

THE BIBLIOPHILE

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Custodian John Vanous likes everything about Stewart Library

"I like everything about working in the library," says custodian John Vanous. "The worst time is during finals when every table is full and we're open until 2 a.m. rather than midnight, but I get someone to help me then."

He admits that he thinks of the library as his building. "I feel I have as much responsibility as Rich Doyle or President Brown, because how the building looks is my responsibility."

Starting his workday at 4 a.m. after driving in from Lisbon, Iowa, Vanous says he gets up at 2:30 and leaves home at 3 o'clock so that he will get to Coe by 3:40 and allow time for delays. "I always want to be here early," he says, "and I've never been late yet." He explains, "I have from 4 to 8 a.m. to make all the noise I can make. I can vacuum three floors before 8 when my student assistant arrives. He can finish fourth floor right away, then the library must be quiet for the rest of the day."

His other rule is never to miss a day of work. "The name of the game is to keep up with it every day. This building will seem new for 20 years if we can just keep up with it."

Vanous sees that the students are taking care of it too, because they are also proud of the library and they see that he cares. "The kids have done real well," he believes. "If they see you trying to keep it clean, they'll help you. They'll work with you."

He has been working in the library since 1984 and admits it was rough during the remodeling in 1987 and 1988. "I would go to bed at 5:30 some nights during the construction because of all the running. It was impossible to keep the floors clean. But I got through it and it was well worth it. The new building is alot nicer. It is somewhat easier to keep clean, although they doubled the space on me — from 32,000 square feet to 60,000 square feet."

Vanous has three student assistants working with him. Together they clean the 450 white formica tables in the study carrels every day, and in the summer they wash all 500-600 windows. "I'm never in one spot very long. People have to leave notes for me. And I can look in a corner and see a cobweb that others would miss."

As conscientious as he is, Vanous does take a break. "I take a week's vacation just before the kids come back."

He worked for 10 years as a custodian at Iowa Manufacturing before coming to Coe, where he was first assigned to Greene Hall.

Now that the library has been remodeled, he admits his favorite room is the Richter Room. It has a formal but homelike atmosphere, lots of windows, and is used for small group meetings. "I like working in there and I treat the [large conference-size] Amana table the first of every month. It's a pretty room."

What keeps Vanous going is a deep satisfaction in his work. "You have to like what you are doing," he says firmly. "It's hard to find in this day and age."

Custodian John Vanous gives the Richter Room conference table its monthly treatment as part of his conscientious maintenance of the library.

Polk School fifth graders tour library galleries

Forty fifth graders from nearby Polk School came to the library galleries to see Coe's collection of art works by Grant Wood, Marvin Cone '14, and Conger Metcalf '36 in February. They also toured the Rose I. Richards Ornithological Wing of the Bert H. Bailey Museum in Stuart Hall during their campus visit. In this centennial year of the birth of both Grant Wood and Marvin Cone, the students had learned something about these artists before their visit. They found out about Marvin Cone's student, Conger Metcalf, and the two galleries containing his works during the afternoon.

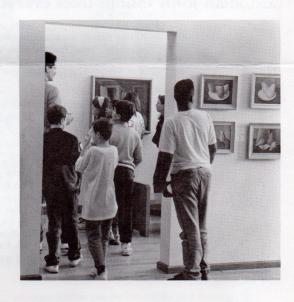
Alumnus Paul Julius '78, teacher of one of the two classes, is shown with some of his students in the Winnifred S. Cone Gallery (above right). One student paused at Cone's "Little Bohemia" to look for similari-

ties to the building that still stands in Cedar Rapids' Czech Village area.

Teacher Patti Schulte and her students (lower left) spent time in the Conger Metcalf Gallery, looking particularly closely at the paintings of children. Cone's door series and circus paintings were also intriguing to the children, as were Grant Wood's "Fruits of Iowa" paintings currently being used in a TV commercial.









CCLA memberships and endowed funds triple book-buying power

In the past two full years of the Coe College Library Association's existence, the college has been able to increase its single volume purchases for the book collection to over \$100,000 annually.

In the 1989-90 fiscal year, CCLA contributed \$34,064, designated gifts and endowment income totalled \$26,820, and the regular book budget allotted by the college totalled \$38,052 — resulting in \$99,936 for new general circulation titles. Another \$10,000 from college-budgeted funds was used for reference and replacement purchases. College expenditures for library acquisitions of all kinds — including journals and other periodicals, microfilm materials, audio-visual tapes and cassettes, as well as book purchases — totaled \$216,834 in 1989-90.

In the charter year of the association, 1988-89, the CCLA contribution was 42,090 — a little higher than the 1989-90 total.

"The Library Association's contribution each year has made a tremendous difference to the acquisition funds available to us for book purchases," says Library Director Richard Doyle. "Although gifts have fallen off a little in this third year of CCLA, that is not unusual in the early stages of a new program. We are hopeful that memberships will pick up again as we head toward the completion of our fiscal year in June."

Doyle also notes that the \$50,000 Hall Foundation grant to purchase new books in the library's first two years has also been expended. "This grant was of critical importance to us when we needed to upgrade

our collections immediately upon completion of the new building," notes Doyle.

"Our goal now is to maintain the currency of materials in each academic field which we have recently achieved. For this we'll need to increase the fine support we've had from our CCLA members."

New books on the shelves shed light on political changes

Among the new book purchases this year were several dealing with changes in the Soviet Union: John Perlin's Glasnost: an Anthology of Russian Literature Under Gorbachev, Urii Shcherbak's Chernobyl: a Documentary Story, Mark Rosenthal's Gorbachev and Glasnost: Viewpoints From the Soviet Press.

Others dealt with trouble spots in other parts of the world: Andrew Nathan's China's Crisis: Dilemmas of Reform and Prospects for Democracy, Raymond Baker's Sadat and After: Struggles for Egypt's Political Soul, Myron Aronoff's Israeli Visions and Divisions: Cultural Change and Political Conflict, Gregg R. Jones' Red Revolution: Inside the Philippine Guerrilla Movement, Mark Mathabane's Kaffir Boy in America: an Encounter With Apartheid, Pat Williams' Revolution & Political Change in the Third World, John Solomos' Race and Racism in Contemporary Britain, and Peter Riddell's The Thatcher Decade: How Britain Has Changed During the 1980s.

Being able to purchase books like these as soon as they are available keeps Coe students — and all Stewart Library users — up to date with the current thinking on world events.

Mary Essig learns about small college libraries at Coe



"Working here has inspired me," says Mary Essig, intern from the University of Iowa's School of Library and Information Services. She has been spending one full day a week at Coe's Stewart Memorial Library, working in interlibrary loan, acquisitions, technical services, reference, and many other departments.

Essig is gaining experience in as many areas of an academic library as possible from January through April, as she completes her master's degree in library science. At the university, libraries are departmentalized by academic area so that collections in any given building are largely limited to one field of study. Her goal is to find work in an academic library, although she hasn't decided on any specific field yet. "I love books and thought originally I'd go into publishing," she explains. "I worked in lots of bookstores but became disillusioned, so I decided on library science."

Essig is pleased at the variety of work she's been able to do in Coe's small academic library.

"So far it's been great. Every one gets along so well, and it's a beautiful library.

Mary Essig processed interlibrary loan requests as part of ber internship in the Coe library.

Memberships received for Coe College Library Association

Since July 1, 1990, the following individuals had made membership contributions to the Library Association as of our presstime on March 15:

AMEV Foundation Terry J. & Johanna Abernathy AEGON U.S.A., Inc. Alan M. & Luken Anderson Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth M. Anderson James F. Baba Mr. & Mrs. Robert Banks E.J. "Betty" Hoff Barnett Dr. & Mrs. John G. Barrett Donald S. & Elizabeth T. Barry Mary S. Bartsch Gladys Otterbein Basemann Ronald E. & Ronice E. Branding Mary Norton Brill Dr. John E. & Nancy Brown Col. Lloyd W. Brown Jr. Edith Bullerman G. Scott Campbell Richard W. Carlson Judith Willer Carr Dr. Rosemary Carroll Robert S. & Charlotte W. Chadima Dr. & Mrs. J. Preston Cole Mrs. Marvin D. Cone Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth M. Cook James B. Curtis

Sarah Marie Davis Minnie Huibregtse DeGroot James A. Derrick The Rev. & Mrs. Calvin DeVries Lt. Col. & Mrs. George C. Dostal Mr. & Mrs. Richard D. Doyle Charles A. Duboc Mr. & Mrs. Norman E. Erickson Robert C. Ewall Ted & Lillian Feder Jeffrey L. Freude Adelyn K. Fullerton Christopher H. Garrett Marguerite Gurekian Francis A. & Diana Coffey Halda Helen Paine Harris John D. Helming Col. & Mrs. C. Cannon Helscher John D. Helming Veta Dunnick Hildebrand Col. & Mrs. Allen B. Hoppe Lawrence H. & Joyce Johnson Eliza Hickok Kesler Mr.& Mrs. Robert L. Kocher Dr. Mary Jeanne Krob Dr. Ellen Swomley Kuhns

Ladies Literary Club Willis E. & Sheryl Lamb Dr. & Mrs. Charles M. Lindsay Larry H. & Kay G. Litten Jonna Hubers Mackin Nicholas J. Mason-Browne Dr. Scott McCormick III Constance J. McFarland Isabelle Smith Mellus Dr. Earl L. Meyers Jerry H. & Brigitte Miller Bess P. Naujoks Paul F. & Carolyn Cole Neagle Ruth Bellamy Neal Dr. John D. Neff Northwest Airlines, Inc. Norwest Corporation Dr. & Mrs. Leo L. Nussbaum David L. Ostrander J. Anthony & Marylou Patterson Karen J. Wormley Phippard Mr. & Mrs. Barry Ptashkin Mr. & Mrs. D. Warren Pugh Donald G. & Joanne Ribble Carol R. Rickey Gary O. Roberts

John K. & Nadene Roberts Rockwell International Corporation Fred & Muriel Rogers John C. & Carolyn Schmidt Glen W. Schodde Cynthia Griffin Schwenke Mr. & Mrs. Marvin R. Selden Jr. William D. Severa Elizabeth Gotschall Slappey Dr. & Mrs. Gary A. Soyka Brian A. Spensley John E. & Barbara Stewart Arthur W. & Lois Swanson Dr. Stephen F. & Julie E. Thode Mr. & Mrs. Gary M. Thudium Mary A. Tiffin James M. Tisdale The Rev. & Mrs. Frank J. Walkup Dr. & Mrs. Stanley Watkins Dorothy W. Wheeland Dr. Herbert & Jo Ann Wiese Dr. & Mrs. Neal Woodruff Patricia L. Wright Dr. & Mrs. Robert A. Youngman Martha H. Zackert

Ladies Literary Club adds \$500 to library acquisition fund

"We just appreciate the library so much," says Joan Greenblatt, vice president of the Ladies Literary Club and a member of the committee deciding to contribute \$500 from the organization to the Coe library's book acquisition fund.

"We have our meetings in the library frequently," adds Greenblatt, "and it is such a magnificent building — a wonderful thing for Cedar Rapids." She explains that the decision to give money to increase the acquisition fund for the library just seemed natural to

an organization devoted to books and reading. "We also think your chief [head librarian Richard Doyle] is such a great guy," Greenblatt laughs.

In acknowledging the gift, David Ostrander '74, Coe vice president for development, noted that the heart of the library is the book collection: "Your contribution will enhance this already valuable resource for Coe students and for the larger Cedar Rapids community."

Art donations — 1991's window of opportunity and a word of caution

Collectors of art or antiques who wish to give valuable works to museums now have a one-year opportunity to take charitable deductions for the full market value of their donations. Since 1987 such deductions often have been limited to the donor's cost, not appreciated market value, because of the alternative minimum tax rules.

Bowing to complaints from museum directors, Congress added a provision to the new tax law that permits full deductions for 1991 only. After next December 31, the window of opportunity will shut again. **Caution:** The ability to claim a deduction for the full appraised value of a donated painting is one thing; convincing the IRS Art Advisory Panel to accept the valuation is another. At recent auctions many works have failed to sell. With the cooling of the art boom, appraisals that appeared justified a year or two ago many no longer pass muster.

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