



March 2007

The Scrapbook as Historical Document

By Deirdre A. Scags

Creating scrapbooks is inherently connected to the physical manifestation of memory. Scrapbooks are able to document the life of the creator, the society in which they lived, and the culture of that time. They can contain nearly any item you could imagine from labels, scraps, medals, photographs, clippings, to personal writings. Yet, they are often overlooked in a historical framework. Despite the role they play in history, it must be acknowledged that some may be less autobiographical than others, that they may offer just a glimpse of history, and that they are created for a variety of reasons. Some are created for personal reasons, some to document clubs or organizations, and some may document a specific event. At times, the scrapbook can document a person's ideals rather than their reality and they can be compiled by another person entirely. As stated in *The Scrapbook in American Life*, "They are eccentric and idiosyncratic, making them impossible to pick up and read as one would a published book." (p.12) Historically, an unmounted photograph was referred to as a scrap and so albums that contained these scraps eventually came to be known as scrapbooks. Keeping photograph albums was extremely popular in Victorian times and the desire for families or individuals to document the key events of their lives grew. Scrapbooks can be examined to explore how this phenomena has changed over time. Scrapbooking continues to be popular today as evidenced by the growing number of stores dedicated to the art and craft of this hobby.



Portrait of Susan Margaret Settle from the 1922 Kentuckian.

Scrapbooks contain papers, writings, photographs, artifacts, and ephemera. Each of these has its own preservation requirements yet they are all together in one "document." Additionally, the adhesives and fasteners present their own preservation challenges; the scrapbook itself may pose problems with its paper or binding. Each of the issues are complex and when combined further complicates the preservation of scrapbooks. These challenges also make patron access difficult. The University Archives in Special Collections and Digital Programs has many scrapbooks documenting clubs and individual student experiences. They are a rich resource in the documentation of our history as a University and also of student life and culture. The scrapbooks pose an array of challenges however.

One such collection is the Susan Margaret Settle scrapbooks. Susan Margaret Settle was born on August 7, 1900 in Elizabethtown, Kentucky. In 1918 she entered Hamilton College, a Junior College for Young Women that was associated with Transylvania University and graduated in June 1920. She continued her education by entering the University of Kentucky that same year. In June of 1922, she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree and returned to Elizabethtown to begin a career at Elizabethtown High School teaching the subjects of English and French.

The *Susan Margaret Settle scrapbooks* consist of two books. One, a personal scrapbook created by Settle in September 1918 at the beginning of her attendance at Hamilton College; continuing through 1922 when she graduated from the University of Kentucky. The second book is a pictorial yearbook; the Hamilton College Book of Views, printed in 1921. The personal scrapbook opens with a statement by Susan Margaret Settle, "It is to be the combination of a diary and memory book which I hope will bring me many pleasant memories of good times in years to come." The scrapbook contains items of her daily social and academic life while attending Hamilton College and the University of Kentucky.

Scrapbooks (Cont.)

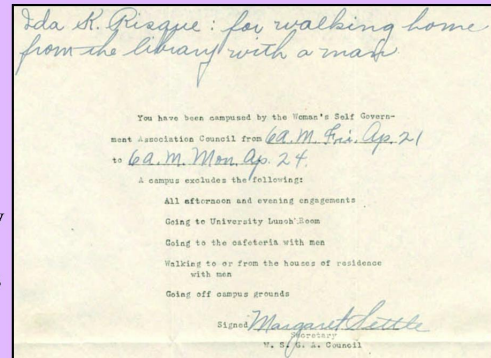


Ephemera from the Settle scrapbook

There are many examples of Settle's cultural interests: weddings, fashion shows, various social functions, and dances on the campus, music and theater productions, and war activity notices. As was customary for the era, there are calling cards from fellow students, notes and letters from suitors, and dance cards. A booklet entitled "Common Sense Pointers – Marriage for all Singles and Married Folks"; includes tips on dating, selection of partner, and marriage. The items relating to her academic life include Grade Slips, payment stubs for tuition with room and board (in 1920 she paid \$25 for her room in Patterson Hall), and other items. It also includes a guidebook for female students entitled Women's Self Government Association of the University of Kentucky 1920 mission "to enact and enforce regulations to promote the welfare and further the best living conditions of the women of University of Kentucky."

A letter from her father demonstrates the current events of the period. Settle must have thought this letter was indeed significant or that someone would one day be looking through her memories since she inscribed on the envelope, "the only real letter received from my father." The subject matter of the letter was the teaching of Evolution in the Kentucky school systems, dated January 25, 1922. Her father expressed that while he was happy that she was taking an interest in the subject, "I want to say to you that evolution is a great study and it would be a calamity to have it discontinued in the schools of Kentucky, but I do think that the legislature should withhold any public moneys from the State University or any other institution asking for public moneys until they are sure that the teachers who undertake to interpret evolution do not make this an opportunity for a tirade against the Bible and Christianity." Settle's scrapbook is packed with ephemera, correspondence, and other materials; it is an excellent documentation of her academic and social life.

Another scrapbook from the same time period is the Ida Kenney Risque Harper scrapbook. Ida Kenney Risque Harper was a student at the University of Kentucky from 1921-1925. She was a member of the Lambda Alpha chapter of Chi Omega Women's Fraternity, the Strollers, the Rifle Club (1923), and Su-Ky Circle. She graduated in 1925 with an A.B. degree majoring in Arts/Education and went on to become a high school teacher. She married Henry Alexander Harper on December 26, 1928.



Citation given to Ida Kenney Risque.

The *Ida Kenney Risque Harper scrapbook* includes items related to Harper's student life at the University of Kentucky during the years 1921-1925. There are dance invitations and dance cards, theatre programs, correspondence, newspaper clippings, and photographs. Many of the items relate to Ida Kenney Risque



Enchanted Cottage (play) at the Romany Theater, Jim Cogar and Ida Kenney Risque circa 1924.

Harper's involvement in the Lambda Alpha chapter of Chi Omega Women's Fraternity. From the scrapbook one can decipher clues about Ms. Risque. She played Lady Paisley in "Lady Windermere's Fan" and there are many ephemeral items from the University of Kentucky strollers. Based on telegrams from Henry Harper, she and her then future husband were college sweethearts.

There are several indications that Ida Kenney Risque broke some of the University's rules. Included within the scrapbook are many citations from the Woman's Self Government Association at UK. Risque was written up for dancing at the Chi Omega House between 6:30 and 7:30 pm, for walking to and also from the library with a man, and for going to the Greeks after a dance after 1 o'clock. The fact that she kept these citations and glued them into her scrapbook seems to suggest that they were in fact significant in her college experience. Where Margaret Settle had the guidebook for female students entitled Women's Self Government Association of the University of Kentucky in her scrapbook - Risque did not. As a related aside, the library citation is signed by Margaret Settle. While there is little to no documentation of her academic life the scrapbook does provide a glimpse of Ida Kenney Risque's social life as well as campus culture in the 1920s.

Scrapbooks (cont.)

Last is the Virginia Clay McClure scrapbook. Virginia McClure graduated from the University of Kentucky with an A.B. from the College of Arts and Sciences, 1912. She was vice-president of her senior undergraduate class, a member of Y.W.C.A. and President from 1911-1912, a reporter for the *Idea*, editorial staff for the *Kentuckian*, and a student assistant in German. McClure received her M.A. degree from UK in 1928, and later returned to UK to earn her Ph. D., making her the first woman to earn a Ph.D. at UK in 1934. She was a teacher for over 25 years at schools in Middlesboro, Paducah, Cynthiana, and Henry Clay high schools, and retired from teaching in 1959. She died in 1980 at the age of 91.



Portrait of Virginia McClure from the 1912 *Kentuckian*.

The Virginia Clay McClure papers include a diary/scrapbook, a photograph album, and other assorted photographs related to Virginia Clay McClure's time as an undergraduate at the University of Kentucky from 1910-1912. The scrapbook includes clippings, small artifacts, programs and invitations, but the bulk of the material is McClure's many personal writings; it follows this experience from her junior through her senior year, 1910-1912. The loose scrapbook items were stuffed in the front of the album and were removed to folders. The photograph album also seems to document this same relevant time period and includes photographs of her classmates many of whom are identified and also mentioned in her scrapbook. It also includes Arbor Day photographs and women playing basketball among other casual snapshots. The loose photographs include pictures of Virginia Clay McClure, classmates at the University of Kentucky, and class trips and events that Virginia attended.

McClure's scrapbook is more diary than artifact. The book is full of her personal thoughts and accounts of her college life; it follows this experience from her junior through her senior year. She speaks of football games, going to picture shows, being lonely when her friends are away, indulging in cream, having banana sandwiches, shopping with her friends, dreading her logic exams, and feeling nostalgic prior to graduation. This excerpt from June 2, 1912 reads, "Sunday, and the Sunday of our Baccalaureate sermon. We all look very dignified in our caps and gowns, with high collars and white gloves. The boys begin to come in bunches and stand about the lawn in funny, embarrassed looking groups, waiting to go to church. Nearly everybody comes around to our room, and everybody you see says, 'how nice you look!' While you stand there and feel like an idiot instead of a dignified A.B.... The sermon was splendid as I knew it would be. Afterwards Addie and I walked slowly back to old Patt. Hall and every senior we see says 'Were you ever so hot?' and we never were."

McClure's scrapbook, that she refers to as her "good time book" is excellent documentation of her social and academic life, as well as the customs of the era. Amidst the writing she has attached correspondence, clippings, and ephemera that serve to provide added context to her words. Some of these document an event, a song, or even an artifact. Many of her thoughts and experiences seem relative to feelings that I had when I was in college and while many of the social customs have changed this account is priceless in terms of the view that it gives the reader into McClure's life.

Scrapbooks pose many problems in an archival environment. They are often filled with a variety of papers, photographs, or organic matter. Each one of these may be highly acidic, prone to fading, be attractive to pests, or deterioration. The scrapbook could be held together with rusting pins, unstable glues, tape, and other fasteners. The glue can become brittle over time, fasteners fall off, and then items become disassociated with their context. Additionally, they may be so packed full of items some of which may be three-dimensional that their bindings are bulging. Despite the preservation challenges and the possibility that their content may be questionable scrapbooks can be vital to understanding portions of history. The examples above, I feel, show the benefits outweigh the challenges and that allowing the public to become aware of the collections will help disseminate the information that they hold. With the current popularity of scrapbooking I think archives and historical societies will continue to see them as part of their collections and that by educating them now on the importance perhaps scrapbookers can make more informative documents for future generations.

News To Use Spot Bonus Award Winners

Peggy Philips recently received a Spot Bonus award for finding a method of copying call numbers during the check-in process to a label template which then prints from our printers. This process resulted in a faster turnaround time for serials check-in. In addition to learning the responsibilities of her new position within the Libraries, she was able to remove a major barrier to achieving the serials check-in goal by creating a method to print accurate call number labels. Peggy went beyond learning a new job to identifying a work process that could be improved. She researched alternatives and then recommended an improved work flow. All of her hard work is appreciated and we look forward to her next innovation.



News To Use (continued)



Cheri Daniels was recently awarded a Spot Bonus. During the 2006 calendar year the Interlibrary Loan Lending Unit, which Cheri currently manages, faced major problems created by staff shortages. At the time, Cheri was not in the manager role; however, she stepped up to the plate and kept the Lending Operation accessible to borrowing libraries. Her cooperative attitude, organizational and management skills, and customer service outlook made the year a much better one than could have been expected.

Debbie Johnson recently received a Spot Bonus Award for requesting to handle the bindery shipments for MSS materials. One of her new responsibilities this past year was to learn how to use ABLE and to prepare bindery shipments for the serials in the Fine Arts Library. Shortly after learning the serials binding process, she suggested that preparing bindery shipments for MSS materials be added as one of her responsibilities as well. Debbie took on new tasks, made recommendations to improve work flows, and sought out training opportunities. Her willingness to take on new responsibilities and challenges are greatly appreciated.

Betsy Hughes was recently awarded a Spot Bonus for her recent creativity in figuring out a way to add the SFX button to Voyager/InfoKat records. In addition to learning the responsibilities of her new position within the Libraries, she took an interest in trying to solve an outstanding SFX issue. Even though she had not been with the Libraries for very long, she quickly grasped the significance of being able to selectively add this information to Voyager/InfoKat records. Betsy's inventiveness is greatly appreciated.



Congratulations on a job well done!

Historic Photos to go on Permanent Display in White Hall



The University Archive's photographs are a rich visual record of the history of the University of Kentucky. The images depict students, faculty, administrators, alumni, and noteworthy visitors. Additionally, they document campus facilities, buildings, and views. Athletics are emphasized, in addition to research, events, activities, organizations, students, recreation, and campus life in general.

These photographs are our visual link to the collective memory of the University. Making historic images of campus life visible to students is a way to share UK's rich history and help them connect with UK's legacy. It also enriches the students' campus experience and helps to increase the University's physical and intellectual presence.

With funding from the President's office, the University Archives will select nine historic images depicting student life for permanent display on the North wall (1st floor) of the White Hall Classroom Building. It is our hope that this could be one of many future initiatives to create a richer campus environment utilizing photographs from the University Archives. As we look to the future with the Top 20 Business Plan, we hope that items of our heritage can be used to emphasize, enrich, and strengthen the connection between the promise of our future and the greatness of our past. The photographs should be ready for display by summer.

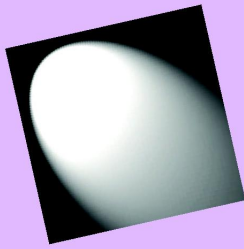
Comings and Goings



Jesse Brasher started February 5, 2007 as a Library Technician in Interlibrary Loan, Access and Delivery Division. Jesse will be working primarily with ILL lending. Please make him welcome.



Amy Watson, Library Technician Senior in the Circulation Department, Access & Delivery Division, has resigned her position. Her last day of work was February 28. Amy, whose assignment is Evening Supervisor, joined the Circulation Department in July 2002. We thank her for her good work and wish her the very best in her future endeavors.



Spotlight Series

This Spotlight features Michele Lai-Fook who will retire after 20 years of employment at the University of Kentucky.

Michele Lai-Fook – Computer Support, Library Information Technology

If you have ever used one of the libraries Lexmark printers, scanned a document in Digital Programs, Inter Library Loan or for an e-reserve, if you have ever conducted or attended training in W. T. Young rooms 1-57 or 1-78, then, whether you know it or not, you have been helped by Michele Lai-Fook. Michele has been doing technical support for Information Technology as a temporary worker for a very long time. Along with printers, scanners, and the training rooms, Michele has been responsible for maintaining staff laptops, the equipment in the Disabilities Services room, and last year she got the new computer operated microform readers in Young functioning—she investigated the operations of this software to the point where the vendor was calling her for advice on how to fix it.

Michele started working for the University of Kentucky in 1987 when she started in the College of Architecture's computer lab, running the computers and scanners while enriching the educational experience of all the students and faculty who used the facility. Since that time she has worked for the campus computer labs, and then for the library Electronic Resources team.

Michele grew up in the Bellevue area of Seattle, Washington where she dodged raindrops and attended school, majoring in French and history. For a while Michele also spent time in Lausanne, Switzerland where she attended school.

Michele is married to Stephen J. Lai-Fook, Ph.D., a professor at the University of Kentucky, Center for Biomedical Engineering where for many years now he has been researcher in pulmonary mechanics and biomechanics. Michele and Steve spent time in Rochester, Minnesota while Steve worked for the Mayo Clinic, and then in San Francisco, where Michele earned a degree in computer science. They have two wonderful children, Kristin and Thomas, and Kristin will soon make Michele a grandmother. Congratulations, Michele!

Michele enjoys spending time gardening at her home and is known for tending to the most verdant, lush bed of Pachysandra in all the Bluegrass. Along with gardening Michele and Steve are avid sailors, and for many years now they have kept a sailboat, the Red Witch, on Cave Run Lake and spent many weekends there with canvas full, tacking about the lake and practicing their nautical skills. With good reason too because they've recently purchased a 38 foot marine vessel, The Island Witch, with a slip in Jacksonville, Florida. They plan on spending much more time at sea not only sailing the coast, but the Caribbean—trips as far as Trinidad are on the horizon and all ports-of-call between.

Michele is planning on retiring in April and no doubt she and Steve will have a bon voyage. We wish them well with fair winds and following seas.



*Steve and Michele aboard their vessel
The Island Witch.*



Tech Talk

By *UK Libraries Web Administration*
(AKA: Rob Aken, Brian Helm, Beth Kraemer, and Kelly Vickery)

As you all know, our redesigned UK Libraries website went live in December 2005. Many of you are contributing content to the new site, using a content management system developed in-house. This month's Tech Talk column will provide user tips and updates about this content management system.

The primary goals of our 2005 website redesign were: Faster updating through distributed content management, consistency of design and navigation, standards compliance and accessibility. Development of the content management system was intended to support all these goals. The system allows those of us with *content expertise* to manage the representation of that content in the website, without having to be HTML experts. The web-based management system allows content editing within a template system that provides consistent navigation and design elements. The editor within the system allows creation of valid HTML code using a familiar Word-like editor utility. Valid code is important to assure that pages function across browsers, to insure we comply with accessibility requirements, and to generally make sure the site “works” for everyone.

Below are some important tips for website content managers. The Web Administration group is always available for one-on-one or small group training. Contact webadmin@lsv.uky.edu to schedule training or anytime you need help or have questions. Contact us also if you have suggestions for improvements in the site.

Content Manager Tip Sheet

1. Access the staff side of the website through the “Staff only” link, at the bottom of the left nav on all pages in the site.
2. Contact webadmin@lsv.uky.edu for:
 - Training (refresher training is encouraged!)
 - New pages/new tabs (we create the “shell” and you fill it)
 - To delete pages
 - Help and questions – We are happy to fix things if you ask!
3. Recent improvements to the Content Management system:
 - Managers (CMs) can upload images
 - CMs can re-arrange tabs
 - CMs can create forms
 - Campus Library CMs can add non-Libraries links to their library left-nav.
4. A suggestion about using the built-in editor: If you are making small edits, work directly in the website editor. If you are making big edits, such as creating brand new page content, work in Word (remember to use the “Paste from Word” button!!)
5. Explore the editor. Hover over the buttons to see what they do.
6. Check page validation. A link to the validator is always on the bottom of the left nav. Validation errors can cause pages to fail in some browsers!
7. Always review your pages in the public side. Make sure your changes “took”, make sure forms work, make sure links work, etc.



Tech Talk (cont.)

8. Use dynamic links for links to information resources, e.g. {irtitle=123}. That way, you don't have to correct links to resources if the URLs change! The codes are available to copy/paste on the left nav in the staff side. (Remember that dynamic links are also available to link to staff directory entries.)
9. Remember the online help and guidelines available in staff side left nav.
10. Set up a schedule to review your content regularly. Make sure your pages are current, relevant, useful, and clear. Update or delete old content!
11. Avoid duplication. Search to see if a similar page already exists, rather than creating a new one.

If you make major changes that may affect other content managers or users of the website, be sure to communicate! Use the CM list (LIBWEBCONTENT@LSV.UKY.EDU) or all-lib, as appropriate.

WOW!!!



UK Librarian Selected Leadership Fellow

In 2004, the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) created a leadership program in response to increasing demands for succession planning for research libraries—the RLLF Program offers a new approach to preparing the next generation of library leaders. This year the ARL has selected 23 individuals representing a broad array of backgrounds and experiences from multiple ARL institutions to participate in the two-year program. The selected Fellows demonstrated that they possess the skills needed to succeed in leadership positions in large, complex institutions. Lisa Carter will represent the University of Kentucky Libraries in the 2007-2008 cohort.

In her application to the program, Carter described her interest in investigating how research libraries are exposing hidden collections to enrich the academic experience. She observed that “as teaching, research and life-long learning evolve, research libraries must capitalize on their unique collections and services to remain relevant, broaden their constituency and address increasingly niche interests.” Like other ARL institutions, UK Libraries have accumulated vast quantities of rare and primary source materials in support of the scholarly community both on campus and beyond. Yet, many of these collections remain inaccessible, unknown and unusable by the research community. Further, new technologies open up greater possibilities for providing access to these resources. During her time as a RLLF fellow, Carter will explore how ARL libraries are meeting the challenges of identifying, managing and providing access to unique and rare materials via the technologies and changing ways in which researchers and students learn and teach.

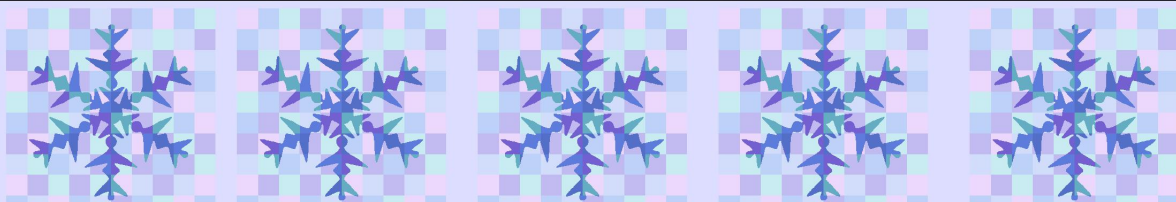


Eeva Hoch to serve on Internationalization Task Force

Provost Subbaswamy has appointed an Internationalization Task Force to do a thorough examination of the University's international efforts including where we've been, where we currently stand, and what we should do in the future. The Task Force will be chaired by Beth Barnes, School of Journalism, and co-chaired by John Yopp. Eeva Hoch will represent the UK Libraries on this Task Force.

Just for Fun!

Snow Day



Did You Know...

The UK Student Activities Board (SAB) is a student organization in charge of bringing a wide variety of events that entertain and educate the UK community? They coordinate events, festivals, and other initiatives to engage students, staff, and faculty. To see more about what events are scheduled contact the SAB at 203 Student Center Lexington, Kentucky 40506-0030, phone: (859)257-8867, Fax: (859)323-9820. Or you can go to <www.uky.edu/SAB/welcome.php>.



What's Coming Up?

March 2-3 McConnell Youth Literature Conference, Embassy Suites Hotel, Lexington <www.uky.edu/~smcqu2/mcconnell/confer/index.html#hotel#hotel>.

March 6, 13, 20 UK Records Program Webinars on basic records operations including what to file, how to file it, and how to remove files no longer needed for current business. Seminars will be 9:50 to 11:30 at the W. T. Young Library Auditorium. **The March 13th session will be located in the Hardymon Building (Rose and Maxwell Streets) conference room.** Contact Nancy Demarcus at nancyd@uky.edu if you are able to attend.

March 20 Tradition and Innovation: Meeting Challenges at the Kyoto University Library, 2:00 to 3:15 p.m. at the W. T. Young Library Auditorium.

March 21 The Hub @ WT's Tour, 2 p.m. in the basement of W. T. Young Library.

March 30 Spring KLA GODORT Program and Meeting, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the William T. Young Library Gallery.

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Newsletter submissions are due by the 15th of the month.



Tradition and Innovation: Meeting Challenges at the Kyoto University Library

Presented by Eriko Amano,
Librarian
Kyoto University Library



Tuesday, March 20, 2007
2:00 - 3:15 p.m.
Young Library Auditorium
Followed by a Reception in the Gallery!

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Sponsored by the
UK Libraries
Employee Development Committee