the legacy of anne carroll moore

Located within USU's Edith Bowen Laboratory School, the Anne Carroll Moore Library functions as the media center for an elementary school and children's division of USU Libraries. The Moore Library, which was founded in 1931, was named for Anne Carroll Moore, the renowned children's librarian of the New York Public Library.

Moore visited Utah State Agricultural College in 1927 to speak—at the invitation of President E. G. Peterson—as an expert in the field of children's literature. With Moore's brief stay began a long and productive relationship for her and USAC.

By the time of her first visit, Anne Carroll Moore's name was becoming synonymous with libraries and children's literature. As an advocate of public libraries, she believed,

"children should be given free access to books in public libraries, without hindrance of age or capacity to read, and with minimal concern for clean hands."

Moore had greater influence over children's reading habits during her tenure as Head of the Children's Room at the New York Public Library from 1906 to 1941 than most publishers and authors of her day. Her reviews and commentaries on children's literature were widely published. Also, she was the author of two books for children whose main character was a wooden Dutch doll called Nicholas Knickerbocker. Her book Nicholas was named an Honor Book for the Newbery Medal in 1925. It is thus the talents of a librarian, critic of children's literature and author that Moore brought to the summertime collection which is still available for students' use today. Among the books Moore personally collected is an early edition of a Dr. Seuss book, inscribed to Moore by the author. A beautiful edition

continued on page 2
of the art of Beatrix Potter is also in this collection with the introduction provided by Moore herself. Too valuable for general circulation, this core collection is accessible to visitors at the Library. For further information on the life and career of Anne Carroll Moore, see Frances Clarke Sayers’s *Anne Carroll Moore: A Biography* (Atheneum, 1972).

The librarians who have operated the Moore Library have endeavored to maintain a collection and place for reading that would be faithful to Moore’s vision. After initial growth, the collection was moved in 1958 from the Merrill Library to the newly constructed Edith Bowen Laboratory School. Since then, the collection has become a combination of children’s books of historical value and quality contemporary literature. It is a center which welcomes university students, faculty and alumni to read and study children’s materials, and it still serves as a functioning children’s library for the students of the Edith Bowen School. Because the Edith Bowen School practices a philosophy of child-centered education, the Moore Library serves as an appropriate repository of a collection named for a woman who epitomized the philosophy of child-centered libraries.

Today, the Moore Library continues to provide the best in children’s books, but the collection is not limited to printed materials. The librarians at the Moore Library believe that library users should have access to materials published in all formats, including online resources. They strive to instruct students in how to be technologically literate or critical consumers of information. But, most importantly, the librarians and staff at the Moore Library seek to foster, in children and others, a love of fine children’s literature.

—Deborah Boutwell
Director, Moore Library
USU Libraries

**Anne Carroll Moore, cont. from page 1**

He American Association of School Librarians, a division of the American Library Association, recently developed a program called ICONnect, a technology initiative designed to provide information and training in the exploding field of online information access. ICONnect training is available through school media centers and public libraries all over the country, providing children and adults affordable access to, and instruction in how to use technology as well as opportunities to communicate with library users all over the country. An important component of ICONnect is “KidsConnect at the Library” whose goals include to:

1. Help students learn how to navigate the Internet.
2. Increase the profile of school library media specialists.
3. Provide high quality information services that are responsive to students’ needs.
4. Assist library media specialists in fulfilling their role as information skills teachers.

KidsConnect at the Library is linking children to libraries all over the country, providing answers to research questions and other information services. ICONnect is moving the philosophy of free access to libraries into the twenty-first century. Additional information on ALA’s ICONnect program can be obtained by contacting the American Library Association or accessing the ALA website.

"It is a great thing to start life with a small number of really good books which are your very own."
—Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Through the Magic Door, 1908

"child! do not throw this book about: refrain from the unholy pleasure of cutting all the pictures out! preserve it as your chiefest treasure."
—Hilaire Belloc, dedication to A Bad Child’s Book of Beasts, 1896
library. When, while searching on line, a hit is made, the online record is matched against the volume and its existing catalog card for corresponding data, i.e., author, title, publisher, date of publication, edition, etc. If the data does not match, the online record is either rejected or edited to match the volume. The classification number is changed from Dewey to LC and the automated record, after editing, is produced by a single keystroke. There is, with the exception of some necessary original cataloging for special materials, minimal typing.

The automation of the data into an electronic catalog provides library users searching enhancements never available through the card catalog. Keyword, boolean and other search strategies are commonplace and promise to add greater success than ever possible. The result is an inventory of the collection and the cleanup of a database and its accumulation of problems amassed over a hundred years—and the provision of many, more points of access.

No weeding took place during the transfer of materials from the Merrill to the SciTech Library beyond which would occur in day-to-day maintenance. All of the books and periodicals moved were accompanied by automated bibliographical records and LC classification.

As for the fate of the card catalog: we still have records for 60,000 volumes that predate 1977 to convert; none of which are shelved in the SciTech library—all are related to the humanities, arts and social sciences. Meanwhile, the card catalog will continue to serve its purpose on the second floor of the Merrill Library.

—Reed Painter
Cataloging Librarian
USU Libraries

“Where is the life we have lost in living? Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge? Where is the knowledge we have lost in information?”

—T.S. Eliot
The Rock, 1934
analysis during which it reviewed the many subject areas in its collection, ranking them according to how comprehensive they should be, and weeding in those areas deemed unsuitable for comprehensive collecting. Many of the books Baker found discarded were in these low priority areas: life sciences, general philosophy and Italian literature. He argued that some research level collections that had been built up in the past were no longer awarded the highest priority and may have been downsized. But what Baker found most anathematic was that this weeding was done in such a hurry that it resulted in the destruction of many books of research value.

Baker’s criticism begs an important question. Must this one library be the sole repository for the past? In a letter to The New Yorker, the Executive Director of the American Library Association, Elizabeth Martinez, addressed this issue stating that, “Most public libraries cannot afford to be museums for antiquated books; there are research and archival institutions which serve that purpose.” In fact, such is the responsibility of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), an organization of 108 university and 11 non-university libraries which are dedicated to building and preserving research collections. Like all ARL members, the Boston Public and New York Public libraries are reviewed annually to insure they are maintaining their commitment to the Association’s high standards. The San Francisco Public Library holds collections and employs staff which, quantitatively, could meet ARL index size requirements, but they have never (even in earlier times when Baker argues they had a greater research orientation) demonstrated or confirmed their commitment to research by attaining ARL status. It is possible that the city government might never agree to such a substantial burden and desire, instead, that the San Francisco Public Library concentrate on the current information needs of the San Francisco metropolitan area.

What cannot be defended is that the weeding process seems to have been delayed, and therefore rushed just before the move. In some instances, weeded books that should have been dispersed to other libraries were indeed sent to the city landfill.

Proper weeding takes professional discretion and care. In many libraries, books that have been selected as candidates for weeding are first placed in some compact storage area where, after many years, they are still accessible and may be reprieved via a library user’s request. Furthermore, there is a distinction between “weeding” and the withdrawal of records for lost books. Unfortunately, libraries withdraw many more books which have been lost or damaged beyond repair than they ever weed from their collection. Library loss, like shoplifting, appears to be endemic to society, and it seems that, for better or for worse, technology will offer libraries the only defenses against such loss, including security devices placed in books, cameras installed in libraries and electronic methods of inventory control.

Damage to books is another problem. Since the mid 19th-century, mechanically produced papers—made primarily of cellulose—carry the seeds of their own destruction. The chemicals used for large-scale gluing of papers, and wood fibers added to cellulose as a supplement to increase paper mass, create acids that destroy the molecular chains within the cellulose which strengthen the paper. Under particularly unfavorable conditions, acidic and wood-pulp paper may lose up to 80% of its original strength and stability in as few as 20 years. More favorable conditions, including the gradual limitation of use, can extend the life of this paper as much as 100 to 200 years. Perhaps as many as 70% of the world’s written documents are recorded on such paper.

Within USU Libraries, we are trying to identify books at risk to and to set priorities on which volumes should be given special treatment to prolong their useful life. Unfortunately, many books are beyond repair. The library must contend with poorly produced books, books that are abused and books that are lovingly, but overwhelmingly used by library users. We try to replace as many as these books as possible, but many have either fallen out of print or have been priced out of reach in the used book market.

It should be noted that a careful inventory was made of our science and technology collections prior to their move to the SciTech Library. Only a handful of these books—mostly multiple or worn copies—were actually weeded from the collection. The inventory revealed, however, that many more books were lost. Records for these books were withdrawn from the Libraries’ catalogs. In light of President Emer’s challenge to USU Libraries to achieve ARL status—which requires that our collection grow to over two million volumes—weeding is the last thing on our minds. Rather, we are ever engaged in developing the size and breadth of USU Libraries’ holdings.

—Richard Schockmel
Acquisitions Librarian
USU Libraries
**Friends' Calendar**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 Mar</td>
<td>CollegeWise*</td>
<td>Frank Ascione</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>SciTech Library 120</td>
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<td></td>
<td>&quot;Caring and Cruelty: Children, Animals and Family Violence&quot;</td>
<td>Frank R. Ascione, Professor of Psychology, will give an overview of the confluence of child maltreatment (physical, sexual and psychological), spouse abuse, and animal maltreatment based on data from a study of Utah women battered by their partners.</td>
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<td>10 Apr</td>
<td>CollegeWise*</td>
<td>Barrie K. Gilbert</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>SciTech Library 120</td>
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<td>&quot;Nature Unraveling: What Role for the Framedent University?&quot;</td>
<td>Professor Gilbert is a Senior Scientist in the Fisheries and Wildlife Department, College of Natural Resources. Dr. Barrie Gilbert will discuss the need to integrate higher education curricula to better address the larger societal goal of maintaining the productivity of the biosphere.</td>
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<td>13-19 Apr</td>
<td>National Library Week</td>
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<td><strong>ANNUAL booksale, special guest speaker, art gallery and more.</strong> See page 6 of Marginalia for details on all Library Week activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 May</td>
<td>CollegeWise*</td>
<td>Ronald G. Munger</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>SciTech Library 120</td>
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<td></td>
<td>&quot;Nutrition and the Prevention of Birth Defects&quot;</td>
<td>Ronald G. Munger, Associate Professor of Nutrition and Food Sciences in the College of Family Life, will discuss his current research in the U.S. and the Phillipines on the role of nutrition in the prevention of cleft lip and cleft palate birth defects.</td>
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All Friends' events are free and open to the public. For more information, call 797-2869.

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**Friends Summer Lecture Series**

All presentations are $1.00 or free to Friends of USU Libraries members and USU Summer Citizen Card holders. Monies collected will benefit the Friends of USU Libraries journal campaign.

- **10 July Susan Madsen on Pioneer Children's History** 4:00 pm @ UVU 150.
- **17 July Carmen Steggell on Personal Finance** 4:00 pm @ UVU 150.
- **31 July Ted Allop on Geography of Cache Valley** 4:00 pm @ UVU 150.
- **7 Aug. Caroline Rhodes on U.S. European Relations** 4:00 pm @ UVU 150.
- **14 Aug. Barbara Hale on Storytelling** 4:00 pm @ UVU 150.
- **21 Aug. Larry Smith on Big Band Music** 4:00 pm @ UVU 150.

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**Yes! I would like to join Friends of Utah State University Libraries!**

**Category**  
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- Book-of-the-Year Club  
- Quarter Book Club  
- Book-of-the-Month Club  
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**Yearly dues**  
- $25.00  
- $50.00  
- $150.00  
- $500.00  
- $750.00

**Application**

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Phone  
Select one category and send check and this form to: Friends of Utah State University Libraries  
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Logan UT 84322-3000

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**Thank you for your support!**
national LIBRARY WEEK, EVENTS
april 13-19

• amy owen
  The State of Utah's Librarian will speak on current library development in the state. Time and day will be announced. Owen was the 1990 Library Journal Librarian of the Year and is probably best known for the UPGRADE and UPLIFT planning and continuing education programs which she instituted.

• william kittredge
  Writer and environmentalist, Kittredge will speak on April 17 (at 12:30 in the TSC auditorium). Kittredge is the author of Hole in the Sky and the recently published Owning it All—a collection of autobiographical essays. Kittredge has been invited by the USU Graduate Student Senate, co-sponsors of this Library Week event.

• two booksales
  Two booksales take place this Library Week. All week, 14-18 April, Friends of USU Libraries and the USU Bookstore are co-sponsoring a book sale at the Bookstore in the Taggart Student Center. The sale will consist of a range of new books at big discounts—"Where is human nature so weak as in the bookstore?"

  On April 16 and 17, the annual USU Libraries Book Sale will be held in the Merrill Library Room 309. The Libraries’ Book Sale features books on every subject—"Good books, cheap!"

• special collections and archives exhibit
  Featuring “Matter & Spirit: Eric Gill & the Domine’s Press Collection.” This is a wonderful exhibit—don’t miss it!

• the alternative gallery: an art exhibit
  The exhibit will be open in the Art Book Room, room 345 at the Merrill Library. Submissions of art in any medium are invited from students and the community for this unjuried show. There is a $150 first prize and two $50 prizes. Many pieces are available for purchase. Art works for the show will be accepted until April 9. Call at the Art Book Room—797-2749.

• amnesty declared at the libraries
  During Library Week all overdue fines will be forgiven. You must come to the circulation desk, at either the Merrill or the SciTech library, for your fine to be waived. This opportunity won’t be repeated in the near future. Many Happy Returns!

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"FRIENDSHIP FOR LIBRARIES IS ENLIGHTENED SELF-INTEREST." — Barbara Tuchman

The Friends of USU Libraries seek to further the appreciation of books, foster an awareness of the importance of the USU Libraries to the community and to the state, organize programs based on library holdings and interests and stimulate private support for the Libraries.

There are a number of benefits available to Friends depending on the level of support:

• Subscription to Marginalia, the Friends’ quarterly publication featuring articles on library holdings and happenings.
• Bookplates placed in newly-acquired books with your name noted as the donor.
• Special invitations to programs sponsored by the Libraries.
• An invitation to a special preview of the annual Library Week Book Sale.
• A USU Libraries Card providing book circulation privileges & access to the Internet.

Special memberships are also available for the business community. For more information, call Randy Williams, 797-2869.
FRIENDS OF USU LIBRARIES WILL BE INTERESTED TO LEARN THAT A STATEWIDE AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED WITH THE INFORMATION ACCESS COMPANY (IAC). UNDER THE TERMS OF THIS COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT, KNOWN AS PIONEER, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND LIBRARIES THROUGHOUT UTAH HAVE ACCESS TO THE IAC'S DATABASE VIA THE WORLD WIDE WEB (http://www.searchbank.com/searchbank/utah_main/) OR THROUGH USU LIBRARIES' HOME PAGE (http://www.usu.edu/~library/) UNDER "LIBRARY RESOURCES," BY CLICKING ON THE LINK "FULL TEXT DATABASES."

THE SEARCHBANK DATABASE INDEXES MORE THAN 3,000 JOURNALS AND CONSISTS OF GENERAL INTEREST, BUSINESS AND HEALTH RELATED PERIODICALS. ALTHOUGH NOT A COMPREHENSIVE RESOURCE, INFOTRAC DOES PROVIDE USER FRIENDLY LINKS THAT OFFER POINT-AND-CLICK NAVIGATION TO MANY GENERAL INTEREST ARTICLES AND SPECIALIZED JOURNALS. WHEREAS APPROXIMATELY HALF THE JOURNAL CITATIONS CONTAIN THE FULL TEXT OF THE ARTICLES, INCLUDING IMAGES, OTHERS CONTAIN THE CITATION AND, IN MANY CASES, AN ARTICLE ABSTRACT. ALL CITATIONS, ABSTRACTS AND FULL TEXT ARTICLES ARE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOADING—OR WITH THE PROPER EQUIPMENT AND NETWORKING—FOR HARDCOPY PRINTING.

UPON REACHING THE SEARCHBANK, USERS MAY CHOOSE FROM AMONG THE FOLLOWING DATABASES:


—Kevin Brewer
Reference Librarian
USU Libraries

WILD, WILD WEST


PROFESSOR MILNER'S DONATION FOLLOWS AN EARLIER DONATION HE MADE DURING 1995 WHICH INCLUDED A COLLECTION OF BOOKS DEALING WITH SOUTHERN AND WESTERN AMERICAN FOLKLORE. AMONG THE TITLES: PAUL OLIVER'S THE MEANING OF THE BLUES, SEVERAL NOVELS BY ZORA NEALE HURSTON, AUSTIN AND ALTA FIFE'S FORMS UPON THE FRONTIER, JAN BRUNVAND'S THE VANISHING HITCHHIKER.

TO MAKE A DONATION OF BOOKS OR OTHER MATERIALS TO USU LIBRARIES, CONTACT THE GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS LIBRARIAN, 797-2674.

—Karen Feder
Gifts Librarian
USU Libraries

DURING JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, USU LIBRARIES CONDUCTED THEIR SECOND ANNUAL "LIBRARIES MAKE A DIFFERENCE" PHON-A-THON. IN LATE DECEMBER, LETTERS FROM MAX PETERSON, DIRECTOR OF LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SERVICES, EXPLAINING THE NEED FOR THE PHONE-A-THON WERE SENT TO PARENTS OF CURRENT USU STUDENTS. FOLLOW-UP CALLS WERE MADE BY USU STUDENTS.

BY THE END OF FEBRUARY, THE ENTIRE $50,000—THE GOAL SET FOR THE PHON-A-THON—HAD BEEN CLOSED BY PARENTS. THESE CONTRIBUTIONS ENABLED USU LIBRARIES TO QUALIFY FOR THE ENTIRE $50,000 IN-MATCHING FUNDS PROMISED BY USU PRESIDENT GEORGE EMERT, ALL OF WHICH WILL BE USED FOR THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL BOOKS AND PERIODICALS. WHAT'S MORE, BY MAKING A DONATION TO USU LIBRARIES, THESE PARENTS HAVE BECOME FRIENDS OF USU LIBRARIES, INCREASING FRIENDS' MEMBERSHIP BY SEVERAL HUNDRED.

THE PHONE-A-THON, AFTER TAKING A SHORT BREAK, WILL CONTINUE THROUGH APRIL.

—John Payne
Development Director
Learning Resources Program
The recent death of Alta Fife has brought the end of an era in folklore study and research. Born and raised in Utah, Alta Stevens attended USU where, in 1932, she met Austin E. Fife. Together, the Fifes became widely known for their field research and publications in the folklore and folksong of the Mormons, cowboys and the West in general.

Using summer vacations and weekends, the Fifes traveled all over the West—most intensively in their native Utah—with a camping trailer, recording equipment, camera and stenographic materials. Typically, one would interview someone while the other took notes or operated the recorder. They also visited libraries throughout the West, taking notes and making copies of songs and stories hiding in regional and archival collections. Their books include the classic study, *Saints of Sage and Saddle: Folklore Among the Mormons; Ballads of the Great West*, their annotated edition of Jack Thorp’s *Songs of the Cowboys* and, most recently, *Exploring Western Americana*, which was compiled by Alta shortly after Austin’s death.

With M.A. degrees from Stanford and Harvard, and a Ph.D. in French from Stanford, Austin, the academic, was often regarded by his colleagues as the folklorist lucky enough to have a folkloristically-inclined wife as a field research assistant. But those who knew the couple well recognized that in their fieldwork each considered the other absolutely indispensable; those who were more closely acquainted with them also knew that Alta was the writer—a fact she adamantly refused to acknowledge in public.

Although Austin never taught a course in folklore until after his retirement, and although Alta never taught at the university level, their legacy includes the founding of the Folklore Program at USU; the establishment of the Fife Folklore Archives, beginning with their own book collection, recordings and sixty-seven bound volumes of fieldnotes; seven major books and fifty monographs and articles jointly edited and authored; and the annual Fife Folklore Conference.

In 1986, Alta was presented the Utah Governor’s Service to Folk Art Award, and in 1991, the USU Women’s Center honored Alta for her ongoing work in folklore. At the time of her death she was indexing the last of her papers amassed over a lifetime of dedicated folklore studies. At work until the end of her life, Alta paid serious attention to the arena she loved most: the culture of her people and region.

Since Alta’s death on Sunday, December 8, 1996, the Fife family has donated the entirety of Austin and Alta’s personal papers, including correspondence with colleagues and friends. In Alta’s memory, family and friends may contribute to the Fife Folklore Archives, Merrill Library, USU, Logan, UT 84322-3032.

— Barre Toelken
Director, Folklore Program
USU Departments of English and History