



Horace Kephart

## Major New Donation of Family Papers Offers Closer Look at Kephart's Life

BY GEORGE FRIZZELL | FRIZZELLG@WCU.EDU | *Head of Special Collections*

Libby Kephart Hargrave of Pensacola, Fla., has immeasurably enhanced the Horace Kephart holdings in Special Collections with the donation of about 700 new letters, cards, photographs and published materials. The new collection will be called the "Horace Kephart and Laura Mack Kephart Family Papers."

Kephart, noted author, outdoorsman and proponent of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, moved to Western North Carolina in 1904 and immediately began documenting Southern Appalachian life and the natural environment through his journals, publications and photographs until his death in 1931. His two major works, *Our Southern Highlanders* and *Camping and Woodcraft*, remain in print today.

Hargrave, who is Kephart's great-granddaughter, is both the custodian and caretaker of documents handed down by her family members over generations. Her donation to the library coincided with a celebration held in September 2012 of the 150th anniversary of Kephart's birth.

The title of the collection emphasizes its special importance. While original Kephart manuscripts that have been Special Collections for many years focus heavily on Kephart's research interests and professional life in Western North Carolina, the new materials reveal heretofore enigmatic dimensions of him as an individual, which until now could only be gleaned from his published works and research notes.

In the recent donation there are heartfelt treasures, such as a letter and a small bouquet of dried flowers sent by Kephart to his future wife, Laura, before the



Laura and Children

two were married. There are dozens of Christmas cards simply addressed to Mr. Horace Kephart, Bryson City, NC. There also is correspondence with family, friends and business associates from the 1890s through the 1920s. Other materials include photographs, genealogical notes and letters of condolence after his untimely death in a car accident near Bryson City in 1931.

Kephart lived separately from his wife and six children for most of the time he was in Western North Carolina, though the couple never divorced. Among the exciting details emerging in the new collection are poignant stories of Laura and their children as well as Kephart's father, Isaiah. "Exciting to me are all the letters that he wrote to his family and that the family wrote to him, especially the communication with Laura," said Hargrave. "She knew he had to go back to the mountains because his 'back of beyond' was where he was comfortable. She knew his heart."

Hunter Library welcomes this new collection. It is fitting that it be housed in the mountains that Kephart loved.

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# Hunter Scholar Project Keeps Growing

An extensive research project on the Western North Carolina author and outdoorsman Horace Kephart has turned out to be far from a solitary experience in a private study carrel for Mae Miller Claxton, Hunter Scholar for 2012-13. "It's been more like a community engagement project. So many people are excited that there is interest in him, and they want to help," she said. "We have a lot of ideas in the works. This will be something that will go on for a while."

Within days after she started work on the project last summer, Claxton was busy collaborating in email exchanges with other researchers as close as Bryson City and as far away as New York. Throughout the academic year, there have been invitations to make Kephart presentations, write papers on him and serve on panels discussing his life and work. She has been in contact with a journal about a special Kephart issue.

Claxton was pleased when several students expressed an interest in Kephart and got involved with his original manuscripts. Her graduate-student intern Lisa Terrene, who conducted research in the special collections of Hunter Library and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, is currently working on a transcription project for Kephart's handwritten letters. Andrew Benton wrote a paper, "Barbed Wire in Heartwood: The Endurance of Appalachian Stereotypes from Horace Kephart to Ron Rash," to be presented at the National Council of Undergraduate Research in April. Stephanie Wooten, a student worker at the library, transcribed dozens of articles, letters and other writings that will eventually be available online on the library's digital collections website. Another student worker, Amelia Holmes, plans to do a Kephart literature internship this summer.

"It's exciting to see the students' interest, and the goal for them is to develop research skills," said Claxton. "But at the same time they're having the interesting experience of working with these manuscripts. We have all learned their importance to the history and culture of our university and the larger community."



*Mae Miller Claxton and WCU senior Andrew Benton work with the original Kephart journals housed at the library*

Claxton is an assistant professor of English and her Kephart work focuses on his literary contributions. Last fall, she and George Frizzell, head of Special Collections, made a presentation at the teachers' symposium of the North Carolina Humanities Council. She also presented a paper on Kephart's writings on the Cherokees at the Southern Appalachian Cultural Series held at Gardner-Webb College. Claxton, Frizzell and Kephart scholar George Ellison of Bryson City will be on a panel at an upcoming meeting of the Appalachian Studies Association in Boone. Claxton hopes to submit an application for grant funding to help with the digitization of more of the original Kephart materials to enhance the existing collection, "Horace Kephart: Revealing an Enigma." This collection can be viewed at <http://www.wcu.edu/library/DigitalCollections/Kephart/>.

Through the Hunter Scholar program, Claxton received some reduction in her teaching load for the academic year, a \$400 stipend for travel and supplies, the use of a study carrel at the library, and the graduate-student assistance. The annual award to recognize outstanding scholarly or creative work at WCU is jointly sponsored by Hunter Library, Graduate

School and Research, Educational Outreach and the Office of the Provost.

Interest in the life and work of Kephart has grown by leaps and bounds in recent years. He was featured in a Ken Burns documentary on national parks that aired on PBS in 2009. A new edition of his popular guidebook, *Camping and Woodcraft*, was published in 2011. Ellison and another Kephart scholar, Janet McCue of Cornell University, are co-authoring a biography.

Well educated and widely traveled, Kephart was head of the one of the nation's top libraries, the Mercantile Library of St. Louis, Mo., when he made a drastic career change, moving in 1904 to a remote section of the Western North Carolina mountains. "He was interested in everything about the mountains. Coming from the city, he saw many things to write about in everyday life here," said Claxton. Kephart dedicated the rest of his life to chronicling the people, dialects, culture, natural history and environments of the region and became instrumental in the establishment of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. For more information on Claxton's project contact her at [mclaxton@wcu.edu](mailto:mclaxton@wcu.edu) or 828.227.3920.



# Classic Connections

BY DANA SALLY | [DSALLY@WCU.EDU](mailto:DSALLY@WCU.EDU) | *Dean of Library Services*

One of the three books currently gracing my nightstand is Joseph Stiglitz's *The Price of Inequality*. Most recent nights, I find it hard to put down. Stiglitz is a Nobel laureate in economics and when not advising international agencies, he teaches at Columbia University. He is, by all accounts, a world class scholar and theoretician, sometimes described by other Nobel winners as an "insanely brilliant economist." I had hoped, I suppose, that some of this economic brilliance (I'll take the insanity, too) might rub off.

This book was published in 2012. It is a powerfully reasoned, moving, and thoroughly researched exegesis of our national economic circumstances and the social, economic, political, and human consequences that currently flow from them. The book's subtitle, *How Today's Divided Society Endangers Our Future*, aptly reveals and hauntingly suggests its compelling message. Reading along, I have been very much aware that many elements in the narrative concern the situation of our current students and the prospects of our present and future work force. As an example, I invite you to take up (with wine, perhaps) Stiglitz's treatment of efficiency wage theory as a framework for understanding "fair" wages and their impact on productivity.

In a nation where there are already large disparities in wages and other forms of wealth, Stiglitz argues that the economic and political structures presently in place will only exacerbate these disparities. Against these economic and opportunity inequalities, Stiglitz convincingly sounds a jarring social alarm for democracy, making intricate connections among monetary policy, budgetary policy, globalization, personal income, opportunity, productivity, general wealth, and overall social and economic well-being. It would seem that history has had harsh remedies where and when such disparities exist. In the words of one reviewer, Stiglitz demonstrates that "inequality is not inevitable." He provides potential economic remedies.

On a recent cross-country trip, I was hoping to conquer, between catnaps, this book's final chapter. While cruising to my next boarding gate, I bumped into a bookstore display of a new paperback release, which had been strategically placed in the middle of the terminal. Though slightly piqued by this sales technique—because now falling—I did look down. The book on this display—turned-obstruction, which I now seemed to be hugging, was none other than Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables*!

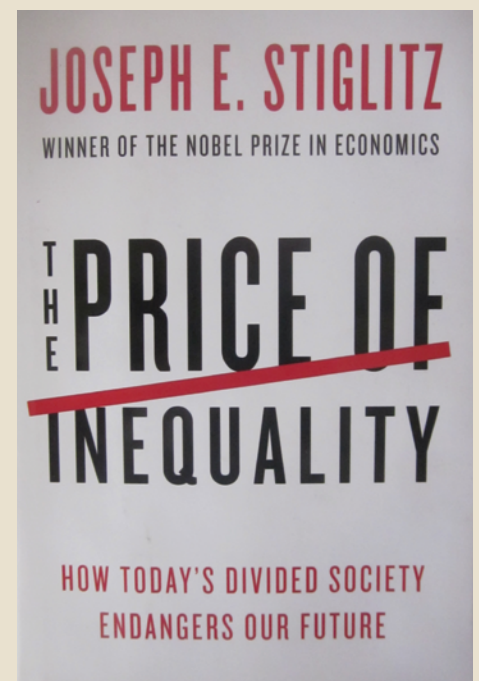
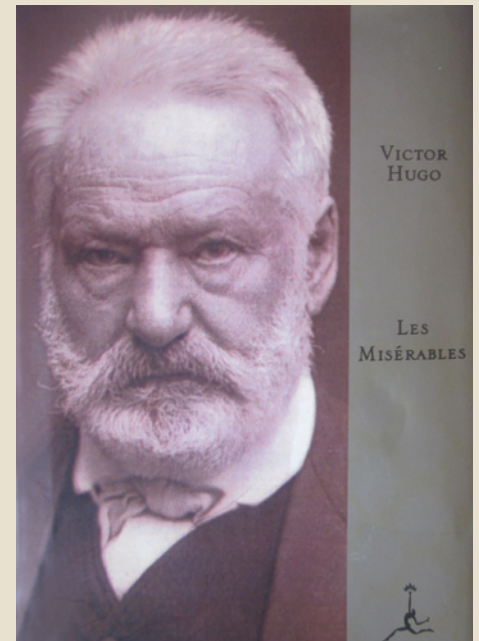
Ahh! My annoyance dissipated and I softened. I mean, here was a book I had actually finished reading ... a long time ago no less! Yes, I had managed to glide through all 1,260 pages. A true classic, this one! Though I was nearly late for my next boarding, I simply had to stop and pick up this book, put it in my hands, and once again sense its physical and intellectual weight.

Eyeing the table of contents, memories came flooding back: Cosette, Jean Valjean, mid-19th century Paris, with its grandeur and its wrenching, grinding, and inhumane poverty. I somehow stirringly recalled the selling of human teeth and hair in exchange for common necessities. Whew! The memories were vivid; the feelings intense, cold, and austere.

It then struck me that I had just been reading this very story! Stiglitz's *The Price of Inequality* and Hugo's *Les Miserables*, I realized, reveal the same human saga. Though published exactly 150 years apart and strikingly opposed in genre, form, and manner, they expose the same human circumstance: "the degradation of man by poverty, the ruin of woman by starvation, and the dwarfing of childhood by physical and spiritual night" (from Hugo's preface). One book is the product of a superb academician, the other written by one of the most profound social thinkers and novelists of his age, or any age.

Not everyone, of course, will agree with this comparison. That's cool. But as I consider what I might read next, I'm thinking about increasing my understanding and

cementing modern connections by "tag-teaming" a modern text with a work of classic literature. The interplay of the ideas through the different genre can be gratifying and the thematic connections stronger and more riveting. Also, more fun ... especially when the one writer is "insanely brilliant" and the other characterized his own novel as "a religious work." Hard to resist!



# Navigating Online News

*A few tips from the reference desk*

Most Americans still get their news from television, but fast-growing online media sources are outpacing both print newspapers and radio broadcasts in popularity, according to a recent study by the Pew Research Center. So many sites, so little time. What are good approaches for getting the news and what are reliable sources? WCU's librarians, who help students find and use quality sources online for research papers and class assignments, have suggestions that can also be useful to the everyday Web user.

## GO TO MORE THAN ONE SOURCE

There's really no such thing as a perfectly unbiased source. "Be mindful of seeking out alternatives and other reputable sources," said Betsy Clementson, "even if you have a favorite news source." With the vast array of online media sites and limited time to check them out, it's tempting to choose one site and stay with it. Better to broaden your scope and read the news as it is reported from different perspectives on a variety of sites, the librarians say.

## SEEK OUT SOURCES CLOSE TO THE NEWS EVENT

"For news from a certain location, go to the news media based in that location and compare what and how issues or events are being reported locally," said Krista Schmidt. Local newspapers and broadcast media often produce the best reporting on events that take place in their cities and towns, even when the news event attracts major national media.

Sometimes information reported in the media is based on news releases prepared by agencies closely involved with the topic at hand. Try to find the original source for the news article. "If the media outlets are reporting news from an agency, such as the Environmental Protection Agency, then go to the EPA website and read their news release on that topic," Schmidt said.

## READ THE NEWS MEDIA OF OTHER COUNTRIES

Check out the sites of the principal newspapers and broadcast media in countries other than the U.S. to get a global perspective on the day's events. The librarians also suggest reading the news coverage from United Press International and Reuters, reputable international news services that have their own websites.

## HAVE A CRITICAL EYE

On their websites, news media are able to report breaking news almost instantaneously, whether a presidential election, catastrophic weather event or tragic mass shooting. Be cautious about accepting everything as accurate, especially if the news is being reported fast. Good news sources will clarify, complete, or correct the information in later releases. "The onus is on all of us to be critical consumers of information, no matter where we are getting it from," said Beth McDonough. Keep in mind that there are limits to online news sources. Some want you to pay to view articles; others don't keep their archives online for free very long. The library has several newspaper databases, such as LexisNexis Academic, when you are ready for more information.

## RSS FEEDS AND NEWS AGGREGATORS SAVE TIME

Google News and other online aggregators of news content pull major headlines and other breaking stories together, saving you time and making it easier to keep up with the news in one place, rather than visiting multiple websites. Take advantage of the smart technologies of RSS feeds or Google alerts that provide updates on developing news or many other topics from a variety of media sources.

## FOLLOW TWITTER AND FACEBOOK

Social networking sites like Twitter and Facebook provide an inside look at news media. Becky Kornegay "friends" news organizations and journalists on Facebook and follows on Twitter a variety of journalists, ranging from foreign correspondents to pundits and columnists, whose work she has discovered elsewhere. "Twitter brings me items I wouldn't go out seeking and alerts me to ideas I wouldn't have thought of," she said.

"When using Twitter, Facebook, and RSS feeds, click a few links and read the full articles rather than just skimming headlines, tweets, and posts. Journalists can't tell you everything you need to know in 140 characters," said Heidi Buchanan.

## WHERE DO OUR LIBRARIANS GO FOR A QUICK SUMMARY OF THE NEWS?

Here are a few of their online favorites. But, remember, with all these sources make sure you distinguish opinion pieces from news articles, which are often mixed together in RSS and Twitter feeds.

**BBC** | [WWW.BBC.COM](http://WWW.BBC.COM) | [@BBCNEWS](https://twitter.com/BBCNEWS)

**CNN** | [WWW.CNN.COM](http://WWW.CNN.COM) | [@CNN](https://twitter.com/CNN)

**FINANCIAL TIMES** | [WWW.FT.COM](http://WWW.FT.COM) | [@FINANCIALTIMES](https://twitter.com/FINANCIALTIMES)

**THE GUARDIAN** | [WWW.GUARDIANNEWS.COM](http://WWW.GUARDIANNEWS.COM) | [@GUARDIAN](https://twitter.com/GUARDIAN)

**THE NEW YORK TIMES** | [WWW.NYTIMES.COM](http://WWW.NYTIMES.COM) | [@NYTIMES](https://twitter.com/NYTIMES)

**NPR** | [WWW.NPR.ORG](http://WWW.NPR.ORG) | [@NPR](https://twitter.com/NPR)

**REUTERS** | [WWW.REUTERS.COM](http://WWW.REUTERS.COM) | [@REUTERS](https://twitter.com/REUTERS)

**SLATE** | [WWW.SLATE.COM](http://WWW.SLATE.COM) | [@SLATE](https://twitter.com/SLATE)

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL** | [WWW.WSJ.COM](http://WWW.WSJ.COM) | [@WSJ](https://twitter.com/WSJ)

# Activities and Accomplishments

## Krista Schmidt Wins National Award From *Library Journal* Magazine

Krista Schmidt, research and instruction librarian and associate professor, has won national recognition from *Library Journal* for being “innovative, creative and making a difference” in the library field. The journal, the leading trade magazine for public, academic and special libraries, names Schmidt as one of 50 “Movers and Shakers” in its March 15 issue available online at <http://lj.libraryjournal.com/movers2013>.

At WCU, Schmidt assists students and faculty members in learning effective search strategies and using research databases and reference resources. In her specialty areas, she provides research consultations to faculty and students and helps develop library collections to meet curricular needs in those disciplines.

In announcing Schmidt’s selection the *Library Journal* editors wrote: “An intense academic curiosity, a pragmatic approach to problem-solving, and a keen analytic mind are the hallmarks of any great scientist—yet, fortunately for the students at Western Carolina University, those traits also belong to reference librarian and subject liaison Krista Schmidt.”

Schmidt’s accomplishments at Hunter include the development of a reference call app and piloting a multisession information literacy instruction program for graduate students in engineering. She also overhauled the library’s collection of about 50,000 regional and historical print maps and devised better indexes to both the print and online map collections. At the reference desk, she is known for the full professional attention she gives to patrons ranging from beginning freshmen with the simplest of questions to graduate students and faculty members seeking her help with advanced research.

In nominating Schmidt for the award, Becky Kornegay, research and instruction librarian at Hunter Library, wrote: “She is meticulous and detail-oriented, yet she always sees the big picture, and as a result librarians in all areas of our library seek her counsel.

“Krista approaches all research assistance from many angles, using a mix of new and old reference resources,” said Kornegay. “I know how rare that combination is and how effectively it can move a library forward. She is, in essence, a 360° librarian who has significant positive impact on our library and WCU.”

An information specialist in the disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, Schmidt earned her bachelor’s degree in biology at Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington and her master’s in library science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She worked for two years with a soybean breeding program in central Illinois and five years at a biomedical testing facility in Burlington before beginning her library career. While in graduate school at UNC, she worked in the library of the US Environmental Protection Agency in Research Triangle Park. She joined Hunter Library in 2003.



# Activities and Accomplishments



**Shirley Beck**, library technical assistant in the Curriculum Materials Center of Hunter Library, received the Judy H. Dowell Outstanding Support Staff Award for 2011-12. The top university honor for a support staff member included a \$1,000 cash award for Beck, who has been a member of the library staff since 1998. Beck is known as someone who goes out of her way to help others, who creates a true growth opportunity for the student workers she trains and supervises, and who makes sure that staff, faculty, students, and community members leave her department with everything they need. In nominating her for the award, one of her colleagues wrote: "Shirley loves her job and it shows. She is always the first to volunteer to help others – personally or on the job. She is willing to do any task to the best of her ability for the betterment of the library and the university." Prior to joining the library staff, Beck worked at Dayco of Waynesville for 26 years.

**Heidi Buchanan**, head of research and instruction services, and **Beth McDonough**, research and instruction librarian and education liaison, have submitted a book manuscript to American Library Association Editions. The forthcoming book, "The One-Shot Library Instruction Survival Guide," is expected to be published in 2013. ALA Editions publishes resources used worldwide by library and information professionals to improve programs, build on best practices and develop leadership.

**Kristin Calvert**, electronic resources librarian, presented a paper on developing a perpetual journal access plan at Mississippi

State University Libraries E-Resources and Emerging Technology Summit in August 2012. The talk was entitled "Starting from Scratch on Perpetual Access" and examined the issues of managing and preserving online access to electronic journals after subscriptions are cancelled.

**Betsy Clementson**, research and instruction librarian and business liaison, co-authored an article with Elisabeth Leonard, former associate dean at Hunter Library, titled "Business Librarians and Entrepreneurship: Innovation Trends and Characteristics," in *New Review of Information Networking*, 17(1), 1-21, 2012. She also co-taught a workshop, "Teaching Tools for Real-Life Skills: Information Literacy for the Workplace" with **Alessia Zanin-Yost**, research and instruction librarian and visual and performing arts liaison, at the Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy held in Savannah. Zanin-Yost also presented "You Are Not Alone: Collaboration for Success in Academia and Beyond" with Erin Adams, assistant professor in the WCU School of Art and Design, and Jane Nichols, assistant professor at High Point University. The presentation focused on how librarians and faculty members can prepare students in professional roles through an evidence-based design knowledge protocol to give them a distinctive edge over other new graduates.

**Anna Fariello**, head of digital programs, gave a number of presentations, including: "Understanding Our Past, Shaping Our Future: A Community-based Tribal Exhibit," at the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums held in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in June 2012; "Digital Humanities for Small Organizations" at the North Carolina Preservation Consortium in Raleigh and "From the Hands of Our Elders: Exploring Hunter Library's Online Resources," at the 4th Annual WCU Native American Expo, both in November 2012.

**Rachel Fleming**, serials librarian, attended the 32nd annual Charleston Conference, a gathering of librarians, publishers, electronic resource managers, consultants, and vendors of library materials in Charleston, S.C., in

November 2012. She also served on working groups examining e-journals expenditures for the multicampus University of North Carolina system and the Carolina Consortium, a group of 137 community colleges, public universities and private institutions of higher learning in North and South Carolina that work together to obtain favorable pricing on electronic resources of significant interest to the scholarly community.

**Katy Ginanni**, collection development librarian, was part of a panel of industry experts at the Great Lakes E-Summit, a conference focusing on electronic resources, held at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, in October 2012.

**Robin Hitch**, library systems, published an article, "Long Ago and 'Fasola' Away," about shape-note singing, a 19th century music tradition, in the fall-winter issue of the *North Carolina Folklore Journal*. She wrote the article after she and her now deceased husband, Bob Jones, became involved in preservation efforts for the Shook-Smathers House in Haywood County. The house was the site of a shape-note singing school in the early 1800s and is now on the National Register of Historic Places. In other activities, Hitch was named chair of the Staff Senate in October 2012.

**Susan Metcalf**, research and instruction librarian and social sciences liaison, published an article, "Good Stewards in Trying Times: Benchmarking Peer Collections of Sociology Reference Sources Using LibGuides," to appear in *The Reference Librarian*, Volume 54(2), April-June 2013.



# Welcome, New Employees

**Seth Huber** joined the library's content organization and management department as a cataloger in December 2012. He received his master's degree in library and information science from the University of Pittsburgh in 2011 and his bachelor's degree in music composition from Gardner-Webb University in 2008. Prior to coming to Western Carolina, he worked as a graduate cataloging intern in the Finney Music Library at the University of Pittsburgh.



**JoAnn Marvel** joined the staff as interlibrary loan lending coordinator in September 2012. She comes to the library from Gettysburg College (Pa.) where she was an assistant in technical services and cataloging.

Marvel has a wide range of library experience extending 30 years in academic, public and special libraries. She began her library career as an assistant law librarian for the Washington, D.C., offices of Hughes Hubbard & Reed corporate law firm, managing the interlibrary loan department for that library. Other positions included reference librarian at Cincinnati Public Library's science and technology department in the main downtown library, adjunct reference librarian at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, Mich., and assistant director for the Joseph T. Simpson Public Library in Mechanicsburg, Pa. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Maryland, College Park.



At Hunter, Marvel manages the lending side of interlibrary loan, coordinating the loan of materials to libraries all over the world, with recent requests from Denmark, Hungary, New Zealand and China.

Franklin native **Dana Wood** has joined the library staff as acquisitions manager in the content organization and management department. A 2010 graduate of WCU, she formerly was a student assistant in the library's cataloging unit and the Curriculum Materials Center. She was named one of the library's top student workers for 2010. In her new position, Wood is in charge of ordering, processing and paying for new books, media and CMC materials and is a supervisor of student workers.



## Compliments to the Campus Recreation Center

**Ruby Banerjee's** enthusiasm about health and fitness recently earned her "Member of the Month" status at the Campus Recreation Center. She often spends her lunch breaks working out there and enjoys a brisk walk around campus before her work day begins. She has used campus facilities for exercise for almost the entire 14 years she has worked at WCU. "I'm happy to be able to work out each day. It keeps me fit and lifts my spirits," she said. A couple of years ago, Banerjee, library specialist in research and instruction services, realized she needed expert advice on the correct way to exercise to achieve the results she wanted. A fitness trainer at the center helped her develop an exercise routine combining cardio and strength training and yoga that has worked well for her. "Thank you, WCU, for this wonderful facility. The hours are fantastic, and the people on the staff are very helpful and kind," she said.



## New Digital Collection Chronicles WCU History in Yearbooks

Yearbooks from Western Carolina University are now available online. The earliest—titled *Oogocoo*, thought to be a Cherokee word—were published in 1918 and 1919 by Cullowhee Normal and Industrial School, predecessor of WCU. The more familiar *Catamount* was published annually from 1933 until 2002, and in 2005. The yearbooks contain photographs of the historic campus, events, faculty and students, student life and athletics. The shortest WCU yearbook, having only 40 pages, was issued in 1944 during World War II. The longest, the 1968 issue, was 348 pages. The yearbooks document changes in style and fashion and the events of the day. To see the digital collection, which contains 73 yearbooks, visit <http://www.wcu.edu/library/DigitalCollections/Yearbooks/>.



Tisha Carver

### Outstanding Student Workers Honored

Tisha Carver, a junior history and Spanish major, and Stephanie Wooten, a senior English major, have been named outstanding student workers at the library for 2013. They are among 47 students who worked part time while attending WCU. “Without our students’ help, we couldn’t accomplish all that we do at the library,” said Shirley Finegan, who co-chairs the committee of student supervisors. “We rely on them for many things. Their jobs range from helping at the circulation desk to organizing books, helping set up displays and even dusting the shelves.” Carver, who is from Waynesville, works in the Curriculum Materials Center. Wooten, who transcribes and digitizes materials in the Special Collections department, is from Matthews.



Stephanie Wooten



# Life in Retirement

*Kolenbrander helps open a library in Ecuador*

When she retired after working more than 20 years at the library, **Nancy Kolenbrander** might have thought for a moment that her librarian days were over. But only for a moment. A worthy cause back on the WCU campus, the donation of 19th century glass-plate negatives to the library's special collections, soon caught her attention. Interested in the historic materials, which depict Jackson County scenes and people, Kolenbrander volunteered to help identify and describe the collection. She worked on the project for several months, providing valuable service in lean economic times at no cost to the library.

Volunteering was always a way of life for Kolenbrander and her husband, the late **Larry "Doc" Kolenbrander**, head of the Department of Geosciences and Natural Resources. They were involved with the elk reintroduction project in Cataloochee Valley and worked as volunteer guides for many years. Nancy Kolenbrander sews quilts for children and women who are victims of domestic violence.

Another opportunity called last October. This time volunteering led her to South America, where she helped start a library in an isolated village in the Andes Mountains. A group from the United Methodist Church of Waynesville and the Rural Education Advancement and Development Organization organized the 10-day trip to Machuchi, Ecuador. READ is a nonprofit organization that helps people in rural areas acquire education by providing fundamental materials.

Kolenbrander and the other volunteers, including **Carole Williford**, WCU's retired distance-learning liaison, brought with them suitcases full of donated books, DVDs, school supplies and other materials. While in the village, they helped the local residents paint and furnish a building to house the first library collection.



*Kolenbrander (seated) and Williford in Ecuador*

"There's no Internet access or computers there. They have only a few books and school supplies and not very much at all for young children," said Kolenbrander. "In this region girls especially seem to be at a higher risk of never getting beyond the early-grade level, and the hope is that they will get more education if they have libraries to go to."

It's no surprise that while she was in Ecuador Kolenbrander created the basic system for organizing and checking out books and other items at the new Biblioteca de la Region. During her years at Hunter Library, she was assistant head of reference, head of government documents and interim associate dean of library services. She retired in 2008 and was named associate professor emeritus.





McLaurin, Schulz, Hill and Beck at the library in 2010

## Remembering Billy Schulz

BY SHARON McLAURIN | [SMCLAURIN@WCU.EDU](mailto:SMCLAURIN@WCU.EDU) | *Serials Business Coordinator*

Billy was 56 when he died. The reason I know his age so well is because when he worked in the library, he would remind us daily for weeks that his birthday was coming. He knew that on January 28 we would have a party for him and invite his mom, Jane. He would joyfully open his gifts and was excited to have us all there to celebrate with him. He was an ardent fan of Marilyn Monroe and loved movies. His “downsteps” apartment had a whole wall of them, and he could recite which actor starred in just about any movie you could name.

Billy worked for many years in serials, stamping and putting tattle-tape in new journals. His area adjacent to where Mary Hill, Shirley Beck and I worked was adorned with posters of pretty girls, and he worked with headphones on, singing his favorite songs. Shirley says his singing was her favorite thing about him. One of my best memories is of him wearing headphones, saying: “Roses are red, violets are blue; I wish Sharon would come over here.” Mary recalls a day she saw him stop in his tracks while pushing a book cart, finish a rendition of “Singing in the Rain,” then do a little shuffle-jump and move on. He told us every day that we looked pretty and always wanted a hug. More days than not we’d end up smelling like Old Spice.

Jane and Billy moved to Kingsport, Tenn., in order to be closer to his sister Mary and her family. It was hard for us not to have him in the library anymore. Mary, Shirley and I made a trip once to his new house. He grilled hamburgers and captained a boat ride just for us. They had been waiting outside when we arrived and cried when we left. As Mary later said, “We felt so loved.”

Since their move, Billy came once a semester to Western to present a slideshow about his life and work, along with Jane, who presented on their experiences, including her fight to get him an education. He surpassed even his mother’s expectations for him. I would have been nervous to get in front of all of those people, but Billy did a great job. The banter between them had everyone laughing. Billy was quite independent, and the slides showed that. There were ones of his house, and of him working at Hunter Library and at Food City in Kingsport. He also called bingo at a nursing home in Sylva. He was quite active in his church, and in one slide he was dressed in a suit, ready to perform usher duties. Some of the best slides pictured him as a cute little kid.

I miss Billy. He had such an impact on my life. He taught me to love unconditionally. He proved that just saying, “You look pretty today,” can make someone’s day. He taught me how a loving family with great support can make someone grow. Billy loved life and showed it to everyone he knew.

*William Robert “Billy” Schulz, along with his mother, Dr. Jane Bolton Schulz, became models of courage and inspiration for thousands of people, especially those with special needs. Born with Down syndrome, Billy was a beloved member of the library staff for 21 years. He died in September 2012 at the age of 56. His mother, retired WCU professor of special education, is widely admired for a landmark statewide program she developed to train teachers to better work with special-needs students. Mother and son both received the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters during the fall commencement ceremony in 2012. Billy’s doctorate was awarded posthumously.*



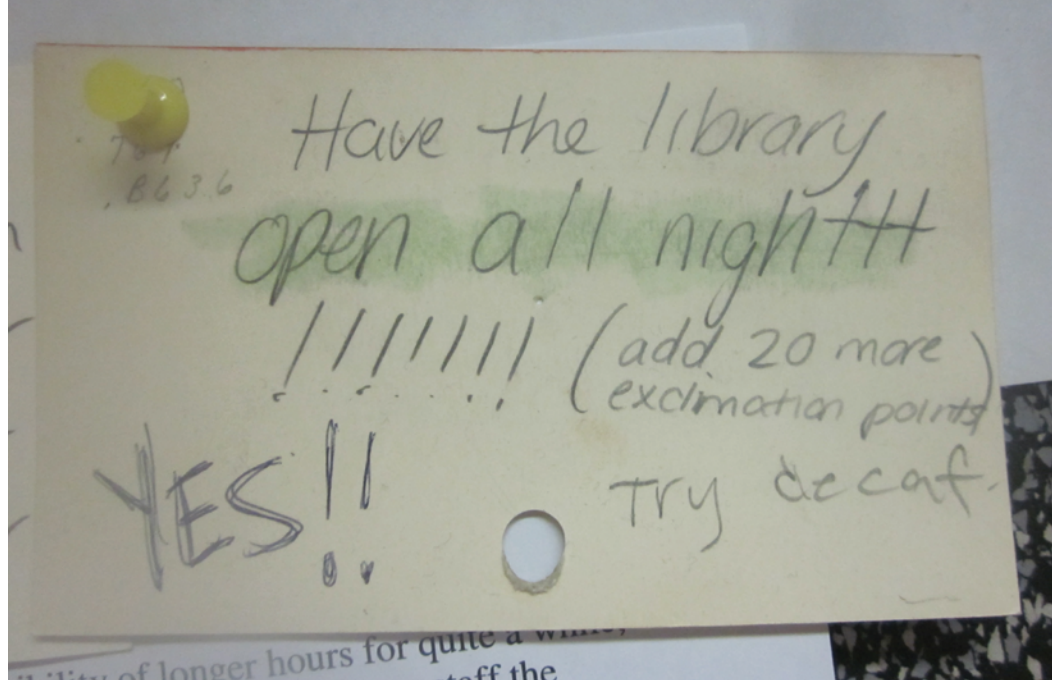
Billy and Jane Schulz in 2010

# Inside the Suggestion Box

Though today's library users live in the digital world—asking questions via chat to the reference desk, accessing library databases to read journal articles, and searching the catalog with their smartphones—there's one activity that still uses good old-fashioned pencil and paper: the suggestion box.

Located on a hallway table on the main floor, the black box is the repository where students, faculty and other visitors with an idea, complaint or concern can say so anonymously, knowing that what they write will get the attention of the library staff. Suggestions and responses to them are displayed on a bulletin board on the wall above the box. The comments range from requests for new books and videos to complaints about building temperatures or problems with Internet access. Compliments occur, too, especially about the coffee and donuts provided for overnight study during finals.

Peter Johnson, head of Access Services, checks the box for submissions almost

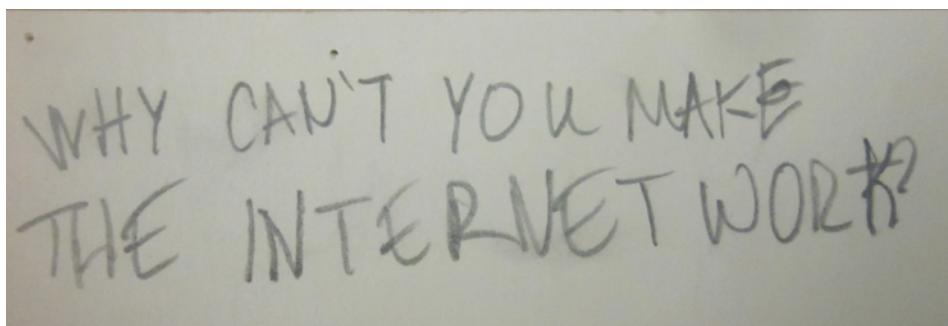


every day. He responds to many of the suggestions himself or passes them on to the appropriate library colleagues. After two years on the job, he says two predominant themes emerge: Students want more quiet study rooms, and they want the library to be open 24 hours a day.

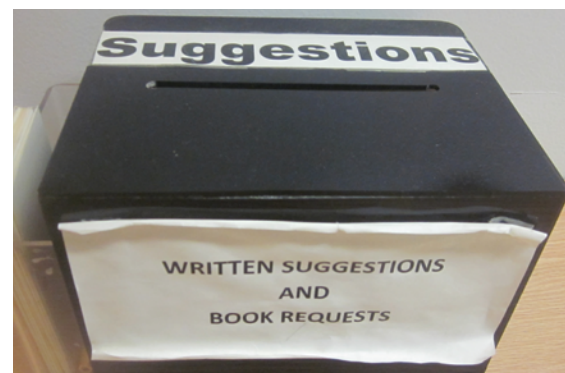
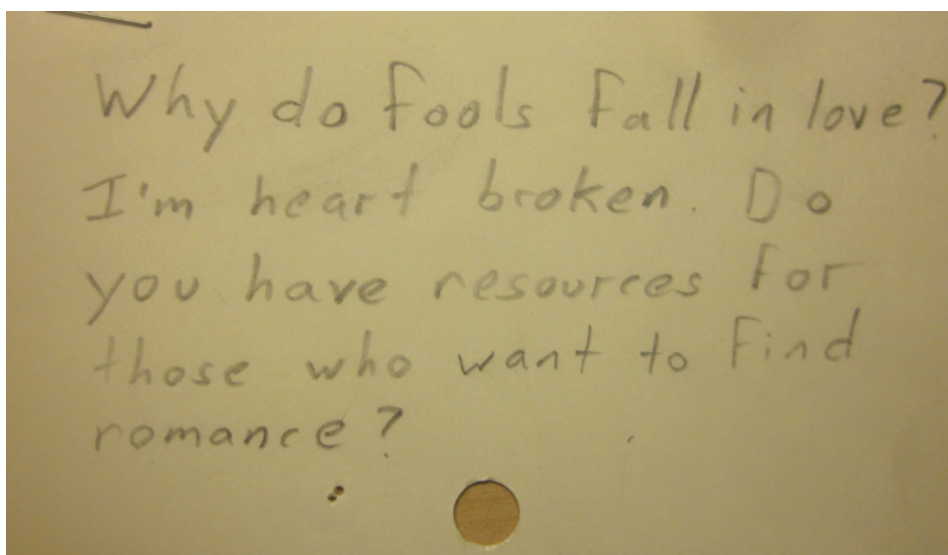
Suggestions from users are helpful during the library's annual budget preparation process and in making decisions about the purchase of materials for the collections. "The suggestion box

is a listening mechanism for us and helps with our planning," said Dean of Library Services Dana Sally. "If you put it in the box, we take it seriously."

Suggestions for Hunter Library can now be submitted online at <http://www.wcu.edu/23954.asp>. But since the hallway box still offers up several handwritten comments each week, there are no plans to do away with it. "It's really a great way to keep the channel of communications open with our users," said Johnson, "and we do get some interesting comments."



Recently, he referred one of these to a colleague who is a WCU librarian. She recommended self-help titles, a list of popular romance authors, and some tips for searching the library's online catalog for resources in response to the question, "Why do fools fall in love? I'm heartbroken. Do you have resources for those who want to find romance?"



# New Online Resources Contain Valuable Original Materials

The library has added many new online resources to its collection. These collections of primary sources contain invaluable original materials, firsthand accounts of events as the authors experienced them. They include published material, such as information collected and reported by government agencies, or unpublished materials, like diaries, pamphlets and ephemera. All have been digitized and are fully searchable. To access the resources, go to the library's database webpage at <http://www.wcu.edu/4251.asp>. The resources are listed alphabetically. If prompted, log in with your name and WCU 92 number.

## 18th-Century Collections Online

Truly a gold mine of primary source information for the 18th century, which has aimed to include every significant English-language and foreign-language title printed in the United Kingdom, along with thousands of important works from the Americas, between 1701 and 1800. Included in it are significant collections of the work of women writers of the 18th century, collections on the French Revolution, and numerous 18th-century editions of the works of Shakespeare.

## 19th-Century Collections Online

Much like the previous collection, these are primary source materials from the 19th century. This collection was just released and will continue to grow over the next few years. Available now are British politics and society; European literature 1790-1840: The Corvey Collection; Asia and the West: Diplomacy and cultural exchange; and British theatre, music, and literature: High and popular culture.

## Native American Archives

Native American Archives contains more than 1.8 million pages of original historical documents pertaining to Native American history and life from the 18th through the 20th century. The collection contains digitized ratified treaties, photographs and correspondence collected by the National Archives and Allen County Public Library of Fort Wayne, Ind.

Browse high-quality images of the Indian Census Rolls (1885-1940), Dawes enrollment cards (1898-1914), Eastern Cherokee Applications (1906-1909), Rhinehart photos of Native Americans (1898), Ratified Indian Treaties (1722-1869) and the Cherokee Indian Agency Tennessee (1801-1835).

# More New Resources

1,800-plus new ebooks added to the Library Catalog

- Primal Anatomy & Physiology Online
- African American Newspapers
- African American Periodicals
- Readers' Guide Retrospective
- Book Review Digest Retrospective
- Essay & General Literature Retrospective
- Applied Science & Technology and Business Periodicals Index Retrospective
- Art Index Retrospective



## Join the Friends of Hunter Library

Your membership in the Friends of Hunter Library helps strengthen and sustain our library's activities and programs. Members enjoy the satisfaction that comes from participating in a worthwhile activity with others who share common interests. Membership is \$25. To join, go to <http://www.wcu.edu/1636.asp> and click on "Give to the Library" or call the Library Administration office at 828.227.7307.

## On the Go and Need to Know?

Check out the mobile web site for library users on the go. Renew a book, start your research or contact a librarian from your mobile device. You will find links for library hours, the library catalog and more. <http://www.wcu.edu/library/m>

## LIBRARY HOURS

Monday–Thursday	7:30 a.m.–Midnight
Friday	7:30 a.m.–6 p.m.
Saturday	Noon–7 p.m.
Sunday	Noon–Midnight

Hours vary during holidays and semester breaks.

## JAVA CITY @ HUNTER LIBRARY

Monday–Thursday	7:30 a.m.–9:30 p.m.
Friday	7:30 a.m.–2 p.m.
Saturday	Closed
Sunday	6 p.m.–9 p.m.

FOR INFORMATION, GO TO: [library.wcu.edu](http://library.wcu.edu)