# Friends of the Alexander M. Bracken Library

*Ball State University Libraries*

*A destination for research, learning and friends*

**Dear Friends of Bracken Library:**
For more than 32 years, the Friends of the Alexander M. Bracken Library have been generous in their support of the University Libraries through both good and bad economic times. It has been a pleasure for my predecessor Dr. E. Bruce Kirkham and me to report this ongoing generosity in the annual letter to the Friends. The financial contributions and gifts-in-kind mentioned in these current pages, and all previous publications, have played an important role in making the University Libraries the excellent resource for Ball State students and faculty they are today.

In this newsletter, you will see the names of some of the Friends who have given this year, but that is only representative of the many more who support the Libraries in unlimited ways. You will read about the Board members who give their time and talents to spread the word about the collections, services, and programs that the Libraries offer. The various programs sponsored by the Friends and the annual dinner that includes the Kirkham Lecture are visible evidence of the commitment and involvement of our Friends.

Your contributions go a long way toward serving the educational and research needs of the students and faculty of Ball State University. In these difficult economic times, your support is even more important to the University Libraries as they face rising costs in almost all areas. The Friends have a history of supplying that support. We would not be where we are today or be able to advance to where we need to go tomorrow without you.

Here is just a sampling of what your financial gifts can buy:

- A hardcover fiction book, $20-$45
- A DVD/Video, $30-$75
- Electronic software, $65-$85
- One-year journal subscription, $75-$150
- Six music CDs, $100
- A major reference book, $125-$300
- A rare book for History of the Book studies, $250-$500
- Preservation of historical documents and photographs, $1,000+
- One-year access to online information, articles, $3,500-$4,500

Thank you for all that you do for the University Libraries. I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter that is intended as a tribute to each of you and your ongoing generosity. Please visit the University Libraries' Web site (www.bsu.edu/library) and read the monthly online newsletter (www.bsu.edu/library/virtualpress/libinsider) to keep up on the activities and services of the University Libraries throughout the year. The best is yet to come.

Sincerely,
John B. Straw,
Executive Secretary

**www.bsu.edu/library/collections/friends**

**2008-2009**

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**Friends of the Alexander M. Bracken Library Board of Governors**

**Board Members**
Mrs. Diane Brown
Mrs. Marilyn Carey
Dr. Carol Flores
Mr. Michael Johnston
Dr. Mark Malaby
Mr. Hank Milius
Mrs. Cherlynn Renner
Mrs. Kay Schnuck
Mr. Thomas Spotts
Mrs. Marianne Vorhees
Mr. Warren Watson

**Student Member**
Ms. Alayna Huffman

**Ex-Officio**
Mr. David W. Bahlmann
Dr. Arthur W. Hafner
Mr. John B. Straw

## *Friends Support Libraries with Financial Contributions*

Financial donations from more than 180 Library Friends to existing University Foundation accounts supporting the University Libraries during 2008-2009 totaled over $27,800. The following donors made contributions of $100 or more.

Dr. W. Phillip and Mrs. Esther Ball
Mrs. Pat A. Barnett
Mrs. Sue E. Bennett
Ms. Karen E. Blinn
Dr. Charles Bracker
Dr. Richard and Mrs. Dorothy Burkhardt
Ms. Linda S. Caldwell McCleary
Ms. Diane L. Calvin
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Mr. William and Mrs. Mavis Catalfio
Mr. Brent A. Davis
Ms. C. Suzette Ditsky
Mr. C. Richard and Mrs. Melinda Douglass
Ms. Katherine A. Dukhan
Dr. E. Ruth Dunning
Mr. J. Richard and Mrs. Beatrice Emens Wolper
Mr. Robert W. Emerson
Mr. John W. and Mrs. Janice Fisher
Drs. Dale and Tonya Flesher
Mr. Mark D. Fowler
Ms. Victoria L. Fox
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Mr. Gregory and Mrs. Donna Huffman
Mrs. Gertude M. Kane
Mr. Robert and Mrs. Jayne Kersey
Mr. Robert and Mrs. Judy Koor
Dr. Kirby and Mrs. Anne Koriath
Dr. John A. Koumoulides
Mr. Philip A. Lahr
Mr. Don and Mrs. Mary Lanning
Dr. Victor B. and Doris J. Lawhead
Mrs. Alma M. Lescak
Dr. John and Mrs. Julia Lewellen
Dr. Luchen Li
Dr. B. Thomas and Mrs. Judy Lowe
Mrs. Gwendolyn I. Massey
Mrs. Audrey M. McGary
Mrs. Betty J. McMichael
Mr. Kirk C. McQuiston
Dr. Don and Mrs. Nina Merten
Dr. Thomas and Mrs. Beatrice Mertens
Mr. Jon and Barbara Moll
Mr. James and Bonnie Mong
Dr. Lloyd P. Nelson
Mr. Harold F. Norman
Dr. Don and Mrs. Claire Park
Dr. John J and Mrs. Angeline Pruis
Dr. Joseph and Mrs. Sue Rawlings
Mr. John Rhoades
Ms. Sharon A. Roberts
Ms. Terri A. Rojahn
Dr. Thomas A. Sargent
Mr. Tom and Mrs. Kay Schnuck
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Mr. Scott L. Siefker
Dr. Ray and Mrs. Milana Suput
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Dr. David J. Ulbrich
Ms. Jan A. Vance
Dr. C. Warren and Mrs. Joy Vander Hill
Mr. Clyde P. Watkins
Drs. Donald and Sue Whitaker
Mr. Fred and Mrs. Elizabeth Bracken Wiese
Mrs. Marjorie Zeigler
Mrs. Carol A. Zuck

**Mark Your Calendars!**

The next Friends of the Alexander M. Bracken Library Annual Dinner will be March 31, 2010!

## *Gifts-In-Kind Strengthen University Libraries' Collections*

Friends support the University Libraries through their donations of books, DVDs, journals, manuscripts, archival collections, and other materials that provide educational, instructional, and research resources for the students and faculty of Ball State University. In addition, many of the manuscript, photographic, and archival materials are digitized and made available to researchers globally through the University Libraries' Digital Media Repository (http://libx.bsu.edu). The following are just a few examples of the gifts-in-kind received from more than 175 Library Friends in the past year.

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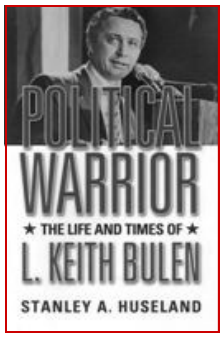
Bruce Baldwin deposited a complete set of the minutes of the Muncie Redevelopment Commission in Archives and Special Collections.

Stephanie Beswick gave 233 books on African studies.

Charles Bracker donated more than 190,000 of his digital photographs and nearly 2,000 printed photographs of orchids.

Dr. and Mrs. Richard Burkhardt gave 291 books and periodicals, primarily on literature, photography, history, biography, and philosophy.




Larry Campbell arranged for the donation of the records of the Exchange Club of Muncie.

Bruce Hozeski donated 274 periodical issues.

Gloria Hubbuch gave the Indiana Association of Adult and Continuing Education records.

Stanley Huseland donated his research files and audio recordings with notable Indiana political and business leaders that he compiled in writing his book *Political Warrior: The Life and Times of L. Keith Bulen*.

Jeff Koenker gave newsletters and other records of the Industrial Trust and Savings Bank.

John Lewellen donated 80 books and novels on history, sports, and Native Americans.

David Reese donated the records of the Muncie Pride Committee and the Education Committee of the Chamber of Commerce.

Bruce Reynolds transferred minutes, publications, and other records of United Auto Workers Local 287 to Archives and Special Collections.

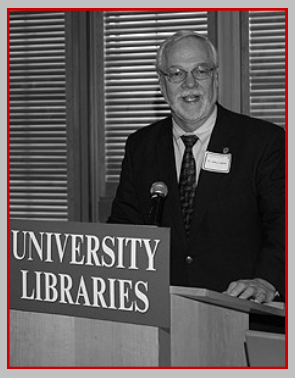
Judy Rust gave a collection of Delaware County Aerial Plat Maps to be digitized and made available in the Digital Media Repository.

Andrew Seager donated 200 slides of historic architecture from around the world.

Cynthia Spears donated a vast array of materials on the Indiana Boy Scouts Crossroads of American Council and Camp Redwing that was collected by her late husband William "Jack" Spears.

Quin Zhang gave 236 textbooks, dictionaries, teaching manuals, periodicals, novels, and books on Chinese culture, language, and history.

***Welcoming Remarks***
***Dr. Arthur W. Hafner, Dean of University Libraries***
***Friends of the Alexander M. Bracken Library***
***Annual Dinner***
***April 1, 2009***



Dr. Arthur W. Hafner

The Library Friends have a long and outstanding history of helping our University Libraries to grow and meet the ever-changing needs of the students of Ball State University. We appreciate all that you do.

The University Libraries offer outstanding programs and services, and rich collections that are a strategic part of each student's academic achievement and success plan. Bracken Library supports student learning and research by being open 120.5 hours per week, which ranks us high among all U. S. libraries that maintain late hours.

A place for research, learning and friends

In support of an undergraduate research atmosphere, the University Libraries offers access to the latest technologies, more than 460 PC workstations and 20 Macs, large format scanners, high volume laser printers for use by students and faculty, a vast array of emerging media and digital resources, and a comfortable environment for collaborative and individual work. Our librarians are committed to providing gracious, professional, and helpful service to students, faculty, and all users of the University Libraries.

The number of people visiting Bracken Library increased by 1.4% for the first eight months of this fiscal year, July through February, to over 939,000. The average number of people coming to the Library each day is more than 4,800.

The University Libraries continues to grow in providing the best and latest technologies for our students and faculty. In the past 5 years, the Libraries have received more than $100,000 in grants to develop digital collections and projects.

At last year's dinner, we heard about a major donation from Mr. Martin Schwartz to support the construction of a Digital Complex in Bracken Library. In mid-February, work began on that redesigned area of over 2,400 square feet on the first floor of Bracken Library, and the grand opening will be in September.

The Schwartz Digital Complex will be an innovative, collaborative, and interactive learning and teaching environment with state-of-the-art technology. Its completion will bring tremendous new capabilities to the University Libraries for offering new services in support of teaching, learning, and research using emerging media.

Mr. Martin and Mrs. Helen Schwartz

The funds donated by Mr. Schwartz were vital to making this complex a reality for our students. His generosity, and yours, represents the best of what the Friends of the Libraries mean to Ball State. I thank all of you who make a difference with your support of the University Libraries.

### *Topics of Friends' Programs Range from Steinbeck to Native Americans to Railroads*

The Friends sponsored three entertaining and informative programs that attracted members from the university and local community this past year.

On October 1, 2008, Dr. Luchen Li, Associate Professor of Humanities at Kettering University in Michigan, presented a program on "John Steinbeck's Views of the American Presidency." Dr. Li was at Ball State to do research on John Steinbeck in Archives and Special Collections in the University Libraries as the 2008 recipient of the Steinbeck Research Award established in honor of the late Dr. John Ditsky by his wife Suzette Ditsky.

Dr. Kenan Metzger, Assistant Professor of English at Ball State, gave an interesting presentation on "Indigenizing the Academy: A Call to Move from Eurocentric to En'owkin" on November 12, 2008.

On February 23, 2009, more than 70 students, faculty, and community members attended a very popular program on "The Railroads of Muncie and Delaware County" by Mr. Larry Campbell (a former Friends' Board member). A video of the presentation is available on the Friends web page at www.bsu.edu/library/collections/friends.

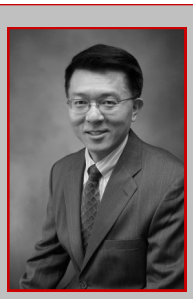
### *Board Members Recognized for Support of University Libraries*

The Board of Governors for the Friends of the Alexander M. Bracken Library are a group of dedicated supporters of the University Libraries who give of their time and talents to help establish goals and coordinate functions of the Friends.

Mrs. Cherlynn Renner and Dr. Mark Malaby began their three-year terms as new members of the board at the annual dinner on April 1, 2009. Mr. Joseph Duncan and Dr. Nicole Etcheson completed their terms and received certificates of appreciation at the dinner.

Last year, the Board of Governors approved adding a student member to the Board, and then at the annual dinner the membership voted to amend the bylaws to include the student member. We were pleased to appoint Ms. Alayna Huffman as the first student member of the Board of Governors. Alayna completed her one-year term, but she was such a good representative of the student body that we asked her to serve a second term this coming year. Alayna is a junior in History and Education.

Continuing their service on the Board are Mrs. Diane Brown, Mrs. Marilyn Carey, Dr. Carol Flores, Mr. Michael Johnston, Mr. Hank Milius, Mrs. Kay Schnuck, Mr. Thomas Spotts, Mrs. Marianne Vorhees and Mr. Warren Watson.



Dr. Luchen Li

Dr. Kenan Metzger

Mr. Larry Campbell

Mrs. Cherlynn Renner

Dr. Mark Malaby

## *Kirkham Lecture Features Sneak Preview of National Road Documentary by Nancy Carlson*

Fifty-six Friends of the Alexander M. Bracken Library attending the annual dinner and meeting on April 1, 2009, at the Alumni Center were treated to a sneak preview of a new documentary on the National Road through Indiana by Mrs. Nancy Carlson, Associate Professor of Telecommunications at Ball State University.

Mrs. Carlson is the executive producer, writer, and director of the forthcoming film *Movers and Stakers: Stories along the Indiana National Road*. Following the Friends' dinner, she delivered the Kirkham Lecture where she shared stories about the making of the documentary and showed a 12-minute segment of the film. *Movers and Shakers* is her third documentary, following *Gene Stratton-Porter: Voice of the Limberlost* in 1996 and *Ed Ball's Century* in 2000.

Carlson co-founded the Emmy-nominated WIPB television nature show *Indiana Outdoors* with Don Van Meter in 2000, which is still in production today, and hosts the *Voices of Mystery* interview program on the same channel.

At the 2000 annual meeting of the Friends, then-Provost and President of the Board of Governors C. Warren Vander Hill announced that "future presentations to the Friends Annual Dinner shall be known as the Kirkham Lecture to recognize Dr. E. Bruce Kirkham's twenty-five years of service as the founding executive secretary of the Friends of Bracken Library."

To see photographs from the Friends' dinner, visit the Web site at www.bsu.edu/library/collections/friends/dinnerpics09.

Friends Enjoy
2009 Annual Dinner

Ball State University practices equal opportunity in education and employment and is strongly and actively committed to diversity within its community.