



# BOOKNOTES

VOLUME I, ISSUE 4

A Quarterly Publication of the  
FRIENDS OF THE ECKERD COLLEGE LIBRARY

## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

by Vice-Chair Stan Chesnut

Many things have changed over the years with the College, and Friends of the Library has experienced most of those changes. The original founders believed that our organization, which they named "Patrons of the Library", should assist the Library in any way they could. They worked to give financial support and to be advocates for making the first Library ever better.

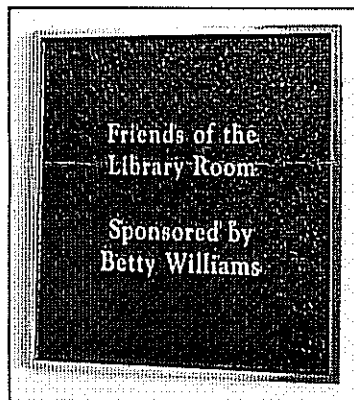
The latest version of our Bylaws states: "The purpose of the Friends of the Eckerd College Library is to assist the College in improving the Library and its various services to students, faculty, staff and others and to provide service and financial support." As we all enjoy the attractive and state-of-the-art new Armacost Library, we recognize that our stated purpose should still be a guide and a reminder of the need for our continuing participation.

Members of the Friends have always contributed generously through the Friends to help in providing support for the Library. Even a brief reading of the annual list of members of the Friends shows the range of gifts made by members. The opportunities for Named Gifts are still there, and the College Advancement Office will be happy to discuss several other ways in which individuals can help in fulfilling our purpose. (727.864.8222)

## ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Friends of the Library of Eckerd College was held March 27 in the Wireman Room of the library at which time election of officers for the coming year was held. Elected to office were Arturo Macias, chairman; Jodie DiMaria, vice-chairman; Tom and Margie Laughlin, co-secretaries; and David Henderson, treasurer.

Current board members Claude and Sue Corty, Martha Wallace, Arturo Macias and Michael Slicker's terms were renewed for three years. Shirley Crane was elected as a new member of the board for a three year term.



## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

by David Henderson

The college has recently begun a review of its General Education program. It currently includes the Freshman level Western Heritage in a Global Context, a variety of collegial perspective courses, and Senior year's Quest for Meaning. One of the issues under discussion is how much time (if any) should be devoted to skills development within these courses. It is an issue of considerable interest to the Eckerd librarians. Many students come to college adept at

using Google, but few have had any real experience using subject oriented, peer reviewed databases, or in developing efficient and effective searching strategies. Having a Freshman level course requiring universal student participation provides an excellent opportunity for us to begin the process of teaching students the skills they will need to become fluent information seekers and users. The perspective courses offer the chance for continued development of research skills.

Recently, Helene Gold, instructional services librarian, and Kathy Watson, assistant to the president for academic affairs, attended a workshop in Cleveland, Ohio focusing on ways to better incorporate information fluency components into college curriculums. They returned with an action plan that will serve as a base for discussion not only among the librarians working with Heritage, but in the broader General Education review. The goal will be to develop a program that enables students to become increasingly sophisticated researchers, no matter their field of interest.

## FRIENDLY NOTES

Did you know? In 1984 Jamie Gill, Technical Services Librarian, instituted the McNaughton plan, a rotating collection of leased books—popular fiction and non-fiction. The books are listed in the catalog, are shelved at the west end of the Reference Area, and may be checked out for three weeks. You will always find something of interest there, often including current best-sellers. Next time you're in the library, browse the McNaughton collection.

Friends of the Library has a close connection with ASPEC (Academy of Senior Professionals at Eckerd College). About 80 members of ASPEC are also members of Friends, 14 members of our Board of Directors are ASPEC members, as are the four of the five BOOKNOTES editorial staff. Friends' events, like our Spring Dinner, and many of Eckerd College events are also sometimes held in Lewis House, ASPEC's home base.

Our Armacost Library has marvelous views from the glass-walled north front and even from the south side windows. If you read or study in the Chesnut Family Reference Area (first floor) or the Stan and Patricia Brown Study Area (second floor), you'll find it difficult not to keep looking out at the trees, water, the Chapel, and other buildings across the pond. To the south, look at the handsome new Iota dormitory complex and the scenery beyond it as far as the Sunshine Skyway bridge. The library is indeed in an excellent campus location.

All library services are available to members of Friends of the Library. There are computers for catalog search, word processing, internet access, plus other electronic equipment. The friendly library staff will gladly assist you. You will need a library card to check out books, and if you don't have one, Connie Pearson can help you get one. You can also have your card programmed to access the excellent Friends Room on the second floor.



## ECKERD COLLEGE

[www.eckerd.edu/library/friends](http://www.eckerd.edu/library/friends)



## KATHARINE MEACHAM CONOVER

by Shari Watson

The Friends of the Library of Eckerd College welcomed Katharine Meacham and husband, Bob, to the board on September 1, 1991. Katharine has continued as a member and has been an active, vocal and devoted member of our board. Through her years on the board, Katharine has been a strong advocate of providing books in the library for the faculty and students.

Education has been a passion of Katharine's over the years. After receiving an A.B. in English from Southwestern at Memphis in 1943 and a certificate in Personnel Administration from Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration in 1945, she attended the University of South Florida and was accepted as a candidate for a M.A. in English Literature while teaching full time and raising four children.

Katharine was an associate in the Reading and Writing Laboratory at Eckerd College in the late 60's and early 70's. She taught for 10 years in the ELS program at Eckerd and she volunteered for 10 years in Pastoral Care at Bayfront Hospital. While her children were growing up, Katharine was a community and school volunteer extraordinaire.

Another of Katharine's passions is her relationship and involvement in the Presbyterian Church from peacemaking to teaching. She has served the church at every level, and her list of accomplishments is impressive. She served as an associate editor for The Presbyterian Outlook writing editorials and articles.

Katharine and Lloyd Conover were married December 29, 2005. Both of them had been widowed and were introduced to each other by their grandchildren. Lloyd is currently serving on the Friends of the Library Board with Katharine.

### JOANNE TRAUTMANN BANKS - November 13, 1941 - May 5, 2007

Joanne Trautmann Banks, an Eckerd College professor and a member of the board of the Friends of the Library at Eckerd College, died Saturday, May 5, 2007 at her home on St. Pete Beach.

Jo was recognized as a leading scholar on British author, Virginia Woolf, and a pioneer in interdisciplinary studies. She was the author of many books and articles. She was also a philanthropist having donated money to Eckerd to establish the Samuel A. Banks Study Area in the Peter H. Armacost Library in honor of her late husband.

Jo received numerous awards, including a fellowship of the Institute for Arts and Humanities in Pennsylvania, an honorary doctorate from Purdue University, and a Lifetime Achievement award from the American Association for the Study of Bioethics and Humanities.

The Eckerd College community will miss this talented scholar and friend.

## RECENT EVENTS

### March 22

Library Tour for members of Friends and ASPEC, led by Helene Gold.

### March 27

First 2007 meeting of the Friends Board of Directors. Approved funding for Friends special programs: Curriculum Support Grants; Betty and Maurice Williams Rare Book Fund; Minette Wiederhold Archival Support Fund; new art works are being hung in the library, including *First Graduation* by late Eckerd professor Robert Hodgell.

### March 30

Friends dinner meeting with Jeff Klinkenberg of the *St. Petersburg Times* as speaker; over 60 members and guests attended.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS FRIENDS OF ECKERD COLLEGE LIBRARY

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- William Wilbur, Jr. (2009)
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\*officers

## BOOKNOTES EDITORIAL STAFF

- Patricia Brown
- Stan Chesnut
- Jodie DiMaria
- Margie Laughlin
- Shari Watson



# ECKERD COLLEGE

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

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