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Marginalia

friends of utah state university libraries

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 sum-

mer seminars she offered at USAC.

During her first visit, Moore discovered that the College had virtually no children's literature available to students. Before leaving she agreed to provide the beginnings of a collection if USAC would provide the space. Moore then wrote to the many publishers and authors with whom she was acquainted, inviting them to make donations to the proposed collection. Thus formed the nucleus of a children's litera-



ture 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

BRAVE NEW LIBRARIES

In the winter issue of *Marginalia*, Professor Larry Cannon expressed some apprehension—in his article, "Into the Brave New World"—about the possibility of data becoming lost during the replacement of the card catalog with the electronic catalog. No one has been more concerned about this possibility than we who are involved in cataloging for USU Libraries.

...merely adding more and more books to our collection does not make a library.

The discontinuing of the card catalog—a part of the library that is as old and recognized, as traditional and essential, as the library itself—has been done only after an exhaustive study of the possibility and probability of success. We have long held that merely adding more and more books to our collection does not make a library. Such an approach merely gives us a building full of books. It is the degree to which we are able to provide access to our collection that makes a library. So Professor Cannon's worry is well founded. We too have fretted and stewed about data loss, in any form, for many, many years.

To allay the concerns of library users about the possible loss of data in the conversion of the card catalog into an online catalog, let me review the process. When cataloging a new acquisition, or recataloging a volume already in our collection, we employ an electronic bibliographical database, OCLC—the largest database of its kind in the world, with over 35 million records from the Library of Congress and 24,000 participating libraries. OCLC records are constructed according to nationally accepted cataloging standards and can be customized, or edited, to meet the particular needs of any

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"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

anne carroll moore, cont. from page 1

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

KIDS CONNECT @ THE LIBRARY

The 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.

**"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 key stroke. 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. Key word, 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



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BRAVING NEW LIBRARIES

In *Marginalia's* winter issue, Professor Larry Cannon and John Needham raised some interesting questions regarding how and why libraries weed their collections. Professor Cannon quotes from an article published in *The New Yorker* in which Nicholson Baker charges the Director of the San Francisco Public Library with "hate-crimes against the past," for the wanton destruction of 200,000 books through hasty weeding designed to make its new collection fit into the library's high-tech facility.

It seems, however, that passion at times overwhelmed fact in Baker's blast. In a story appearing in the 24 August 1996 issue of the *San Francisco Examiner*, Baker admits that he and two anonymous librarians miscalculated when secretly measuring the shelving in the old library and comparing it to that of the new Main. In fact, the old library contained 21.6 miles of linear shelving for books while the new has 30.7 miles. One might assume, unlike Baker, that the new library has more shelving because its shelving spreads over six floors—instead of the two floors of the old Main—and because both seating and open space have dramatically increased. Baker blamed his error on the use of an inaccurate diagram.

But if there was room for the books, does not the weeding of some 200,000 appear, if not wanton, at least excessive? Let us put these numbers in perspective. The Main San Francisco Public Library contains over 2.6 million bound volumes, so the weeding reduced the collection by something less than 10%. There are twenty-six other branch libraries in the San Francisco system which together hold nearly one million more volumes. Within reasonable commuting distance, U.C., Berkeley holds over eight million volumes; U.C., San Francisco holds 800,000; and in the other direction, the Stanford Libraries hold nearly seven million volumes. In short, there are at least 20 to 25 million volumes shelved in the nearly 200 libraries listed within the San Francisco area. Thus, contrary to what Baker suggested, the weeding or reduction of the Main's collection did not dramatically affect the overall availability of books to San Francisco library users.

What could the Main San Francisco Library have weeded, and why? The Library Director described the weeding as a highly rational and routine removal of older multiple copies, out-dated textbooks, and books that had been worn beyond repair. The Library did not, however, publicize that it had recently undertaken a major collection

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"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

LIBRARY ADVOCACY: spread the word

- federal spending on libraries totals only 57 cents per person—about the cost of a pack of gum.
- in 25 years, federal funding for libraries comes to less than the cost of one aircraft carrier (est. \$3.5 billion).
- college librarians answer 94 million reference questions each year—more than three times the attendance at college football games.
- college libraries receive two cents of every dollar spent on higher education—down from three cents in 1980—with the purchasing power deflated to that of a penny.
- the cost of scholarly periodicals needed by university libraries more than doubled in the last six years.
- if the cost of gas had risen as fast as academic library materials (in the last 15 years), it would now cost \$2.66 a gallon to put fuel in your car.
- college and university libraries loan 180 million items each year at a cost of a billion dollars. if students and faculty had to purchase those materials, they would have to pay \$8 billion.

— Sources: ALA Office for
Research & Statistics

BRAVING NEW LIBRARIES, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

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 retrieved 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 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 Emert'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



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 fav 150.
- 17 july carmen steggell on personal finance • 4:00 pm fav 150.
- 31 july ted alsop on geography of cache valley • 4:00 pm fav 150.
- 7 aug. caroline rhodes on u.s. european relations • 4:00 pm fav 150.
- 14 aug. barbara hale on storytelling • 4:00 pm fav 150.
- 21 aug. larry smith on big band music • 4:00 pm fav 150.

Date	Event	Speaker	Time	Place
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13 mar.	collegewise* College of Education	frank ascione	4:00 pm	scitech library 120
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"Caring and Cruelty: Children, Animals and Family Violence" 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.

10 april	collegewise* College of Natural Resources	barrie k. gilbert	4:00 pm	scitech library 120
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"Nature Unraveling: What Role for the Framented University?" 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.

13-19 april national library week

ANNUAL booksale, special guest speaker, art gallery and more.
See page 6 of Marginalia for details on all Library Week activities.

8 may	collegewise* College of Family Life	ronald g. munger	4:00 pm	scitech library 120
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"Nutrition and the Prevention of Birth Defects" Ronald G. Munger, Associate Professor of Nutrition and Food Sciences in the Collge 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.

All Friends' events are free and open to the public. For more information, call 797-2869.

yes! i would like to join friends of utah state university libraries!

category	yearly dues	application
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Student Member		
included in student fees, upon application		
Associate Member	\$25.00	
Book-of-the-Year Club	\$50.00	
Quarter Book Club	\$150.00	
Book-of-the-Month Club	\$500.00	
Benefactor	\$750.00	

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Select one category and send check and this form to:
(see back for alternate USU employee payment plan)

Yes, I (or my spouse) work for a matching-gift company.
If yes, please enclose matching-gift form.

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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 booksale 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 Booksale will be held in the Merrill Library Room 309. The Libraries' Booksale features books on every subject—"Good books, cheap!"

• special collections and archives exhibit

Featuring "Matter & Spirit: Eric Gill & the Dominic'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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Home address _____ UMC _____ Perpetual or expiration date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

"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.

Internet WIZARDRY

tracking new
sites on the
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WEB



infotrac searchbank

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 periodical citations. 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:

- Magazine Index, 1993-1997, with access to backfile (1980-1993).
- Business Index 1994-1997, with access to backfile (1982-1993).
- Expanded Academic, 1994-1997, with access to backfile (1980-1993).
- Health Reference Center, 1993-1997.
- SuperTOM, 1993-1997 (an online reference resource).

—Kevin Brewer
Reference Librarian
USU Libraries



WILD, WILD West

In early 1996, Clyde Milner, a USU Professor of history, donated over 400 volumes—many bearing a distinctly Western theme—to USU Libraries. They include a near complete run of the *Lake Mohonk Conference Reports*, from 1886 to 1930, which provide USU faculty and students important source materials dealing with various aspects of eastern Native American tribes. The donation also consists of microfilm reels of two Nebraska newspapers from the late 1880s, three reels of the *Beatrice Weekly Express* and two reels of the *Platte Journal/Columbus Journal* which, taken together, provide access to many newspaper accounts of the later settlement of the American West.

The Illustrated Life and Times of Wyatt Earp by Boy Boze Bell is one of the more colorful books from this gift. This book explores both the legends and reality of Wyatt Earp, his brothers, Doc Holiday, Dodge City, and events surrounding the gunfight at the O.K. Corral in Tombstone, Arizona. Profusely illustrated and narrated chronologically, this book is a fascinating look at one of the most romanticized individuals of the West. A section near the end of the book also discusses the inaccuracies of two recent motion pictures, *Wyatt Earp* starring Kevin Costner and *Tombstone* with Kurt Russell.

Other notable books in Professor Milner's donation are *Legends of the Wild West*; *Arizona: A History*; *Apache Kid*; *The Roadside History of Wyoming*; and *Plain Enemies: Best True Stories of the Frontier 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 pledged 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

an era has ended

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 folksongs 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

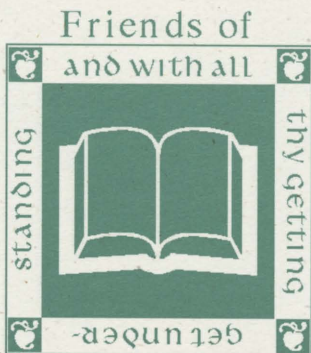
8, 1996, the Fife family has donated the entirety of Austin and Alta's personal papers, including correspondence with colleagues and friends. In Alta's memory, family and friends may contribute to the Fife Folklore Archives, Merrill Library, USU, Logan, UT 84322-3032.

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



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