African Commemorative Fabric: More than Clothing

Emilie Songolo, Senior Academic Librarian, UW–Madison
Mary Hark, Associate Professor of Design Studies, UW–Madison

UW–Madison Libraries are repositories for more than printed materials. One such library is the Ruth Ketterer Harris Library, which is dedicated to the study of fabrics and design. Books and samples of textiles from the United States and many other countries can be found at this library located in the School of Human Ecology in Nancy Nicholas Hall. Another growing UW collection is digital and features African Commemorative Fabrics. It is accessible through the UW–Madison Digital Image Collection. More information about these collections is available in the accompanying sidebars.

Throughout the African continent, fabric serves multiple functions in people’s daily lives. It is used for clothing, shelter, storage, and packing material. Commemorative fabrics, found all over Africa, serve as a communication device. With colorful repeat patterns, these fabrics call attention to and celebrate political events and persons, religious and educational groups, and much more.

When used as a textual and visual document, the fabric becomes a vehicle to commemorate an event or to celebrate a person’s life or achievement. One does not need to know how to read in order to understand the messages found in these textiles. In societies where a large portion of the population cannot read, the visual elements enable everyone to share in the reception and transmission of the message that is being conveyed. In this way, the fabric also serves to preserve historical narratives that are important to the community.

African Studies librarian and bibliographer Emilie Songolo, grew up in Cameroon where fancy print cloth, commemorative textiles, homemade batik and a wealth of other richly patterned, colorful fabrics were ubiquitous,
From Maria Saffiotti Dale, President of the Friends

It’s hard to believe that another wonderful summer in Madison is winding down and we are embarking upon a new semester at the UW–Madison Libraries. One of the exciting things about a new semester for me involves the Friends of the Libraries and the events that we have planned. A primary mission of the Friends is “to stimulate interest in the use of the University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries within the student body, faculty and staff, alumni, community and beyond.” To that end, we have been actively reaching out to new audiences through exciting new partnerships both on and off campus. We are very appreciative of the resources these partners bring that help us fulfill our mission, and it is such a pleasure to welcome new members, library users, and donors.

I want to share with you some of our partners, old and new. This past April, Friends members were invited by the Department of Special Collections to the annual rare books symposium of the Caxton Club of Chicago and Bibliographical Society of America. It was the first time that they held their annual meeting outside of Chicago. We were treated to a wonderful symposium and an exhibition in special collections of unique and rare works in the history of science.

The Treasures of the Libraries event on the Deutscher Sprachatlas was a joint partnership with the Department of German, the Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies, Mills Music Library, and the Library’s Reference and Preservation Departments. Not only did these partners help with event planning and promotion, but they also provided speakers, displays, and German-Wisconsin music. The event was in the Union Rathskeller and we had a great time as we learned about an important new Library resource.

Summer brought a Friends ice cream social that was held at Allen Centennial Gardens here on the UW campus. Despite the somewhat cloudy skies the Friends were treated to a tour of the 2.5 acre gardens by garden director, Ed Lyon. There were Dane County master gardeners available to answer any of our gardening questions, and Steenbock Library staff were also available with a resource table.

The events on the calendar for the fall also offer a wide range of topics and are made possible thanks to many campus and community partners. In September, Professor Emeritus Stanley Temple from the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology will speak about the extinction of the passenger pigeon. In October, the Friends and the Libraries are partnering with the George L. Mosse Program in the Department of History and the Wisconsin Historical Society to bring Adam Hochschild, author of King Leopold’s Ghost and To End All Wars, to campus for a public lecture on World War I. There will also be an engaging presentation about African textiles that will be held at the Madison Public Library-Central. Please see the calendar pages for more information on these interesting upcoming events.

To promote the Libraries beyond the campus, the Friends reach out to local community leaders, groups,
and businesses. A good example of community partnerships is last September’s cookbook event at Steenbock Library that included local chefs Terese Allen and Kevin Appleton; local food groups, REAP and CHEW; and local businesses, Gingko Press and Vom Fass. This resulted in one of the largest events we have had in the last two years, as well as some amazing food and a wonderful speaker from Cornell University, Dr. Traci Nathans-Kelly.

The Friends and the Libraries benefit greatly from these partnerships. Partnerships allow the Friends to do more by expanding resources and connections; they enable us to host larger and richer events, or bring in speakers we couldn’t otherwise afford. Partnerships have also brought in new members from event attendees to event partners. They bring new people into campus libraries and, we hope, new library donors. In a time of state funding cuts to the campus libraries, individual library donors become more important. In the past, donations to campus libraries were considered the “icing on the cake” and assisted with special projects. Now these funds are helping to support regular library services and programs that enable the Libraries to achieve the margin of excellence that every great library needs.

We hope that you, as a Friend, also find these partnerships enriching and rewarding. And please do introduce us to new potential partners as we seek to promote and strengthen the UW–Madison Libraries.

—Maria Saffiotti Dale

SAVE THE DATES
Illuminating the Word: The Saint John’s Bible: Exhibit, Symposium, and Public Events

Illuminating the Word: The Saint John’s Bible
The Saint John’s Bible is a hand-written and illuminated Bible commissioned by the monks of Saint John’s Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota. The seven volumes comprise 1,500 pages of calfskin vellum, script written using hand-cut quills, and ink that is hand-ground lamp black from nineteenth-century Chinese ink sticks. Egg tempera and gold leaf provide vivid color to the illuminations.

Exhibit
December 19, 2014 – March 15, 2015
Chazen Museum of Art, Pleasant T. Rowland Galleries

Symposium
Thursday, February 26 – Friday, February 27, 2015
“Visualizing and Translating Scriptures: Reflections on The Saint John’s Bible” will set The Saint John’s Bible within the broader context of illuminated Biblical manuscripts. The symposium has been organized by the Lubar Institute for the Study of the Abrahamic Religions, with generous support from the Chazen Museum of Art, the Department of Art History, the Friends of the UW–Madison Libraries, the Anonymous Fund, and the Religious Studies Program.

Presentation and Panel Discussions
There will be several public events during the course of the exhibit and the symposium; three are highlighted below. For a full listing and more information visit:
• http://go.wisc.edu/saintjohnsbible
• http://www.chazen.wisc.edu/visit/events-calendar/event/illuminating-the-word-the-saint-johns-bible/

Thursday, February 5, 2015 | 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
“The Splendor of the Illuminated Book.” Maria Saffiotti Dale, Curator of Paintings, Sculpture, and Decorative Arts, Chazen Museum of Art, will present an illustrated lecture on the history of Western illuminated manuscripts situating The Saint John’s Bible in the continuum of handwritten and hand-painted books.

Thursday, February 26, 2015 | 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. | Plenary lecture
Dr. Christopher de Hamel, Donnelly Fellow Librarian of Corpus Christi College (Parker Library), Cambridge University, will show how The Saint John’s Bible and its program of illuminations draws on, but also departs from, earlier traditions in its iconography and devotional functions. Dr. de Hamel is one of the world’s foremost scholars of illuminated manuscripts.
seamlessly integrated into every aspect of her life. She saw her mother who was a seamstress create custom-made designs for women, men and children in her neighborhood. Everybody seemed united through the fabric.

From a young age, Songolo was captivated by the messages on these fabrics and how these messages were uniformly understood by everyone regardless of formal literacy skills. She noticed that once an event was over, it became extremely difficult to find the fabric that commemorated it. The fabric tells a story that many identify with; yet the ephemeral use of each commemorative fabric has the potential of killing the story.

As someone who has a keen interest in storytelling, she began collecting these textiles because the stories they tell are unique. They are about ordinary people, men and women, people of all ages, and people living a variety of experiences. Songolo has been developing a collection of commemorative print cloths since 1985 when she bought two kanga (an East African style of print cloth) during the UN Conference on Women in Nairobi.

Professor Mary Hark, UW–Madison Design Studies, is a visual artist. Her work in Ghana began as a Senior Fulbright Research Scholar. As an artist-researcher whose creative work is deeply informed by textile processes and tradition, Hark immersed herself in a culture where cloth is fully understood and meaningfully integrated into all of life. She studied the Adinkra funeral cloth tradition in a yearlong apprenticeship with a family of Adinkra makers; she spent many hours sitting with cloth vendors in the Kumasi Central Market, taking in the lively banter as serious, informed shoppers and fierce cloth vendors worked out their deals; she spent time in kente workshops and with backyard batik producers.

Perhaps most powerful of all was the daily experience of seeing the artful, inventive, personal ways that men and women presented themselves wrapped in cloth, wrapped in pattern and color, informed by tradition, the cloth beautifully fitting each body and communicating cultural and personal information that is widely understood. And even if you were from the outside and couldn’t read the specific message carried by the cloth, still you would not miss this message: We are alive! We are together! Life is joyful! Even in all its complexities!
**African Commemorative Fabrics**

African Commemorative Fabrics is an online resource that provides access to a collection of commemorative textiles from various African countries. The fabrics are printed with images and text documenting events and individuals of historical, political, religious, economic, educational, and sociological significance to African societies.

This collection was started in 2011 when Songolo donated her personal collection of 75 commemorative fabrics to the UW–Madison Libraries. She then began inviting others to contribute pieces to the collection. By the end of 2012, UW–Madison students, faculty, staff, alumni, members of the Madison community, and others outside of Madison started sending commemorative fabrics for the collection. Gradually, this unique collection is showing the Wisconsin Idea in action. For more information go to http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/AfricanStudies.Fabrics

**Ruth Ketterer Harris Library**

The Ruth Ketterer Harris Library is located in the School of Human Ecology in Nancy Nicholas Hall. The library is devoted to the study of textiles and design. It is named in honor of Ruth Ketterer Harris, a weaving professor who served as the first curator of the Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection in the School of Human Ecology. The library contains more than 4,000 books, pamphlets and journals as well as non-circulating textiles. It is cataloged in the UW-Madison's electronic library system. For more information, including digital books and textile images, go to http://textilecollection.wisc.edu/harrislibrary.html

**Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection**

The Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection contains more than 13,000 textiles and related objects. These span a broad spectrum of times, places, and techniques from archeological material through contemporary fiber art. Particular strengths are ethnographic textiles and costumes, as well as European and American home furnishing and apparel fabrics. Images and information of nearly 9,000 of these textiles are included in an online database. For more information about the collection and the database go to http://textilecollection.wisc.edu.

If you want to learn more about African textiles Emilie Songolo has created an online research guide that is available at http://researchguides.library.wisc.edu/commorative/textiles

Imitation African wax print. This piece is designed so that it can easily be made into a read to wear tunic. Source: UW Digital Collections: http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/UWDCNew/view/uwdc:TIRIS.2006.13.001

International Women's Day 2013 commemorative fabric from Cameroon.
**Remembering a Lost Bird: Lessons from the Past for a Sustainable Future**

Dr. Curt Meine and the Madison premier of From Billions to None, an award-winning documentary by David Mrazek

Tuesday, September 9, 2014
5:30–7:30 p.m.

**World War I Lecture**

“1914–1918: The War Within the War”

Talk by Adam Hochschild, University of California, Berkeley

Wednesday, October 8, 2014
4:30–5:30 p.m.

Wisconsin Historical Society Auditorium | 816 State Street
(45 min. lecture, 15 min. Q&A)

As we mark the centenary of the First World War, this epochal event is usually remembered as a bloody conflict between rival alliances of nations. But there was another struggle within most of those countries: between people who regarded the war as a noble and necessary crusade, and a brave minority who felt it was tragic madness and who refused to fight. Scholar Adam Hochschild describes this battle in an illustrated talk, focusing on the country where that tension was sharpest, Great Britain. This talk will be accompanied by photos, video, and sound.

Adam Hochschild teaches at the Graduate School of Journalism at UC Berkeley. His books include *To End All Wars: A Story of Loyalty and Rebellion* (Mariner Books, 2012), *Bury the Chains: Prophets and Rebels in the Fight to Free an Empire’s Slaves* (Mariner Books, 2006), and *King Leopold’s Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism in Colonial Africa* (Houghton Mifflin, 1999).

The talk is sponsored by the UW–Madison Libraries, the George L. Mosse Program, and the Wisconsin Historical Society.

**World War I Exhibit and Reception**

October 8, 2014
6:00 –7:00 p.m. Gallery talk and reception

Memorial Library, Room 976, Special Collections | 728 State Street
(Public parking in Campus/State Street ramp, 415 N. Lake Street)

The World War I lecture by Adam Hochschild will be followed by a guided tour of the exhibit in Memorial Library, Special Collections, and a reception. The exhibit features WWI materials given to the UW Libraries by Professor and Art Historian, Dr. Andrew Stangel.

The reception is being sponsored by the Friends of the Libraries.

See above for more information about the talk and page 11 for more on the exhibits.
Friends of the Libraries
Book Sale
Wednesday–Saturday
October 15–18, 2014
116 Memorial Library
728 State Street

The largest semiannual used book sale in Wisconsin includes literature, history, children’s books, science, art, philosophy, reference texts, foreign language books, and more. DVDs, CDs, and LPs are also available. All sales are open to the public.

Hours are:
Wednesday, October 15
Preview sale: 4:00–8:00 p.m.
($5 admission)

Thursday and Friday, October 16–17
Regular sale: 10:30 a.m.–7 p.m.
(No admission fee)

Saturday, October 18
Bag sale: 10:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
($4 per bag)
Bring a grocery bag or buy one for $1
1:05–2:00 p.m., remaining books are free

Grants Information Center
Celebrates 30 Years
Tuesday, October 21, 2014
5:30-7:30 p.m.
460 Memorial Library
(Public parking in Campus/State Street ramp, 415 N. Lake Street)

Celebrate with the Grants Information Collection (GIC) as we revel in 30 years of service as a partner of the Foundation Center. The GIC is the embodiment of the Wisconsin Idea as it serves to assist people to locate funding to further their research, education, and non-profit organizations. Past Grants Librarians, and current Grants Librarian, Ellen Jacks, and non-profit expert Boris Frank, will discuss the various roles they had in our 30 years. We will also have a remote conversation with a representative from the Foundation Center. Light refreshments will be provided and there will be a drawing for a free 24-hour period of remote access to the Foundation Directory Online. To enter the drawing, please submit your story of how the GIC has helped you or your organization here: http://grants.library.wisc.edu/contact/storyform.html

Inside Out / Outside In:
African Print Cloth
Librarian Emilie Songolo and Professor Mary Hark
Wednesday, November 12, 2014
6:00–8:00 p.m.
Central Library (Madison Public Library)
201 W. Mifflin St.

The Friends of the Library invite you to join UW–Madison Librarian Emilie Songolo, and Professor Mary Hark, UW–Madison Design Studies, for a lively conversation about African fabrics informed by their personal experiences and research projects in Sub-Saharan Africa. See cover article for more information.

6:00–7:00 p.m. “Inside Out/Outside In” Conversation
7:00–8:00 p.m. View textiles and garments; learn how to do wrap garments and head dresses; refreshments.

You are welcome to wear your African textile garments to this event.

Sponsors include the Madison Public Library, UW–Madison Libraries, and UW–Design Studies.
Remembering a Lost Bird: Lessons from the Past for a Sustainable Future

Stanley A. Temple, Beers-Bascom Professor Emeritus in Conservation at UW–Madison, and Senior Fellow, Aldo Leopold Foundation

In 2014 we are commemorating the centennial of the extinction of the Passenger Pigeon. In the mid-19th century it was the most abundant bird in North America, numbering 3–5 billion, according to Wisconsin’s A. W. [Bill] Schorger, who in 1955 wrote what is still considered to be the definitive account of the species’ natural history and extinction. He described it as “the most impressive species of bird that man has ever known.” It’s hard to imagine today that the bird was once so abundant that flocks darkened the skies for days as they passed continuously overhead or that one bird in every four in North America was a Passenger Pigeon. It is also hard to comprehend that in just half a century of unregulated commercial exploitation we killed them off. The last wild bird was shot in 1902; in 1914 the last surviving bird, a female named Martha, died in her cage at a Cincinnati zoo.

Wisconsin has played a recurring and significant role in the Passenger Pigeon story. The state was a principal nesting area for the bird. In 1871 it hosted the largest nesting colony ever recorded. It covered over 850 square miles of central Wisconsin with pigeons nesting in almost every tree. This was the scene of a well-documented, massive slaughter of the birds. Martha, the last Passenger Pigeon, was almost certainly born in Wisconsin in 1887. In 1947, the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology did something unprecedented at the time: it erected the first-ever public monument to a species, the Passenger Pigeon, that had become extinct because of human activities. The Passenger Pigeon Monument at Wyalusing State Park stands as a permanent reminder of what we lost. Aldo Leopold’s “On a Monument to the Pigeon” is considered by many to be one of the most poignant essays ever written about human-caused extinctions. He subsequently included it among the essays in his classic book, A Sand County Almanac, which has been read by millions. And Bill Schorger’s carefully researched monograph on the Passenger Pigeon will surely remain the standard reference on the species.
The Passenger Pigeon wasn’t the first North American bird to be pushed over the brink by the excesses of 19th century overexploitation. The Great Auk and Labrador Duck, for example, preceded the pigeon, but neither of those losses elicited a strong public reaction. Perhaps it is because the pigeon had been so abundant and such a conspicuous feature of the eastern North American landscape, people who had known the bird in their lifetimes were shocked by its demise.

There can be no doubt that the pigeon’s extinction was one of the main catalysts for the emergence of the 20th century conservation movement. Many actions of the time specifically mentioned the pigeon’s loss as one of their motivations. Congress enacted the Lacey Act in 1900 to limit the ability of commercial hunters to ship their harvest to market. Rep. John Lacey of Iowa, on the floor of the House of Representatives, introducing what would become the first federal wildlife protection law, noted. “It is too late as to the wild pigeon. The buffalo is almost a thing of the past, but there still remain much to preserve, and we must act earnestly if we would accomplish good things.” In 1903 President Theodore Roosevelt signed an executive order that established Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge as a bird refuge, the first time the federal government had protected land specifically for the sake of wildlife. The National Association of Audubon Societies for the Protection of Wild Birds and Animals (now the National Audubon Society) was formed in 1905 to promote wild bird protection. In 1916 the Migratory Bird Treaty with Canada specifically protected migratory birds, and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (1918) elevated that treaty to U.S. law, making it unlawful to capture, kill, or sell migratory birds.

Now, a century after the bird’s extinction, the tragic story of the Passenger Pigeon needs to be retold, not only because most people have forgotten it but also because it provides important lessons for the present and the future as we confront an unprecedented mass extinction of species as a result of our actions. To take advantage of this “teachable moment,” I have joined with other conservationists in creating Project Passenger Pigeon (passengerpigeon.org). I have devoted much of 2014 to helping lead the effort and to cramming as much public outreach as I can into the centennial year.
New Library Staff

LESLEY MOYO
Associate University Librarian for Public Services

The UW–Madison Libraries welcomed Lesley Moyo as the new Associate University Librarian for Public Services this past March. Moyo previously held the positions of Director for Research and Instructional Studies for Virginia Tech and Head of Gateway Libraries at Penn State University. She is knowledgeable in subjects and projects that contribute to institutional success and the role of research in university libraries, especially the integration of instructional programs into new technology. Moyo has developed many programs and services for electronic environments during her career including virtual reference services, expansion of services to e-learners, and assessment of web scale discovery services. She has worked closely with administrators, deans, faculty, and students to help develop research and instructional services to support the library and, ultimately, the institution. We are happy to welcome Lesley Moyo, and the skills, insight, and knowledge she can provide to our team here at the UW–Madison Libraries. Moyo expressed her enthusiasm for being at the Libraries. “I’ve settled into my role and I am excited to engage with the strategic vision of the UW Libraries. Working with the Executive group to advance that vision will be a top priority for me going forward.”

DOUG WAY
Associate University Librarian for Collections and Research Services

In April the UW Libraries welcomed Doug Way as Associate University Librarian for Collections and Research Services. Before coming to UW–Madison, Way held the position of Head of Collections and Scholarly Communications at Grand Valley State University (GVSU) in Allendale, Michigan, where he was responsible for creating progressive collection development programs. One endeavor that Way lead was a statewide distributed shared print program that helped nine state-funded institutes in Michigan to manage widely held low-use collections. Way was also in charge of directing the libraries’ scholarly communication program, which covers areas of web-based publishing and repository services. Under his direction, GVSU’s repository grew by over 2,000% and now hosts scholarly journals for three different scholarly societies. Way’s skills and abilities to communicate and collaborate with faculty and graduate students will be beneficial to the UW–Madison Libraries as we move forward in developing collections and research services that meet the mission of the University. Way commented on his time so far at the Libraries by saying, “I’m thrilled to have joined the UW–Madison Libraries. In my short time here I’ve been amazed by the depth and quality of our collections, and I am so impressed with the dedication and skills of the librarians and staff. It seems every day I am learning about some new aspect of the Libraries and the collections. I am so happy to be part of this organization and look forward to continuing the Libraries’ legacy of service and support.”

NATASHA VEESEER
Head of Communications

Natasha Veeser began her position as Head of Communications for the Libraries on August 13, 2014. She was formerly the Senior Public Relations Specialist for the UW–Extension, Continuing Education, Outreach and E-Learning (CEOEL) division. Veeser’s work at CEOEL involved managing public relations including online collaborative programs across Wisconsin; developing content and maintaining a comprehensive communications effort for the division; using social media, incorporating video, and other public relations tools to expand outreach and increase engagement; and managing the production of news releases for local, national, and international publications. At the University of Kansas William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications Veeser created, executed, and managed extensive communications and outreach efforts; managed key events and publications for the School of Journalism; and collaborated with other university departments, alumni, and staff to implement public relations initiatives. She was also a member of the executive team responsible for advising
leadership on appropriate communication strategies and tactics. Commenting on her appointment, Veeser said, “It is a tremendous opportunity to join and work with the individuals responsible for the Libraries’ stellar reputation. I look forward to contributing to a team dedicated to growing the vision and leadership of the Libraries.”

ARIELLE PERRY
Student for Friends Office

Arielle Perry is a first-year School of Library and Information Studies student who was recently hired to assist in the Friends office. Arielle comes with a great deal of experience in office assistance, event planning, and customer service. She has also worked in libraries as a circulation assistant in the Virginia Wesleyan College library, an interlibrary loan assistant at the New Hanover County Public Library in North Carolina, and a reference librarian assistant at the University of Mary Washington. Arielle has a deep appreciation for libraries and for those who support libraries. She is excited to be a member of the Friends of the Libraries team.

Two World War I Exhibits

1914: Then Came Armageddon
Department of Special Collections,
976 Memorial Library
August 11–December 30, 2014

This documentary exhibit about World War I, especially on the Western Front, commemorates the centennial of its outbreak. Guest exhibit co-curators Skye Doney and Eric O’Connor draw upon strong holdings of books, printed ephemera, letters, postcards, and other unpublished materials in campus libraries and archives to illustrate the months leading up to the beginning of war in Europe in 1914; prosecution of the war itself; life on the home front; creative works inspired by the war; and the eventual entry of the United States into the “war to end all wars.”

The exhibit highlights World War I materials in Special Collections, among them the Andrew Laurie Stangel Collection, full of rich imagery concerning German wartime propaganda. Scores of picture postcards from the Stangel Collection are digitized and available on the UW Digital Collections Center, under the title: “The Fine Art of Propaganda, Hand-Delivered: Greetings from the Fatherland: German Picture Postcards and History, 1914–1945.” Other portions of our World War I holdings are also included in the history section of the UW Digital Collections.

The exhibit also features works from the circulating collections in Memorial Library, materials from the library and archives of the Wisconsin Historical Society, and titles borrowed from private collections.

Doney and O’Connor are both finishing their dissertations in the UW–Madison History Department, the former on German Catholic religious practices, the latter on the early history of the European Union.

Related exhibits are scheduled for other campus library venues during fall semester.

The project has enjoyed support from the George L. Mosse Program in History.

American, British, and French Propaganda Posters 1914–1918
Selected from the Collections of the Wisconsin Historical Society.
August 15–October 15, 2014
Memorial Library, Lobby

This poster collection was created by prominent artists of the era, most often as encouragement to buy war bonds in the U.S. or in France. Within a week of declaring war on Germany, the United States government established the Committee of Public Information. On April 22, 1917, the Committee of Public Information, directed by George Creel, created the Division of Pictorial Publicity with Charles Dana Gibson, President of the Society of Illustrators. In the 20 months of its existence, the Division of Pictorial Publicity created 700 poster designs, although the artists were not paid for their work. (Gary A. Borkan, World War I Posters, Schiffer Publishing Ltd., 2002, pp. 5–6.)

Top of page: From 1917: Documents de la Section photographique de l’Armée française, Special Collections. Also available through UW Digital Collections at http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/History.FrenchImages
Taking Care of Books
No tape allowed! In February, Friends learned what it really takes to maintain the Library’s 7.3 million books. We visited the Libraries’ Bindery and the Conservation Lab and saw conservation practices in action. Friends also garnered tips on how to take care of their own books with various preservation and conservation experts. Special thanks go to Preservation Librarian Andrea Rolich, Conservation Specialist Marta Gomez, Conservator Emeritus Jim Dast, Preservation staffers Peter Fissel, Wayne Gathright, and Lyuba Standik, Chris Brown of Mendota Fine Binding and Restoration, and Tracy Lamphere of Grimm’s Bindery for an informative evening.

The World at Your Fingertips
While we didn’t get to see the fabled ghost of Science Hall in March, when the Friends explored Science Hall, we did see unique geographic and cartographic treasures. We also learned about the Geography Library (one of the few stand-alone geography libraries in the country), the Robinson Map Library (maps from around the world plus geospatial data and aerial photos), and the History of Cartography project (producer of an award-winning book series on the history of mapping worldwide). Special thanks to Geography Librarian Tom Tews, Map and Geospatial Data Librarian Jaime Stoltenberg, History of Cartography Project Managing Editor Jude Leimer, and Woodward Fellow Sandra Sáenz-López Pérez.

Friends Summer Social is a Hit!
Friends, glorious flowers, Babcock ice cream, and no rain—what more could we ask for? Rain clouds skirted Allen Centennial Gardens on July 15 for the Friends garden tour and ice cream social. More than fifty Friends mingled and strolled through the fabulous landscaping of the Gardens, while learning about the plants and landscaping. Everyone savored the ice cream buffet that featured the UW’s own Babcock Hall ice cream. Special thanks go to Allen Centennial Gardens Director Ed Lyon for his tour, and to Steenbock Public Service Librarian Karen Dunn and the Dane County Master Gardeners for their gardening information tables.