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The University of Kentucky Libraries Staff Organization supplement to the Green Bean

September 1983

FROM LSO

STATE LIBRARY TOUR - About 20 people were present for the LSO "field trips" to the State Library in Frankfort. For those of you who haven't seen the new building it is something for the state to be proud of. During the tour we were shown demonstrations of preservation techniques, the microfilm center, the LBPH (Kentucky Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped) program and other programs special to a state library. In addition to the departments we toured, the architecture of the building and its art works were well worth the trip. Maybe next year we'll set our sights higher and go to the Library of Congress!!!

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR - It's not too early to start thinking about the LSO christmas bazaar. For those of you are not familiar with the event, it is a Christmas craft/bake sale which is held annually. Begin on those crafts you wish to share and get them finished early! The date has not been set yet but will probably be around Thanksgiving. Last year's sale was a success and this year's will be even better!

FROM DEPARTMENTS

The following are new people or transfers: In Circulation, CHARLES JAMES and ANN LONG are technicians joining our staff. CAROL MARCUM is new in the Director's Office and RUTH BAYNARD is replacing VALERIE BOGGS in Periodicals. Valerie has moved to the CSR Unit. Along with the name change in Solinet which is now the ONLINE CATALOGING AND CONVERSION UNIT, there are two new faces. CHRISTIE ROBINSON transferred from the Catalog Maintenance Unit and JENNIFER MICHENER is new to the area. Interlibrary Loans has added LINDA WILLIAMS while GPD has a whole sea of new faces in DAN BARTLEY, JANE BRYANT and KIM KNIGHT. Other new faces on the staff include LAURA DOUGLAS in Periodicals/Newspapers/Microtext, CHERRI SEBREE and SHERRI WEBB in the Microfilming Center; BRIAN COUTTS and ROB AKEN in Reference (see interview section); DAN ROLPF and GLEN MCANINCH in Special Collections; JOELLEN MCCOMB in Law Library; JACKIE KINDER in Chemistry/Physics and BEVERLY HILTON (who prefers to be called "BEV") the new AV Librarian at the Medical Center AV Library.

ABOUT THE STAFF

Best wishes to SUE WESTFALL, Microfilming Center, who will be retiring on January 31, 1984.

Condolences to CECIL MADISON, Mail Room, on the recent loss of his sister EDNA MADISON. On behalf of the staff LSO has made a contribution to the American Cancer Society.

Belated Happy Birthday's to Karen Croneis, Paul Willis, and Teresa Smyth (October 1st) and to Linda Raines (October 8th). We hope they were good ones.

INTERVIEWS

Our feature interviews this issue spotlight some of the folks who work in the Reference Department of M.I. King Library. Since this department has so many new members, I thought this would be a good chance for us to get to know them.

KARMEN CROWTHER is the Head of the Reference Department at M.I. King Library. She came to Kentucky in July of 1982 from the University of Tennessee where she was first the Social Sciences Reference Librarian and later the Coordinator of Computer Search Services.

Karmen was raised in Minnesota and South Dakota. She earned a master's degree in history from the University of Hawaii, began doctoral study at the University for two years before giving in to the urge to travel. Karmen scraped her money together and spent two years traveling in Japan, Siberia and other exotic places. (When the travel bug bites, it bites HARD!) On that trip she met her husband Michael in Tashkent in Southern Russia (across the border from Afghanistan).

Karmen worked for a year in Germany before returning to the States. She then got her library degree from Emory and began working at UT.

Michael is a plant facilities engineer for a magnet company near Knoxville. (One of Karmen's hobbies is travelling, but I don't think she meant travelling between Knoxville and Lexington!!!) The next big trip they are planning is to England with excursions to other parts of Europe. They are saving their pennies and hoping to make the journey next year.

ROB AKEN is a native of Chester, West Virginia and is the newest member of the Reference Department at M.I. King Library. Rob attended the University of West Virginia and earned a B.A. in English. He came to Lexington, received a master's degree in English and was the assistant director of freshman composition. He moved to South Carolina to teach English at Francis Marion College and to assist the coordinator of the writing lab there.

Rob and his wife Connie are expecting their first child in the spring.

Rob's interests include music, films and 18th century poets. The CAI project that he and Laura Olson are doing will be used to supplement bibliographic instruction lectures. They hope the interactive computer program will be ready this coming January. Ideally, the setup will include a mock card catalog drawer and an old Wilson Index for real "hands on" experience. (The PRIME computer does not have graphics capabilities.)

HANK HARKEN, born and raised in New York City, also began working at UK in September of 1982. After receiving a B.A. in history from Hofstra, Hank joined the Army. Since his specialization was European history, Hank was assigned to 13 months in South Korea (typical military strategy, no doubt) with a field artillery unit. He also spent time (as an army man, that is) in Oklahoma, Florida, Kansas and Germany.

Hank got his M.S.L.S. from Palmer School of Library and Information Science, C.W. Post Center, Long Island University. His first professional job was at King Faisal University in Dammam, Saudi Arabia on the Persian Gulf. He says he didn't see a camel for months at a time. Hank wore two hats there -- one as Reference Librarian and one as Serials Librarian. He also made numerous "side trips" to Western and Eastern Europe as well as India.

After returning to America, Hank worked as Reference Librarian at Tennessee Technological University before joining M.I. King's Reference Department. Hank is currently working as a Reference Librarian and is also coordinating library services for handicapped students.

When he isn't playing racquet sports, Hank likes to play with his new Apple II computer. He went to Europe this summer on vacation to visit friends he met in Saudi Arabia.

NORMA JEAN GIBSON is one of those rare birds in the UK Libraries System -- she was both born and raised here in Lexington! She got her degree from UK and has worked in a number of different areas of the library. Norma Jean was the Education Librarian and then later the Fine Arts Librarian, in charge of the combined Art and Music Collections. These two collections split in January 1974 when Art moved out and into its present location in King North.

Norma Jean began working in the Reference Department in September of 1975. Even with all her experience, she says that anything she can learn, any knowledge that she can gain can be useful. It may not be useful today, but next year that piece of "interesting" information might be exactly what you need! Norma Jean is currently the secretary of the Special Libraries Section of KLA. She is also a member of the Kentucky Chapter of SLA.

Norma Jean recently completed a Community Education class in architecture and architectural design, areas which supplement her continuing interest in preservation and local history. She has a variety of other interests, including the Lexington Philharmonic and UK basketball. When she has time, Norma Jean enjoys working in her yard and flower garden. She has also been clerk of the Board of the First Community Church since 1968. The thing that Norma Jean enjoys most is working the reference desk, especially when she deals with appreciative people. (I'll second that, for sure!)

There's more on the back folks!

Laura Olson has been a Reference Librarian at M.I. King since September 1982. She was born and raised a Michigan Wolverine -- born in Flint and raised in Columbiaville (pop. 900). She earned a B.A. in English from University of Michigan at Flint and her M.L.S. from U of M at Ann Arbor. She began work on a second master's degree in English in January her at UK. From 1980-82, Laura was Interlibrary Loan and Reference Librarian at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, New York.

In addition to her responsibilities for reference, bibliographic instruction and database searching, Laura is selector for French language and literature. She and Rob Aken are also working on a CAI (computer-assisted instruction) program on the PRIME computer. The purpose of the program, which is designed for English 102, is to introduce freshmen to the card catalog and Wilson Co. indexes.

Laura enjoys playing tennis and racquetball. She is also a novice runner. (A mile and a half does NOT sound "novice" to me!) Part to her vacation was spent in California camping and attending the Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Ontario.