

Connect!

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A New Treasure at the ABL: *Remarkable Elizabeth Barrett Browning poetry notebook added to collection*

In October 2008, a notice from Chris Coover, an English literature specialist at Christie's auction house in New York, caught the attention of scholars, librarians and collectors worldwide interested in Elizabeth Barrett Browning, by stating: "I am truly delighted to report that an extensive EBB manuscript album, sold in 1913 in the London dispersal of the Browning Collections . . . has resurfaced after some 95 years in the shadows." Immediately, the staff of the Armstrong Browning Library determined the notebook was an essential item for Baylor University and soon gained the support of VP/Dean Pattie Orr.

Scholars and special collection librarians from across the United States and England confirmed the album's importance and shared their feelings with Rita S. Patteson, ABL Curator of Manuscripts and Interim Director, proclaiming that it deserved a home at the Armstrong Browning Library, an institution with a commitment to promoting Browning scholarship. Thanks to the Margaret Cox Endowment, the notebook was purchased at a Christie's auction on December 5, 2008.

Written in 1839, the marbled notebook contains a hand-written title-page, "MSS. By Elizabeth Barrett," and 68 pages of verse, written mostly on rectos (the front sides of a book's pages), with added or reworked verses on some of the versos (the back, or reverse, sides of a book's pages)—all in a blank book of 117 pages of wove paper, housed in a dark blue morocco pull-off box, by Sangorski & Sutcliffe. This remarkable and extensive concentration of Elizabeth Barrett Browning's early mature verse contains drafts and working manuscripts of 15 poems, with one series of nine sonnets. It offers unique drafts of works whose texts differ from published versions or that are partly unpublished and four wholly unpublished poems.

The Armstrong Browning Library possesses only one other similar poetical notebook. It was written in 1842 and bought in 1979 at the Houghton Collection sale. This lapse of 29 years confirms that original Browning items are becoming very scarce. It is certainly the most important manuscript of Elizabeth Barrett Browning to come to light since that date. It complements the current holdings of the Library and will provide several generations of scholars the opportunity to study the thought processes behind Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poetry for years to come.



Interim Director Rita Patteson shares a viewing of the newly acquired EBB notebook with visiting fellow Dr. Scott Lewis, editor of *The Brownings' Correspondence*.

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Connections with VP/Dean Orr



I wish you could have seen the Central Libraries at the end of last semester. I have no doubt you would have been amazed to see the amount of students we had studying for finals and finishing up their end-of-semester projects. The Central Libraries have become

the study place for students as we offer a quiet environment, a state-of-the-art computing facility and a central location on campus. There was hardly an empty chair, and some students were even studying on the floor.

This is why I am so passionate about the Garden Level Renovation project. As we mentioned in the last issue of Connect!, today's students have very specific study needs. For this reason, I want to provide our students the best possible environment to meet not only their needs for research and technology, but also to provide them with comfortable seating and places to plug in their laptop computers for those late night study sessions.

I would love to meet with you personally and share with you the vision we have for our students. I would especially love for you to come to the Central Libraries and see for yourself what our students need in their library. I think once you see these needs, you, too, will become passionate about this project.

—Pattie Orr
VP of Information Technology/
Dean of Libraries

Q & A : Kathy Hillman New Director of Special Collections

How long have you been with Baylor Libraries?

I began in the Libraries as the first Reference paraprofessional. I had never thought about becoming a librarian but fell in love with the profession and immediately entered library school. In August of 1976, Acquisitions Librarian Sue Margaret Hughes hired me as Assistant Acquisitions Librarian. When she became Director of Moody Library in 1980, I moved into her position as Acquisitions Librarian

What does your new job entail?

- To coordinate and promote use of the Central University Libraries' special collections. In addition, I will assist in prioritizing future digitization of selected items within those collections.
- Working with Bill Hair, the special library directors, the Religion Department and others to identify, access and strengthen Baylor's Baptist collection and archives.
- To assist VP/Dean Orr with increasing participation in the Library Fellows program, the Baylor Book Society and Books for Bears program and to oversee the details of the Baylor Book Society and Books for Bears.

How does one become a member of the Baylor Book Society or Library Fellows and participate in Books for Bears?

The Baylor Book Society had its roots under another name back in the early 1970s. In 1996, John Wilson revived and reworked the program. Today, for a \$500 gift, donors join the Baylor Book Society at the one-book level, and the libraries purchase a book a year in honor of or in memoriam. One additional book can be purchased for each additional \$500 in gifts. Books for Bears enables a one-time purchase of a book for the libraries. Suggested minimum donation is \$50 or \$25 for students. All items bought with Baylor Book Society or Books for Bears funds receive a special book plate noting the donor and the person honored or memorialized. A note of recognition will be sent to the honoree or his/her family regarding the gift and bookplate.

Persons can become Library Fellows for an annual gift of \$1,000. Those donations go for special projects within the libraries. Library Fellows will receive information directly from VP/Dean Orr about all that's happening in the libraries. In addition, Library Fellows will be invited to special events throughout the year.

I've discovered that many people don't know they can give a book to the Baylor Libraries as a memorial or to celebrate a special occasion through either the Baylor Book Society or Books for Bears. People can also give together for a Baylor Book Society memorial.

How can folks contact you if they want more information?

Kathy Hillman
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Kathy and John Hillman pose with their first grandchild, Sawyer James Hillman.

Libraries Commemorate 400 years of Baptist history

As part of a yearlong celebration commemorating 400 years of Baptist history, Baylor University Libraries is holding the Baylor Founders' Exhibit in the Allbritton Foyer of Moody Memorial Library until Feb. 27.

Featured in the exhibit will be a painting of Judge R.E.B. Baylor by renowned Texas artist Henry Arthur McArdle. The portrait recently underwent restoration and was unveiled during a special reception at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 28, in the Allbritton foyer.

McArdle, the first art professor at Baylor, is known for his portrayals of notable figures in the independence movement of Texas, such as Sam Houston and Gov. Jefferson Davis. He also gained recognition for painting the twin murals, *Dawn at the Alamo* and *The Battle of San Jacinto*, in the Senate Chamber in the Texas Capitol.

Because of deterioration and cracks in the finish, McArdle's portrait of Judge Baylor spent the better part of 2008 being restored at a cost of \$10,000 by the Dallas firm of Helen Houpp Fine Art Conservation.

"The painting is a good representation of the Old Baylor. It's a combination of the subject matter, which is Judge Baylor, and the artist who painted most of the early Texas heroes and legends," Wilson said. "There are just so many things wrapped up in this painting."

The exhibit also displays portraits of Baylor's founders as well as artifacts used during the university's earliest years, including the bell from the original campus in Independence. All items are on loan from the Mayborn Museum Complex.

"I think it's exciting to look back to 1845 and actually see some of the items that were used on that campus or belonged to or used by Baylor founders who lived in Independence," Hillman said. "The anniversary celebrates all of our history and heritage. It intersects at Baylor because we were founded by Baptists to be a Baptist university," Hillman said.

Throughout the year, the Baptist 400 Celebration will recognize Baylor's heritage with conferences, lectures, exhibits and performances.



This restored portrait of Judge R.E.B. Baylor was unveiled at the Founders' Exhibition Opening Reception on Feb. 19 in the Allbritton Foyer of Moody Library. The painting is currently hanging in the Texas Collection at the Carroll Library. (Photo by Eric Ames, Electronic Library)

*-Story reprinted with permission from Ashley Corinne Killough
Baylor Lariat Staff Writer*

Visiting Librarian Connects Baylor Libraries to Lebanon

After much anticipation and despite some delays, Rana Najjar arrived in Waco on Wednesday, January 21. Najjar comes to Baylor from Northern Lebanon where she works as a librarian in the cataloging department of the Lebanese American University in Byblos.

Since setting foot on campus, Najjar has felt welcomed. She tells how she has "been overwhelmed by the generous, kind hospitality" that the "Baylor University family" has shown her.

Najjar comes to Baylor in hopes of getting a better understanding of how the archiving of documents takes place at emerging learning institutions. "As my university is growing... the need to improve our archiving services becomes [essential]."

During the next six months, Najjar will spend time at each of Baylor's libraries, as each offers a slightly different learning opportunity. But no matter the library, she looks forward to getting "hands-on training with [Baylor's] professional archivists and librarians."

Najjar anticipates taking full advantage of the time she spends on campus, "believ[ing] that every minute will add ... creative expansion of knowledge to my program." She feels very fortunate and considers it an immense "honour to be chosen by my university for such a great opportunity at the Baylor University Libraries."

VP/Dean Pattie Orr commented on the opportunity for Baylor Libraries, "In our very connected world, we work and study in a global society. Working with Rana will help us better

understand another culture and open doors for international partnerships with other university libraries. We look forward assisting The American University of Lebanon to create an outstanding institutional archive."

- Matt Larsen



Rana Najjar is looking forward to learning about the Baylor University Library System.

Library Events & Happenings



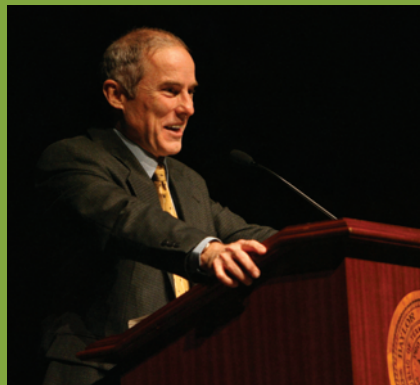
Baylor journalism professor Bob Darden visits with guests during the opening reception for *Drawing Power: Original Editorial Cartoons* on Aug. 18. Darden supplied the W.R. Poage Library with editorial cartoons from his personal collection.



Guests attend the Texas Historical Marker Dedication for the Texas Collection at the Carroll Library on Oct. 31. Two markers were erected commemorating both the Carroll Library building and the Texas Collection as a whole.

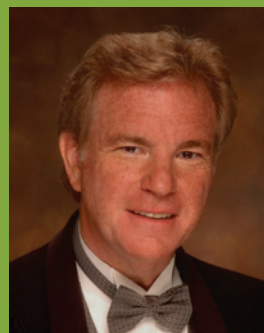


Interim Baylor President David Garland addresses attendees at the Vallombrosa Window Dedication on Oct. 31 at the Armstrong Browning Library. The window was given by friends and former students of Dr. Ann Miller.



John Grogan, author of *Marley & Me*, was the featured speaker of the 2008 Ferguson-Clark Author Series held on Nov. 18 at Waco Hall. Named in honor of Carla Sue Ferguson Garrett of Tyler, the annual event raises funds to benefit a student-centered project at the Baylor Libraries.

Director and associate music professor Jann Cosart plays violin during the Early Music Ensemble Fall Concert held on Nov. 20 at ABL.



Musician Dave Tanner entertained guests with "The Stories and Songs of Valentine's Day" at ABL's Gala Valentine's Day Celebration on Feb. 14.

Poage Library Hosting Two Major Events This Spring

To celebrate the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth, the W.R. Poage Legislative Library is hosting an exhibition to honor the sixteenth president of the United States. The exhibition will feature many items on loan from the private collection of Judge Jack Hightower, former Texas Supreme Court Justice and Baylor alumnus.

"There will be an assortment of Lincoln memorabilia including rare and signed books about Abraham Lincoln, reproductions of interesting documents, framed artwork, and a re-creation of the Lincoln Memorial," Hightower said, "all which help tell the story of the life and presidency of Abraham Lincoln."

The exhibit, curated and created by Erin Wolfe, will also feature a 12-foot photo reproduction of Lincoln seated at the Lincoln Memorial and panels on which the Gettysburg Address and Lincoln's second inaugural address will be written.

On Feb. 19, 2009, from 3:00 to 4:15 p.m., a reception will be held in the Poage Library to welcome Bob Willard, who will be speaking about his collection and study of Lincoln materials. His lecture, "Collecting Lincoln," will be held in the Meadows Recital Hall of the Glennis McCrary Music Building from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 19.

Willard is the current vice-president of the Abraham Lincoln Association and a past president and director of the Abraham Lincoln Institute. From 1998 to 2004, Willard also served as the Executive Director of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science. He has been collecting items and studying Lincoln for 50 years and is a member of numerous Lincoln dedicated groups.

The exhibition will be on display until Aug. 28, and all events are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Ben Rogers at 254.710.3540 or email Poage_Library@baylor.edu.

In addition to the Lincoln Exhibit, the annual Poage Lecture Series will also be presenting "Charlie Wilson's War Comes to Waco" on Thursday, March 26, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Meadows Recital Hall of the Glennis McCrary Music Building. This lecture will feature Charlie Schnabel, chief of staff to Congressman Charlie Wilson, who will discuss his work with the Congressman and Wilson's role in assisting the freedom fighters during the Russian invasion of Afghanistan in the 1980s.

-Amelia Hudson

Spring 2009 Events

Jan. 01-Feb. 27, 2009:

Baylor Founders' Exhibit, Allbritton Foyer in Moody Library; For more information, contact Kathy Hillman at 254.710.6684.

Jan. 26-May 31, 2009:

Texas Cookbooks Exhibition hosted by the Texas Collection at the Carroll Library, Room 101; For more information, contact Kathy Hinton at 254.710.1269.

Feb. 12-Aug. 08, 2009:

With Malice Toward None: An Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Exhibition at W.R. Poage Legislative Library; For more information, contact Ben Rogers at 254.710.3540.

Feb. 19, 2009:

- Reception for Bob Willard from 3:00-4:15 p.m. at the W.R. Poage Legislative Library
- "Recollecting Lincoln," a lecture presented by Bob Willard from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at the Meadows Recital Hall, Glennis McCrary Music Building

March 26:

Poage Lecture Series presents "Charlie Wilson's War Comes to Waco," with Charlie Schnabel
- reception 4:00-5:15 p.m. at Poage Library
- lecture 5:30-6:30 at the Meadows Recital Hall, Glennis McCrary Music Building; For more information, contact Ben Rogers at 254.710.3540.

April 1:

Early Music Ensemble Spring Concert, 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Armstrong Browning Library; For more information, contact Christi Klempnauer at 254.710.4968.

April 26 & 27:

Chamber Singers Spring Concerts at Armstrong Browning Library

April 26- 3:00 p.m.

April 27- 7:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Christi Klempnauer at 254.710.4968.

May 7:

Browning Day at the Armstrong Browning Library; For more information, contact Christi Klempnauer at 254.710.4968.

Please visit
www.baylor.edu/lib/events
for all library events.



WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE:

An Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Exhibition

FEBRUARY 12, 2009 - AUGUST 28, 2009

**For more information about events at the
W.R. Poage Legislative Library, visit
[/www.baylor.edu/lib/poage/](http://www.baylor.edu/lib/poage/).**

The Special Libraries of Baylor University House Collection Treasures and More



Armstrong Browning Library

The Armstrong Browning Library opened in 1951 and holds the world's largest collection of Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning materials. The library also houses over 25,000 books, including rare 19th century books, and over 10,000 letters and manuscripts written by the Brownings and other prominent British and American figures. Another collection in the Library is that of 62 stained glass windows, most of which depict themes from the Browning's poetry. In addition, the Library houses many Browning artifacts, including furniture, jewelry, paintings and sculptures.



Electronic Library

The Electronic Library, formed in 2002, offers a variety of client services including research/computing services, classroom technology help, online teaching and learning and student technology services. The Electronic Library also offers resource and collection management services including overseeing digital projects and library systems. In addition, the Electronic Library supervises BearCat, the Libraries' online catalog, digitizes scholarly materials, manages the Libraries' web site and administers other electronic services available at Baylor.

The SPECIAL LIBRARIES of Baylor

W. R. Poage Legislative Library

Located between Moody and Jones Libraries, the W. R. Poage Legislative Library houses the Baylor Collections of Political Materials. Focusing on research and the political history of Central Texas, the library was built in 1979 to honor Congressman W. R. Poage, a Baylor alumnus. The library's collections include campaign materials, Congressional documents, editorial cartoons and items relating to Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock.



Texas Collection

The Texas Collection at the Carroll Library includes collections of Texas and Texas related subjects. The Library holdings include popular Texas literature, extensive Texas histories, Texas State Public Depository resources and Regional Historical Resource Depository holdings. In the Collection's Archives Division, there are thousands of photos, oral history tapes and transcripts, maps and manuscripts. The official Baylor University archives are also housed in the Texas Collection.



Gifts & Opportunities

Making Connections: Joe Nesbitt

Hometown: Waco, TX

BU Graduation Year: 1998

Spouse: Amanda

Children: Claudia (5), Joe (2) and Lila (4 months)

Why do you serve on the Board of Advisors?

The libraries are the cornerstone of Baylor University and a great place for a person passionate about Baylor to plug in.

What do you hope to accomplish as the chairman of the BOA?

I hope to assist Baylor in its quest to meet the needs of its students as it relates to the libraries. The way students study today and the way they access information is so different from the way it was when I was an undergraduate 12 years ago. Our libraries have to meet that challenge in order to attract the type of student body we want.

With which Baylor Library do you work most closely as a board member?

I have been working most closely with the Electronic Library and the Riley Digitization center. The Black Gospel Music Preservation and Restoration project is quite an undertaking and very interesting. I don't want to give the impression that I am actually in the room touching the music and making decisions.....that would be a complete disaster. But this project is something that the Advisory Board is very aware of and very proud of. Because of the past experience Baylor has with digitizing the over 28,000 pieces of the Frances G. Spencer Collection of American Popular Sheet Music, and because of the generous gift from Harold and Dottie Riley to create the Ray I. Riley Digitization center, we not only have the experience but the equipment to handle a project of this magnitude and importance.

What have you found most fascinating about the Baylor Libraries during your tenure with the BOA? The amount of information in the Texas Collection has probably been the most fascinating. From the papers of Gov. Pat Neff to something as specific as the history of an old house in Waco, there is a wealth of information that most Texans and beyond would find fascinating.



Joe Nesbitt is the assistant vice president of Central National Bank and the current chairman of the Library Board of Advisors.

Connect! is published twice a year by the Baylor University Libraries.

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