

LIBRARY FOCUS



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN
MISSISSIPPI

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

University Libraries | Fall 2011

THE EZRA JACK KEATS BOOK AWARDS MOVE TO DE GRUMMOND

—ELLEN RUFFIN, CURATOR, DE GRUMMOND CHILDREN'S LITERATURE COLLECTION

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor

Linda Ginn

Library Focus is published during the spring and fall semesters by University Libraries.

www.lib.usm.edu

CONTACT UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Cook Library

601.266.4249

McCain Library

601.266.4345

Gulf Coast Library

228.214.3450

Gunter Library

228.872.4253

Gulf Coast Student

Services Center

228.865.4510

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES HOURS

[www.lib.usm.edu/about_us/
library_hours.html](http://www.lib.usm.edu/about_us/library_hours.html)

The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation announced in summer 2011 that administration of the Ezra Jack Keats Book Awards will move to the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection. Known collectively as the Ezra Jack Keats Book Award, the New Writer Award was established in 1985 and the New Illustrator Award in 2001 to recognize and encourage authors and illustrators starting out in the field of children's books. Many past winners of the award have gone on to distinguished careers creating books beloved by parents, children, librarians and teachers around the world.

The Ezra Jack Keats Book Award is given annually to an outstanding new writer and new illustrator of picture books for children (age nine and under) by the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation. A distinguished selection committee of early childhood education specialists, librarians, authors, illustrators and experts in children's literature reviews the entries to select books that portray the universal qualities of childhood, a strong and supportive family, and the multicultural nature of our world. To be eligible for the Ezra Jack Keats Book Award, writers and illustrators must have published no more than three books. The Book Award and an honorarium of \$1,000 is given to each winner. Submission information for publishers can be found at



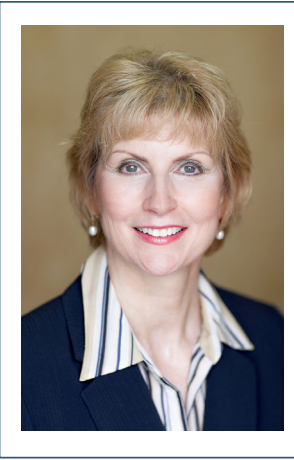
www.lib.usm.edu/~degrum/html/keats_illus.shtml

In April 2012, the award will be co-presented by the Foundation and the de Grummond Collection during the Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival, which is sponsored each year by the School of Library and Information Science. The award was co-presented with the Foundation by the New York Public Library from 1986 to 2011. The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection is the repository for Ezra Jack Keats' archive so the awards move to de Grummond is particularly fitting.

The Ezra Jack Keats Book Awards' move to de Grummond also coincides with the 50th anniversary of the publication of Keats' groundbreaking work, *The Snowy Day* (see related article on page 3).

For more information, contact Ellen Ruffin at Ellen.Ruffin@usm.edu.

FROM THE DEAN



It is obvious from the many articles in this issue of *Library Focus* that the University Libraries have survived the recent difficult period of budget cuts and that the experience has forged us into being stronger, more imaginative and forward-looking. We have brought in new, highly experienced and creative staff, won important grants, found ways to witness and share art, created exciting new exhibit and event space, implemented new technologies to provide better service, continued to provide popular and interesting events to our campus and local communities, and our celebrated de Grummond Children's Literature Collection continues to rise in national recognition. I invite you all to support us and join in the excitement by joining the Friends of University Libraries.

Dr. Carole Kiehl

COOK LIBRARY ART GALLERY

—LINDA GINN, HEAD, GENERAL COLLECTIONS CATALOGING

Southern Miss President Martha Saunders dedicated the new Cook Library Art Gallery on Wednesday, Sept. 21. Saunders welcomed a large gathering of university and community leaders to the gallery opening and reception.

The Cook Library Art Gallery will combine a permanent art show with a unique meeting space. The gallery is designed to be a prime location both for the viewing of fine art pieces and for lectures, meetings and

cultural events for the campus and the wider community. Located in the former Cook Library exhibition room (just inside Cook Library's front door and next to Starbucks), the gallery features fine art selected from the permanent collection of the Southern Miss Museum of Art.

For information about the art exhibited in the gallery, contact Dr. Jan Siesling at jan.siesling@usm.edu. To reserve the Cook Library Art Gallery for your meeting or event, contact University Libraries at 601.266.4241.



DEAN CAROLE KIEHL, SOUTHERN MISS PRESIDENT MARTHA SAUNDERS AND DR. JAN SIESLING AT THE GALLERY DEDICATION

THE SNOWY DAY TURNS 50!

—ELLEN RUFFIN, CURATOR, DE GRUMMOND CHILDREN'S LITERATURE COLLECTION

Not for the first time, The Jewish Museum of New York City turned to the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection to create one of their signature exhibits, this time an exhibit displaying original works from authors and illustrators of children's literature. The *Snowy Day and the Art of Ezra Jack Keats* features more than 80 works from de Grummond's extensive Ezra Jack Keats Collection.

Created to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the publication of *The Snowy Day*, the exhibit is the first major exhibition of Keats' work in the United States. Along with original art from his books, attention is given to Keats' groundbreaking 1962 book, *The Snowy Day*, the first full-color picture book to feature an African-American child as the protagonist of the story. In 1963, Keats received the Caldecott Medal for *The Snowy Day*.

The exhibition features everything from preliminary sketches and dummies (preparatory books) to final

paintings and collages, all from de Grummond. One of the gallery spaces was transformed into a reading room inspired by Keats' art and stories for visitors of all ages. Children and adults can relax in a beanbag chair and read the available books.

Claudia Nahson, curator of the exhibit, made several research trips to Hattiesburg to plumb the Keats archive. She enlisted the help of a Broadway designer to mount the exhibit, and the result is a remarkable façade of an urban neighborhood, which Keats often used as a backdrop for his books.

The Snowy Day and the Art of Ezra Jack Keats will travel from New York to the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art in Amherst, Massachusetts. Other destinations are the Contemporary Jewish Museum of San Francisco and the Akron Art Museum in Ohio. For more information, contact Ellen Ruffin at Ellen.Ruffin@usm.edu.



UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES RECEIVES GRANT TO PROCESS TIMBER COLLECTIONS

—DIANE DECESARE ROSS, CURATOR OF MANUSCRIPTS, ARCHIVES AND DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

With many significant research resources in the coastal South destroyed or damaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the surviving resources have become even more vital as documentation of the South's place in the history and culture of our nation and its interactions with the larger world. To that end, University Libraries proposed to enhance the accessibility and preservation of resources documenting the changing fortunes of the timber industry in 20th century Mississippi by applying for a National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) Detailed Processing Project. In July 2011, the NHPRC awarded a \$113,198 grant to the Libraries for the two-year project. This grant was one of 19 awarded nationally

by the agency for archival projects, and one of only seven awarded for a detailed processing project.

The flourishing timber industry made South Mississippi the third most productive lumber-producing state in the United States from 1904 to 1915. In 1964, the area boasted more than half the 7.5 million tung trees found in all the Southern states; the tung oil industry based on those trees was wiped out in 1969 by Hurricane Camille. A study of Mississippi's timber industry is a rich mixture of politics, conservation, forestry, environmental studies, biology, anthropology, industrial development and economics. The use of timber influenced the development of the culture, economy and environment of the entire Gulf Coastal region and, by extension, the entire nation.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Migrations of people and industries into and out of the region have been tied to the rise and fall of the timber business.

Increasing access to primary source materials on this topic is of benefit to a variety of disciplines and can only lead to a wider understanding of the interactions between humans and their environment, as well as a wider understanding of American history, culture and the national experience.

Three collections totaling 1,063 cubic feet were chosen for the project – American Tung Oil Institute Records, S. G. Thigpen Sr. Papers and Tatum Family Business Records. The grant award will be used to hire two staff members to finish processing the collections. The work will include physical arrangement of the collections in archival boxes and folders, preservation and the creation of a detailed finding aid. A selection of materials will also be digitized according to established standards and made available online through University Libraries Digital Collections and the Mississippi Digital Library.



TALLAHALA SAW MILL, CIRCA 1928
FROM THE MAJOR-SOWERS SAW
MILL PHOTOGRAPHS COLLECTION
PHOTOGRAPH OF A SAW MILL WORKER STANDING ON A STACK OF
TIMBER AT MAJOR-SOWERS COMPANY, TALLAHALA SITE

NHPRC
DOCUMENTING DEMOCRACY
National Historical Publications and Records Commission

THE FRIENDS OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

A Friends of University Libraries group was formed as a community organization to promote and provide support for the research, teaching and public service missions of The University of Southern Mississippi Libraries. The Friends group provides monetary support for University Libraries and also bridges the gap between university and community by offering circulation privileges, member discounts and special events and programs.

The Friends enjoyed a successful first year, with membership close to 100 on and off campus. We hope the second year will bring more new members. Members at the Contributor level and above are as follows:

Contributor: Sherry Smith, Becky Woodrick

Sponsor: Lance Nail, Russ Willis

Benefactor: R. J. Young

Life: Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Tatum

Upcoming Friends events include a dinner and book signing in early spring 2012 with Laurel,

–LINDA GINN, HEAD, GENERAL COLLECTIONS CATALOGING
–SARAH R. MANGRUM, CIRCULATION AND RESERVES SUPERVISOR, COOK LIBRARY

Mississippi, native Jonathan O'Dell to promote his book, *The Healing*. Look for more information on upcoming events at www.lib.usm.edu/foi_home.html.

A new initiative of the Friends is a newsletter to be named "Foliage." The name was selected from entries in a naming contest; the winning entry was submitted by Kathleen Farrell, media circulation specialist at the Gulf Coast Library. Congratulations, Kathleen, on submitting the name which best fits our new Friends group newsletter!

If you are not a Friends member, please consider joining now. A variety of membership levels is available, and there are many ways you can participate – small and large. All participation is welcome. To join, please complete a membership form (available at www.lib.usm.edu/foi_home/foi_membership.html or from any branch of University Libraries). Mail it to the address on the form or drop it off at Cook Library in Hattiesburg or the Gulf Coast Library in Long Beach. University Libraries looks forward to adding you as a Friend in the upcoming year!

GULF PARK COLLEGE FOR WOMEN REUNION

–ALLISA BECK, COLLECTION MANAGEMENT LIBRARIAN, GULF COAST LIBRARIES

This summer, as in many summers past, the Southern Miss Gulf Park campus in Long Beach played host to some very important visitors. Graduates from the former Gulf Park College for Women gathered to reconnect and remember. The 2011 reunion was particularly poignant because it marked the 40th anniversary of the college's closing. (The University of Southern Mississippi began operations on the campus in 1972.) Attendance at this reunion was the highest in years, numbering more than 100.

Gulf Park alumnae at the 2011 reunion graduated from the 1940s through the 1960s. Some had maintained contact through the years, but many of the "Gulf Park ladies" had not seen each other since their graduation years before. There were many joyful and tearful reunions.

One day during each reunion is set aside for the Gulf Park alumnae to visit the Gulf Park College for Women archives, located on the second floor of Gulf Coast Library. The collection includes

yearbooks, photos, trophies and GPCW-themed gear such as sailor caps, sweatshirts and graduation dresses. Reunion attendees, with their knowledge of the campus, assist the archives staff with photo identification, origin of scrapbook contents and other essential information. A highlight was the screening of a newly-restored black-and-white silent film from the 1950s that showed campus activities, including May Day celebrations and skits.

The graduates from the Gulf Park College for Women are determined that the archives collection will continue to grow and be protected. To that end, they brought many items to be added to the collection, including ribbons from equestrian competitions, photos and a stuffed Peanuts® toy, which had been in a dormitory room. At the reunion's business meeting, the group voted to fund some materials to help preserve the archives for many years to come.

Gulf Coast Library staff members appreciate the hard work and assistance given by the Gulf Park alumnae and look forward to many more July reunions.

QR CODES IN THE LIBRARY CATALOG

–LINDA GINN, HEAD, GENERAL COLLECTIONS CATALOGING
–SARAH R. MANGRUM, CIRCULATION AND RESERVES SUPERVISOR, COOK LIBRARY

When you find just the right book, journal or DVD in the library catalog for your class assignment or research project, what happens next? Usually, you have to print the title, call number and location or write it on a piece of paper before heading off to the stacks to find the resource. Now, with your SmartPhone and a free Quick Response (QR) code reader app, you can save time, paper and the cost of printing that information.

QR codes are two-dimensional barcodes that are readable by dedicated QR barcode readers and camera-equipped SmartPhones. QR codes are used to store and retrieve information and were first developed in the automotive manufacturing industry. Barcode scanning applications are available for iPhone, Blackberry and Android systems. Download an app from your app store and give this technology a try.

Look up a title in the catalog and select a resource.

Scroll down to the bottom of the screen and point your phone's QR reader at the QR code until it reads the code (takes a few seconds). The code reader will generate a text note with part of the title, the location, call number and the item's status (available or other).

The use of QR codes will put University Libraries at the forefront of this new trend in technology, while also supporting Southern Miss' green initiative.

For more information, contact Sarah Mangrum at Sarah.Rials@usm.edu or J. J. Crawley at Jennifer.Crawley@usm.edu.



KATHLEEN KOCH VISITS GULF PARK CAMPUS

On August 29, 2011, the Gulf Coast Libraries hosted a book talk and signing with Kathleen Koch, Southern Miss alumna and former CNN correspondent. Her book, *Rising from Katrina: How My Mississippi Hometown Lost It All and Found What Mattered*, describes her experience reporting on Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath on the Mississippi Gulf Coast for CNN. Her coverage and that of her fellow correspondents won CNN the Peabody Award.

August 29, 2005, was a day that changed lives forever. For Koch, covering Hurricane Katrina was more than just an assignment. Heading to the Gulf Coast to report this story meant she was going home. Raised in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, Koch had a personal connection to the communities along the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

On the sixth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, being on the Gulf Coast with people who had personally experienced Hurricane Katrina was exactly where Kathleen Koch wanted to be. Through photos and reading, Koch highlighted the devastation of the hurricane as well as the resilience of the community. She read three selections from

—JORGE BROWN, ACCESS SERVICES LIBRARIAN, GULF COAST LIBRARY



SOUTHERN MISS GULF COAST VICE PRESIDENT
FRANCES LUCAS WITH KATHLEEN KOCH

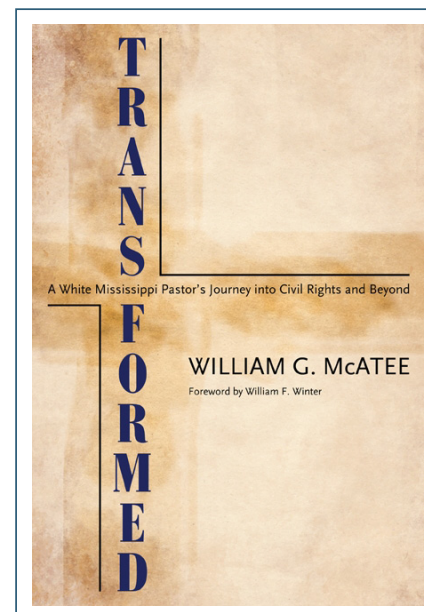
her book, the first retelling the story of survival of one Bay St. Louis couple. Other readings called attention to the people she referred to as Katrina Angels, the volunteers that arrived after the storm. Following the talk, Ms. Koch signed copies of her book and talked with audience members.

WILLIAM G. MCATEE – AUTHOR VISIT ON NOV. 3

—TRACY ENGLERT, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN FOR COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS

On Thursday, Nov. 3, at Cook Library, William G. McAtee, a retired Presbyterian minister, discussed the experiences that led to the writing of his recent book, *Transformed: A White Mississippi Pastor's Journey into Civil Rights and Beyond*, published by University Press of Mississippi. McAtee's visit was sponsored by Friends of University Libraries.

In the late 1950s and 1960s, McAtee served pastorates in Amory and Columbia, Mississippi. During this turbulent time, he joined a group of local ministers, two white and four black, that began opening access to public institutions and facilities for all citizens as required by the 1964 Civil Rights Act.



SCIENCE CAFÉS AT COOK LIBRARY AND GULF COAST RESEARCH LABORATORY

—TRACY ENGLERT, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN FOR COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS
—JOYCE SHAW, HEAD, GUNTER LIBRARY, GULF COAST RESEARCH LABORATORY

The popular and well-attended Science Café Series returned for the fall semester. Science Cafés offer those who may have little or no background in science the chance to meet and discuss scientific issues in lay terms in a relaxed social setting. Each meeting is organized around an interesting scientific topic, and a scientist gives a brief presentation and shows a short NOVA video to start the discussion.

On the Hattiesburg campus, Science Café events are sponsored by Cook Library and held from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Cook Library Art Gallery (just inside the front door next to Starbucks):

- Aug. 29 – Little People of Flores, presented by Dr. Mac H. Alford, Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and Curator of the Herbarium
- Sept. 19 – How Smart Are Dogs? presented by Dr. Stan Kuczaj, Professor of Psychology and Director of the Southern Miss Marine Mammal Behavior and Cognition Laboratory
- Oct. 24 – Autism, presented by Dr. Timothy E. Morse, Associate Professor in the Department of Curriculum, Instruction and Special Education and Director of Training Autism Project
- Nov. 28 – Making Stuff, presented by Dr. Robert Y. Lochhead, Professor and Director in the School of Polymers and High Performance Materials

The Gulf Coast Research Laboratory in Ocean Springs is the sponsor for the Science Café Series on the Coast for fall 2011. Meetings take place in the GCRL Dining Hall from 6-7:30 p.m. The fall schedule includes the following:



STAN KUCZAJ DISCUSSES THE PSYCHOLOGY OF DOGS

- Aug. 30 – Sea Monsters: Myth and Mystery, presented by Dr. Phillip Lee, Senior Research Scientist
- Sept. 27 – You Are What You Eat: The Science Behind Obesity, Disease and Good Health, presented by Drs. Tom and Judy Lytle, Professors Emeritus
- Oct. 31 – Things That Go Bump in the Night, presented by Zachary Roth, Graduate Student in the Department of Biological Sciences

Science Café events are free and open to students, faculty and the public. For more information, visit www.sciencecafes.org or contact Tracy Englert at 601.266.6396 or tracy.englert@usm.edu.



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

118 College Drive #5053
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SPOTLIGHT ON CORRIE MARSH

—DIANE DECESARE ROSS, CURATOR OF MANUSCRIPTS, ARCHIVES AND DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

On Corrie Marsh's fourth official day at work as the library's new associate dean for collections and scholarly communication, the fall semester had just begun, the library was full of eager new students, and she had already met individually with all the librarians tasked with collection development responsibilities. Having lived around the world working on a wide variety of projects, she was excited about the opportunity to move back into collection development and settle down in one place.

Corrie had never imagined herself living in Mississippi, but a little of Mississippi has always been with her. As a child, she traveled with her family from her native Texas to visit family in Virginia. A particular restaurant in Meridian became a favorite stop on these trips. As an adult working for Brown University, she was sent as a consultant to Tougaloo College in Jackson. Half of her favorite writers and musicians are Mississippians – Muddy Waters and Eudora Welty top the list.

As part of her new job responsibilities, Corrie provides leadership for the development of the Libraries' collections and for campus scholarly communication initiatives (such as the university's new institutional repository), as well as helping to promote the Libraries' digital collections. These duties put her in a position to work with everyone in the library and across campus,

promoting the library as an integral support to students and faculty and building a bridge between the library's resources and the other tools and resources available on campus. Corrie is particularly eager to work with faculty to share their scholarly work online through open access initiatives. As she sees it, this "global discovery" will be a good way to promote the university and its faculty.

Though budget cuts have been a sobering reality, Corrie is optimistic about the future of the Libraries. She has begun to lay out a strategy to document our successes and challenges and assess what needs to be done to improve our ability to support university-wide goals. Corrie seems very well-suited to getting things done in creative ways. Since she has contributed to a variety of institutions in many different ways, she is very resourceful. As she puts it, "If I don't know it, I know someone who does. I'm into helping others succeed."

