

Connect!

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Ann Miller to be Honored at ABL

For more than half a century, the late Professor Ann Vardaman Miller was connected to Baylor's English Department—first as a student (she earned a B.A. in 1949, serving as an assistant to Dr. A. J. Armstrong, and a master's in 1951) and eventually as a Master Teacher of English herself. So it is fitting that a former student has stepped forward to provide a tribute to the legendary Miller in Armstrong Browning Library, the location of her first campus office.

An anonymous donor has begun the process of dedicating a stained glass window in the Cox Reception Hall, on the ground floor of the library, to Miller. The hall is already home to five windows, each one depicting a scene in Italy, a country that had a profound influence on Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning and their poetry during their residence there. The sixth window, which will take about a year to complete, will be dedicated to Miller's memory.

"Ann would love this," said her good friend of 50 years, former English professor Dr. Clement Goode. "She loved Dr. A., and she had a number of good stories that she told about him," he said. He believes Miller would also appreciate the story behind the window scene—a story that hints that the poetess Browning may have had a lot in common with Miller, who also wrote poetry.

(See Ann Miller on page 2)



The Vallombrosa Window in ABL's Cox Reception Hall will be dedicated to the late Ann Miller, a Baylor professor and former student of Dr. A.J. Armstrong.

(Photo by Jon Patillo)

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Connect@BU Libraries



This issue of *Connect!* showcases many of the advancement projects underway in the Baylor University Libraries.

The lead article highlights our beloved Ann Miller and her lasting legacy to her students who, in turn, desire to leave a lasting legacy by dedicating a stained glass window in the Armstrong Browning Library in her memory. Vallombrosa, a monastery near Florence, Italy, was one of the special sites Elizabeth Barrett Browning wished to visit. You will enjoy reading the account of Elizabeth's determination to travel to Vallombrosa.

2007 marks the 50th anniversary of the Class of 1957 and their class gift to the Libraries. To mark this landmark occasion, the Class of '57 will seek to add to their original endowment gift. May their tribe increase!

These are but two examples of the exciting stories in this issue of *Connect!*. I trust you will read it front to back.

— Bill Hair,
Interim Dean of Libraries

Ann Miller (Continued from page 1)

The window will feature Vallombrosa, a monastery near Florence. In 1847, Barrett Browning had her heart set on a visit to the scenic retreat, mentioned by John Milton in *Paradise Lost*, to escape the summer heat of Florence and find inspiration. She wrote to her sister of spending most of the summer there in the "monastery like an eagle's nest . . . in the midst of mountains, rocks, precipices, waterfalls, drifts of snow, and magnificent chestnut forests."

Getting to Vallombrosa was not easy. First, the Brownings had to obtain permission for the visit from the Archbishop of Florence and the Abbot-General. Then, the trip itself was arduous—it involved sitting in a wine basket while being dragged up the cliffs by oxen. At the top, the scenery was all the Brownings had dreamed of, but disappointment awaited Barrett Browning. The monks of the monastery could not be persuaded to allow a woman to cross their threshold, so she had to stay in a house outside the monastery walls. (In addition, Barrett Browning noted, the bread was "detestable.") They stayed for only a few days.

The slight to her gender was not taken lightly by Barrett Browning. "Father Egidio led him [Robert] to the more salient places and showed him all the sights hidden from my eyes," she complained to her sister. "For of course they wouldn't permit an unclean beast like me to pass the threshold of the monastery or chapel . . . oh no! Out of spite, however, when nobody was looking, I put my foot through the gateway and stamped on the gravel of their courtyard."

Cynthia Burgess, Armstrong Browning's curator of books and printed materials and the coordinator for the window project, said that friends and family of Ann Miller have agreed that the window is an especially appropriate tribute to her memory. She said, "The enthusiasm and determination that Elizabeth showed in wanting to get to Vallombrosa and her feistiness in the whole situation are things that Ann Miller would very much have appreciated—especially the stamping of the foot."

Despite the brevity of the trip, the Brownings were not disappointed by the scenery of Vallombrosa, and both poets penned lines about the memorable retreat. Eight lines from Barrett Browning's poem *Casa Guidi Windows* will be the centerpiece of the new window, describing Vallombrosa as a place where "pilgrims leave their souls." Burgess said that the window will also include depictions of the monastery, the woods, the waterfalls, the native foliage, and the scene of oxen pulling the basket up the cliffs. A dedication to Miller will be in the bottom left corner.

Though a generous gift has underwritten a major portion of the window's cost, library officials and the anonymous donor want friends and former students of Miller to have the opportunity to contribute to the project. Donations can be made by using the back panel of this newsletter or by calling Mary Goolsby at 254.710.6735.

—Meg Cullar
Baylor Alumni Association

The Elizabeth Barrett Browning quotations are from *The Letters of Elizabeth Barrett Browning to Her Sister Arabella*, edited by Scott Lewis, Wedgestone Press, 2002.

"Ann would love this," said her good friend of 50 years, former English professor Dr. Clement Goode.

Class of 1957 Endowment: A Legacy of Learning

"One of the great joys of being at a university is having the opportunity to go to the library and read works you weren't assigned to read," Tom Rusk Vickery (BA '57), a retired professor of educational policy, said. "The more important works we have at the library—for when students are just out seeking knowledge—the better education we can provide them."

With this enthusiastic spirit, Vickery encouraged his fellow members of the class of '57 to establish the first library endowment at Baylor. Like most of his classmates, Vickery made his donation by signing over his university security deposit—which was in the neighborhood of \$25—to the senior class gift. In the end, the endowment came to about \$4,000, a significant gift for the time.

With the endowment's interest income, the University Libraries have been able to purchase valuable items such as a four-volume facsimile of the Gutenberg Bible, *Collected Writings of Herman Melville* and the *Encyclopedia of World Art*. Holdings such as these allow in-depth research that otherwise might not be possible.

Now, as the class celebrates its 50th reunion, Vickery hopes to revitalize their efforts and increase the endowment. He has pledged \$1,000 per year and challenges the other members of the class to do the same.

"The class of '57 was a very special class, with vision and character, and I would like to see their original legacy grow," John Wilson, director of development for the libraries,



Containing beautiful illuminations such as the one above, the Gutenberg Bible Facsimile is housed in the foyer of the Jones Library. (Photo by Baylor Photography)

said. "This class may have even more of an impact on the future than it had in the past. When they give to this endowment, they give to every student and every faculty member at Baylor."

For information about contributing to the Class of '57 library endowment, please contact John Wilson at John_Wilson@baylor.edu or (254) 710-3457.

-Amanda Keys
University Development

A New Way to Support Baylor Libraries

Your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) serves as a storehouse for a portion of your assets, which is similar to how a library stores valuable educational resources. The reserves that are nestled away in both storehouses are ones that can often be shared with others.

There is now a brief window of opportunity that allows some the chance to share these assets in a new way. In the past, the tax deductions from an IRA gift to a charitable organization often did not fully offset the taxable income the withdrawal incurred.

Fortunately, the Pension Protection Act of 2006 helps families overcome that

problem and reach their charitable goals. If you are over age 70 ½, the Pension Protection Act allows you to make tax-free charitable gifts of up to \$100,000 through your IRA, and this opportunity is only available through Dec. 31, 2007.

"It's an opportunity to make a gift without taking the IRA distribution into income," said Maston Courtney, who with his wife, Barbara, utilized the provision to support their endowed scholarship at Truett Seminary. "For anyone who has a mind to make a gift and has available funds in an IRA—it's a grand opportunity!"

To make use of the Pension Protection

Act, send your administrator a written request asking that the distribution be made payable to Baylor University. Next, contact the Office of Gift Planning at 1-800-BAYLOR-U, option 4, to notify them of the gift and the plan administrator name. Finally, designate your gift to University Libraries.

For more information about making a gift from your IRA, please contact the Office of Gift Planning at 1-800-BAYLOR-U, option 4, or (254) 710-2561.

-Amanda Keys
University Development

Bruce Feiler Lecture a Success



The fifth annual Ferguson-Clark Lecture took place on Nov. 9 in Waco Hall. *New York Times* best-selling author Bruce Feiler was the featured speaker for this year's event. Some of Feiler's books include *Walking the Bible* and *Where God Was Born*.

Our thanks to lecture benefactors Babs Baugh, Collen Clark and the *Waco Tribune-Herald*. Other sponsors included Ted and Sue Getterman, Bill and Kathy Wardlaw, the Baylor University Bookstore, the Baylor University Department of Journalism, Central National Bank, the Hilton Waco and Wells Fargo Bank. Special thanks also to Doug Baum of the Texas Camel Corps.
(All photos by Baylor Photography)

Above: Chapel students are awed by the appearance of Ibrahim of the Texas Camel Corps at Waco Hall to promote the Ferguson-Clark Lecture Series.

At right: Bruce Feiler (center) shows his book to Myrl Luper, Mary Louise Baker, Babs Baugh and John Jarrett during the Sponsor Dinner at the Cox Reception Hall in the Armstrong Browning Library.



At left: Sue Getterman, (left), Bruce Feiler and Sue Davis (right) pose at the Sponsor Dinner.

At right: Robert and Mary Darden, representatives of the Baylor Department of Journalism, meet Feiler at the Sponsor Dinner.





Above: Audience members listen as Feiler talks about his travels in the Middle East.



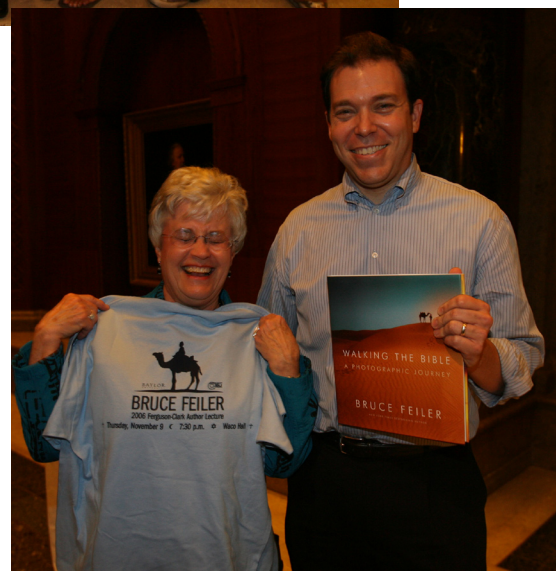
At left: Feiler speaks to the audience at Waco Hall. Titled, "Can We All Get Along?," the lecture discussed the common roots of Judaism, Islam and Christianity.

At right: Feiler stands with the student volunteers after the Patron Reception at the Armstrong Browning Library.



At left: Tommye Lou Davis, John Wilson and Brooke Taylor have fun while waiting in line for Feiler's autograph.

At right: Carla Sue Garrett shares a laugh with Feiler at the Patron Reception. The Ferguson-Clark Lecture Series is named in honor of Carla Sue and was begun by her son, Collen Clark.



Gifts from the Past Enrich Generations of the Future

Printed words on crisp pages bound in a hardcover book seem to be a thing of the past in today's age of technology. Because of storage issues, costs and the desire for instantaneous access to materials, many of today's libraries opt to utilize more online books and journals. While the Baylor University Libraries do offer students access to the latest technological advances, we have also been given three great donations that will ensure future students will have a literal grasp of knowledge as well.

Dr. Peter Speers of Austin began collecting books when he was a teenager, and his lifelong respect for the people of the Middle East grew into a vast assortment of literature that he has graciously donated to the Baylor Libraries. The collection is made up of approximately 400 books about art, history, religion and politics of this region of the world. A third of the books are in Arabic and some even date back to the 1800s. Speers decided to listen to a friend's recommendation, which will allow future scholars unparalleled access to these texts.

"I was given some good advice," said Speers. "It would be more worthwhile to donate these books to some place like Baylor that was interested in starting up a collection rather than another school that already had a large collection."

Tom Parrish has also donated a sizeable collection to the Libraries. Because of his great love for Baylor and for books, Parrish gave almost 500 editions on various subject matters to the Libraries

last October with a promise of more to come. An avid lover of books, he often spoke with other potential donors about giving their book collections to Baylor while he worked as Baylor's first development officer from 1963-1985. When the time came to consider the future of his extensive personal library, Parrish knew what he had to do.

"If you're going to give away books, give them to a university that has eager hungry minds. They will be used," Parrish said.

Of course, being able to donate a great text and the ability to access it electronically constitutes the best of both aspects of the Libraries. Anne Birkhead purchased the *Journal of William Surtees Cook* for the Armstrong Browning Library as a tribute to her mother and her grandparents. Cook was the brother-in-law of Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and his four-volume handwritten journal will be digitized and made available on the Internet for scholars around the world to study. Birkhead set up an endowment to ensure rare items like the journal are not lost.

"The endowment provides support and makes funds available to purchase these items," Birkhead said. "I was trying to preserve the legacy Dr. Armstrong started."

Whether the materials are electronic or heirlooms, donors can be certain their treasures will be well-preserved and well-utilized by generations of future Baylor students.

-Tina Libhart
Library Advancement



A three-ton marble statue titled "Spirit Bear" was donated to the university by Baylor alum C.T. "Sparkey" Beckham and his wife Merrie. The statue is located in Harvey Garden on the Garden Level of Moody Memorial Library .

Call Center Comes Through For Baylor Libraries

Thanks to the hard-working students at the Baylor Fund Call Center and many donors who responded generously, the Libraries Excellence Fund has been enriched by \$10,775. According to Rosa Oliveras, assistant director of the Baylor Fund, her students really like suggesting the libraries as a gift designation because they know the donations will benefit all students.

Gifts & Opportunities

Libraries' Wish List

Library of Latin Texts (\$1,483): A full-text database of modern critical editions of Latin classical, patristic, and medieval Christian writers including the entire corpus of ancient Latin literature up to the second century A.D. The database also contains a significant amount of Neo-Latin Literature (after 1500) including decrees from modern ecumenical councils up to Vatican II and 16th century translations into Latin of important medieval works.

McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science and Technology (\$2,995): This latest revision of the *Encyclopedia* has taken place over a five-year period that has seen continued acceleration of the rate at which scientific information is generated, disseminated and shared. Many of the fundamental debates in contemporary society require sound scientific and technical information relating to these advances.

JSTOR, Arts & Sciences Complement (\$4,000): Journals may be focused in any of the more than thirty arts, humanities, and social sciences disciplines covered by JSTOR. Our aim is to introduce important titles that we were unable to include in earlier collections and to capture journals that cross discipline boundaries. A minimum of 150 titles will be included by the end of 2008.

Primary Sources of the Women's Movement, 1960 to Present: Publications on the Status of Women (\$9,425): An archive of all available publications of federal, state and local Commissions on the Status of Women beginning in the mid-1960s. These resources include data and statistics, personal testimony, chronologies, milestones, biographies, laws and legal challenges, training instructions, self-help guides and more.

While specific to women, the content is topically broad, supporting research in history, sociology, psychology and related areas. Affirmative action, crime and violence, education, economics, housing, childcare, health services, abortion, pornography, language, jobs, maternity leave, politics, law, disability, minority rights, the image of women and other subjects are covered.

Making of the Modern World (\$74,700): This exclusive resource combines the strengths of two preeminent collections: the Goldsmiths' Library of Economic Literature at the University of London and the Kress Library of Business and Economics at the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration. Supplementary materials are included from the Seligman Collection in the Butler Library at Columbia University and the libraries of Yale University.

With full-text searching, *The Making of the Modern World* provides unparalleled access to more than 61,000 books from the period 1450–1850, and 466 pre-1906 serials — nearly 12 million pages in all — many are the only known copy of the work in the world.

Upcoming Events Fall 2007

March 1-April 28: *Creations@Baylor* — Annual exhibit highlighting the scholarship and creative works of Baylor's faculty and staff

April 1: *Hightower Reception* — 3-5 p.m. at the Poage Library

April 10-14: Armstrong Browning Library presents William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

April 21: *Browning Day* — Armstrong Browning Library

April 23: Poage Legislative Library presents Ben Barnes 7:00 p.m. Meadows Recital Hall, Glennis McCrary Music Building

Connect! is published twice a year by the Baylor University Libraries to highlight contributions to library collections and endowments.

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- | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Library Fellows (minimum \$1,000/year) | <input type="checkbox"/> Baylor Collections of Political Materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Library Endowment | <input type="checkbox"/> The Texas Collection |

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