



# AMONG FRIENDS

a newsletter for the members of the Friends of the Duke University Libraries

## Meet Lizzy Mottern

Elizabeth (Lizzy) Mottern will join the Duke Libraries in early December as the Assistant Director of Development. In that role she will work with the Friends of the Duke Libraries and manage the annual fund and endowment stewardship for the Libraries. Lizzy has ten years of experience in fundraising and is currently employed as the Director of Donor Relations at Airlie Gardens in Wilmington, NC. She also has higher education development experience, which she gained while working at the University of Georgia School of Pharmacy. Lizzy holds a Bachelor of Science in Horticulture from Virginia Tech and a Master of Science in Public Horticulture Administration from the University of Delaware. Her thesis research focused on the factors that impact annual giving to botanic gardens.

Lizzy Mottern succeeds Mary Walter, who left the Libraries at the end of September to become the Director of Development at the Duke Eye Center.

## Libraries' Donors Sponsor Awards that Recognize Student Excellence

Thanks to a generous gift from Stuart W'64 and Bill L'64 Buice, the Duke Libraries have established the Robert F. Durden Prize to recognize excellent undergraduate research projects that have required the use of resources from the Libraries' general collections. Stuart Buice chose to name the prize for Durden, whose classes she took as an undergraduate, as a tribute to him and his work. Durden, professor emeritus of history, is the author of a dozen books, including *The Dukes of Durham*, *The Launching of Duke University, 1924-1927*, and *Legacy to the Carolinas: The Duke Endowment, 1924-1994*.

The Durden Prize will be awarded annually in three categories: one for first- and second-year students, one for third- and fourth-year students, and one for fourth-year students submitting honors theses. The prize gives visibility to the Libraries' commitment to supporting undergraduate research and enhancing undergraduates' information literacy skills as well as increasing awareness of the Libraries' services and collections. Awarding the Durden Prize is also in line with University initiatives to increase undergraduate research, especially by fourth-year students.

The Durden Prize complements the Middlesworth Award, which the Special Collections Library has presented annually for more than fifteen years. The Middlesworth Award recognizes students for their use of primary and rare materials held by the Special Collections Library. The award is funded by Chester P. Middlesworth T'49 of Statesville, NC.

Winners of this year's Durden Prize and the Middlesworth Award were honored in October at a Parents' and Family Weekend reception where they also received checks for \$1,000.

## Seeing is Believing...

Words are hardly sufficient and pictures are only a little better at conveying the extent of the transformation of Perkins Library, revealed this summer with the re-opening of Perkins floors 2-4 and lower floor one, the home of the a new high-tech teaching and learning center called the Link. During the August dedication of the Link, a long-time Duke faculty member was heard to exclaim—with a look of wonder on her face, "Do you remember how *horrible* this was!?" And it's true—the dim, concrete-floored Perkins basement is only a memory in the very 21st century Link. There are even windows now—installed in two walls that are above grade.

So, this is an open invitation—if you would like to see all of the new spaces at Perkins—including the Bostock Library and von der Heyden Pavilion, Director of Development Tom Hadzor will be more than happy to give you a tour and, if you are interested, talk to you about naming opportunities that are available in Perkins and Bostock as well as the 1928 and 1948 buildings, which will undergo a complete renovation in the last phase of the Perkins Project. You can reach Tom at 919.660.5940 or t.hadzor@duke.edu.

## Bland Simpson Announced as 2009 Friends Speaker

Mark your calendar now for the 2009 annual dinner and meeting of the Friends of the Duke Libraries. The event will be held on Wednesday, 13 May, at the Duke Gardens' Doris Duke Center. Teacher, writer, and musician Bland Simpson will provide the evening's entertainment, playing the piano and reading from and talking about his books.

Simpson has been on the faculty of UNC-Chapel Hill's creative writing program since 1982 and served as the program's director from 2002 to mid-2008. His books include *Heart of the Country, A Novel of Southern Music; The Great Dismal, A Carolinian's Swamp Memoir; The Mystery of Beautiful Nell Cropsey, A Nonfiction Novel; and The Inner Islands: A Carolinian's Sound Country Chronicle*.

A member of the Tony Award-winning string band the Red Clay Ramblers since 1986, Simpson has toured extensively in North America, Europe, the Middle East and North Africa and has also collaborated on, or contributed to several musicals: *King Mackerel & The Blues Are Running: Songs & Stories of the Carolina Coast; Diamond Studs; Hot Grog; Life on the Mississippi; Lone Star Love, The Merry Wives of Windsor, Texas; Tony-nominee Pump Boys & Dinettes; Cool Spring; Tar Heel Voices; Kudzu, A Southern Musical; and three-time Broadway hit and special Tony Award-winning Fool Moon*. In September 2002, Simpson worked with the Ramblers on a Waynesville, NC, preview of the Diane Coburn Bruning-choreographed ballet of their music, *Ramblin' Suite*. The ballet premiered at the Fox Theater in Atlanta, 31 October-3 November that year. A second Ramblers ballet, *Carolina Jamboree*, developed and performed with the Carolina Ballet, premiered at Raleigh Memorial Auditorium in February 2005 and was broadcast by UNC TV statewide in early 2006. Carolina Ballet and the Red Clay Ramblers restaged this work in June 2008.

In November 2005 Simpson received the North Carolina Award for Fine Arts, the state's highest civilian honor. He has also been recognized for his writing and music concerning state and regional heritage in North Carolina.

## One World, One Party

Following the success of two student-organized parties at Perkins, students have once again requested permission to host a party at Perkins for the Duke community—including alumni and donors. In 2007 we had DukePlays: The Party; in 2008 we had Latin Chic at the Library; and now we are in the initial stages of planning Pangaea, to be co-sponsored by the Duke International Association, various campus organizations, and the Libraries. The students have titled the party Pangaea as an expression of their goal of promoting unity in diversity.

Representatives from the 1,000-member International Association made their proposal for the 2009 library party in a polished PowerPoint presentation. Their vision for the party includes displays of art and photographs students have acquired on their travels, music, cultural performances, and themed decor in the von der Heyden Pavilion (Arabian Nights/Bollywood), the first floor of Bostock (Asia), the first floor of Perkins (African safari), and the Link (Eastern Europe).

Pangaea will be held on Friday, 27 February, from 9pm until midnight. If you are interested in attending the party or would like more information about the event as it becomes available, send a message to ilene.nelson@duke.edu.

# Recommended by a Friend...

## *Without Precedent: The Life of Susie Marshall Sharp*

Anna R. Hayes  
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2008

Susie Sharp was a highly significant figure on the twentieth-century legal landscape, primarily in North Carolina, but she achieved some national prominence as well. Anna Hayes beautifully portrays this most impressive judge and the political times in which she lived. Hayes used Sharp's own journals and other papers loaned to her by the family to reveal a very complex and busy public life and a surprising private life. It was fascinating to read about Sharp's education, her family, and her early dreams of being an attorney in a time when few women considered law school. Susie Sharp was the only woman in her law school class and the first woman to serve on the North Carolina Supreme Court.

You will find this well-written book a treasure to read and to share with others.

—Nancy Tuttle

## *The Prince of the Marshes and Other Occupational Hazards of a Year in Iraq*

Rory Stewart  
Orlando: Harcourt, 2006

Stewart tells the story of his year in Iraq as an official of the Coalition Provisional Authority in a very personal and descriptive way. The author focuses on his struggle to relate to another culture with differing priorities and to bring some order to the places where he was posted; a view through the small end of the telescope, as it were. Stewart first was acting governorate coordinator in Maysan and later a senior adviser in Dhi Qar. Living conditions were poor, getting needed funds for projects to improve such things as education and water supplies difficult, and Stewart never knew whether Iraqi leaders in the area were friends or enemies. His keen eye and his deep knowledge of the history of the region add depth to his account of events of his year in Iraq. Both this book and his previous one, *The Places In Between*, about walking through Afghanistan, give a sobering account of the gulf between our society and culture and that of the parts of both Iraq and Afghanistan that are truly in another century.

—Cavett French

## *The History of Love*

Nicole Krauss  
New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2005

My college-aged daughter recommended *The History of Love*, saying that she liked it even more than Jonathan Safran Foer's *Everything is Illuminated*. The two novels are often compared because Krauss and Foer are a married couple, because both explore the complex and often tragic history of Jewish families, and because their writing is so vivid and beautiful. Krauss's work is not easy to summarize, moving as it does back and forth in time, narrated by various characters who are linked temporally and geographically by a book called *The History of Love*. Emotion—the heartbreak of lost love, the sacrifices one makes for love, a child's understanding of the restorative powers of love—underlies the narrative. I was completely smitten with the characters, particularly the endearing Polish immigrant, Leo Gursky.

The mystery at the heart of the book is so intriguing that every couple of chapters I asked my daughter how the book would end. She refused to tell me, for which I was very grateful.

—Elizabeth Dunn

## *Landscape of Lies*

Peter Watson  
New York: Felony and Mayhem Press, 2005

Isobel Sadler, an English free-lance photographer, has returned home to manage her family farm in Gloucestershire. One night she wakes to discover a thief attempting to steal a medieval painting that has hung in the house for generations. Intrigued by the thief's interest

in the painting, Isobel takes the piece to Michael Whiting, a London art dealer; the two quickly find themselves caught up in a mystery involving the painting and the nine monastic figures it depicts. As they begin to uncover clues, they realize that the painting is a treasure map and that deciphering the clues will lead them to a valuable collection of silver hidden by monks when Henry VIII closed the English monasteries. This novel, first published in the UK in 1989, blends British history from the time of the Tudors with an exciting contemporary mystery.

—Ann Wilder

## *Black Seconds*

Karin Fossum  
Orlando: Harcourt, 2007

*Black Seconds*, by Norway's Karin Fossum, begins when a nine-year-old girl and her yellow bicycle disappear. Tension builds when the search yields no results and a divorced mom disintegrates. Inspector Sejer's investigations lead to a mentally challenged adult with a one word vocabulary, "No," and a formidably resistant mother determined to protect him. Sejer ingeniously establishes communication with both the suspect and his mother, and truth finally emerges. Justice is done, but the bleak ending characteristic of Scandinavian mysteries is still achieved.

—Mark Kearney

## *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*

Stieg Larsson  
New York: Knopf, 2008

*The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* features a discredited male Swedish journalist and the eponymous freelance researcher who is also a hacker. The journalist is hired by an elderly industrialist to look into the probable murder of a niece some forty years earlier, an event commemorated annually with the anonymous delivery of a pressed flower. The journalist and the title character become partners, investigating the industrialist's bizarre family and unraveling a contemporary financial scandal. Both mysteries are solved, and a lesson is learned about what to do when confronted with an abusive relationship.

—Mark Kearney

## *Captain Saturday*

Robert Inman  
Boston: Little Brown, 2002

Captain Saturday, Wilbur (Will) Baggett, has been Raleigh's Channel 7 weatherman for twenty years. Married to his college sweetheart and father to son Palmer, a Duke grad and UNC medical school student, Will has the perfect life in Old Raleigh. Or so he thinks until Channel 7 is sold, his contract lapses, and he is unemployed. Within days of losing his job, he has also lost his identity, his wife, and contact with his son. As Will Baggett struggles to discover who he is and how he relates to others in his world, you start thinking about who you are and how you relate to family, friends, and even strangers.

I have recently moved from Duke Forest in Durham to High Rock Mountain in South Davidson County. I feared I would be lost without the Triangle's great writers. Instead, I am discovering new authors here. Robert Inman lives in Charlotte and Boone and has written three previous novels; I hope he's well into his fifth.

—Liz Roland

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