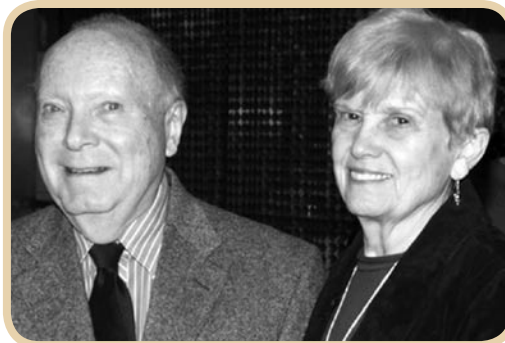
The couple's association with the department began about six years ago when they attended the announcement of the acquisition of the Speiser and Easterling-Hallman Foundation Collection of Ernest Hemingway with their friends, the noted Hemingway scholar Dr. Charles Oliver, and his wife. After talking with Patrick Scott, they offered to volunteer in the department. Since that time they have worked together on a number of projects, including organizing research copies of Maurice Speiser's correspondence; the papers of Wallace Markfield and Rhoda Broughton; the MGM Collection of F. Scott Fitzgerald's screenplays; the Brucoli Screenplay Collection; and the archive of the Victorians Institute.

Clyde and Joan, who are originally from Cincinnati, moved to Columbia in 1992 to be near their daughter, Paula, and her family and to enjoy the cultural amenities and the mild climate of the Midlands. They attend programs at the USC libraries, where they are active members of the Thomas Cooper Society. Clyde recently completed a term on the society's Executive Board and its Publications Committee. They also are members of Friends of the Richland County Public Library, the Columbia Art Museum, the S.C. State Museum, and Riverbanks Zoo.

Libraries have played an important role in the Dornbusch's lives since childhood. Clyde grew up across the street from the Westwood Branch Library in Cincinnati, where he worked as a page while in high school. Reminiscences of his years there were recently included in a publication celebrating the library's 75th anniversary.

Clyde and Joan met in a high-school Latin class. Both were awarded scholarships to DePauw University, where they worked together in the office of the English Department. One of their major tasks there was to keep the mimeograph machine running, a vital duty in the days before Xerox machines and computers. Both recall the library at DePauw as a crowded place for serious

study—no comfortable seating, no recreational reading, and certainly no coffee shop. Social life at DePauw revolved around dancing and Clyde and Joan attribute their love of dance and dancing to their college years. The couple married at the end of Clyde's senior year when Joan was a junior. While Clyde completed course work for his master's and doctoral degrees in English at Duke University, Joan took classes and worked on campus. They returned to Cincinnati, where Joan finished her degree and both taught in the public schools. Once Clyde completed his dissertation, the couple took a nine-week summer tour of Europe, after which Clyde began teaching English at Wake Forest University. During their four-year stay at Wake Forest, Joan taught modern dance and directed the college dance troupe. The Dornbusch children, Paula and Neal, were born during their years at Wake Forest.



Clyde and Joan Dornbusch

Following a year at Parsons College in Iowa, Clyde joined the English Department at Ohio Northern University, where he would serve for the next 30 years as faculty member and department head. During that time Joan completed her master's in English at Miami University in Ohio. She also taught both English and speech and worked in the Communications Skills Center.

The center was funded by a grant Clyde had authored and it was there that Joan met Mary DeVore. The two women collaborated under the pseudonym "Madelyn Dohrn" to write seven romance novels for Silhouette and Times Publishing (Singapore), one of which was the first romance novel published in Southeast Asia.

Since moving to Columbia the Dornbusch's have volunteered for some activities singly, but they have an extensive track record of volunteering as a couple. Both have served as reading tutors and as general volunteers at Forest Lake Elementary School, and they regularly work together at the information desk of the main branch of the Richland County Public Library.

And of course they are often seen in TCL attending exhibits or hard at work on their latest volunteer project—activities the library staff members hope will continue for many years to come!

## EX LIBRIS SOCIETY HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING



**Mark Dimunation, Chief of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division at the Library of Congress, addresses members of the University Libraries' support group, the Ex Libris Society.**

Members of the University Libraries support group, the Ex Libris Society, gathered on March 6 to hear a presentation by Mark Dimunation, chief of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division at the Library of Congress (LC), the largest collection of rare books in North America.

The evening also included a business meeting, presided over by the Ex Libris Society's president, Claude M. Walker Jr.; recognition of charter and new members; and the opportunity for members to view library exhibits.

Dimunation told society members about his work, including a project to recreate Thomas Jefferson's collection of books, which formed the core collection for the LC at its inception. About two-thirds of that collection of more than 4,000 books was destroyed in the War of 1812, but the library has been successful in acquiring replacements for all but about 1,000 volumes.

Dimunation also showed images from another major LC collection, The Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection. This collection features illustrated books and manuscripts from the 15th through the 20th centuries. Included are 15th-century woodcut books, early 16th-century illustrated books, one of the finest collections of books, plates, drawings, and engravings by William Blake ever assembled, and 20th-century *livres des peintres*. A particular treasure is the manuscript known as the Giant Bible of Mainz (1452–53). It is on permanent exhibit in the library's Great Hall together with LC's copy of the 1454–55 Gutenberg Bible. Dimunation pointed out the significance of the pairing of these two volumes, one epitomizing the conclusion of the art of illuminated manuscript and the other marking the beginning of printing with movable type, and both created in Mainz, Germany, within the same short time period.

The Ex Libris Society, which was formed in 2001 to recognize those who donate \$1,000 or more annually in support of the various units of the University Libraries, now has about 125 members. For more information, please contact Carol Benfield or Stephanie Learner at 803-777-3142 or visit [www.sc.edu/library/develop/develop.html](http://www.sc.edu/library/develop/develop.html).

## Thomas Cooper Library Presents “George V. Higgins: A Retrospective Exhibition”

American writer George V. Higgins (1939–1999) was the subject of a major retrospective exhibition at Thomas Cooper Library from November through January. Higgins, the author of *The Friends of Eddie Coyle* (1972) and 25 other novels, wrote gripping, ultra-realistic stories about individuals in crisis: criminals, police officers, lawyers, and politicians. His work has been cited as a major influence by such acclaimed authors as Elmore Leonard, James Ellroy, and David Mamet. This exhibition coincided with the opening of The George V. Higgins Archive, a comprehensive collection of the author's personal papers and manuscripts, acquired from his widow Loretta Higgins and other family members in 2003.

George V. Higgins was born outside of Boston and wrote extensively about Massachusetts. His works included 26 novels, four nonfiction books, scores of short stories, newspaper and feature-length magazine journalism, literary criticism,

and book reviews, as well as hundreds of columns for three major newspapers. His first published book, the bestselling *The Friends of Eddie Coyle* (1972), was hailed by *The Observer* as one of the top 20 American novels of the 20th century and was made into a successful film starring Robert Mitchum and Peter Boyle.

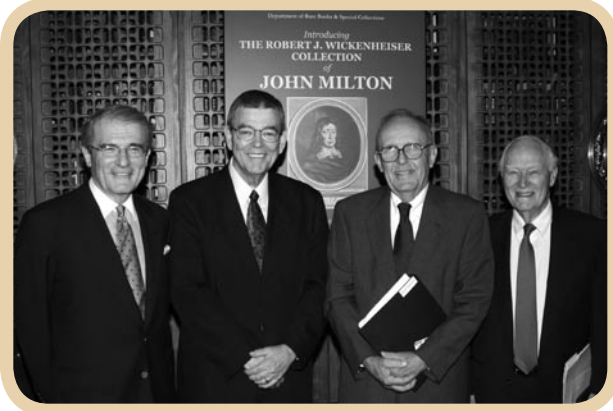


**Loretta Higgins with items she donated to the University's George V. Higgins Archive. (Photo by Prof. Edwin H. Ford of Albany State University)**

The exhibition documented Higgins' life and work and provided an introduction to the archive. Items on display included manuscripts, first editions, personal photographs, and correspondence with G. Gordon Liddy, Eldridge Cleaver, John Updike, and Robert Pinsky, as well as personal effects such as his college trumpet as well as flags once flown on his sailboat, *The Scribbler*, which depict a .38 Special and a quill pen.

The exhibition also included books from the Matthew J. and Arlyn Bruccoli Collection of George V. Higgins.

## CURRENT AND UPCOMING EXHIBITS



Dignitaries present at the exhibit opening of USC's Robert J. Wickenheiser Collection of John Milton last fall were, left to right, William L. Richter, who provided major funding for the purchase of the collection through The William L. Richter Family Foundation; Robert J. Wickenheiser, who amassed the collection over a 35-year period; Robert B. Patterson, president of the Thomas Cooper Society; and John T. Shawcross, Milton scholar and speaker for the occasion.

"Charles Darwin"—Mezzanine Exhibit area from April to July; an exhibit of materials from the C. Warren Irvin Jr. Collection of Charles Darwin

"Student Book Collecting Contest Winners"—Main Level Exhibit area from April 23 to May 31

"Recent Gifts and Acquisitions"—Graniteville Room, May 15 to June 30

"The Great War in Literature: An Exhibition from the Joseph M. Bruccoli Great War Collection, the Joseph Cohen Collection of World War I Literature, the Gilbert S. Guinn Military Aviation Collection, and Related Collections"—Mezzanine Exhibit area from July to September

### The Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter Spring 2007

The Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter is published twice a year by the society. Correspondence may be sent to the editor at Thomas Cooper Library, Room 417, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, or to nancyhw@gwm.sc.edu.

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NANCY H. WASHINGTON

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