



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTES "A kid in a candy shop"

The summer of 2009 has been a busy, productive one. Eric Emerson was tapped to become the new director of the South Carolina Archives, and I was fortunate to be named his successor. For a former history and English teacher, this position is a dream come true. In fact, there are moments when I feel like "a kid in a candy shop." I am surrounded by beautiful books and manuscripts, housed in a lovely, historic building, and engaged with a talented staff and extraordinary members. Brer Rabbit could not have asked for more.



Thanks to the patience and wonderful assistance of our remarkable staff—Carol Jones, Janice Knight, Robert Salvo, and Debbie Fenn—we have begun to transform the library spaces into more accessible, welcoming areas. New furniture adorns the main room, the Bishoff Lounge has been reconfigured, and we are in the process of creating a conference/study room where the audio books were housed. In addition, we have purchased a new reader/printer, and we are redecorating the microfilm room to make our resources more appealing to researchers.

The fall will be equally busy as the Board of Trustees tackles strategic planning, we host representatives from fifteen other membership libraries here at the Annual Meeting in October, and we launch our new Young Professionals program.

As I learn more about the traditions of this venerable institution, I look forward to showcasing some of the special aspects of the Library and its collections. In addition, I hope to inspire a new generation to become active, involved members. The Charleston Library Society is a jewel in Charleston's crown, and it should be shared and enjoyed by the entire community. I hope that you will come visit soon...and often!

Anne W. Cleveland

FROM THE COLLECTIONS Beatrice Witte Ravenel

Beatrice Witte Ravenel was the third of six daughters born to Charles Otto Witte, a German-born businessman as well as German and Norwegian Consul to Charleston, a philanthropist, a rose gardener, and a music lover. In 1866 Witte married Charlotte Sophia Reeves, twenty years his junior and desperately poor after the "Confederate War." She was only 20 when her first daughter was born, and over the next ten years a girl was born every two years. Beatrice is characterized as "gifted with the brains of the family" in youngest sister Laura's memoir *The Way It Was in Charleston*. Laura contends that Beatrice inherited a "colossal" memory from her father and "cared more for books and for reading," though she was interested in drawing, painting, and writing plays. She was also a marvelous storyteller to "spellbound children."

Beatrice's sister Carlotta "had the style of the family," according to Laura, who writes that Carlotta "...had a great talent for making doll's clothes and was most unselfish in giving her time for such things." Thus perhaps

FROM THE COLLECTIONS CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

2009 ANNUAL APPEAL CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF

If you managed to get past the sidewalk construction that blocked our driveway and door all summer, you have seen changes inside as well as on the street. The Chair Campaign allowed us to make the main reading room more attractive, but there remain ongoing maintenance issues with the roof and our air-conditioning system. We ask all members to support the Annual Appeal Campaign to help us with the costs of repairs as well as to ensure that the special attributes of the Charleston Library Society will continue. The philanthropist Peter Ginter said, "Often, the greatest challenge facing an organization is recognizing and acting on opportunity rather than solving a problem." In 1748, seventeen young men saw the opportunity to create the Library Society, and it became a remarkable cultural gift to Charleston and South Carolina. Please adopt their optimism and view our challenges as opportunities by giving generously to the Annual Appeal Campaign.

A Few of Our Recent Acquisitions...

FALL 2009

FICTION

Balogh, Mary
Bennett, Vanora
Child, Lee
Clark, Carol Higgins
Crosby, Ellen
Deaver, Jeffery
Deveraux, Jude
Doolittle, Sean
Frank, Dorothea Benton
Gautreaux, Tim
Jackson, Lisa
Lowry, Richard
Macomber, Debbie

Margolin, Phillip
Morton, Kate
Robinson, Peter
See, Lisa
Seitz, Nicole
Siddons, Anne Rivers
Taylor, Patrick
Trouche, Perry
Unger, Lisa

Seducing an Angel
Figures in Silk
Gone Tomorrow
Cursed
Merlot Murders
Roadside Crosses
Lavender Morning
Safer
Return to Sullivans Island
The Missing
Malice
Banquo's Ghost
Summer on Blossom
Street
Fugitive
Forgotten Garden
All the Colors of Darkness
Shanghai Girls
The Spirit of Sweetgrass
Off Season
An Irish Country Doctor
The Mule Shoe
Die for You

NON-FICTION

Boeselager, Philip
Cannato, Vincent
Fox, Michael
Franklin, Benjamin

Friedman, George
Gross, Michael
Herrick, Holly

Jenkins, Sally
Kean, Virginia
Nakamura, Masahiro
Rust, Daniel
Scotti, R. A.
Shields, David

Stanton, Doug
Vincent, Fay

Waterfield, Robin

Valkyrie
American Passage
Always Looking Up
Jazz & Blues Musicians in SC
The Next 100 Years
Rogue's Gallery
Southern Farmers
Market Cookbook
The State of Jones
Noisette Roses
Visions of Order
Flying Across America
Vanished Smile
Pioneering American Wine
Horse Soldiers
We Would Have Played for Nothing
Why Socrates Died

Please welcome our newest members...

Mr. & Mrs. Bob Beach
Mrs. Patrice C. Bell
Mary Catherine Bell (minor)
Mr. Howard Berry, Jr.
Ms. Marta Borinsky
Mr. Brooks Bostick (student)
LTG (R) & Mrs. Colby M. Broadwater III
Miss Susanna Brown (junior)
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick M. Bruner
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Bruner
Mr. & Mrs. William E. Buist, III
Mr. and Mrs. L.F. Burtschy, II
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence R. Burtschy
Ms. Chasity Sanders Canaday
Mr. and Mrs. John S. Chalsty, II
Ms. Bonita Cheney
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Cleveland, III
Mr. and Mrs. Wood Cleveland
Ms. Sarah Margaret Decker

Mr. and Mrs. John Dunnan
Mr. Joe Firetti
Ms. Margaret Fitts
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fossi
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Flynn
Ms. Robin Giangrande
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Graham
Ms. Katherine Greene
Ms. Laura M. Harley
Mr. & Mrs. David J. Harmon
Mr. & Mrs. Solomon L. Hay, III
Carol and David Hubbard
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Islan
Mr. and Mrs. David Jensen
Mr. Roger Larsson
Ms. Laura Long and Mr. Larry Tiedt
Dr. & Mrs. David H. McLane
Ms. Kari L. Morgan (student)

Mr. and Mrs. Eric Nail
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Norman
Ms. Mary Ohl
Mr. Robert W. Pearce, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Shane Phillips
Mrs. Margaret Cleveland Pitts
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Poff
Mr. William B. Regan
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Richards, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Scheman
Dr. & Mrs. Bob Shirley
Ms. Nan Swalm
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas White
Ms. Neita A. Wiese
Mr. Chisolm Wilson
Ms. Debra Wilson
Mr. Jeff Woodruff
Ms. Gail Yarborough

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER 2 • 5:30 P.M.

Young Professionals “First Friday”

Young Professional members of the Charleston Library Society are invited to gather on the first Friday of each month. Stop by after work to enjoy wine, music, and conversation.

OCTOBER 23–24

Annual Meeting of the Membership Libraries Group

The Library Society will host directors and librarians from our fifteen sister organizations.

NOVEMBER 14–15

Fall Book Sale

Browse gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and more at our semi-annual book sale. Hours of operation are 9:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. on Saturday and 1:30–5:00 p.m. on Sunday. Book dealers are welcome after noon on Saturday.

DECEMBER 10

An Evening with Pat Conroy

Join us for an evening with acclaimed author Pat Conroy. A cocktail reception and hors d'oeuvres, provided by Slightly North of Broad, will precede Mr. Conroy's presentation at the Gibbes. Tickets are limited, with members having priority. \$125 Reception and lecture (members), \$25 lecture (members).

For more information about our collections and events, please visit us online at

www.charlestonlibrarysociety.org

CHARLESTON LIBRARY SOCIETY

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Anne W. Cleveland, Executive Director
D. Carol Jones, Librarian
Janice L. Knight, Asst. Librarian
Debbie Fenn, Paraprofessional Librarian
Robert Salvo, Paraprofessional Librarian