Spring 1986


Syracuse University Library Associates

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Preface: A Special Stephen Crane Issue
by David H. Stam, University Librarian,
Syracuse University

Searching for Stephen Crane: The Schoberlin Collection
by James B. Colvert, Professor of English,
University of Georgia

New Stephen Crane Letters in the Schoberlin Collection
by Paul Sorrentino, Associate Professor of English,
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and
Stanley Wertheim, Professor of English,
The William Paterson College of New Jersey

The “Lost” Newspaper Writings of Stephen Crane
by Thomas A. Gullason, Professor of English,
University of Rhode Island

Schoberlin’s Annotated Copy of War Is Kind
by Donald P. Vanouse, Associate Professor of English,
The State University of New York at Oswego

Newly Discovered Writings of Mary Helen Peck Crane
and Agnes Elizabeth Crane
by Associate Professor Paul Sorrentino

The Stephen Crane Collection at Syracuse University
by Edward Lyon, George Arents Research Library

News of the Syracuse University Libraries and
the Library Associates
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN TAKES OFFICE

To those many Associates whose daily business does not center on campus affairs, it will come as good news that since 1 March 1986 a new head of libraries has taken office here. Dr. David H. Starn comes to us as University Librarian from the New York Public Library, where for eight years he was the Andrew W. Mellon Director of The Research Libraries. This was a position of extensive responsibility which, interestingly, included the management of The Performing Arts Research Center at Lincoln Center and The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in Harlem.

Dr. Starn is notably qualified to assume a prominent role in shaping the future of the Syracuse University Libraries. He is well-known as an able and experienced library administrator who expresses his ideas with lively and good-humored energy, both in print and on the podium. His many scholarly interests include English history and literature, languages, Biblical studies, and music. A bookman and humanist at heart, he has an infectious, Renaissance curiosity which does not exclude technological areas at the other end of the academic spectrum. We are very lucky indeed to have him here at our university.

Joining him on the rolls of active Associates is his wife Deirdre, who will be taking on the teaching duties of retiring Professor Antje B. Lemke in the School of Information Studies. We welcome them both and wish them and their three children much happiness in their new lives in Syracuse.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Ronald G. Becker of Peoria, Illinois, has donated to the George Arents Research Library his extraordinary photograph collection of circus professionals and entertainers. The 1147 images, printed for
the most part as personal advertisements on the small nineteenth-century cartes-de-visite and the larger cabinet cards, were made during the years 1840 to 1930 by the New York City photographer Charles D. Eisenmann and his successor Francis Frank Wendt. Included are portraits of P. T. Barnum, dancer and snake charmer Lulu Lataska, daredevil Bobby Leach, actresses and acrobats at all levels of fame, as well as numerous sideshow performers: among others, the midget General Tom Thumb; Jojo, the Dog-faced Boy; Francisco Lentini, the Boy with Three Legs; Lalloo, the Double-bodied Person; giants; skeleton men; albino twins; and bearded, fat, tattooed, and piebald ladies.

The Ronald G. Becker Collection of Sideshow Photographs and Memorabilia is open now for research use on the sixth floor of the Bird Library.

Amy S. Doherty
University Archivist

Although it is not available for research at present, a large addition to the John Vassos Manuscript Collection has arrived at the George Arents Research Library and should be brought to the attention of prospective researchers.

Vassos was known not only for his mystical and perceptive illustrations for a number of literary classics and his graphic interpretations of the human dilemma (cf. Phobia, for which Syracuse holds all the original paintings), but also for his inventive genius in practical design. He was one of the founders of the Industrial Designers Society of America and the inspiration for the honorific John Vassos Award for high standards in the field of industrial design. In this area he is remembered particularly for having developed the first coordinated store window displays, the first television set (for RCA), turnstiles used in the New York subway system, push-button tuning, and indirect lighting. The recently acquired addition to his collection at Syracuse most strongly represents his design work during the 1950s and 1960s.

The Vassos Collection is one of several of Syracuse's large collections relating to the history of industrial design in the United States.
Others of national note include the papers of Russel Wright, Walter Dorwin Teague, Lurelle Guild, Egmont Arens, Raymond Spilman, and Arthur J. Pulos.

Carolyn A. Davis
Manuscripts Librarian

The Glenn Wyatt Wolcott (S.U. ’17) collection of bookplates and bookplate literature has been donated in his memory to the George Arents Research Library by his wife Helen St. Onge. The more than seven hundred bookplates, of which a number go back to the mid-eighteenth century, include not only those of well-known artists, for example, Rockwell Kent and J. J. Lankes, but also a good many of historically interesting ownership. In this latter group are the ex libris which once belonged to: W. E. Gladstone, Walt Disney, Lord Cornwallis, Charlie Chaplin, Charles Dana Gibson, Enrico Caruso, and Thomas Carlyle.

Mark F. Weimer
Rare Book Librarian

Two bookplates from the Wolcott Collection.
The Syracuse University Library Associates program for the academic year 1986–87 will be as follows:

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>October 15, 1986, 5–7 p.m.</td>
<td>Opening reception for an exhibition of materials from Syracuse University's von Ranke Collection in conjunction with the conference on “Leopold von Ranke and the Shaping of the Historical Discipline” (October 16–18), co-sponsored by the Syracuse University History Department and the American Historical Association.*</td>
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<td>October 30–November 1</td>
<td>Book Sale, co-sponsored by the Library Associates and the Syracuse University Libraries. The sale will benefit library acquisition and preservation programs.</td>
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| November 13, 1986, 4 p.m. | Robert Phillips, poet and editor, and David H. Zucker, Professor of English at Quinnipiac College  
A DELMORE SCHWARTZ PRESENTATION |
| December, 1986       | Chancellor’s reception.                                              |
| February 26, 1987, 4 p.m. | Cathleen A. Baker, Associate Professor of Paper Conservation, Art Conservation Department, SUNY College at Buffalo  
PRESERVATION OF SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES' ELEPHANT FOLIO EDITION OF AUDUBON'S BIRDS OF AMERICA |

*Professor James M. Powell is making arrangements for the publication of the conference proceedings.
March 26, 1987, 4 p.m. Mary H. Marshall, Syracuse University Emeritus Professor of English
POGGIO BRACCIOLINI AND THE RENAISSANCE REDISCOVERY OF THE CLASSICS

April 17, 1987, 12:00 noon Spring Luncheon and Annual Meeting
Frank G. Burke, Acting Archivist of the United States
BICENTENNIAL OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION (1787–1987)

POST-STANDARD AWARD CITATION FOR 1986

Arlene and Jerome Gerber, you have honored us over the years by your constant selflessness and your commitment to high ideals; and today, we honor you. Your deep concern for the Syracuse community has brought to us many wonderful and enduring benefits.

Although you were able to attend Syracuse University only for a short period, you have nonetheless maintained close ties with the University. Your oldest son Bob is a Syracuse University graduate. You have a special association with the University Libraries and are life members of the Library Associates.

Your vision and unusual generosity in taking the initiative to establish the Arlene and Jerome Gerber Endowment Fund for Judaica have inspired us all. Your enthusiastic participation was also critical in establishing the fledgling Jewish Studies Program at Syracuse University. For these things, your many friends on the faculty thank you.

You are active philanthropically across a wide range of interests not only in University and Jewish circles but also in the community at large. It is as though the writers of the Talmud had in mind a generosity such as yours when they wrote of the person who observed:

I did not find the world desolate when I entered it; my father planted for me before I was born; so do I plant for those who will come after me.

In recognition of your unstinting support of the Syracuse University Libraries, it is both proper and fitting that you have jointly been designated this year to be the recipients of the Post-Standard Award for Distinguished Service to the Syracuse University Libraries.
IN MEMORIAM

REG MANNING, a Pulitzer Prize winning editorial cartoonist, life member of Library Associates, and a man of penetrating wit, died on March 10, 1986. The George Arents Research Library is indebted to him for the gracious gift of a large number of his papers, which include original editorial cartoons, watercolor paintings and illustrations, as well as the manuscripts of several of his book-length publications.

CONSTANCE PIERREPONT NOYES ROBERTSON, former trustee of Library Associates, died in her home on March 10, 1985. Mrs. Robertson was the granddaughter of John Humphrey Noyes, the founder of the Oneida Community, about which, in culmination of an extensive and honored literary career, she wrote three definitive studies. Through her kindness, a large collection of Robertson papers as well as her personal reference library are now held here at Syracuse University.

JOHN VASSOS, the well-known industrial designer, author of Phobia, and artist-illustrator, died on December 6, 1985. During his lifetime his great love of rare books and manuscripts drew him into a long and loyal association with the Syracuse University Library Associates, of which he became a trustee and life member. Because of his generosity, the George Arents Research Library holds a large collection of his papers, paintings, and designs.
THE SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ASSOCIATES, founded in 1953, is a society whose efforts are devoted to the enrichment of the Syracuse University Libraries and especially the rare book and manuscript collections. The Associates’ interests lie in strengthening these collections through the acquisition of unusual books, manuscripts, and other research materials which are rare and often of such value that the Libraries would not otherwise be able to acquire them.

The Associates welcome anyone to join whose interests incline in the direction of book collecting or the graphic arts. The perquisites of membership include borrowing privileges and general use of the Syracuse University Libraries’ facilities and resources, as well as invitations to exhibitions, Associates-sponsored lectures, and special events of the University Libraries. In addition, members will receive our incidental publications, typographic keepsakes, and the Syracuse University Library Associates Courier, a semiannual publication which contains articles related to unusual and interesting aspects of the Libraries’ holdings and, in particular, to the holdings of the George Arents Research Library for Special Collections.

SUGGESTED MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS are as follows: Benefactor, $500; Sustaining member, $200; Individual member, $50; Faculty and staff of Syracuse University, $30; Senior citizen and student, $20. Checks, made payable to Syracuse University Library Associates, should be sent to the Secretary, 100 E. S. Bird Library, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 13244-2010. For further information about the programs and activities of the Library Associates, telephone (315) 423-2585.

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