Spring 2001

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Merrill-Cazier Library
Utah State University

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The first day of April is a day when order is reversed, power is shifted and pranks abound. Experts believe the custom has its roots in the 1582 change from France's Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar, shifting New Year's Day from 25 March to 1 January. However, this official policy was slow to change vernacular custom, and many continued to exchange calls and gifts on April 1st, the previous New Year's Day, making them Europe's first "April Fools!" April Fools' Day is also known as All Fools' Day and in Scotland, as Huntingdon, from the custom of sending the gullible on "gawk-hunting" missions, similar to a snipe hunt in the U.S.

At school, work and home, individuals participate in pranks, "innocent" fibbing and practical jokes on April Fools' Day. Mild pranks and acts of deception, such as salting the sugar bowl, gluing coins to the sidewalk, placing "kick me" signs on friends backs, posting computer warnings of a bogus virus and phoning telephone gags are the order of the day. Folklorist Tad Tuleja posits that the mild mayhem of April Fools' Day is a vernacular form of "symbolic inversion," which, like Halloween, "operates under an unwritten protocol that periodically tolerates the impermissible." The impunity of the joker, who when he signals with the formula "April Fool!," must be treated nonaggressively because folk wisdom claims that loss of temper will bring bad luck. Thus, although April Fools' Day is a day of disorder there are rules of conduct, but it is the recipient that must follow the rules not the joker, yet another "inversion!"

—Randy Williams
Director, Utah Folklore Archives

See what's new • Untangle the Web • Life lessons • Get briefed • Try surfing • A HUGE selection of LARGE-type books • The ultimate search engine is • Sound advice • Find romance • Stock options • Open a book and shut out the world • It's not just academic • Make the grade • Bone up on osteoporosis • Czech out Prague • Figure it out • Everything from Shaq to Shakespeare • Children's story hour • Find out where you're going • Nothing but Net • Find what you're looking for • Garbo meets Rambo • Words of wisdom • Get wired • Check it out • Discover new worlds • Many

faces • Your favorite author • Be a hero • Find the right answer • Get carded • Something for everyone • Do your taxes • Plug into the future • Daily newspapers from around the world • Find a job • Coming soon • Trip tips • It's all • The best school supply of all • Read a banned book • Food for thought • Get connected • Books, videos, CDs, Internet access...and some peace and quiet • Open your mind • Volunteer • Discover a new planet • Research shortcuts • Get smart • How to grow the biggest tomatoes • Theses and dissertations • Ask and you shall receive • Teach someone to read • Recipes from Betty Crocker and proper etiquette from Miss Manners • Everything you want to know about everything you want to know

See Page 8 for a Calendar of Events.
EARLY LAST YEAR MANUSCRIPT LIBRARIAN STEVE STURGEON FORMED A COMMITTEE WITH BECKY SKEEN, MEHDI KOWSARI, NOEL CARMACK, ROSE MILOVICH, AND DAN DAVIS TO PICK TWELVE IMAGES FROM OUR COLLECTIONS TO BE USED FOR GREETINGS & CHRISTMAS CARDS. OUR GOAL WAS TO MAKE PEOPLE AWARE OF THE WONDERFUL ITEMS WE HAVE IN THE DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS TO RAISE MONEY FOR FUTURE ACQUISITIONS. THE SELECTED IMAGES WERE A MIX OF SEASONAL AND GENERAL ILLUSTRATIONS AND CONTAINED BOTH ARTWORK AND PHOTOGRAPHS. AMONG THE IMAGES WERE MEDIEVAL PICTURES FROM THE DEVILLERS BOOK OF HOURS, HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS BY FORMER USU ART PROFESSOR REUBEN REYNOLDS AND CONTEMPORARY IMAGES TAKEN BY MEHDI KOWSARI. ALTHOUGH WE DISCOVERED THAT MAKING QUALITY CARDS IS A FAIRLY COMPLICATED Endeavor, WE WERE VERY PLEASED WITH THE FINAL RESULT. WE PRINTED TWENTY PACKS OF EACH IMAGE, AND EACH PACK OF TWELVE CARDS SOLD FOR $12.00. MOST PACKS WERE OF THE SAME IMAGE SO WE ALSO CREATED A FEW “VARIETY” PACKS WITH ONE COPY OF ALL TWELVE IMAGES. SO FAR WE HAVE SOLD CLOSE TO 200 PACKS.

THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT THANKS EVERYBODY WHO HELPED WITH THIS PROJECT, ESPECIALLY THE GREETINGS CARD COMMITTEE WHO PUT IN MANY EXTRA HOURS. FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO BOUGHT CARDS... THANK YOU! CUSTOMER COMMENTS HAVE BEEN VERY POSITIVE. IF YOU WOULD STILL LIKE TO BUY CARDS IT’S NOT TOO LATE. WE HAVE A FEW PACKS LEFT FOR SALE (ALTHOUGH SOME OF THE IMAGES HAVE SOLD OUT). TO SEE WHICH IMAGES ARE STILL AVAILABLE PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.USU.EDU/SPECIAL/EXHIBITS.HTML/CARDS, CALL 435-797-2663, OR STOP BY OUR READING ROOM. A SELECTION OF CARDS ARE ALSO ON SALE AT THE USU BOOKSTORE.

—DANIEL DAVIS
PHOTOGRAPH LIBRARIAN
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

DURING THE JOURNEY STEINBECK IS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS FRENCH POODLE, CHARLEY. THEY TRAVEL IN STEINBECK’S THREE-QUARTER-TON TRUCK ROCINANTE, NAMED AFTER DON QUIXOTE’S HORSE.

THE BOOK EVOLVED FROM STEINBECK’S DESIRE TO REDISCOVER THE AMERICA HE HAD WRITTEN ABOUT FOR MOST OF HIS LIFE. THE READER IS PROJECTED THROUGH 38 STATES ON THIS 10,000-MILE ADVENTURE. WHILE ON THE JOURNEY FROM SEPTEMBER 1960 TO JANUARY 1961, STEINBECK WAS NEVER ONCE RECOGNIZED AND SAID OF THE PEOPLE WHO SAW HIS CABIN ON WHEELS, “THEY LOOKED COURTEOUS CURSES AT ME BECAUSE I COULD GO ON AND THEY COULDN’T.”

“EVERYWHERE FRANTIC GROWTH, A CARCINOMATOUS GROWTH. BULLDOZERS ROLLED UP THE GREEN FORESTS AND HEAPED THE RESULTING TRASH FOR BURNING. THE TORN WHITE LUMBER FROM CONCRETE FORMS WAS PILED BESIDE GRAY WALLS. I WONDER WHY PROGRESS LOOKS SO MUCH LIKE DESTRUCTION.”

EXCERPT FROM TRAVELS WITH CHARLEY
PUBLISHED, 1961

THIS SHORT, THOUGHTFUL BOOK IS TO BE READ “SLOWLY FOR ITS SAVOR” SAID EDWARD WEEKS. THE BOOK IS AVAILABLE AT THE UNIVERSITY BOOK STORE AND THE MERRILL LIBRARY HAS A NUMBER OF COPIES. THE CALL NUMBER IS E169.02 S83.

EACH SEMESTER UNDER THE ACADEMIES VICE PRESIDENT OF ASUSU (STUDENT BODY OFFICERS) A BOOK IS HIGHLIGHTED AND SOLD ‘AT COST’ BY THE UNIVERSITY BOOK STORE.


—PETER DOWSON
ASUSU REPRESENTATIVE
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES
Once again the Friends of USU Libraries sponsored a very successful Libraries Make a Difference phonathon campaign with pledges totaling over $100,000.

Between November 30, 2000, and February 3, 2001, student callers in Old Main telephoned parents of current USU students as well as those who have given to the Libraries through the phonathon during the past two years. Parents were asked to donate the cost of two books.

The average cost of an academic book is $58, journal subscriptions average $430, and electronic databases cost from $50 to thousands of dollars. During the past three years parents and family members of students have contributed more than $200,000 to help purchase these resources. These contributions help provide the best library service possible to the students of USU.

Individual support such as that received through the phonathon is essential for the continued growth and improvement of USU Libraries.

—Trina Shelton
Library Staff Phonathon Coordinator

never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world; indeed it’s the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead

The annual Friends of USU Libraries Summer Lecture Series runs from Mid-June to the end of July. Location and times will be announced at a later date but the tentative schedule of lecturers includes:

**Dan Davis**
Special Collections Photography Librarian: The Preservation of Family Photographs

**Marvin Halling,** Assoc. Professor
Civil & Environmental Engineering: Earthquake Engineering

**Russ Mason**
Millville Wildlife Research Facility
Topic to be announced.

**Elizabeth York,** Assistant Professor & Director of Music Therapy Program: Music Therapy

**Steve Sturgeon**
Special Collections Manuscript Librarian: Water Development in the West

**Richard Krannich**
Professor of Sociology: Social Implications of Hazardous Waste

with friends like you...

This past year the Friends of USU Libraries contributed over $8,000 and helped to cover the cost of items not included in the regular budget.

Friends Funds....

....will underwrite Cache Valley History Day in conjunction with USU Libraries’ Special Collections.
....sponsor activities, mailings and other associated expenses of the Friends’ organization.
....will pay for the design and installation of floor directories for the Merrill and SciTech libraries.
....contributed toward the purchase of the William B. Preston journals for Special Collections.

Thank You!
to connect...

Remember when libraries offered books—just books? If the librarian were energetic, perhaps she provided a "vertical file" of pamphlets, articles, and newspaper clippings as well. When I was a graduate student at a state university in Kentucky, the library provided the only copy machine on campus available for student use. Later, as a public library librarian, I proudly voted to provide a computer—that's one computer—for patron use. It was equipped with a coin box that charged a quarter for 30 minutes' use. Obviously, this arrangement pre-dated the days of lengthy web surfing. For that matter, it pre-dated the web. But then, at that point we still had a card catalog, too. The first computer I was assigned at Merrill Library in the mid-1980's was equipped with a whopping two meg hard drive.

Really, I'm not that old. Many of today's students have never laid eyes on a text-based (as opposed to graphically-based) software program, much less laid fingers on a typewriter keyboard or even seen a sheet of carbon paper. We've come a long, wonderful way—and in a very short time.

Today USU Libraries not only provide dozens of computer terminals for patron use, but also remote electronic access from the dorm rooms, homes, and offices of USU students, staff, and faculty members. And just what is it they can "access" compliments of the Libraries? How about a complete online catalog that performs complex searches far beyond the scope of the author-title-subject searches of its card catalog ancestor? How about more than 100 databases of journal citations, many including the full text of the articles they cite? Not to mention over 1,600 electronic journals online—right on your computer screen—from Immunology and Cell Biology to Studies in Educational Evaluation.

Expanding beyond books and journals, the Libraries' home page (www.usu.edu/library) provides direct links to "Internet Reference," a wide array of information sources organized by subject area, and "Research Assistance," putting you in touch with a librarian whose expertise matches your informational needs. Students and teachers alike benefit from the electronic "Course Reserves" system that displays scanned readings so that many course materials can be accessed from remote locations. Students no longer have to physically visit the library to borrow class readings, and teachers don't have to subject important course materials to heavy student use. Patrons who use the "Other Catalogs" link from the Libraries home page can browse library catalogs around the world, from Brigham City to Sri Lanka, while other links allow users to request a book or an article via interlibrary loan or suggest the purchase of a book, video, or other material.

Electronic resources are not the only changes in libraries today. In addition to plenty of copy machines and computers in each building, a wide variety of equipment is available for check-out by USU faculty and staff. Audio-Visual Services provides the traditional film projectors, record players, and tape recorders, but today instructors can also check out video cameras and projectors, LCD computer screen projectors, laser pointers, and even conference telephones. Students, faculty, and staff can check out laptop computers, and data ports are provided in Cazier Sci-Tech Library for student laptop use within the building. In 2001 our audio-visual collections include CDs and DVDs in addition to the familiar videos, films, and audio cassettes.

Libraries have simply outgrown their ancient roots: Greek biblio and Latin libr meaning books. Perhaps we're due for a name change: maybe "Resource-O-Rama" instead of "Library"? O.K., now I am showing my age.

One way to catch up on all the current offerings of the USU Libraries is to explore the home page at www.usu.edu/library. You'll be amazed. Oh, yeah—and we still have books, too—almost a million and a half of them.

—Jan Anderson
Campus Services Librarian

This year's National Library Week, April 11 - 17, celebrates the freedom to "Read! Learn! Connect!" It's a freedom that is easily taken for granted. We walk into a library expecting to find information on almost any conceivable topic—no questions asked. This freedom to seek and receive information without restriction undergirds our democracy.

Libraries are an American value, born of the notion that a free people should have free access to information. In practice what that means is that libraries give us access to a full spectrum of information and ideas that allows us to learn what we want, explore many points of view and make informed decisions.

As we race headlong into a technological age that's sure to surprise us in ways we can't even imagine, it's important to remember that libraries will remain the solid foundation from which information will flow. But only if we, the citizens who use and benefit from libraries, support them as the keepers of our freedom to read, learn and connect.

From the American Library Association

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Kathy Schechman, Editor & Art Director
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Logan, UT 84322-3080
to my thinking, a great librarian must have a clear head, a strong hand, and above all, a great heart... and I am inclined to think that most of the men who will achieve this greatness will be women.”

— Melvil Dewey
Andrew Joseph Russell, Union Pacific Photographer

Between 1868 and 1870 Andrew Joseph Russell (1829-1902) photographed over 800 glass-plate negatives along the Union Pacific Railroad line in Nebraska, Wyoming, and Utah. Some of these images are classics of Western Photographica. In fact, he took what is perhaps the most famous western image (for years misidentified as a C.R. Savage photo) of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific locomotives coming together at Promontory, Utah. Russell’s photographs convey movement and power. They are not only important historical documents, but they also evoke awe of the momentous undertaking that was the building of the transcontinental railroad. Within the Special Collections and Archives Department there are many second generation copies of Russell images, but what many people may not realize is that we also house a copy of the rare 1870 book Sun Pictures of Rocky Mountain Scenery with thirty original Russell albumen prints.

Russell was the natural choice when the Union Pacific decided it needed to photographically document “the Work of the Age” in early 1868. During the Civil War he was the official railroad military photographer for the Union Army. After the war he returned to New York City to resume his work as a portrait photographer and artist. The lure of capturing the building of a transcontinental railroad on glass, however, was too great an opportunity to let pass. In early 1868 he set out for Omaha, Nebraska. Russell caught up with the railroad in Cheyenne. He followed its construction across Wyoming and into Utah and finally to the joining of the rails at Promontory Point on May 10, 1869.

After the joining of the two railroads the Union Pacific published The Great West Illustrated in a Series of Photographic Views Across the Continent (of which only a handful survive). The next year geology professor Ferdinand Hayden utilized Russell’s prints in a cheaper volume entitled Sun Pictures of Rocky Mountain Scenery. Hayden was in charge of the U.S. Geographical and Geological Survey and he wanted to capitalize on interest in visual images of the West and to promote the study of geology. As Hayden himself explains in the book:

“The Pictures have been arranged... with the view that the book may be used as a guide by those who will avail themselves of the grand opportunities for geological study, which a trip across the continent affords to every intelligent mind.”

The photographs in Sun Pictures of Rocky Mountain Scenery are not the dramatic images that document the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad; instead they are scenes of geological interest. Here Russell shows his flexibility as an artist. Most of these photographs were taken after the joining of the rails when Russell had more time to pick and choose his subjects. In these photographs nature is not an obstacle to be overcome, but a source of interest to the traveler. In 1870 Russell finished up his work with the U.P. and returned to New York City. He spent the rest of his career working as an artist and photographer for Leslie’s Illustrated.

— Daniel Davis
USU Special Collections
Photography Archivist

The libraries of America are and must ever remain the home of free, inquiring minds. To them, our citizens must be able to turn with clear confidence that there they can freely seek the whole truth.

President Dwight Eisenhower
Library is the heart of an educational institution, and the heart of the USU Libraries is our Friends organization—a diverse group of special people who share a distinct interest in the pursuits of the intellect and are devoted to books, letters and libraries. The Friends enjoy many benefits while they help USU Libraries through contributions of funds and library materials to develop its world-class collections. Your help is important and it can really make a difference.

Membership benefits include our newsletter, *Marginalia*, published twice yearly and invitations to all Friends' sponsored events. Contributors giving $25 or more also receive book borrowing privileges at USU Libraries and an invitation to a special preview evening of our annual Booksale. To join, simply fill out the form below and send to USU Libraries.

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Select one category and send check and this form to:

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<td>All week</td>
<td>Interior Design Student Exhibit</td>
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<td>Damaged and Censored Books Display</td>
<td>Merrill Library, 1st Floor</td>
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<td>Cache Valley Librarians Luncheon</td>
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<td>Eccles Center, Auditorium</td>
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<td>Library Booksale Preview (Friends’ Members Only)</td>
<td>Merrill Library, Basement</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 4 April</td>
<td>Student Employee Recognition Day</td>
<td>Merrill &amp; SciTech Libraries</td>
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<td>Lecture: President Kermit Hall’s Experience on the Kennedy Assassination Records Review Board</td>
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