Ozark Jubilee

The Ozark Jubilee Digitization Project is off to a great start. Donations of money, new footage, and support have come from as far away as England and as close as Springfield. Since going live in May 2017, the individual 30-minute segments have received anywhere from 613 to over 2,300 views. The Ozark Jubilee was a live, nationally broadcast country-western variety show originating from the Jewell Theater “the heart of the Ozarks” in downtown Springfield from 1955 through 1960. 297 episodes total. Many country music stars began or advanced their careers by appearing on the Jubilee, including Porter Wagoner, Patsy Cline, Brenda Lee, Johnny Cash, and the Philharmonics. The MSU Libraries is working with the UCLA Film and Television Archive and other donors, to digitize, preserve, and provide access to as many episodes as possible.

Website: YouTube.com/c/OzarkJubilee

Virtual Reality Service is a Big Hit

In February 2017 the MSU Libraries received some excellent campus-wide publicity when a “front page, above the fold” article in MSU’s student newspaper, The Standard, about the new Virtual Reality (VR) service was published. This type of VR experience “is accessed through a headset and two hand controllers that, once donned, transport the user to a digital dimension....” This new service is proving to be quite popular with students and faculty. Exploration of how VR could benefit and expand research, higher learning, and library services has been underway for years. This is just one of many initiatives by the MSU Libraries to help students, faculty, and staff gain more from digital, online, and virtual reality-based information experiences. Go Virtual Bears!

Website: Guides.library.missouristate.edu/VR
During finals week, over 300 students came to relieve stress with dogs from Pet Therapy of the Ozarks.
Reptile Day at the Fairbanks

Amy Hankins (left), Library Associate in Research and Instructional Services, organized two reptile days at the Fairbanks. The library and the university are partnering with the Fairbanks to make an impact in our community.
Donor Spotlight

Neosha and John Mackey donated $1,300 so the MSU Libraries could purchase the nine volumes of the new Cambridge World History. This set comprises one of the most authoritative scholarly overviews of world history yet. Edited by noted reformation historian Merry Wiesner-Hanks, this set provides valuable general background for undergraduates and a beginning point for more focused research. Neosha Mackey served in the MSU Libraries for 27 years (1985-2012) as Head of Reference, Associate Dean, Acting Dean, and Dean.

20th Anniversary of Special Collections and Archives

In 1997, Special Collections and Archives opened as a department in Duane G. Meyer Library and has continued to increase its diverse holdings over the ensuing twenty years. An exhibit during the birthday year showed a selection of materials collected over the last twenty years. The exhibit focused on some of the major collecting areas of the Archives, such as the university and its history, the Labor Union Archives, rare books, and Ozarkiana, which includes materials related to the history of the Ozarks and the southwest Missouri region. The cases displayed memorabilia from the Ozarks Labor Union Archives and the university. The exhibit also highlighted photos and artwork, selections from the Rare Books Collection, and materials donated by MSU professors that illustrate both the history of the university and the Ozarks.

Website: libraries.missouristate.edu/archives.htm
Tom Allen gave the MSU Libraries numerous photographs, including glass plate negatives, taken by or related to Oscar Carter, who had a photography business in Marionville, Missouri, in Lawrence County, in the first decades of the 20th century. The gift from the Tom Allen family also include nearly 200 letters, many of which are friendship letters from approximately twenty young women that Oscar probably met as he traveled from town to town in southwest Missouri as a projectionist during the early motion picture era. Many of the young women lived in Stone County. The dates of the letters range from 1912 to 1923, with most of the letters being sent between 1915 and 1918. Only one letter from Grace is in the collection; Grace eventually became Oscar’s wife. The most letters (40) came from a woman named Alice. Oscar was particularly fond of Agnes Smyth, who sent him nineteen letters between 1912 and 1917. A daughter born to Grace and Oscar was named Agnes, in honor of Agnes Smyth. Agnes Carter was Tom Allen’s mother.

WEBSITE: goo.gl/7d42J8
On Friday evening, July 28, 2017 in Duane G. Meyer Library the ninth annual Rare Wine, Rare Books event was attended by seventy-eight people – a sell-out. This year’s theme was “The Art of Wine; The Art of the Book.” A six-course dinner was served to guests, including six flights of exquisite wines, with exhibitions and discussions of beautiful rare books. Our guest speaker was Mitzi Kirkland-Ives (Associate Professor, Art and Design). David Dain Smith described each flight of wine, and the gourmet meal was prepared and described by Chef Quintin Eason and his staff. If you missed the event, you can still make a donation to support the Fraley Family Rare Books Endowment. The tenth Rare Wine, Rare Books dinner will be held on Friday, July 27, 2018.

The Dial

The Dial (Collection M 100), published from August 1941 to December 1951, was essentially a program guide for local Springfield radio stations KWTO and KGBX (though KGBX was dropped midway when the station changed ownership). While it included programming schedules, such as the nationally syndicated Korn’s-A-Krackin’ hillbilly variety show (the precursor to the nationally live TV broadcast Ozarks Jubilee), The Dial also included biographical sketches and photos of local and national radio personalities (like Chet Atkins, et al), answers to reader questions, games and puzzles, and columns written by noted authors like local historian May Kennedy McCord. This digital collection is now available online and is keyword searchable. Many thanks go to local historian Wayne Glenn for allowing us to digitize the majority of these issues from his personal collection, Ken Meyer for allowing us to make these available online, the State Historical Society of Missouri for letting us digitize one of the issues from their collection, and the excellent team in our new Digitization Lab. Website: goo.gl/FskSSF
The new editorial and production team for *OzarksWatch Magazine*, a twice-yearly serial publication of the Ozarks Studies Institute (OSI), part of the MSU Libraries, is now in place. In August Rachel Besara, our new associate dean of Library Services, became the editor, as well as Director of the OSI.

Susan Croce Kelly became the managing editor. She has been a newspaper reporter in Springfield and St. Louis, an award-winning columnist in Texas, public relations executive in St. Louis and Chicago, worked in Belgium and England, was founder and publisher of *Ozarks Magazine*, and has been president of her own corporate writing business for the past twenty years. Kelly is also the author of two award-winning books about the early days of US Highway 66 and was the recipient of Springfield’s John T. Woodruff Award in 2015. Nathan Neuschwander will continue as the design editor. Tom Peters will become the executive editor. The next issue of *OzarksWatch Magazine*, focusing on historic photographs of the Ozarks and the photographers behind this fantastic work, as well as other articles and features, including several book reviews, will be out later this fall. **Website: OzarksWatch.MissouriState.edu**

This summer new, improved shelving for Special Collections and Archives was installed. The new shelving enables us to store more materials in the same amount of space. Over the past twenty years, the storage area of Special Collections and Archives has become quite full with content. The MSU Libraries thanks Library Dean Emeritus Karen Horny for her generous gift, one of the first to come in during the current capital campaign to fund a complete refurbishment of both Duane G. Meyer Library and Haseltine Library in the Greenwood Lab School.
Country Classics Collections

John Henderson, a production technician at Meyer Communications, has produced over 300 short radio pieces about classic country music songs. The pieces, each of which lasts several minutes, provide voice-over information about the genesis of each song — the story behind the song. Henderson is in the process of donating his collection to the MSU Libraries. Nathan Neuschwander is in the process of adding the “Stories Behind the Songs” to the growing online digital offerings of the MSU Libraries on YouTube. The MSU Libraries and its users are grateful to Mr. Henderson for his dedication, hard work and his generous gift.

Website: goo.gl/Fu5gGr

BearWorks

September 2016: The MSU Libraries did a soft launch of BearWorks, an institutional repository (IR) for Missouri State University. Institutional repositories are archives for collecting, preserving, and disseminating the intellectual output of an organization. They are particularly common in research institutions and often include not only articles and reports, but also organizational documents, data sets, and even multimedia.

Graduate theses were the first records entered into BearWorks. As of spring 2017, there were over 3,000 citations, with full text available for approximately 1,700 of them. For theses that have been made available for open access, close to 7,000 have been downloaded from locations around the world. During the rest of 2017 the Libraries and Graduate College will be working to have graduate students enter their theses directly into BearWorks, replacing an existing home-grown submission system.

Articles published by faculty is another area of concentration for 2017. Working with the Office of Institutional Research, the Libraries is using publication data from Digital Measures to identify faculty articles. After verifying citations and publication status, librarians upload the data to BearWorks. If permitted by the copyright holder, the full text will be uploaded as well.

Curated by the MSU Libraries, BearWorks is funded by the Office of the Provost, the Graduate College, and the MSU Libraries. Questions about BearWorks, including how to submit content, can be sent to BearWorks@library.missouristate.edu.

Website: BEARWORKS.MISSOURISTATE.EDU
The March 6th edition of *The Standard*, the MSU student newspaper, contained a nice article in their “Spotlight On” series about Lynn Cline, who recently retired from the MSU Libraries after over forty-one years of service. Chloe Skaar, the student-reporter, notes how Lynn began his career in Memorial Library, now known as Cheek Hall, then hired 120 student workers to help move everything into the new library. Skaar notes that Lynn “is cherished by [his colleagues] for his experience, knowledge and professionalism.”
In August, Rachel Besara joined the Missouri State University Libraries team as the new Associate Dean of Library Services. She graduated summa cum laude from Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree with a concentration in Science Education. Her Master of Library and Information Science degree is from Florida State University. Among her many responsibilities, Rachel will coordinate BearWorks (MSU’s institutional repository), serve as director of the Ozarks Studies Institute, as well as editor of OzarksWatch Magazine.
Missouri State University adheres to a strict nondiscrimination policy and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, disability or veteran status in any program or activity offered or sponsored by the university. In addition, the university does not discriminate on any basis (including, but not limited to, political affiliation and sexual orientation) not related to the applicable educational requirements for students or the applicable job requirements for employees.

On the cover: “The Poetical Works of Wordsworth” does not include a publication date. It is estimated it was printed between 1880 and 1889.