



Olininfo

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRANKLIN W. OLIN LIBRARY AT ROLLINS COLLEGE

February 2004

Olin Hours-Spring

Mon - Thurs.. 8:00am to Midnight
Friday 8:00am to 6:00pm
Saturday 9:00am to 6:00pm
Sunday 11:00am to Midnight

Calendar *online*—

<http://www.rollins.edu/olin/circulation/calendarpage.htm>

Olin Telephone Numbers

Hours 646-2376
Circulation 646-2521
Reference 646-2507
Documents 646-2693
Archives 646-2421

Olin Info online—

Current and back issues may be viewed at: rollins.edu/olin/olininfo/

Books That Made a Difference

The Books of Ray Bradbury

In *Borders* the other day, I happened on Ray Bradbury's new collection of his 100 best short stories. I was tempted, but held off buying. "I probably have most of these at home," I thought. Back home, I checked. I gathered sixteen paperbacks and two hardbacks, the oldest, yellowed and crispy, from 1955 (*The October Country*, 50¢). Then I looked into one from 1990, *Zen in the Art of Writing*, and discovered a note to myself: "I probably owe my career to Ray Bradbury. I'd rather say I owed it to Shakespeare, but the truth is otherwise."



Prof. Alan Nordstrom

The Martian Chronicles, Fahrenheit 451, Golden Apples of the Sun, The Illustrated Man, Dandelion Wine, Something Wicked This Way Comes—these were the novels and stories that had galvanized me into exuberant reading as a teenager in the 1950's (the last one, if you catch the allusion, making a happy segue into the Shakespeare I now teach).

What a night on May 10th, 1976, when I got to meet my science fiction/fantasy idol at Rollins! Invited by students to talk at our old field house, then ditched by them to call a cab to take himself back to Disney (where he was consulting on Epcot's plans for Spaceship Earth), he was delighted to accept a ride from me. At 2 a.m., in his hotel's rooftop restaurant, when we finally said goodnight, I was overflowing with his adventure stories and writerly anecdotes.

Lately, though, rereading an old Bradbury story sometimes makes me think that his special magic worked best on me when I was fifteen or sixteen, his poetical prose now seeming a little florid. But lest I be too embarrassed by my teenaged tastes, I see that the eminent critic Harold Bloom (author of *The Western Canon* and *Shakespeare: The Invention of the Human*) has recently edited an anthology of scholarly criticism on—Ray Bradbury!

Maybe I *will* go back to *Borders* for those 100 best stories and be surprised. Bradbury did, after all, write the screenplay for John Huston's *Moby Dick* (that for Barbara Carson) and he dedicated one of his poems to Gerard Manley Hopkins (that for Ed Cohen)—a poem which enshrines this great quote from the gentle Jesuit: "What I do is me—for that I came." Ray Bradbury has done just that, been himself, prolifically. I have more to learn from him.

Shelving Amidst the Spires: An American Librarian at Oxford

Oxford is a bibliophile's heaven and having a chance to work there as a librarian was truly a delight. For the past few years, I've lived just west of London and in 2000/01 I accepted a traineeship at the Plant Sciences Library in Oxford. Buses and trains run frequently from London to Oxford, so commuting was no problem and off I went.

There are more than one hundred separate libraries at Oxford, some of which are in the Oxford University Library System, while others remain independent as departmental or college libraries. The largest library is, of course, the Bodleian with over 6.5 million items and a staff of more than 400. The central Bodleian Library buildings are composed of the Old Library (several parts of which have become recently famous as settings in the Harry Potter films), the New Library, and the Radcliffe Camera. Two other libraries in the Bodleian group, which may be familiar, are the Radcliffe Science Library (the main science library at Oxford University) and the Rhodes House Library (housing American and Commonwealth history and politics).

A required document for using the Bodleian library was the "Bodleian reader card." In order to obtain this card, one must swear the "Bodleian oath." It felt strangely moving to be part of a long history of persons reading aloud and signing the following declaration:

"I hereby undertake not to remove from the Library, or to mark, deface, or injure in any way, any volume, document, or other object belonging to it or in its custody; not to bring into the Library or kindle therein any fire or flame, and not to smoke in the Library; and I promise to obey all rules of the Library."



Photo of Oxford courtesy of www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

An interesting result of this pledge not to ever bring fire into the library was that the library was unheated until 1845 and without artificial lighting until 1929. "Reliance on the sun for light and heat kept the library's hours of operation quite short—as little as five hours per day during the winter." After four years in England, I consider five hours of sunshine in a winter's day to be an excellent day!

Plant Sciences was one of the older libraries in Oxford, with its origins in the library of the Botanic Gardens founded in 1621. The Plant Sciences, Agriculture, and Forestry libraries merged in 1985 and the combined library now houses over 200,000 books and pamphlets. Two outstanding features of the library are its early botanical book collection, dating from the seventeenth century, and its extensive holdings as an international forestry literature depository library. As you might imagine, these wide-ranging collections bring in people from all over the world as well as university researchers and students. It was a wonderful training experience. – D. Yvonne Jones



D. Yvonne Jones

Welcome to Olin

D. Yvonne Jones, Reference Librarian, came to Rollins from Chalfont St. Peter Public library, United Kingdom. Yvonne grew up in the Orlando area attaining a Bachelor of Arts in General Studies from UCF; a Masters of Science from FSU in the Dept. of Food and Nutrition; a PhD from Cornell University at the Division of Nutritional Sciences; and an Masters of Library Science from Rutgers at the State University of New Jersey, School of Communication, Information and Library Studies. /DJM

Olin Faculty Publications

Carpan, Carolyn. "YALSA Voices: Collaborating on Rocked by Romance." *Yattitudes* 3:1 (Fall 2003). Retrieved November 6, 2003 from <http://www.ala.org/Content/NavigationMenu/YALSA/ForMembersOnly/Yattitudes>. Carolyn also publishes reviews in *Voice of Youth Advocates*, the library magazine serving those who serve young adults.

Zhang, Wenxian. "Classification for Chinese Libraries: Histories, Accomplishments, Problems & its Comparisons." *Journal of Educational Media & Library Science* 41:1 (September 2003): 1-22. /EM

Information Fluency Skills at Olin

In the 2003-04 academic term, the Olin Library administered an innovative online test to measure our students' ability to use library and computer resources. First year students were asked to complete the online assessment as part of their orientation activities. The test was developed by Rollins librarians, members of the Rollins IT staff, and a librarian from Furman University. More than two hundred students completed the test, which measured their abilities in basic computing, critical thinking, and information retrieval skills.

An analysis of the test results reveals that although most incoming students arrive on campus with good word processing skills, many have weak information fluency skills. A significant percentage of students were unable to use Boolean logic to improve or refocus an online search. Fewer than a quarter of the respondents were able to properly interpret citations and locate the desired information within the library.

Extensive efforts were made in the Fall of 2003 to provide all first year students with basic library instruction classes, which usually occurred as part of their RCC program. Special emphasis was placed on areas of weakness as revealed by the online assessment. A post-test will be administered to the same students later this Spring. The results of this testing will provide the librarians with exceptional insight into the efficacy of our instruction program.

The Information Fluency Assessment Test was funded by a grant to Rollins from the Associated Colleges of the South. The Olin Library plans to continue using this test in future years to track the skills of incoming students and the efficacy of our library instruction program. /DM

The Ethical Use of Information

The Olin Library web site has recently added information regarding the ethical use of information: plagiarism, copyright, and fair use. The Library has also provided Rollins faculty and students with a subscription to Turnitin, a plagiarism prevention service. Information on all these issues can be found at <http://www.rollins.edu/olin/ethics/>.

Winter Park History Research Grant Lecture

Rebekah McCloud will present the annual Winter Park History Research Grant Lecture on Monday, February 23rd, at 7:00 p.m. in the Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 425 W. Welbourne Ave. Her topic will be "Across the Tracks: a collective history of black churches of Winter Park."



This event is free and open to the public. For more information, please call 407-646-2676.

The World Wide Web in Mexico



As part of the Rollins College Conference (RCC), Rollins students traveled to San Miguel de Allende, Mexico to teach middle-school aged children computer skills and Web page design while learning about Mexican culture and the school system. Professors Scott Hewit and Gabriel Barreneche, and Associate Vice President of Information Technology, Les Lloyd, accompanied their students on this challenging and rewarding venture. The students created Web sites on basic computer skills, an introduction to FrontPage, and advanced FrontPage skills. These Web sites would be their outlines to teach from and reference materials they could leave behind for the students and teachers. All information on the sites was provided in both English and Spanish.

Two schools were selected: Naciones Unidas, a private school, where students had some computer skills and an Internet connection; and Telesecundaria 1005, a public school in the community of Soasnavar, reachable only by a dirt and rock road off the main road to Jalpa. There were three classrooms with only one electrical outlet each making it difficult to hook up several computers, but they did it and the kids loved every minute of learning how to use computers.

Along with corporate and private donations, the Rollins students were responsible for raising funds to pay for the used laptops left for the students to continue their studies. /LL

Director's notes

What is so special about special collections? In the Olin Library, our special collections provide a unique perspective on the history of the College, of Winter Park, and of Florida from their "frontier" origins.

Our Library's collection of the personal papers and library of Henry Nehrling (1850-1929), horticulturist and ornithologist, contains more than seventeen hundred books, manuscripts, photographs, memorabilia, periodicals, and pamphlets. The collection also includes his correspondence with internationally famous botanists, plant collectors, and breeders of his time. Original manuscripts include his studies on Florida palms, fig trees, and amaryllis, as well as his two published books: *The Plant World in Florida* and *My Garden in Florida and Miscellaneous Horticultural Notes*.

In 1898, during the Spanish-American War, Tampa served as the mobilization headquarters for the U.S. Army. The Library's Spanish-American War photographs of the Tampa encampment show the life and people of that historical period in remarkably clear and evocative images. Red Cross nurses, famous personages who visited the encampment, soldiers in their bivouacs, and the magnificent Tampa Bay Hotel where the officers were billeted are all recorded. The collection of twenty images was donated by Miss Mary S. King, daughter of Rollins alumnus Col. George Morgan King. A separate notebook donated by Col. A. E. Dick, contains signatures of hundreds of army officers and soldiers who served in the Tampa Bay camp.

John Steinmetz, a pioneer settler in the Orlando area, came to Clay Springs (now Wekiva) from Pennsylvania in 1882 and maintained a memoir of his experiences in early Florida. He narrates twenty-one adventures, including his first trip in Florida by rivers and ocean from Wekiva Springs to Miami. His tales of cruises among unspoiled waterways and encounters with a variety of individuals, all spiced with his sense of humor, give a vivid sense of life in nineteenth-century Central Florida. The forty-eight typescript pages were donated to the Olin Library by his niece, Mrs. Julia Steinmetz Ryder, a Rollins alumna.

The Library's collection of rare Florida maps includes *A Compleat Map of the West Indies Containing the Coasts of Florida, Louisiana, New Spain, and Terra Firma: with All the Islands* (1774) by Samuel Dunn; a *Map of the Territory of Florida* (1825); a copy of *Granville's Railroad and Township Map of Florida* (1886); and a *Map of the Town of Winter Park in Orange County Florida* (1883).

To make these collections more readily visible and accessible to students and scholars, the Archives and Special Collections Department has begun to publish portions of its collections on the Web. In addition, a number of classes have visited the Department to learn how to identify and interpret primary materials. New materials have been acquired recently to complement our existing holdings; the archive of the Friends of the Wekiva River, for example, enhances our collections on Florida ecology. Moreover, the Olin Library has just been invited to participate with the Orange County Regional History Center, the Orange County Library System, the Museum of Seminole County History, and the University of Central Florida to write and submit a grant proposal to extend the *Central Florida Memory Project* (<http://centralfloridamemory.lib.ucf.edu/>).

Donna Cohen, Library Director



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MISSION STATEMENT: The Olin Library provides instruction, information, and services to support the teaching and research needs of the Rollins Community.

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Memberships and Memorials

You can honor or memorialize a friend, relative, or member of the campus community by sponsoring a Book-A-Year Endowment. For details, contact:

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