



THE BIBLIOPHILE

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A Newsletter for Members of the Coe College Library Association

Powerful Dynix catalog system is now on-line

The good witch Glenda couldn't grant your wishes any faster.

Coe's newly installed Dynix computerized card catalog in Stewart Library even tracks down books being labeled and reports "in process" to the person requesting that title.

There are 12 computer terminals equipped with the new catalog system available for student and faculty use, and another 15 are used by the library staff members who are linked to the catalog system.

The automation system cost \$250,000 and is the final stage of the \$4.3 million library renovation and expansion project that was a major priority in the recent Campaign for Coe. A magnificent leadership gift of \$3.5 million from the Hall Foundation propelled the project. Nearly \$1 million in gifts from alumni and friends has allowed the project to be completed now with this Dynix installation.

"We have incredible keyword search capabilities with this system that simply aren't available in a paper catalog," notes Library Director Richard Doyle.

If a person wants to see which books discuss artist Grant Wood, for example, a search can be made for him as "Topic" or on such keywords as "Iowa artist" or "regionalist" to find sources that discuss him in the context of other painters. Searching on the name of one of his paintings, such as "American Gothic," will bring up sources which include illustrations of paintings

and some annotation.

After a short pause to search, the computer screen will reveal the number of items available with each keyword. By pushing the "Enter" key, the user is then shown every one of these items, numbered, and in complete bibliographic detail.

Cataloging copy for a new book is now fully indexed in three minutes. While library staff still must bar code and label each book before it goes on the shelf, Doyle says, that is one of the few manual operations remaining.

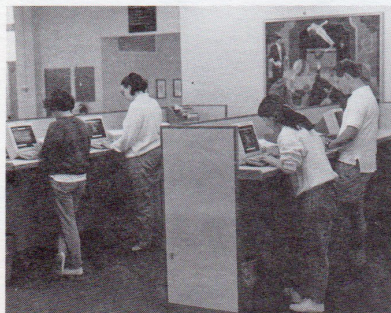
Information that formerly required three or four weeks to receive on cards from the library network is now instantaneous—and instantly available to library users who no longer need to thumb through cards.

"Everything added to the collection since 1978 has come into the library in machine-readable form. So the transfer to the computerized card catalog was really very simple," says Doyle. "Students and faculty learned it very quickly."

This month a circulation module will allow library patrons to use their bar-coded library cards when they wish to check out a particular book — and it's done. The strength of the circulation module is its ability to track the location or status of each volume in the library. The user will know from any of the terminals if a particular book is "in," on the "shelving cart," "checked out" or on display in the "Perrine Gallery." After the book is located on its shelf, it will still need to be checked out at the circulation counter, but the "paperwork" will have been accomplished electronically.

Also this summer, library users will have one more capability. They will be able to put "holds" and "reserves" on specific books which are already checked out, simply by typing their library card's bar code number when prompted by the system. When the book being held is returned, the system automatically will print a notice to be mailed to the next patron who requested the book.

CCLA members are invited to come try out this new system themselves. It does seem to work like magic.



Students now can locate books quickly and easily with the new Dynix computer card catalog system. Shown from left, freshman Diane Taube, senior Lisa Sanders, senior Akemi Motomura, and freshman Dave Hayes.

There's still time to make your membership contribution to the Library Association

The college fiscal year ends June 30, 1990.

Gifts and memberships received before that time will be credited to the 1989-90 membership year.

Vivian Eaton Buchan '33 gives Coe her manuscripts and published work

On the 50th anniversary of her graduation from Coe, Vivian Eaton Buchan '33 was honored with an Alumni Award of Merit for her career as a writer and editor.

Seven years later, she continues to receive awards. Her poem "Phoenix Rising" (written in memory of her husband, Warren '34, who died on December 25, 1988) won a Golden Poet Award for 1989 from the World of Poetry. In May she took both first and second place as a free-lance writer in the Iowa Press Women's annual competition.

While she is primarily a writer and editor, Buchan also has been a painter for several years. As a member of the Amateur Iowa Artists Association, she has won prizes in state and regional competition for her work.

This year she decided to give her manuscripts, awards, and published works to the Coe College Archives in Stewart Memorial Library.

Throughout her career, Buchan has written over 650 poems, features, columns, editorials and essays that were published in more than 80 national and international periodicals. Many of these pieces were award winners and some were translated into other languages.

A regular columnist for *Horoscope Guide* magazine, Buchan also wrote the book *Cat Sun Signs* (1979 hardcover, 1980 softcover) which attracted inquiries from as far away as Australia.

Buchan also published the definitive bibliography of Sara Teasdale's poetry in 1968. She served for 14 years as editor for the Iowa Poetry Association's annual contest for elementary school children. At a banquet honoring her with the Coe Award of Merit, she shared some of the pleasures and pains of reading through 4,500 to 5,500 entries each year.

Buchan's name can be found in six directories, including *Who's Who in U.S. Writers, Editors & Poets*, *World Who's Who of Women*, *The International Directory of Distinguished Leadership*, *Personalities of America*, *The International Authors and Writers Who's Who*, and *Two Thousand Notable American Women*.



Phoenix Rising

The fragile clay that holds the soul intact
Is heir to insult, injury and pain:
Too frail to stand against the world's impact
Will one day fall, a victim of the strain.
But who would span the measure of man's soul
Seek to encompass it with time and space,
Or say oblivion is the final goal
And that the grave is but death's trysting place?
Just as the phoenix on his funeral pyre
Transcends the flames and from the altar springs
So radiant beauty from the purging fire,
Man's spirit rises on resplendent wings.
Set free, it lifts, goes soaring out of sight
Exchanging death for everlasting light.

—Vivian Eaton Buchan '33

Memorial fund for audio visual materials honors Jeanne Tisdale '51

Gifts made in memory of Jeanne Olson Tisdale '51 are being designated for audio visual library materials in recognition of her long service in that department.

Until her death in January, Jeanne had directed the library's audio visual department continuously from its inception in 1968.

She and her husband, Jim '50, are both alumni of Coe.

The college hosted a reception for Jeanne in the library's Perrine Gallery in December, after a recurrence of the cancer she had battled for three years was discovered.

Coe faculty share summer reading ideas

Seven Coe faculty members have recommended some of their favorite books for others to share in the 1990 *Summer Reading Guide*, due to be published in mid-June. The books they have selected to review are listed below:

- America in the World Economy*, by C. Fred Bergsten
(from Dr. Ramakrishna Vaitheswaran, Quarton Professor of Business and Economics)
- The Blind Watchmaker*, by Richard Dawkins (from Dr. Peter DeJong, Heins-Johnson Professor of Biology)
- The Book of Laughter and Forgetting*, by Milan Kundera (from Dr. Fred Willhoite, Professor of Political Science)
- A Dance to the Music of Time*, by Anthony Powell

- (from Dr. Robert Drexler, Whipple Professor of English)
- The Superior Person's Book of Words*, by Peter Bowler
(from Martha Cannon, Assistant Professor of French)
- A Brief History of Time*, by Stephen W. Hawking (from Dr. Jeffrey Hoover, Assistant Professor of Philosophy)
- Life on the Run*, by Bill Bradley (from Dr. Allen Fisher, Associate Professor of Sociology)

Please notify the Office of James Phifer, vice president for academic affairs (phone 319-399-8616), if you wish to have a copy of the *Summer Reading Guide* sent to you when it is off the press.

Growth of Coe's book collection rises to 4th in the ACM

Coe's rank in the growth of its library book collection jumped from 11th to 4th in numbers of volumes added among the Associated Colleges of the Midwest last year.

As reported in the Fall 1989 *Bibliophile*, Coe was able to purchase 4,125 books last year — due to cash coming in from the Coe College Library Association membership contributions and to income received from several library endowment funds.

"When I became the library director in the summer of 1979, we had \$2,016 in two endowed accounts to supplement our annual budget for book acquisitions," recalls Richard Doyle. "Right now we are approaching \$400,000 in total library accounts generating income for book purchases beyond our annual budget. When

you add to this the amount received from CCLA memberships, we had an additional \$34,500 available to purchase new books last year.

So far in the 1989-90 fiscal year ending June 30, funds from CCLA gifts and memberships total \$25,193. Beyond this, gifts for the endowment of library acquisitions received for the year total \$196,365. Income from these endowment funds will be used for book purchases each year.

"Coe is well on its way to becoming one of the best private liberal arts libraries in the country with this kind of support," says Doyle. "Needless to say, we hope that it continues so we do not fall back to the lower ranks among ACM schools."

Coe hosts several college groups in library facilities

College presidents and college librarians were among the groups hosted in Coe's new library facility this year.

In November Coe President and Mrs. Brown hosted the presidents and spouses of the 14 Associated Colleges of the Midwest at a formal dinner served in the library's Perrine Gallery.

Sixty librarians from private colleges around the state were in Stewart Memorial Library on March 23 for their annual meeting. Many of these librarians are in the midst of library expansion on their own campuses.

Richard Doyle, director of Coe's Stewart Memorial Library, spoke to this visiting group on library construction and automation.

Most recently, the college hosted the presidents of the 28 private colleges and universities in the Iowa College Foundation and its corporate directors. Coe trustee Jack B. Evans '70 chaired the foundation this year.

A reception in the Perrine Gallery brought the foundation group into the Coe library. It produced plenty of plaudits from professional peers!



"Boy in Playroom," a painting by Conger Metcalf '36, has been given to Coe for its permanent collection by a Cedar Rapids friend of Coe, Audrey Anderson. The painting has been hung at the entrance of the Conger Metcalf Gallery in Stewart Memorial Library. A 50-year retrospective exhibition of the work of Conger Metcalf opened in Boston in April and in Coe's Sinclair Galleries May 19. The show continues at Coe through June.

Brian Schappert Memorial Fund reaches endowment level

"Although it is a modest endowment fund now, we hope future Mortar Board members will want to keep it growing," says senior Judith Meyers, president of Coe's Mortar Board chapter.

Meyers originated the idea of starting a fund to honor the memory of Brian Schappert, a fellow senior and Mortar Board member, who was murdered in September while on the midnight shift at his convenience store job near his home in Cedar Rapids.

Conger Metcalf posters and book are available for purchase from the Development Office, 319/399-8555.

Cannon Book Fund reaches \$10,000

At the conclusion of the 1990 Commencement, Charles and Martha Cannon will retire from active teaching at Coe after 50 collective years of service.

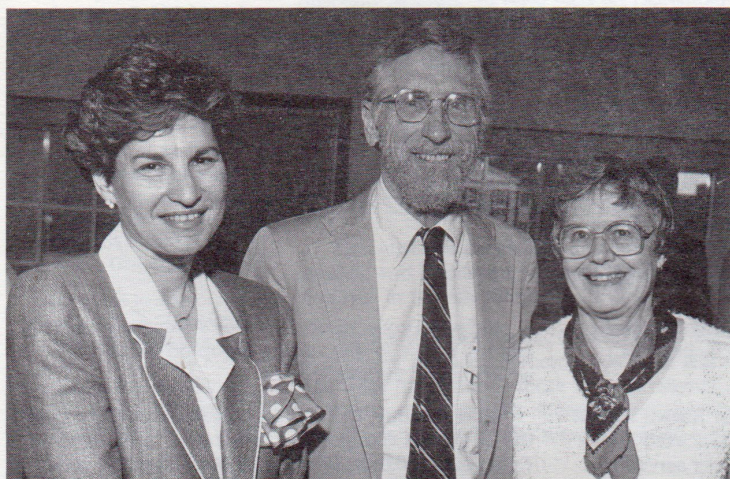
Gifts totalling \$10,000 have created an endowed fund for book acquisitions in honor of the Charles and

Martha, Professor of English and Assistant Professor of French, respectively. (Charles has taught English at Coe for 30 years; Martha has taught French for 19 and English composition for one year.)

Jonna Hubers Mackin '65 spearheaded the letter-writing effort to notify alumni English majors of the Cannons' impending retirement and the opportunity to create a lasting tribute to them. Grace Yabroudy E. '80 wrote to alumni French majors, asking for their support.

When the amount of money raised was announced at an April 27 reception honoring the Cannons, individuals in the crowd — and Charlie and Martha, particularly — were astonished.

Several large gifts and many small gifts went together to total \$10,000. Income from this endowment, when it is invested, will buy approximately 30 new library books each year in the Cannons' honor.



Jonna Hubers Mackin '65 (at left) poses with Profs. Charles and Martha Cannon after announcing the total of \$10,000 raised from former students of the Cannons for an endowed book acquisition fund in their honor.

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