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Southern Illinois University Carbondale

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# CORNERSTONE

THE NEWSLETTER OF MORRIS LIBRARY • SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE



## IN THIS ISSUE

- ♦ [Message from the Dean](#)  
Page 2
- ♦ [The Library Is Seeking](#)  
Page 3
- ♦ [The End is Near](#)  
Page 4
- ♦ [Friends to Fund Patio](#)  
Page 4
- ♦ [Legacy of Harley Croessmann](#)  
Page 6
- ♦ [Presidential Signatures Sought](#)  
Page 8
- ♦ [Renovation Update](#)  
Page 11

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**Southern**<sup>™</sup>  
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## Walter Ray Announced as First Political Papers Archivist

Dr. Walter D. Ray has become Southern Illinois University's first Political Papers Archivist. Ray, formerly an assistant professor at the St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity in St. Paul, Minnesota, assumed his duties July 24th, 2006.

Previously, he taught and worked as an archivist at the University of Notre Dame, and he has served as a Russian language analyst for the Department of Defense. Library Affairs Dean David Carlson said, "Walter

Ray is truly a welcome addition to the Library, along with Pam Hackbart-Dean, the new Director of Special Collections. Through their efforts this unit will rightfully be recognized as a world-class research facility."

Morris Library's Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) currently houses five large collections—over 3,000 linear feet—of political papers important to the issues, economy, and development of southern Illinois and the region. These include the papers of former U.S. Senator Paul Simon,

former Illinois Congressmen Glenn Poshard and Kenneth Gray, former State Senator Kenneth Buzbee, and former St. Louis Mayor Clarence Harmon. The timetable for the completion of such a daunting task is uncertain, but he hopes



Courtesy of the Southern Illinoisan

**The task is daunting, but Walter Ray looks forward to processing the 3,000 cubic feet of political papers that await him, and he hopes to receive even more.**

to have organized these collections by the time Morris Library's renovation is complete. Said Ray, "It's exciting work, and it's rewarding to see history come alive and make it available to those who are interested in it."

Ray is responsible for organizing, preserving, and further developing the collection and providing outreach to the SIUC community and other potential patrons. Exhibits and a web site will also be developed. Ray is eager and optimistic about his position, stating, "I want to develop a vision for the acquisition of other collections. SIUC has the potential to become an important center for the study of political history for the region."

Ironically, the first research request about this collection came from his former hometown of St. Paul, Minnesota, from

*continued on page 4 . . .*

**CORNERSTONE** is published four times a year. It is distributed free of charge to Friends of Morris Library, SIUC faculty and friends of the University.

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For a complete listing of the library staff, follow the **ABOUT THE LIBRARY** link to the **STAFF DIRECTORY** on our home page: <http://www.lib.siu.edu/hp/>

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**150**  
**SOUTHERN**

# Message from the Dean

## *A Perfect Storm of Opportunity*

One of the things I like about working on campus is the cycle of things. There is no time when these cycles are more evident than in the fall as students arrive on campus. After a few months of having the campus—and the Library—all to ourselves, they return! Yes, there are frustrations as parking and restaurant space become scarce, but it is well worth the energy and enthusiasm that also arrive. And, of course, it is a reminder of our mission, of why we are here, re-affirmed some nine months later, as we enjoy an event in the spring cycle: graduation.



Organizations of all types, not just colleges, go through cycles of change. These cycles are not simply up or down, profit or loss, but relate to factors such as changes in culture, focus, environment, and planning, as the organization responds to changes internally and externally.

Another cycle that can have a strong impact in organizations relates to staff. Due to retirements, career plans, and any number of personal and professional factors, staffing in an organization is in a constant state of change. On occasion, these changes seem to coalesce and create a kind of “storm of change” in a unit. Like students returning to campus in the fall, these changes can be disruptive, but they are also invigorating opportunities for renewal, innovation, and growth. At Morris Library, we have had such a storm in our Special Collections Research Center (SCRC).

As noted in last month’s issue of *Cornerstone*, we have a new director, Pam Hackbart-Dean, who joins us from Georgia State University as a result of the retirement of David Koch. As reported in this issue, we have a new, first-time-ever Political Papers Archivist in Walter Ray. We also have a new Archivist joining the Library Affairs faculty, Leah Broaddus. All three of these individuals arrived on campus this summer. They join two other faculty in SCRC, Randy Bixby and Joseph Ripp. Randy and Joseph are veterans—but only in comparison to their colleagues! Randy joined the Library faculty in the spring of 2005 and Joseph accepted the position of Rare Books Librarian in the fall of 2005.

Together, these five faculty members represent a complete turn-over of all faculty positions in SCRC within the past eighteen months! This leadership team joins a small but loyal and experienced staff of civil service employees at SCRC who will provide a base of information and institutional memory that will be critically valuable in understanding the past while forming new directions.

We have some world-class collections and resources at Morris Library. Throughout the year, scholars come from all over the world to Carbondale to consult these collections. However, we have a great deal of work to do in providing the tools of discovery and access that is necessary for scholars to find and use these materials effectively. I expect great and exciting things of our Special Collections Research Center over the next few years, as they apply their energy and new ideas to the task. Stay tuned!

DAVID CARLSON

# The Library Is Seeking . . .

With research library budgets strained by the increasing costs of electronic journals and databases, more traditional reference/replacement volumes are sometimes left behind. The Library is Seeking . . . looks for private funding for those items that would not otherwise be purchased by the library. If you are interested in underwriting one of these items, please contact Kristine McGuire at [kmcguire@lib.siu.edu](mailto:kmcguire@lib.siu.edu) or 618-453-1633.



**\$300** for three original copies of the *Illinois Sentinel* newspaper, published in Vandalia, Illinois, in 1844, the first year of issuance. Such early southern Illinois newspapers not only bestow national and local news, but provide a wealth of information in political, social, and commercial history pertinent to the state's development.

*The Adopt-a-Book Program encourages donors to purchase needed titles within which a personalized bookplate is placed.*

*For more information, please call 618-453-1633.*

**\$595** for *Eighteenth-Century Coffee-House Culture* edited by Markham Ellis. The coffee-house was an important part of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century society and inspired a wealth of writing. This edition reprints in facsimile a diversity of texts, almost all of which have never been reprinted, and which remain very difficult to access outside a few major research libraries.

This edition is divided into four main categories: restoration satire, eighteenth-century satire, drama, and history & science.

**\$750** for *Harriet Martineau's Writing on the British Empire*, a five-volume set edited by Deborah Logan, the first in Pickering & Chatto's series on Martineau's work, which focuses on her writings on imperialism. The selected texts are introduced and annotated, thus providing a substantial historical and social context which measure the worth of her participation in this discourse. The edition will be of interest to scholars of colonialism, women's writing, Victorian studies, sociology and journalism.

This set was chosen as an Outstanding Academic Title of 2005 by *Choice*, the magazine of the American Library Association.



**\$305** for *Cyclopedia of Literary Places* edited by R. Kent Rasmussen. This is a title-driven, three-volume reference work that analyzes more than 5,950 separate place entries. Discussions within entries examine how places are used as literary devices within the novels, plays, or poems in which they appear. This work has been enhanced by the introduction written by British scholar and well-known novelist Brian Stableford.

"Well written, easy to use and fun to read, this set . . . is a valuable addition to all libraries." —*Library Journal*



**\$207** for *Notable Latino Writers* from the editors of Salem Press. The publisher uses "Latino" to refer to authors living in America who speak—or descend from those who spoke—any romance language, as well as those of Latin American descent living in the U.S. This three-volume set compiles 122 essays on great novelists, poets, playwrights, and short-story writers. Appendices list "more Latino Authors," a bibliography, websites, and a chronological list of authors by birth years. Includes five indexes: genre, geographical, personages, title, and subject.

**\$100** for *A Cultural Geography of the Beatles: How Landscapes Are Represented as Musical Texts (Strawberry Fields, Abbey Road, and Penny Lane)* by Robert J. Kruse, II. This is the first comprehensive study of the Beatles from a geographical perspective and a thought-provoking departure from standard historical and cultural treatments by exploring the importance of space and place to the Beatles' international fame and lasting influence.



**\$535** for nineteen *Japanese Film Classics* selected by Daren Callahan, Morris Library's liaison to the Dept. of Cinema and Photography. Of these CRITERION COLLECTION DVDs Callahan states, "They feature excellent digital transfers that include epic samurai films, film adaptations of Japanese novels and plays, and classic films of Yasujiro Ozu, Akira Kurosawa, Seijun Suzuki, Masaki Kobayashi, Shohei Imamura, Kenji Mizoguchi, and others."

In the spring issue of *Cornerstone* Callahan noted that, "We need to play serious catch-up to enlarge our DVD collection." Her selection of twenty-one *French Film Classics* was promptly underwritten following the publication of that issue.

*Library Affairs thanks donors who have purchased items from the previous list—*

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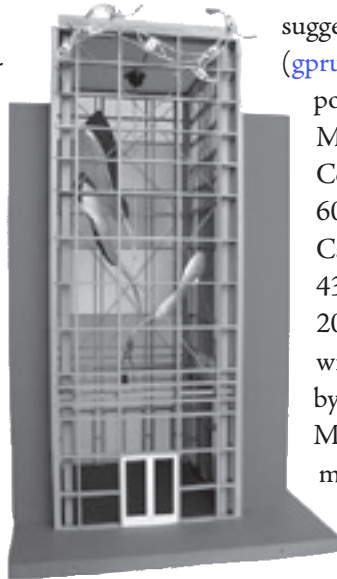
*The Adopt-a-Book Program appreciates your support.*

# The End is Near . . .

## but Entries Are Still Welcome in Contest to Name Sculpture

The end is coming, November 15, but there's still time to submit an entry in the contest to name the kinetic, wind-powered sculpture that will adorn the north entrance of the renovated Morris Library. We solicited entries at the Illinois State Fair and Du Quoin State Fair, and we received dozens of entries, ranging from single words to short phrases to compound sentences. But we welcome more entries until November 15.

This contest is open to anyone, who is not an SIUC Library Affairs employee or



Friend of Morris Library board member. Entrants must submit their suggestions via email ([gpruett@lib.siu.edu](mailto:gpruett@lib.siu.edu)) or post: (Gordon Pruett, Morris Library—Mail Code 6632, SIUC, 605 Agriculture Dr., Carbondale, IL 62901-4310) by November 15, 2006. Initial judging will be performed by the Friends of Morris Library board members, but the winning submission will ultimately be chosen by the artist, Evan Lewis. The winner will receive a candelabra, designed by Lewis.

The wind-driven piece by the Chicago sculptor will be installed in the vestibule of the library's north entrance. The interior mobile will be powered by a rotating exterior arm, which derives its power from the force of the wind. The exterior of the three-and-a-half story north entrance will be glass, allowing the sculpture to be clearly visible from the outside, particularly when illuminated at night. Be sure to submit your entry by November 15!

### Did You Know?

In 1938 a three-story stone and brick library of Georgian Colonial design was planned for campus, but funding was never appropriated. It was to have housed 300,000 to 400,000 volumes and would have utilized pneumatic containers as a book delivery system.

### Walter Ray . . . continued from page 1

a researcher who had been previously thwarted by the unprocessed nature of the collection. "The more we can get the word out that the collections are here, the better it will be for the collections. And I would like to develop the archives here as a repository for political papers from the region," said Ray.

This position was created as a result of Chancellor Walter Wendler's faculty hiring initiative, a proactive recruitment policy to hire new researchers, scholars, and teachers. This initiative targets academic areas that will bring additional recognition to the University. The initiative program is principally underwriting this position with additional funding from the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute. Mike Lawrence, the institute's director added, "We are delighted to participate in this initiative to organize and catalog Paul's records for review by scholars and others intrigued by his exceptional public service." **GP**

## Friends Vote to Fund Courtyard Patio

At an August 24 meeting of the Friends Board of Morris Library, a vote passed unanimously to contribute \$8,000 toward the construction of the courtyard patio, a project endorsed by the Library's staff and administration. The patio will be between the Library and Faner Hall, and it is proposed that salvaged structural elements from Old Main, destroyed by fire in June 1969, be incorporated into the patio's design.

The Library's Development Officer, Kristine McGuire, said, "The Friends are also organizing a committee to raise additional funds for the project. The board is very excited about assisting with this project which will benefit everyone." The exact cost of the patio's construction is undetermined at this point but could approach \$75,000. Anyone wanting to contribute to this project should contact Kristine McGuire at [kmcguire@lib.siu.edu](mailto:kmcguire@lib.siu.edu) or 618-453-1633.

### In Appreciation . . .

Special thanks to DR. JOHN SHOBBGOOD, retired professor at Chicago State University, for his generous contribution of the English edition of *Nuova Raccolta Colombiana* (Istituto poligrafico e Zecca dello Stato, Libreria dello Stato, 2001), considered the most significant scholarly project associated with the Columbus' discoveries in the New World. Edited by a team of the most eminent international scholars, this ten-volume set consists of Columbus' journals and reports, with maps and charts for an accurate historical and geographical reconstruction of his voyages.

# Tips from the Conservation Lab

by Barb Summers, Head of Preservation

## Drying Wet Books

If you've ever had the misfortune of having a book collection become wet, you may be relieved to know that all is not lost if you act quickly and perform some simple steps to dry them. Wet books can be air-dried, but it is essential to begin the process as soon as possible to prevent mold growth. Mold growth can begin in 24 to 48 hours. The most successful drying will be for books that are not totally saturated, but only partially wet.

### *The things you will need are:*

- A flat surface where the temperature and humidity are as low as possible to facilitate drying. Ideally it should be cooler than 70 degrees with less than 55% humidity.
- Blank newsprint or plain paper towels to interleave between the wet pages to absorb the moisture.
- Fans to keep the air moving at all times. This will facilitate the drying process and prevent mold from growing.

### *For books that are partially wet or damp (not saturated):*

- Beginning at the back of the book carefully interleave about every thirty pages with plain paper towels or blank newsprint. Try not to distort the book by using too much interleaving.



- Also interleave between the front and back covers and the text. This will prevent any dyes from the cover transferring onto the text.
- Open the books and stand them on either their top or bottom edge to allow air to circulate throughout the text.
- Place them on a surface that is covered with newsprint, paper towels, or blotter. Change the surface if it becomes wet.
- Provide gentle air circulation with electric fans.
- Frequently check the interleaving, replacing it when it becomes wet, and place the absorbent material in different locations throughout the book to aid drying. Also flip the book over periodically to prevent the text block from sagging.
- When books are dry, lay them flat and place some weight on them to restore their original shape.

For books that have shiny (coated) paper:

- All the wet pages must be immediately interleaved with paper towels or newsprint. If the book dries without interleaving, the pages will stick together permanently.
- Open the book and dry as above.

If you cannot begin drying your books immediately, you may put them in your home freezer and dry them later. This is helpful if you have too many to dry at one time. To prevent distortion stack the wet books flat in a freezer and dry them in batches.

Saturated books can be air dried but they require more attention and frequent changing of the interleaving. Do not stand a saturated book on end. The weight of the wet pages will pull the text block out and cause added distortion. Instead, place the book on the drying surface and carefully open it, providing some type of support for the front and back covers. Saturated books dry with less distortion when vacuum freeze-dried by a company specializing in disaster recovery. Many libraries use this type of service for large scale water disasters.

Books can be dried outdoors, weather permitting, and the humidity is less than 75%. Do not place books in direct sunlight while they are wet to prevent interior mold growth, fading or discoloration. After they are dry, short exposure to sunlight can help retard any mold growth and rid them of musty odors.

# The Legacy of Harley K. Croessmann

Writing in *ICarbS*, a literary journal of Morris Library, in 1975, Steven Lund, a graduate student in English, and Alan Cohn, the humanities librarian at Morris, acknowledge that the acquisition of Harley K. Croessmann's collection of

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***“Even thus removed from the trade routes of the literary world, Dr. Croessmann amassed one of the finest Joyce collections still in private hands at the time it was deposited with the library.”***

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James Joyce material essentially gave birth to the Special Collections unit of Morris Library. His dogged pursuit of Joyce material was without parallel in the world. In December 1958 his collection was purchased and, in part, presented to Morris Library with the assistance of the SIU Foundation. The aforementioned writers noted, “Even thus removed from the trade routes of the literary world, Dr. Croessmann amassed one of the finest Joyce collections still in private hands at the time it was deposited with the library.”

Considerable attention has previously been paid to the specific items—books, letters, manuscripts, photographs, paintings, and more—that Croessmann acquired as a collecting juggernaut, but little detail has been applied to the man himself. How a shy, modest optometrist from Du Quoin, Illinois, would come to compile one of the world's greatest collections of James Joyce-related material still remains something of an enigma.



Courtesy of Du Quoin Public Library

The German quotation that accompanies Croessmann's high school yearbook photo translates as, “I have done what I could not leave undone.”



Courtesy of Special Collections

Rarely did Croessmann apply bookplates, but this one adorned his copy of Herbert Gorman's *James Joyce: His First Forty Years* published by B. W. Huebsch in 1924.

A select few residents of his hometown still remember Dr. Croessmann fondly. Virginia “Ginny” Sawyer, Croessmann's landlady of his downtown office, recalls that he was a friendly but quiet

man, who didn't mingle with fellow professionals. Pam Urban, the director of the Du Quoin Public Library, recalls that “he was always very friendly and well dressed” and that he always walked the half mile from his home at 213 East Cole to his office at 216½ East Main Street, on the second floor next to the Grand Theater. She recalled that her father, Dr. Leach, a dentist, was also known for walking to work and that these two professionals were known as “the only pedestrians in town.” In fact, Croessmann did not own or operate an automobile for the latter forty years of his life.

The Croessmanns had no children and presumably lived a modest, frugal life in Du Quoin. According to an article by Bel Gelman in the January 25, 1959, *Southern Illinoisan* the Croessmanns had no television and they seldom attended movies. A lifelong bibliophile Croessmann had collected works of H. L. Mencken and examples of early

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***“I've been a poor man in a millionaire's hobby.”***

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printing that included Gutenberg bible leaves and incunabula (printing before 1501) before concentrating on Joyce. “I've been a poor man in a millionaire's hobby,” said Croessmann. In replying on December 25, 1957, to Harry T. Moore, a new acquaintance and an English professor at SIUC, Croessmann, firmly but tellingly, cautioned against unannounced visits. “We shall be glad to have you at our house. May we have some foreknowledge of a visit? The reasons are dropping in may find us “out” or in clothing that is wholly unpresentable for the occasion, meeting you for the first time. Marie and I both work (she has a small insurance agency)

*continued on page 8 . . .*

# Invitation to Join the Friends of Morris Library

by Carolyn Donow, President

The Friends of Morris Library, organized in 1961, is committed to the improvement of Morris Library. Governed by a Board of Directors that meets regularly through the year with projects to benefit the Library, the full membership of the Friends meets annually at a dinner in April. At the dinner, the Dean reports on the progress of the Library, and the winners of our Delta Awards are announced. Chosen by a committee that includes Friends, community members, and the Director of SIU Press, the Delta Awards are given to those who have written, edited, or published about southern Illinois. Last year our featured speaker at the dinner was Robert Coover, nationally-renowned author and outstanding teacher. It was an inspiring evening.



In the past the Friends have renovated the Browsing Room and purchased chairs for the Library, furnishings that will be used in the new Morris Library. Our current major project is to build a courtyard patio on the east side of the Library that can be used for studying, socializing, and hosting special events.

During the Library's major renovation, we need as many friends as we can get. There is no set membership fee—your gift will make you a Friend and help us improve the Library. Please send a donation to the Library and become a Friend of Morris Library today! For more information contact Kristine McGuire at [kmcguire@lib.siu.edu](mailto:kmcguire@lib.siu.edu) or 618-453-1633.

## Vintage Image Corner



In 1938 Adolf Hitler marched into Austria, Orson Welles broadcast his infamous *War of the Worlds* radio program, the federal minimum wage was established at \$.25 per hour, and McAndrew Stadium was built. Writing in 1949, campus historian Eli Lentz offered, "William McAndrew was brought to Southern in 1913 as director of physical training for men to build a program of college athletics, to train high school coaches, and to inculcate the highest ideal of clean sportsmanship. He did just that . . ." But looking south from the newly-completed McAndrew Stadium reveals how rural and pastoral the campus was in this 1938 photograph.

## Friends of Morris Library Board Members

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\*New Member



Croessmann . . . continued from pg. 6

and when we are alone at home, we (as I suppose is the case of many couples such as we) tend to wearing [sic] old clothes—and you know how women feel about such details. We are NOT formal liveries—far from it.”

Harley Karl Croessmann was born November 27, 1893, and was a lifelong resident of Perry County, Illinois, passing away in Marshall Browning Hospital in Du Quoin on May 22, 1962, after suffering a stroke. During his senior year in high school, 1912, he

the 1912 *Flashlight* that were evocative of nineteenth-century writing in style, character, drama, and setting. He served twenty months in France during World War I, leaving the service as an ordnance

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***“I’ve never been there. The most of Ireland I’ve ever seen is a glimpse of the coast from a transport bound for Liverpool in 1917. It was green!”***

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Courtesy of Robert Morefield

With what’s undoubtedly Joyce-related material surrounding them, Marie and Harley enjoy a lighter moment at their home at 213 East Cole Street in Du Quoin in the late 1940s.

was a member of the Literary Society and the *Flashlight* yearbook staff, serving as athletic editor. In high school he also apparently earned the nickname “Heine” for the noted nineteenth-century German writer and poet. He even authored two short stories for

sergeant in 1919. Back in Du Quoin he organized the Roy Mitchell Post 647 of the American Legion in 1920. He received his only professional degree in 1924, graduating from the Northern Illinois College of Ophthalmology

and Otology in Chicago, and it was during his time in Chicago that his interest in Joyce was born. He married Marie D. Johnson in Du Quoin on June 4, 1927. He had also been a noted bugler and was instrumental in founding the American Legion Drum and Bugle

Corps, which won a state championship in 1933. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church in Du Quoin.

Too, he involved himself in the pursuit and study of local history. Writing for the *Du Quoin Evening Call* in 1934, he offered an explanation for his hometown’s name, “The correct form of his name is ‘Jean Baptiste’ [Ducoigne]—which means ‘John (the) Baptist’ and which is a very common masculine name in French. ‘Du Quoin’ is a corrupt form of ‘Ducoigne or Decoigne.’” Apparently, Croessmann was imbued with pride of place. When Alan Cohn was preparing an exhibition catalog for Croessmann’s Joyce material to be displayed at SIUC in 1957, he queried Croessmann about

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***“There I came across a forbidden copy of the first edition of ULYSSES in the vault with the rare books. Too poor to own it, McGee kindly tolerated me while I read great amounts standing up in that vault.”***

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his personal background, and the first sentence of Croessmann’s response was “Du Quoin is my home.”

continued on page 9 . . .

## Presidential Signatures Sought

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The Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) holds two presidential signatures collections. The Philip D. Sang Collection and the Alfred Berol Collection of Presidential Letters both contain letters signed by U.S. presidents from George Washington to Dwight D. Eisenhower. According to Pam Hackbart-Dean, the Director of SCRC, “We would like to add to these magnificent

collections of original presidential signatures. If possible, the stories behind the signature would be an added bonus to the collection.”

Should readers of *Cornerstone* have signatures that they would consider donating, please contact Pam Hackbart-Dean at [phdean@lib.siu.edu](mailto:phdean@lib.siu.edu) or 618-453-2516.

The autographs sought are:

John F. Kennedy  
Lyndon B. Johnson  
Richard M. Nixon  
Gerald R. Ford  
James (Jimmy) E. Carter  
Ronald W. Reagan  
George H. W. Bush  
William (Bill) J. Clinton  
George W. Bush

*continued from page 8 . . .*

Yet at a tumultuous time when many local banks and businesses were failing, coal mines closing, and most southern Illinoisans were struggling to survive the onset of the Great Depression, Harley Croessmann began his quest to assemble what became a world-class collection of Joyceana. Yet, it is interesting to note that Croessmann never traveled once from his home in the pursuit of adding Joyce items to his collection. Rather, he preferred to systematically



Courtesy of Southern Alumnus

Also an enthusiast of Joyce's writings, Alan Cohn (left) was instrumental in bringing the Croessmann Collection to Carbondale.

acquire item after item by maintaining a detailed correspondence with dozens of booksellers, collectors, associates, publishers, photographers, and others. In 1954 he did travel to the University of Illinois to attend the lecture of friend and London bookseller Bertram Rota, but the convenience of the Illinois Central railroad was undoubtedly a factor. When asked a question about Dublin, Croessmann confessed in a 1958 letter, "I've never been there. The most of Ireland I've ever seen is a glimpse of the coast from a transport bound for Liverpool in 1917. It was green!"

The Croessmann collection at SCRC is divided into three parts: the

Gorman papers, the Goyert papers, and his thirty-year assemblage of correspondence. Born the same year as Croessmann, Herman Gorman (1893–1954) wrote the first book-length study

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***"I have spent altogether too much time, effort and care in bringing it into being to see [it] scattered to the four winds what is one of the best collections of Joyceana still in private hands."***

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of James Joyce in 1924. Gorman's work pleased Joyce, and they became friends until Joyce's death in 1941. After Gorman died in 1954, Croessmann successfully set about to obtain the manuscripts, letters, and photographs Gorman had assembled, acquiring the material in two installments in the late 1950s. Croessmann was gracious, even eager, to

allow scholars the use of such primary material, lending the Gorman material to Richard Ellman, who authored the definitive biography of Joyce in 1959.

Georg Goyert was the German translator of Joyce's work, and in the late 1950s Croessmann acquired twenty-six letters, dealing largely with matters of translation, written by Joyce between 1927 and 1939. This correspondence discloses the courtesy and esteem that Joyce had for his translator, but it also reveals the weak condition of Joyce's eyes, as he repeatedly asked Goyert to use a typewriter, as Joyce had difficulty reading the man's handwriting. According to Lund and Cohn, "This material is all

that survived the fire-bombing of Berlin in 1943, when inscribed books and other items presented to Goyert by Joyce were destroyed."

But the aforementioned correspondence is the heart of this article and the crux of the collection, for it is through these thirty years of communication with others that the simplicities and complexities of Harley Croessmann's character are revealed.

How Croessmann became enthralled with Joyce is best told in his own words. He wrote this letter January 12, 1957, in response to Alan Cohn's request for personal information. "Interest in Joyce originated in Chicago in 1923 before I got out of school, at the bookshop of Covici-McGee in Washington Street in the Loop. There I came across a forbidden copy of the first edition of *Ulysses* in the vault with the rare books. Too poor to own it, McGee kindly



Courtesy of Special Collections

Written by Alan Cohn and prepared by SIU Press, Croessmann bubbled like a proud father at the exhibition catalog's publication, "I'm really proud of it—and flattered."

tolerated me while I read great amounts standing up in that vault. Later I bethought myself of a bookseller friend I knew in Beaune, Cote d'Or, and got him to procure a copy for me (in 1925) and

*continued from page 9 . . .*

send the banned copy through the mail. I received it without the Customs having examined it, and made arrangements for him to send me two copies per month which I promptly turned over to Ben Abramson of Argus Book Shop, Chicago, who had also been kind to me while I was a student. This went on for quite some months until the Customs got nosy and suspicious, then it ended with confiscation without remuneration.”

While Croessmann was courteous and polite to a fault, he could be dogged in his negotiations for Joyce material that interested him. In July 1958 Croessmann was contacted by Peter F. du Sautoy of Faber and Faber Ltd., a book publisher in London, acting on behalf of Nelly Joyce, the widow of James’ brother, Stanislaus. Initially, the typed manuscript of Stanislaus Joyce’s *My Brother’s Keeper* was offered at \$1,000. However, Croessmann was too shrewd a Joyce scholar (and too frugal) to accept such an offer without inquiring, “I should like to be certain that there is no holograph [handwritten] original of the typescript itself as Stanislaus did not use the typewriter. I reason that he wrote the book himself and in longhand. What became of it?” After much correspondence, it was determined that the handwritten manuscript was being

retained by Nelly Joyce, but she was willing to part with this somewhat diluted manuscript for \$150.

In 1958 Croessmann turned sixty-five, and retirement was a consideration for Dr. Harley Croessmann, as he did relinquish his downtown office, according to Virginia Sawyer. He had entertained inquiries as to the disposition of his collection from several sources—Cornell University, the University of Buffalo, the University of Kansas, and numerous

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***“I firmly believe that Joyce is the immortal of the Century and I am very proud of my small link with him.”***

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booksellers. But Croessmann was adamant about the future of his collection. In a June 17, 1958, letter to Joseph Rubinstein, curator of rare



Courtesy of Ben Gelman

Harley Croessmann thumbs through the first copy of *Ulysses* he ever bought. In the 1959 *Southern Illinoisan* article that accompanied this photograph, he said “I feel naked without my books.”

books at the University of Kansas, Croessmann stated, “I shall try to devise a plan whereby all interested will have an equal opportunity to acquire my holdings, although I have not yet definitely done so. A prominent New York book shop would take over the collection outright, to do with as they please—which is what I don’t want. I want it kept intact, known as the ‘Croessmann Collection of James Joyce’ and placed where it is available to another generation of research scholars. I have spent altogether too much time,

*continued on page 11 . . .*

## Bookends Still Available

Sets of commemorative Morris Library bookends are still available at \$350 plus \$15 shipping. Pickup is available to local patrons. No more than 100 sets of these distinctive keepsakes will be produced. The bookends are hand-crafted from the marble that once graced the Library’s information and circulation desks.

A Certificate of Authenticity signed by Library Affairs Dean David Carlson accompanies each set. Funds from the sale of the bookends benefit a general activities fund, enabling Morris Library to pursue its mission as the cornerstone of the university and to provide exemplary service to its patrons.

For more information about the bookends or to order a set, please contact Kristine McGuire at [kmcguire@lib.siu.edu](mailto:kmcguire@lib.siu.edu) or 618-453-1633.



# The Bargain Sale Method of Giving

by Yvonne M. Spencer, Director of Planned Giving, SIU Foundation

The bargain sale is an often overlooked and underutilized method of making a gift to Morris Library. In this sale the donor sells appreciated property (real estate, personal property or securities) to the SIU Foundation at a price that is significantly less than the current fair market value of that property. The difference between the appraised or actual value and the sales price represents a contribution by the donor, and the Foundation records that amount as a gift. A bargain sale is useful when the donor wishes to make a gift, but requires some reimbursement, or when the donor cannot afford to relinquish the property as an outright gift, or when Morris Library wishes to acquire certain property.

For example, a potential donor owns a rare collection of Shakespearean plays that have been appraised at \$75,000. Morris Library would like to acquire the plays, so the Foundation agrees to purchase the plays for \$25,000 in a bargain sale. The transaction is considered part sale and part gift. The donor receives \$25,000 and can claim an income tax deduction of \$50,000. Both parties benefit—the donor receives need funds and Morris Library adds a magnificent collection of rare Shakespearean plays to its collection at a fraction of its value.

For further information about this method of giving, please contact Kristine McGuire at [kmguire@lib.siu.edu](mailto:kmguire@lib.siu.edu) or 618-453-1633.

*Croessmann . . . cont. from page 10*

effort and care in bringing it into being to see [it] scattered to the four winds what is one of the best collections of Joyceana still in private hands. I am still adding to it, unbelievable when you consider with what thoroughness Europe and America have been scoured and by persons far wealthier than I."

Without question, Croessmann's friendship with Alan Cohn, a Joyce scholar too, was a critical factor in bringing his collection to Morris Library. The initial formality of their correspondence quickly changed as salutations involving "Mr." and "Dr." soon became "Al" and "Doc." It was at a meeting at Croessmann's home in late 1958 that the financial details were hammered out, and in early 1959, with the assistance of the SIU Foundation, the "Croessmann Collection of James Joyce" became a resource of Morris Library, available to all. Croessmann was paid \$15,000 for his voluminous collection of material—a bargain by 1959 standards and certainly a steal by today's standards in which a first edition of *Ulysses* could sell in excess of \$15,000.

Harley Croessman was an optometrist of vision—a man without children who nurtured a collection of books and papers that became his legacy. In May 1959 he wrote to Joyce colleague Richard M. Kain, "I firmly believe that Joyce is the immortal of the Century and I am very proud of my small link with him." **GP**

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Special thanks to the Special Collections Research Center at SIUC and Pam Urban, Director of the Du Quoin Public Library, for their assistance in the preparation of this article.]

## Renovation Update

Recent construction work for the Library has included the creation of the new elevator shafts and the ground excavation for the addition on the north side of the building. Rainwater problems are being addressed with the application of a new roof. Work is progressing with exterior masonry on the building's south and west sides and with siding and windows on floors 4 through 7.



Looking west along the north face of Morris, groundwork is prepared for the building's 50,000 square foot addition. The earth is augered for caissons, the concrete pillars that will support the new structure.

### Did You Know?

The salary for the University Librarian, Granville F. Foster, in 1879 was \$1,500. He was also a teacher of physiology and history.



**Library Affairs**

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**F**inancial gifts from library friends empower Morris Library and ensure its position as one of the top research libraries in the country. We appreciate this tradition of private support, which is critical to the quality of the library's collections, programs, and services. In furtherance of the goals of SOUTHERN AT 150, SIUC and the SIU Foundation retain six percent of all gifts to strengthen the advancement program.

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