

GELMAN NEWS

Vampires – Reality of Myth!?!

by **Erica Aungst**
Administration

The Friends of the GW Libraries are sponsoring a vampire lecture by Dr. Mark Yoffe on Monday, October 30 at 6:30 p.m. in Gelman 202. A Vampire film will be shown following the lecture. Refreshments (and extra garlic) will be provided! See **Attachment A** for details.

Halloween Stress Break

by **Teena Bedola**
Administration

In the spirit of Halloween? Wearing a costume for work??? Come join the SAC committee on October 31, 2000, noon – 2:00 p.m. in Room 202! Refreshments will be served! Best costume contest!!! Please see **Attachment B** for details.

Café Gelman

by **Stefanie Weinstein**
Administration / Student Liaison

Last Thursday night Gelman Library hosted Café Gelman in conjunction with the GW Program Board. The 24-hour study lounge was turned into a coffee house, with dark lighting, Christmas lights, tons of wonderful food and coffee.

Over three hundred students attended the two hour event which featured music performed by The

GW Vibes, GW's newest accappella group, and the Troubadours. There was also an open mike, during which our very own Blaine D'Amico did a performance art piece on aSNAP.

Students enjoyed reading about banned books with an info sheet that Carolyn Frenger made for Banned Books Week, as well as coloring pictures of coffee cups with a hippo in it.

I hope that everyone can come to the next Café Gelman in the spring, to share the fun of the event!

ANDREA'S SCHEDULE IN THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE

Monday, Oct. 18, 2000	Workshop
Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2000	Workshop
Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2000	Workshop
Thursday, Oct. 21, 2000	No Schedule
Friday, Oct. 22, 2000	1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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Gelman Library System Celebrates Alumni Reunion Weekend

by **Erica Aungst**
Administration

The Gelman Library System hosted several events and activities for Alumni Reunion Weekend this fall.

Throughout Alumni Reunion Weekend, guests who registered at the Alumni House received packets which included an individually-signed welcome letter from University Librarian Jack A. Siggins, the Gelman Library System Case Statement, the Furniture Project brochure, a Friends of the GW Libraries application with postage-paid envelope, and a highlighter pen inscribed with the Gelman Library System website address.

Jack addressed the Class of 1950 and the Emeritai at their reunion Luncheon at the Cosmos Club on Friday, September 22. The Class of 1950 is making a financial gift to GW in support of technology. Jack explained the great changes in the Library System since 1950, with a focus on the ever-expanding technological expertise required of information specialists.

On Saturday, the Library hosted an outdoor Coffeehouse, historical and general Library tours, a first floor photographic dance exhibit and an alumna author book reading with a dance performance. All Gelman Library staff present contributed to the welcoming ambience at Gelman Library. Special thanks to Peggy Enevoldsen and her husband for their assistance in achieving the logistical requirements of the sidewalk Coffeehouse at 2130 H St. Moving the vendors away from the Library was surely the least of it.

The Coffeehouse was a popular success - - guests enjoyed flavored coffee and cappuccino along with cookies. The Coffeehouse tent on the sidewalk in front of Gelman attracted many visitors, who took the opportunity to peruse a display of Gelman Library information on

exhibits, the Friends, opportunities to contribute to the Library System, and upcoming programs.

G. David Anderson, University Archivist, gave his ever-popular historical campus tours with an emphasis on the Memorabilia Room and Foggy Bottom history. Multiple rounds of visitors waited at the Coffeehouse for the opportunity to join one of his tours. Cynthia Holt, our volunteer Library Representative, provided repeated Gelman Library tours for the many visitors Saturday afternoon. The reference desk, with Michelle Nolan and Dan Barthell, was pivotal in referring guests to subsequent iterations of Cynthia's tour. Blanche Anderson graciously assisted alumni visitors in the University Archives. Guests were not disappointed in their eager requests to view archival year books and memorabilia.

The alumna book reading, dance performance and reception in Gelman 202 was enjoyable and well-attended. Dianne Patricia Hunt read from her biography, *Erika Thimey: A Life of Dance, A Dance of Life*, and entertained questions from the audience. The Erika Thimey Dance and Theater Company "illuminated" the book discussion with performances of selections from their exemplary repertoire. Ms. Hunt formally donated signed copies of her book to The Gelman Library System circulating collection as well as to the University Archives. University Archivist G. David Anderson received the gift books and thanked Ms. Hunt on behalf of the University Librarian and all GW constituents.

Overall, the weekend festivities seemed to pique alumni interest in the Library System. None of the visitors enjoyed a Library "System" during their respective GW studies. We've come a long way! Great thanks to Valerie Emerson for the publicity assistance, Stefanie Weinstein for event-day support, Karen Greisman and the ASU staff for their preparation of handouts and other materials, and all other GLS staff who helped prepare or welcomed our many visitors.

(The *RT* editorial committee is now accepting your best estimate of what the GLS will be like 10, 25, and 50 years from now. Send your thoughts to the editor at aungst@gwu.edu.)

GELMAN HUMAN RESOURCES

Vacancy Listing

Please see **Attachment B** for Gelman's Vacancy Listings.

New Computer Operator

by **Michael Knapp**
Library Information Technology

Please join me in welcoming our newest full time member in IT. Lee Jacobs has accepted the computer operator's job. Lee started on the 9th of October as a full time employee. His main task is first line supervision of the technicians. As any of you who have been exposed to Lee know, he is a fine technician and has a great work ethic.

CAMPUS NEWS

First Annual GW Club Book Fair

by **Erica Aungst**
Administration

The GW University Club is hosting a two-day author event on November 10 and 11. The proceeds from this event will benefit The Gelman Library System. Please see **Attachment C** for details.

OTHER NEWS

WRLC Update

by Lizanne Payne
Executive Director / WRLC

- 1) Web delivery of CLS articles became operational on September 11. In the first four weeks of operation, almost 1,000 article requests were filled, almost 600 of them via web delivery. Almost 4,700 patrons have registered their email addresses for CLS through myALADIN.
- 2) Endeavor Information Systems has announced that the general release of Voyager 2000 will occur on Monday, October 9. WRLC plans to upgrade the test server on October 16, and plans the live system upgrade for sometime during the week between Christmas and New Year's.
- 3) The Cataloging Advisory Committee has agreed on a set of Guidelines for Cataloging Electronic Resources (see <http://www.wrlc.org/polguidcatelecres.html>). The Library Directors adopted these guidelines as presented at their meeting on October 6.
- 4) Georgetown University has completed the transfer of approximately 170,000 volumes (mostly monographs) to the WRLC offsite storage facility. Georgetown has viewed this as a one-time effort to reclaim some space in Lauinger Library, and has no current plans to send additional volumes.
- 5) Conferences and other news:
 - Bruce Hulse and Lizanne Payne attended the 8th meeting of the International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC) in Vancouver, BC on September 21 and 22. The

conference was attended by over 100 representatives of library consortia from around the world, including Australia, Great Britain, and Finland. Invited presenters included companies such as Questia and Ebrary, Blackwell Science, and ExLibris (SFX reference linking), and panel discussions with publishers about electronic books.

- Lizanne Payne attended the annual meeting of the Association for Consortium Leadership (ACL) in Pentagon City on September 28 & 29. ACL is an organization for consortia in the higher education community.
- An article by Don Gourley entitled "Opening Doors with Open Source." Appears in the most recent issue of Computers in Libraries (October 2000, p.40).
- Bill Mayer attended a meeting of the Circulation Enhancement Subcommittee at Endeavor Information Systems outside Chicago on September 19.
- Don Goourley is attending the Educause conference in Nashville from October 11 through 13.

WRLC Update

by **Judy Solberg**
Acquisitions

I did my first membership pitch for DCLA back in the summer at the beginning of the DCLA year. This is my second and final personal appeal for members. In addition to being signed onto the DCLA listserv, getting the newsletter Intercom and having access to local programming of interest to library staff, one of the great benefits

for new members is the opportunity to attend the new members reception for free.

This year it will be held on Wednesday, November 15th at The Charles Sumner School. The Charles Sumner School was constructed in 1872 and designed by Washington architect Adolph Cluss. The school was named for US Senator Charles Sumner, a major figure in the fight for abolition of slavery and the establishment of equal rights for African Americans. The building, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was also the site of the first, black graduating class for the District of Columbia in 1877. Sumner now houses an archives and museum on public education and provides reception halls for community events. Peter Fraize, a member of the George Washington University Jazz Faculty, will add to the ambience with his saxophone. It promises to be a great evening.

Now is a great time to join DCLA! I have copies of the membership form, so you can ask me for one or it can be printed from www.dcla.org.

I am attaching the registration form for the membership reception. Cathy Zeljak and Erica Aungst have both been involved with the planning.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Holiday Greeting Card Project

by **Teena Bedola**
Administration

It is an honor for me to once again be Gelman's representative with the GW Holiday Committee this year. This is my second year as a member of the Committee. The

CONFERENCES

E-book 2000 Exhibits

by **Mary Faith Pankin** & **Liz Harter**
Collection Management *Reference*

We attended the E-Book 2000 Conference exhibits on September 26. There were about 35 exhibitors. Below are comments about some of them.

Microsoft introduces its Reader. On a PC or laptop this software produces a very clear, uncluttered, and easy-to-read page, almost comparable to a printed page. It offers the ability to increase type size, a built-in dictionary, "find" features, ability to add notes or make highlights. It claims to deliver an outstanding "reading experience" (a term that we heard again and again from vendors). On a hand held reader, however, it is not as clear or easy to read.

Glassbook (now from Adobe) offers a different software with comparable clarity. It also has adjustable font size, note, highlight, and "find" features and a built-in dictionary. It also needs a laptop size at least for maximum clarity. Both Microsoft Reader and Glassbook basic readers are available free from their web sites. These two seem now to be the main competitors on the high end.

On the other end of the spectrum was Franklin electronic publishers, who are introducing eBookMan, a hand held device for reading books or hearing audiobooks. Franklin claims it displays 87% more information than current PDAs. It's small and comes in several versions starting at the relatively inexpensive \$129.00 and aims at a mass market. Like all small devices, it suffers by comparison with Microsoft Reader and Glassbook on a laptop, but is moderately readable.

NetLibrary representatives explained that they have over 30,000 titles now available and that

customers can choose custom "libraries" for maximum utility. They think that reference and business books are their strongest collections. The preview function lasts for fifteen minute increments, and only one person can use a purchased copy of a title at a time. Users can copy or print only small sections, and checked-out titles automatically return after the library's loan period.

The Open eBook Forum (OEBF) is a recently formed international, non-profit trade and standards organization. Its mission is to promote the development of a thriving eBook market by creating, maintaining, and promoting adoption of eBook standards and bringing together all the stakeholders in the eBook world by providing a forum for discussion of related social, legal, and technical issues.

Bowie State University (Maryland) plans an experiment next fall to give all freshmen a laptop computer (with upgrades each year) on which will be loaded as many textbooks and reference books as possible. This is still in the early planning stages. Increasingly we hear about the use of laptops for texts; one laptop would weigh less than what's now in a student's backpack.

Certainly the conversations with exhibitors could not be complete without including the Elsevier Science representative. Elsevier is introducing several new electronic publications, with a particular publicity effort for *International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences*. The company representative listened cheerfully and respectfully to comments about their unconscionable pricing for libraries. He explained that the library market does not provide the volume of subscriptions electronically to a source the way that a Stephen King book does. Since Elsevier anticipates only 800 subscribers to its new encyclopedia, the price must remain high. We remain unconvinced.

We have literature from the above exhibitors, and also from the National Institute of Standards and Technology, IBM, Live Ink, Galaxy Library.com, Techbooks, and ContentGuard.

HISTORY

October 8, 1943	Robert L. Stine , born on this day. He is now a popular author of several scary books such as <i>Goosebumps</i> and <i>Fear Street</i> Series.
October 8, 1945	Felix Salten , the creator of <i>Bambi</i> , dies.
October 9, 1847	Bruce Catton , historian of the American Civil War, born in Petoskey, Michigan.
October 10, 1930	Playwright Harold Pinter born in London.
October 11, 1759	Parson (Mason Locke) Weems , born near Herring Bay, Maryland. Fictionalized the fifth edition of his biography of George Washington (1806) to make it more interesting. This created the cherry tree myth.
October 12, 1908	Ann Petry , African-American novelist, journalist, and biographer, born in Old Saybrook, Connecticut. She is the first African American writer to sell over a million copies.
October 13, 1890	Novelist Conrad Richter , born in Pine Grove, Pennsylvania.
October 14, 1822	Victor Hugo marries Adele Foucher at 20. His older brother Eugene suddenly goes insane at the wedding breakfast.
October 14, 1894	E.E. Cummings , born in Cambridge, Massachusetts.



BOOK QUOTE

“When I am attacked by gloomy thoughts, nothing helps me so much as running to my books. They quickly absorb me and banish the clouds from my mind.”

- Michel Eyquem de Montaigne -

THIS WEEK IN LITERARY

GELMAN CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EVENT	EVENT
<p><i>“Bright Stars Through the Perilous Fight” Men & Women Who Would Be President</i></p> <p>Exhibit Showing</p>	<p>Café Gelman</p>
<p align="center"><u>DATE</u></p> <p>October 2, 2000 through January 26, 2001</p> <p align="center"><u>PLACE</u></p> <p>Room 207</p> <p align="center"><u>TIME</u></p> <p>Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p align="center"><u>DATE</u></p> <p>October 12, 2000</p> <p align="center"><u>PLACE</u></p> <p>Gelman 24-Hour Study Lounge</p> <p align="center"><u>TIME</u></p> <p>8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.</p>

RENAISSANCE TIMES

Renaissance Times (RT) is the official weekly newsletter of the Melvin Gelman Library at The George Washington University. *RT* is proofread by **Karen Greisman** and is published every Tuesday by **Teena Bedola** in conjunction with Photocopy Services. Submissions, comments, and questions should be directed to:

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