The Jessie Ball duPont Religious, Charitable and Educational Fund notified Sweet Briar College in the fall of 1988 that the grant application seeking funding to support automating the library catalogs of Sweet Briar College, Lynchburg College, Randolph-Macon Woman’s College and the City of Lynchburg Public Library was accepted. During 1989, the work of selecting the best system, preparing the database and contracting for the software and hardware for this project was accomplished. Implementation of the system is scheduled to be accomplished between February and July of this year, resulting in an automated library system being available for the three colleges by the start of the fall 1990 term. The major funding for the Central Virginia Library Automation Project in the amount of $307,461 was highlighted in the the annual report of the Fund. Text from that report is reprinted below:

The library catalogs and holdings of Sweet Briar, Lynchburg, and Randolph-Macon Woman’s colleges will be united with those of the Lynchburg Public Library system. The resulting automated system will serve the library needs of college students as well as urban and rural residents of all ages in the surrounding counties. They will be provided with access to nearly 850,000 books and other items.

When Jessie Ball duPont died in 1970 her will established the Jessie Ball duPont Religious, Charitable and Educational Fund to continue her philanthropy. Mrs. duPont, the widow of Alfred I. duPont, specified that the Fund make grants to the schools, colleges, churches, hospitals, charitable organizations and historic preservation efforts to which she contributed in the five calendar years from 1960 through 1964. These organizations are the only ones eligible to apply to the Fund.

Jessie Dew Ball was born in 1884 on the Northern Neck of Virginia, between the Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers. She was educated in country schools and at Farmville State College, now Longwood College. She taught school in Virginia until moving to California with her family in 1908 where she became vice-principal of a large, urban high school.

As a teenager, she met Alfred I. duPont when he would visit the Ball family on hunting trips. Alfred I. duPont and Jessie Ball reestablished their friendship many years later and were married in 1921. She was his closest friend and advisor, involved in almost all of his business and charitable endeavors.

Mrs. duPont made major contributions to hundreds of schools and colleges, churches, hospitals, charitable organizations, and historic preservation efforts. Most of these institutions were in the South and were concentrated in the states of her native Virginia, Mr. duPont’s Delaware, and northern Florida where they had a home in Jacksonville.

Mrs. duPont died in 1970, and her will established the Jessie Ball duPont Religious, Charitable and Educational Fund to continue her philanthropy. It is her spirit and memory that continue to guide this Fund.

In the fiscal year ended October 31, 1988 the Trustees of the Jessie Ball duPont Religious, Charitable and Educational Fund made 55 grants, including six no-interest loans, totalling $6,261,639. These grants and loans were made to 48 institutions for a wide spectrum of programs that are described later in this report.

Two years ago the trustees adopted the following mission statement for the Fund: Through grants to the eligible institutions, the Jessie Ball duPont Fund seeks to help meet the needs of today’s society, especially in the South, and to anticipate emerging issues that may become major concerns in the future.

In keeping with this mission statement, four-fifths of the program grants and loans made in 1988 were for programs in the South with institutions in the states of Virginia, Delaware and Florida receiving most of these grants.

In order to use the widest range of resources to attack a given social problem or to inaugurate a new program, the trustees encourage partnerships with other organizations that may share the same goal. Half of the
In Memoriam
Vladimir S. Littauer
1892-1989

Captain Vladimir Littauer died in 1989. Over the years he had often visited Sweet Briar to hold riding clinics. According to his will his collection of books, correspondence, and other documents has been bequeathed to Sweet Briar College. His wife has written this appreciation of his life and work.

My husband was born in the Ural mountains, where

[Image of Vladimir Littauer]

his father was a mining engineer. The family moved to St. Petersburg while he was still a small boy. He attended the Nicholas Cavalry School (the officers' cavalry school there, described by him in Russian Hussar), receiving his commission two years before the beginning of the First World War. The famous dressage rider, James Fillis, had earlier directed the school's riding program and his principles were still in force. These were based on collection and, of course, the use of the double bridle. A few Russian officers, however, had already gone to investigate what was happening at the Italian cavalry school in Pinerola and came home imbued with Caprilli's ideas. When these officers, using Italian methods of training and riding, distinguished themselves at the Olympic Games in Stockholm in 1912, other Russian horsemen began to take notice.

This ultimately had an influence on my husband when he began to teach in this country. Moreover, a wartime experience made him already query the use of the double bridle for cross-country work. A few months after the beginning of the war, the double bridle proved impractical for field work and the troopers discarded the curb, keeping only the snaffle.

After serving on the eastern front throughout the war, my husband continued to serve in the army during the revolution and the subsequent civil war. He came to the United States in the early 1920's as a refugee and speaking no English. At first he was obliged to take factory and then salesmen's jobs. A chance meeting, however, with two other former cavalry officers - Sergei Kournakoff and Kadir Guirey led to the decision to found a riding school, and thus the Boots and Saddle School in New York City was founded in 1927. At first the teaching was based on cavalry school principles, but it soon became evident that a system that had functioned with a group of fit young men, riding several hours a day under military discipline, was unsuited to an assorted group of civilians of all ages, riding only a few times each week or less. It was also evident that for competitive jumping, which was then coming to the fore, the Italian method was far superior to the old dressage one. But this too required adaptation for civilian use. The Defense of the Forward

[Image of Jean Love Albert]

Greetings From Jean Love Albert,
Class of 1946, Chairman of the Friends

I am proud to begin my service as Chairman of the Friends of the Sweet Briar Library as we begin a promising new decade. With walls of fear, hate and prejudice tumbling down around us and a bright spirit of cooperation and support spreading throughout our world, it is ever more important that we, as Friends of the Library, continue to supply the extra enrichment of knowledge as requested in the fall and spring by Sweet Briar's faculty - those books not normally covered by the college budget that can give added insight into the people and events of our changing world.

Thank you for helping to accomplish this goal!!!

Sincerely,

Jean Albert
Seat, based on experiments conducted at the school and written by Kournakoff and my husband, appeared in 1934, as well as my husband's popular book, Forward Riding, which presented an adaptation of the earlier Italian military system for the civilian rider (published in England under the title The Forward Seat).

Despite the market crash of '29 the school continued to be successful, with a new ring and stables in New York and summer branches on Long Island, in Westchester and Connecticut.

If I remember correctly, it was in the middle 20's that Harriet Rogers first came to Boots and Saddle - the beginning of a warm friendship and a long association with Sweet Briar.

In 1937, Kournakoff, who had been for some time considering returning to the Soviet Union, left Boots and Saddle, as did my husband at the same time. He moved to the country and concentrated on working with pupils on their own horses and started to give "riding clinics" (the term was then coined) at schools, colleges and hunting clubs. More About Forward Riding came out in 1938 and Be a Better Horsemanship in 1941.

In 1951, Kournakoff, my husband's most comprehensive book on the techniques of riding, appeared. He revised it for a 1963 edition and it was brought out again in 1983. Schooling Your Horse, published in 1956, also came out again at the same time. My husband's favorite book, Horseman's Progress, published in England under its subtitle, The Development of Modern Riding, appeared in 1962. His memoir, Russian Hussar, came out in England in 1965 and his last work, How the Horse Jumps, also appeared in England, in 1972. He continued to give clinics and lectures throughout most of this time, finally tapering off in the early 70's.

Among still well-known pupils of my husband's are Diana Rankin and Bernie Traurig; Cathy Kusner and Joe Fargis were pupils of his riding-teacher pupils, who had ridden under him at clinics; but his work and writing were aimed primarily at the average educated amateur rider - not the professional. He believed the former should approach riding as an adjunct of a rounded life and intelligently, with an understanding not only of the correct techniques but of the historic background of riding, and with an enlightened humane attitude towards the animal, who might often suffer as readily from an ignorant approach as from wanton cruelty.

Mary A. Littauer

An Electron Microscope for Sweet Briar College

The electron microscope, invented in 1938, has been a revolutionary contribution to the physical and natural sciences. It uses the principle that electrons are reflected from what they strike, as light is reflected. Electrons are focused by a magnetic field within a coil of electrical wires onto a fluorescent glass plate. The fluorescence reproduces the pattern of the object that has been scanned. The interior of the microscope is a vacuum that houses a cathode-ray tube that sends out the electrons that will strike the object. The electrons reflected by the object are picked up by the magnetic field that is created by the electrical field and are converged upon the fluorescent glass. This produces the image. An electron microscope can magnify objects 1,000,000 times compared with 2,000 times for optical microscopes, before any blurring occurs.

In the summer of 1989, Sweet Briar College installed an electron microscope at the Guion Science building. The microscope was donated by Zeiss Instrument Company Inc., a major manufacturer of both light and electron microscopes. The instrument came from the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, but the donation was facilitated by Dr. Charlene Reed-Miller, who earned her undergraduate degree in biology from Sweet Briar in 1973.

Both students and faculty are very excited about the research and learning opportunities the electron microscope will provide for all the sciences taught at Sweet Briar College. Electron microscopy is widely used in biological studies of individual cells and large molecules. Its applications are widely used in medical procedures such as biopsies. In the physical sciences applications include studies of the structure of metals, minerals, and chemical compounds, as well as the study of wave patterns in physics. During the Fall Semester 1989, students in Biology 9 were among the first to be given a project incorporating the electron microscope. It was then introduced to the chemistry students, and for Spring Semester 1990, Joanne Rosinski, Associate Professor of Biology, will offer a course on scanning electron microscopy for upper level science students. All freshmen will be introduced to the electron microscope so that they may use it for research in courses with the departments of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. Students may now experience for themselves what they have learned only from books, films, and lectures.

Acquisition of the electron microscope has brought more requests and collecting activity for books and journals in the fields of microscopy, microbiology, and biochemistry to the Science Library. Included in the acquisitions are several items acquired through the generosity of the Friends. As a result, students now have access to a great deal of up-to-date information on electron microscopy available at the Science Library. For further information on the topic, we suggest the following books:


Lisa N. Johnston
Branch Librarian / Bibliographic Instruction Librarian
Lisa Johnston Joins Library Faculty

The Sweet Briar College Libraries are pleased to welcome Lisa N. Johnston to the position of Bibliographic Instruction and Branch Librarian. Lisa came to us in August, having spent almost two years as a reference librarian at Sterling Memorial Library, Yale University. She had a wide variety of duties at Sterling including coordination of the reference department publications culminating in an excellent guide to the Yale Libraries published as a supplement to the Yale Weekly Bulletin. She provided bibliographic instruction for a number of areas including Women’s Studies, American Studies, Psychology and English. Her description of reference work at Yale includes words like “exciting, demanding, hectic and exhausting” with glimpses of various celebrities, among them - Barbara Tuchman, Cleanth Brooks and Harold Bloom - and on the whole a very rewarding learning experience. Lisa holds the B.A. in Art History and English and the M.S.L.S. from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Lisa has a wide variety of interests including cooking, films, collecting vintage radios, reading the works of contemporary Southern writers, books on popular culture, twentieth century art and architecture and watching over the activities of her five cats - Spencer, Tula, Elvis, Tractor and Raney.

MINUTES OF THE FALL MEETING OF THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

27 October 1989

The Fall Meeting of the Friends of the Library was convened by the Chairman, Jean Albert, in the Library Conference Room on Friday, 27 October 1989. 26 members were present. The minutes of the Spring Meeting were approved as submitted.

Elizabeth Wood gave the Membership Report. She reported that we have 309 members this year as compared to 133 at this time last year. We have not surpassed the 384 and 380 from 1982-84 but we have improved. At the last meeting the Membership Committee was instructed to refine the mailing list so that we may increase the membership. It has now been reduced from approximately 900 to just over 400, and we believe that the revised list will be more realistic in terms of getting commitments and pledges. We hope that it will also help us to identify potential life members. The membership committee recommends that we send to all board members the entire list of prospective members so that they may identify those that they think might have a special interest in the library. We will not contact any alumnae who are working on reunion funds, as we do not want to interfere in any way with the Alumnae Fund. The Membership Committee suggests that the Friends of the Library should be more visible both at Alumnae Council and Reunion time; the Book Store is also working on some way to call attention to the Friends of the Library.

Bill Meadows mentioned that the goals we are pursuing are: to increase the membership, utilizing students in the follow-up and to increase the number of life members, utilizing the board to make these calls.

John Jaffe circulated copies of a list developed last year describing the purpose and benefits of joining the Friends of the Library. He congratulated Jean Albert on her Life Membership pledge to the Friends of the Library and thanked the Membership Committee for its excellent work this past year. Mrs. Wood thanked the Development Office for all its help this year.

Ralph Aiken gave the Treasurer’s Report. He pointed out that the amount for donations and memberships is up from last year. Total revenue available is $20,096, up $8,043 from this time last year. Uncommitted revenue available is $13,135, up $8,015 from last year thanks to the hard work of the membership committee, Development Office and telephones. We still have not reached the $19,601 achieved in 1985-86, but we are working on it. The $13,135 figure is particularly important because that is the amount allocated to be spent on books this fiscal year. Our operating expenditures are less than they were last year and we do not have to make any changes in the budget approved at the Spring Meeting. We may have to pay more for the Gazette this time, because we have more members. The total sum of money spent on book purchases since the Friends began, in 1966, is $271,755, and gifts in books adds another $12,000. The Treasurer’s report was accepted as presented.

John Jaffe presented the Needs Committee report for Alexandra Eddy, who was performing in a concert and sent her regrets. The list of requests presented comes to $5,153.75. We usually have more requests than money but the faculty must have tried to be as conservative as possible, since they knew that we had less money available than usual. This means that we will have a little more money in the spring to spend on book purchases when we will probably be back in the usual situation of having more requests than money. We were pleased to be able to approve at this meeting all that the faculty submitted. The Friends approved the Needs Committee’s request.

Clarissa Rowland gave the Publications Committee report. She mentioned the article written by Ann Whitley for our Library Gazette which has been re-printed in the recent issue of the Alumnae Magazine, and thanked Tony Marra, who again did a wonderful job on the photographs taken for our Gazette. The next issue will include a report on the duPont Grant. duPont gave Sweet Briar some fine publicity in its annual report, selections from which will appear in the Gazette.

The Nominating Committee did not have a report at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

We would like to hold the Spring Meeting on May 4, the date on which Stephen Lash - Executive Vice-President of Christie’s in New York - has agreed to speak to us. This will be the Gerhard Masur Lecture sponsored by the Friends of the Library. The Friends of Art will be joining us for this lecture and we will work our meetings around the faculty meeting to be held the same day. The Friends voted to hold the meeting on Friday, May 4.

John Jaffe moved that the Friends send a letter of
commendation to Anne Noyes Awtrey and Catherine Fitzgerald Booker who have received Outstanding Alumnae Awards. Both are members of the Friends of the Library. The Friends voted that they be sent formal letters of commendation from the Friends of the Library. Bob John also told us that the Book Shop is working on various ways to promote the Friends of the Library. Mr. Fitts has proposed a special sale day, with discounts of 20% on all books in honor of the Friends of the Library and the Friends of Art. The Book Shop will announce and advertise the sale.

The Friends of the Library, U.S.A., to which this group belongs, will meet at the Homestead in Hot Springs, Va., on November 17, 1989, in conjunction with the Virginia Library Association meeting being held there at the same time.

John Jaffe passed on greetings from Caroline McGehee, past Chairman of the Friends of the Library, and now President of the Miniature Book Society. He notified the Friends of Vladimir Littauer’s recent death. Captain Littauer has had a long association with the college and his collection of books on riding is to come to the Sweet Briar Library.

John noted the major grant we received, together with Randolph-Macon Woman’s College and Lynchburg College, from the du Pont Foundation, which reported on the grant fully in its annual report. The three college libraries were given $307,461.

There have been some staffing changes in the library: Christopher Bean, head of Readers’ Services, has left to go to Shenandoah College, where he is now Director of the Howe Library. We are pleased to announce the promotion of Kathleen Lance, our former Branch Librarian and Cataloger, to a newly designated position as Head of Public Services. Ms. Lance’s position was filled by hiring Lisa Johnston from Yale University to be our new Branch Librarian.

Jean Albert then thanked Evelyn Mullen for her success in getting new members for the Friends, and reminded us that Evelyn was indeed the one who launched the campaign to increase the number of Life Members. Mrs. Albert thanked Dean Bowers for attending our meeting. Dean Bowers thanked the Friends for their work and mentioned that our honors programs are off to a great start. The expanded honors programs will stimulate many more students to make use of the library collection.

Bill Meadows, speaking for himself and President Fry, extended their thanks for the work done by the Friends. He described the campaign for Sweet Briar College, which will be based on the projects that were suggested by the Strategic Planning Process held in 1986-87; projects which were determined to be critical to the library for the next five years. We are not beginning to plan for meeting those needs, and we are undertaking two specific projects to bridge from today until the campaign begins. First: in order to support the honors programs we are trying to build up an endowment fund of 1.8 million dollars. This effort will kick off in mid-November. Second: our next goal is the 3 million dollar project in the sciences, to re-equip all the laboratories in Guion. We should like to spend roughly 1 million dollars on new equipment for Guion and then build up a 2 million endowment to support that equipment.

There being no further business, the meeting was then adjourned.

Recent Acquisitions Through Gifts from the Friends

Fall 1989

The Friends of the Library Council, at its meeting of 27 October 1989, approved the purchase of 69 titles in 82 volumes at a total cost of $5,153.75 from the list of requests submitted by faculty and approved by the Needs Committee of the Friends. Selected titles from the approved purchases are listed and annotated below.

ART HISTORY DEPARTMENT

Kennedy, Roger G.

A fascinating new look at America’s Greek Revival. The social historian will be tantalized by the author’s compelling and often unexpected explanations of the forces that brought about the American Greek Revival. This is the first full-scale study of Greek Revival architecture to be published in over 40 years.

Martindale, Andrew

The format of this work is traditional, including short chapters on the historiography of the subject, the artist’s vita, and the 14th century cultural setting, followed by consideration of his works and those of his workshop. The author is concerned rather with reassessing the character of Simone’s work, the possible range of his influence, and the nature of his patrons.


These 26 learned and stimulating studies, collected in honor of George Zarnceki on his 70th birthday, were written by an international host of his colleagues and students. The range of subjects addressed (usually in English but occasionally in the author’s native tongue) is truly impressive.

Deuchar, Stephen

Deuchar’s book is about the social and political record that can be interpreted from the usually innocuous genre of hunting pictures. Although he surveys the genre from the Middle Ages, his major focus is 18th century Britain. As he points out, hunting sport was a recreation that was laden with class distinctions and ethical controversy: only an elite possessed the estates and the leisure to pursue a sport that many regarded emblematic of privileged pastime if not inhumane conduct.
Verma, Ram S. (Ram Sagar)
Human chromosomes: manual of basic techniques; with Arvind Babu. New York;
This comprehensive, up-to-date text is invaluable for courses in human genetic
research and clinical cytogenetics. It will also serve as a vital reference for specialists
and researchers in laboratory medicine, human genetics and clinical cytogenetics.

Plant protoplasts; editors, L.C. Fowke, F.
This volume brings the reader up to date on technology used in protoplast studies and
explores their potential role in future research and biotechnology.

Genetic recombination; edited by Raju
Kucherlapati, Gerald R. Smith.
Washington, DC; American Society for
This well-integrated treatise will be of interest and value to researchers and students focusing
on procaryotic and eucaryotic genetic recombination and on related topics such as
gene expression, protein-DNA interactions,
chromosome mechanics, meiosis, gene
therapy and DNA repair.

Heubeck, Alfred
A commentary on Homer's Odyssey; with
Stephanie West, J.B. Hainsworth. New York;
Oxford University Press / 1988-
The first volume (on books 1-8) of a three-volume Oxford commentary on the Odyssey
will find eager interest among scholars and teachers. The bibliography, general
introductions, and breadth of commentary should - if matched in subsequent volumes -
make this the standard work on the Odyssey for the next generation.

Jongman, William
The economy and society of Pompeii.
Jongman combines the traditional literature of the classical civilizations with analytical
tools offered by economics, political science,
sociology, and statistics, and borrows from
contemporary archaeology to provide a solid,
systematic approach for the study of ancient
civilizations. Biographical material is
extensive and comprehensive. Plates and maps are clear and nicely integrated with the
text. An exceptional work for all academic libraries.

Ryan, Michael
Politics and culture: working hypotheses
for a post-revolutionary society. Baltimore; Johns
An impressive sequel to Marxism and
Deconstruction. Politics and Culture offers a
radical alternative to liberalism. Drawing on
cultural studies, legal theory, rhetoric, and
social philosophy, the author argues that
only new formulations and new institutions
can help us escape both capitalism's ideology of
freedom and state socialism's cynicism of control.

Lispector, Clarice
The stream of life; translated by Elizabeth
Lowe and Earl Fitz; foreword by Helene Cixous.
Minneapolis; University of Minnesota Press / 1989.
This book is an intense, diary-like monologue, a lyrical novel that
communicates the self-discovery and self-
affirmation of its unnamed female
protagonist.

Neal, Homer A.
Solid waste management and the
environment: the mounting garbage and trash
crisis; with J.R. Schubel. Englewood Cliffs, NJ;
This report provides an overview of the considerations to be taken into account in
assessing the options for future solid waste
disposal: landfilling, exportation, mass
burning, and recycling.
HISTORY DEPARTMENT

Thirsk, Joan
This splendid collection of essays is a valuable sampling of the work of one of the greatest 20th century students of rural and agricultural history. Written over a period of 30 years, the essays address the problems of sources and the fascinating task of asking questions about rural England in the 16th and 17th centuries. They include subjects such as the origins and nature of the common field system, Tudor enclosures, the fate of Royalist lands during the Commonwealth and Restoration, primogeniture and the dilemma of younger sons, the creativity of the pastoral economy, and new crops such as tobacco. The themes that run through these essays are important ones: the capacity of local communities to adapt to change, the remarkable diversity of the English countryside, and the importance of pastoral farming as a center of innovation.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT

Latin American writers; Carlos A. Sole, editor, Maria Isabel Abreu, associate editor. New York; Scribner / 1989.
This important new volume covers writers from the sixteenth-century chroniclers, who relayed to the Crown the wonders of the New World, to Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Carlos Fuentes, Octavio Paz, and other world-renowned writers of today's literary landscape.

Encyclopedia of world biography: 20th century supplement; editor in chief, David Eggengerger. Palatine, Ill; J. Heraty / 1987-.
This three volume supplement doubles the number of 20th century figures from 900 to 1800. Written, illustrated and indexed in the same acclaimed EWB format.

Bridging specialized and general works, the Encyclopedia is designed to fill a major gap in every high school, academic, public and religious library. It serves readers with little or no background as effectively as it does scholars. It provides the fullest array of facts, figures and analysis available in one source. It is an essential source for everyone committed to learning about the Holocaust as an act of witness and conscience.

Guide to the Presidency fills a unique need in libraries across the country. Never before has there been a reference work on the presidency with the versatility to suit all needs. Everything we are ever likely to need to know about the presidency is here: from the historical roots of the office to modern-day relations between the President and Congress; from the constitutional powers of the president to the relation between the presidency and the media.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Lebrecht, Norman
Lebrecht sets the stage for this fascinating volume with an informative and meticulously footnoted introduction. Five of the six chapters that follow present a chronological documentation of Mahler's life, music, and personality as seen through the eyes of his contemporaries. The complex profile that emerges reveals just how dramatic an influence he had upon his contemporaries. The sixth chapter is an epilogue; it begins with a brief posthumous chronology (up to the death of Alma Mahler in 1964) and concludes with selected obituaries and other posthumous reflections.

Landon, H.C. Robbins (Howard Chandler Robbins)
Musicologists and Haydn editors Landon and Jones cover both the composer's life and music in chapters that alternate biographical narrative and musical analysis. The authors offer a scholarly assessment of biographical sources and documents. The chapters on Haydn's musical development are excellent and very accessible even to the average music lover. Here the expertise and authority of the authors are evident as they chart the development of Haydn's style of composing and analyze the background of major and minor works, accompanying many of their points with musical examples.
Mark Your Calendars Now

The Spring Meeting of the Friends of the Library will be held on Friday the 4th of May, 1990. Mr. Stephen S. Lash, Executive Vice President of Christie, Manson and Woods International, Inc., will present the Gerhard Masur Memorial Lecture sponsored by the Friends.

Urge A Friend to Be A Friend For Life