# **SMITHSONIAN**

INSTITUTION LIBRARIES 2003 annual report Smitheonism Institution Libraries

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



ifteen years of proposing, planning, funding, and constructing came together on October 12, 2002, to start off the new year with a bang! The gala opening of the new Joseph F. Cullman 3<sup>rd</sup> Library of Natural History, just 12 days into the new fiscal year, pushed our moods into the stratosphere. As I said that night, "the Smithsonian means many things to many people, but when they come to visit—or you ask them what is in the Smithsonian—most often they will refer to the great and wonderful objects that are symbols of our national heritage and identity, such as the Hope Diamond, the Spirit of St. Louis, the First Ladies' gowns.... Tonight we celebrate something that is equal in value to any one of the great national treasures of the Smithsonian—the book. Books and the people who manage them and provide access to them—the Libraries' staff—are integral to the fabric of the Smithsonian, just as they are integral to the fabric of intellect, the interpretation of the past, and progress in the future."

This is still the case in today's electronic world, proud as we are of the many offerings of our *Galaxy of Knowledge* website. I am particularly pleased with the new category of offerings called SIL ON DISPLAY. Members of the Libraries staff create small online exhibitions of some facet of SIL's collections, a "teaser," if you like, of the richness that awaits those with curiosity. The variety is clear from the subjects chosen in 2003: contemporary African art, caricatures and cartoons, 19th-century homemaking, and the history of zoos. *Galaxy* offerings are one indicator of change. In our online catalog in SIRIS, many of the 720,232 catalog records link to electronic versions of books or journals. Of course, the marriage of print and electronic is a tremendous boon for scholars. But new scholarship in most fields still appears primarily on paper.

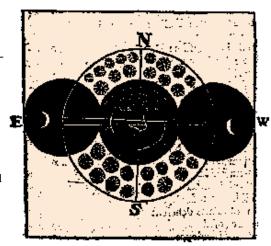
SIL cherishes both, and so do many of our supporters. I wish to acknowledge especially the Smithsonian National Board, which awarded SIL \$75,000 to create a full inventory of our 300,000-piece archive of historical business and trade catalogs. This information will allow us to make this national treasure more accessible to users and to decide how best to digitize and preserve it. We are grateful.

— Nancy E. Gwinn

## Notable Acquisitions

- THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ENDOWMENT enabled us to purchase F.J.F. Meyen's 2-volume work um di Erde ... in den Jahren 1830, 1831, und 1832 to add to our voyage and expedition holdings. Serving as the medical doctor and naturalist on a circumnavigation by the Prussian navy, Meyen describes all the regions visited, especially South America and China.
- THE ALICE E. KENNINGTON BOOK FUND made possible the purchase of the beautifully illustrated *Les papillons, leur histoire, la manière de leur faire la chasse et de les conserver* by Eugene A. Balland (1823) with specific procedures for

- collecting and preserving butterfly specimens in the early 1800s.
- € COLLECTOR RUSSELL TRAIN gave the Libraries a preview of his collection on African exploration with a donation of six volumes, including a superb presentation copy inscribed by David Livingstone of his Missionary Travels and Researches in South Africa (1857), as well as sketches, a map, and photographs of explorer Henry Bailey's travels through the Congo Free State in 1884–88.
- ¶ THE ANACOSTIA MUSEUM AND NATIONAL
  MUSEUM OF AFRICAN ART LIBRARIES benefited from a bequest of 250 volumes on Africans and African Americans from the estate of
  Louise E. Jefferson, author of *The Decorative Arts of Africa* (1973).



Above: Among the important 18th-century works on steam engines, inland navigation, and mathematics obtained by the Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology was Charles Leadbetter's A Treatise of Eclipses of the Sun and Moon. In this work, Leadbetter, who gained fame for his accurate prediction of the 1715 total solar eclipse, covered 35 years of eclipses.

## MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE

■ FOLLOWING UP ON THE RESULTS OF THE LIBQUAL+ SURVEY taken last spring, the Libraries set up focus groups of Smithsonian curators with specialties in the sciences, art, museum studies, and history to help SIL improve the design of the "Tools for the Researcher" page of SIL's Galaxy of Knowledge website. The new page (www.sil.si.edu/research/) has been enthusiastically received.

 ■ LIBRARIES DIRECTOR NANCY GWINN and her executive team met with several Smithsonian curatorial groups in open discussions to present SIL services and activities and to hear curators' issues and concerns. Meetings were held at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian American Art Museum, National Museum of

American History, National Museum of the American Indian, National Portrait Gallery, Anacostia Museum & Center for African American History and Culture, National Postal Museum, and the National Air & Space Museum.

2001 EMPLOYEE PERSPECTIVE SURVEY, SIL reviewed all training received by SIL supervisors to date and launched a pro-

gram to increase and refresh supervisors' skills over the next three years. All new supervisors are required to take a core course in management and all supervisors will receive training in employee development.

**■** IN SEPTEMBER 2003, VIELKA CHANG-YAU, LIBRARIAN, SMITHSON-IAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

was elected Vice-President of the Association for Agricultural Librarians, Documentalists and Information Specialists.

**■** IN AUGUST 2003, NANCY E. GWINN WaS elected to several offices in the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), including

Vice Chair of the Professional Committee and member of the Governing Board, as well as Chair of the Standing Committee on Preservation and Conservation and Chair of the IFLA Publications Committee.

**■** RUTH SCHALLERT, BOTANY LIBRARIAN

(inset), received double honors in 2003. Botanist C.M. Burton named Hoya schallertia in her honor because

> her help in providing research material "was far beyond the call of duty." She also received the Charles Robert Long Award of Extraordinary Merit from the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries in June. (photo: Barbara Insidioso)

BOTANY, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL

HISTORY, celebrated the opening of the expanded Botany & Horticulture Library on July 17 and welcomed Horticulture staff researchers. The expansion followed the closure of the Horticulture Library in 2002 and the move of its collection to the Natural History Building.

## Journal Volumes/Issues Easier to Find

ournals and periodicals contain the latest findings of historical research, THE FREER GALLERY OF ART/ARTHUR M. emerging results, recent scientific reports, detailed field notes, and news items in every discipline. Two important SIL projects are allowing researchers to find out exact information about what volumes and issues of journals are available in SIL collections through the Libraries online catalog in SIRIS. This will save substantial time for both researchers and library staff, who might otherwise make fruitless visits to the stacks or wait for library colleagues to check manual records.

> Begun several years ago, in the Serials Holdings Project, library staff created records for each volume of the backfile of a journal. By the close of fiscal year 2003, 77,750 volume/issue records were available in SIRIS, covering complete holdings for 3,031 journals. In a new initiative in fiscal year 2003, the Libraries began to convert Serials Check-in Records from cards to online form in SIRIS. Funded by the Smithsonian Institution Collections Information System pool, 1,400 records for the main Natural History Library have been converted thus far. Now, for example, a quick check of SIRIS will immediately tell a researcher at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Edgewater, Md., if SIL's Botany and Horticulture Library has received the latest issue of Carnivorous Plant Newsletter.

SACKLER LIBRARY received Nihon Biojutsuin Hyakunshi (100-Year History of the Japanese Art Institute), an 18-volume set on the history of painting exhibitions organized by the institute. As part of the bequest to the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery of Robert O. Muller's collection of Japanese prints, the Library received 92 monographs from the Meiji period (1868-1912).

THE NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM LIBRARY received thousands of volumes from the Federal Aviation Administration Library. The NASM Library is now the single greatest resource on the development of civil aviation in the U.S.

**■ FUNDS FROM THE SMITHSONIAN'S LATINO POOL** enabled a subscription to HAPI ONLINE: The Hispanic American Periodicals Index.

## PUBLIC OUTREACH

Below: Mr. Joseph F. Cullman 3<sup>rd</sup> and Leslie Overstreet, Curator of Natural History Rare Books and manager of the Cullman Library.

Below right: Guests at the opening reception for the Cullman Library gather in the reading room and tour the new facilities. (photo: Elizabeth Periale)



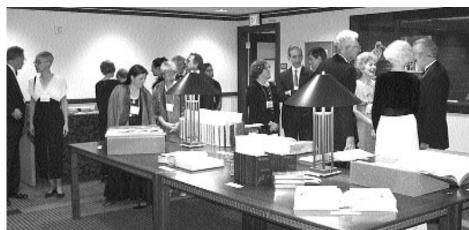
The fiscal year began auspiciously on October 12 with the gala opening of the first rare book library in the National Museum of Natural History, the Joseph F. Cullman 3rd Library of Natural History. Mr. & Mrs. Cullman and their friends and family joined 175 well-wishers to see the lovely reading room and state-of-the-art, secure, environmentally controlled vault. This new facility allows the Libraries to merge over 10,000 volumes from twelve separate library locations into a centralized collection that is convenient to researchers. Leslie Overstreet, Curator of Natural History Rare Books, along with assistant Daria Wingreen, continued to move and organize collections while opening the reading room for use by researchers and many visitors. The 345 researchers who used the collections in 2003 included curators, research staff, and fellows from the Smithsonian, as well as

#### OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

government agencies.

€ SIL began to establish a baseline count for visitors to its Exhibition Gallery in the National Museum of American History in August, when a study determined that there were approximately 1300 visitors, averaging 61 visitors per hour. € SIL became a Reading Promotion Partner of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. The Partners consist of more than 90 civic, educational, and professional organizations.

from Japan, New Zealand, Canada, Scotland, Mexico, and many other museums and



## Public Programs

THE 4TH ANNUAL BAIRD SOCIETY BENEFACTORS DINNER The Libraries and the National Air & Space Museum cosponsored the 4th Annual Baird Society Benefactors Dinner on Wednesday, March 26, 2003, featuring Pulitzer Prize-winning author, A. Scott Berg. 140 guests dined in the Milestones of Flight Hall beneath Lindbergh's plane, the Spirit of St. Louis. Berg supplemented his delightful account with film clips of the famous transatlantic flight and episodes from the Lindberghs' lives. The Libraries, with the National Museum of American History, cohosted Berg in a free public lecture. Berg mesmerized the

crowd with an account of his life as a biographer of Maxwell Perkins, Samuel Goldwyn, Jr., Charles Lindbergh, and Woodrow Wilson.



A. Scott Berg and Libraries Director Nancy E. Gwinn. (photo: Ninette Dean)

#### Exhibitions

■ AN ODYSSEY IN PRINT: ADVENTURES IN THE SMITHSONIAN LIBRARIES, SIL Exhibition Gallery, National Museum of American History. Libraries staff substituted new volumes in this exhibition in January and July. ■ The theme of the Libraries' National Museum of Natural History lobby case, installed in October 2003, is the SMITH-SONIAN INSTITUTION LIBRARIES IN THE SERVICE OF SCIENCE. The inaugural exhibit featured illustrations of pheasants in a volume by Daniel Giraud Elliot (1835—1915).

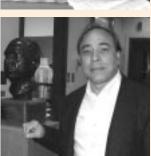
■ EXPLORE THE UNIVERSE, National Air and Space Museum. This permanent exhibition, showcases some of the most significant observational tools astronomers have devised over the past four centuries. The exhibition features rare books from the Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology. Rotating every six months to meet conservation requirements, the first two books were the 1602 work by Tycho Brahe called Astronomiae instauratae mechanica (Instruments for a Restored Astronomy) and Johann Bayer's 1655 Uranometria (Celestrial Atlas).

¶ SIL BOOKS AND IMAGES ON THE ROAD.

Books, illustrations, and images on diverse subjects from SIL collections were featured in exhibitions in nine museums in FY 2003. These included the National Museum of American History; Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, NYC; Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Logan, Ut.; Smithsonian American Art Museum/Renwick Gallery; The von Liebig Art Center, Naples, Fl.; National Museum of African Art; Schiele Museum, Gaston N.C.; Jewish Museum of Berlin; and, the U.S. Botanical Garden, Heirloom Garden.

ℂ CELEBRITY CARICATURES, Libraries
 Hall. In May, SIL opened its first spotlight exhibition in its hall in the National Museum of Natural History. Curated by Cecilia Chin, Librarian of the Smithsonian American Art Museum/National Portrait Gallery Library, "Celebrity Caricatures" features caricature and cartoon books collected in the late 1990s.











Top row, from left: Susan Fernsebner, Dr. Kathleen Curran, Dr. James Day. Far left: Dr. Gildo Magalhães Dos Santos. Left: Dr. Michael Schiffer (photos: Ronald Brashear)

### Spencer Baird Society Resident Scholars 2003

€ SUSAN FERNSEBNER, PH.D. candidate in Modern Chinese History at the University of California, San Diego. Susan's dissertation topic was "Material Modernities: China's Participation in World's Fairs and Expositions, 1876–1955." She received her M.A. in East Asian Studies from Stanford University in 1993 and was a Visiting Scholar at the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, People's Republic of China, for the 1999–2000 academic year.

© DR. KATHLEEN CURRAN, Associate Professor of Fine Arts at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. Dr. Curran received her Ph.D. in 1986 in art history from the University of Delaware. Her research topic was "American World's Fairs and the Taxonomy of Display," focusing on the changing nature of the terms "mechanical arts" and "industrial arts" and their relationship to the fine arts and liberal arts.

### Dibner Library Resident Scholars 2003

● DR. JAMES DAY, Associate Professor of Physics in the Division of Natural Sciences at Transylvania University, Lexington, Ky. Also serving as Curator of the Moosnick Science Museum at Transylvania, a large collection of scientific and medical nineteenth-century teaching apparatus, Dr. Day used the Dibner Library collections to research the museum's scientific instruments.

¶ DR. GILDO MAGALHÃES DOS SANTOS, Professor of History of Science and Technology in the History Department of the University of São Paulo, Brazil. His research project was "Electromagnetism and Natural Philosophy in the Early Nineteenth-Century." The Dibner Library's works on electricity, including a number of titles and manuscripts by Ampère, Arago, Fresnel, Gauss, Kirchhoff, Ørsted, and many others, provided a fertile ground for Dr. Santos' research.

**©** DR. MICHAEL SCHIFFER, Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Laboratory of Traditional Technology at the University of Arizona. Dr. Schiffer's research project was titled "Electrical Science from Volta to Edison." He utilized works in the Dibner collection by authors such as Ampère, Davy, Ørsted, Faraday, Arago, Biot, de la Rive, and Maxwell to look at the changing application of electrical technology after the advent of Volta's battery and Ørsted's discovery of electromagnetism.

## GALAXY OF KNOWLEDGE



003 WAS A GREAT YEAR FOR INCREASED USE OF THE LIBRARIES WEBSITE. Average user hits per month on the Libraries website were 2.7 million and average visitor sessions numbered 105,000. Visitor time spent was around 12 minutes per session. The chart below shows the growth of Galaxy of Knowledge hits and user sessions since 1999. (Two digital collections support history of science AND TECHNOLOGY Historians have found much useful information in two large digital collections added to SIL's Galaxy of Knowledge website. Funded by the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, "Instruments for Science, 1800–1914: Scientific Trade Catalogs in Smithsonian Collections" includes 5,000 images of catalogs, primarily from European manufacturers but used by American schools and laboratories and thus representing American patterns of consumption. "Scientific Identity: Portraits from the Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology" showcases a valuable collection of 1,008 portraits of scientists from ancient to modern times that were collected by Bern Dibner. The collection includes woodcuts, copper and steel engravings, mezzotints, lithographs, oil paintings, and photographs. The Research Libraries Group provided funds for production of this digital collection.

TOTAL HITS					USER SESSIONS
1999	4,827,160				487,282
2000	12,462,958				671,437
2001			15,209,271		698,856
2002				23,559,604	1,007,400
2003				34,850,316	1,325,606

Above: Thomas Cross, fl. 1632-82. Detail from Engraving of Astrologer John Gadbury (1627-1704), from "Scientific Identity: Portraits from the Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology," Galaxy of Knowledge.

Right: Charles Dana Gibson, Drawings (detail), 1894, from "Drawing from Life: Caricatures and Cartoons from the American Art/Portrait Gallery Collection by Kent Boese," Galaxy of Knowledge.

### Digital Collections

■ THE HOUSE PAINTER, OR, DECORATOR'S **COMPANION** by William Mullingar Higgins (1841). A splendid example of the kind of trade manual that serves as a primary document in the history of technology, manufacturing, culture, and aesthetic styles. www.sil. si.edu/digitalcollections/art-design/higgins/

### Online Exhibitions

■ AN ODYSSEY IN PRINT: ADVENTURES IN SMITHSONIAN LIBRARIES. Additions to the third rotation of the exhibit were made to the website. www.sil.si.edu/exhibitions/Odyssey/ ℂELEBRITY CARICATURE features some of the materials from the Smithsonian American Art Museum/National Portrait Gallery Library. www.sil.si.edu/exhibitions/Celeb/



### SIL On Display

Stanley includes images from more than 2,000 files on contemporary African artists, a resource unique to the Smithsonian's National Museum of African Art, Warren M. Robbins Library. www.sil.si.edu/ondisplay/afa-vf/ index.htm

■ DRAWING FROM LIFE: CARICATURES AND CARTOONS FROM THE AMERICAN ART / POR-TRAIT GALLERY COLLECTION, by Kent Boese. www.sil.si.edu/ondisplay/caricatures/

**■** MAKING OF A HOMEMAKER BY ERIN **CLEMENTS.** Features books that guided the 19th-century housewife. www.sil.si.edu/on display/making-homemaker/

**▼** ZOOS: A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE, by Alvin Hutchinson. A collection of pamphlets and guide books published by zoos over the past century in the National Zoological Park Library. www.sil.si.edu/ondisplay/zoos/

#### Other Links

 ■ ARCHIVE OF AFRICAN ARTISTS: LIST OF VERTICAL FILES IN THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN ART LIBRARY www.sil.si.edu/silpubli cations/africanart/AFA-VF-List-2003- 08.pdf **■** BIBLIOGRAPHIES FROM THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY WWW.sil.si. edu/silpublications/nmahbibliographies.htm **■** LIST OF AUDIO TAPES: HIRSHHORN MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GARDEN LIBRARY www.sil.si.edu/silpublications/hmsg/hmsg\_ audiotapes.htm

**■ LIST OF FILMS AND VIDEOTAPES:** HIRSHHORN MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GAR-DEN LIBRARY www.sil.si.edu/silpublications/ hmsg/нмsg\_video2003.pdf **● PHOTO COLLECTION INVENTORY:** 

HIRSHHORN MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GAR-DEN LIBRARY www.sil.si.edu/silpublications/ hmsg/нмsgphotoinventory 2003.pdf

**■** TRANSATLANTIC SLAVERY: SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY www.sil.si.edu/silpublications/ transatlanticslavery.htm

## FINANCIAL STRENGTH

ith the help of the Smithsonian Libraries Board, the Libraries achieved a milestone this year. Cumulative gifts and pledges to the Libraries' Partners in Discovery capital campaign reached \$5.5 million, or 27.5% of the campaign's \$20 million goal. [In 2003 \$1.4 million came primarily from individuals. These funds support a variety of the Libraries' priorities, including acquisitions, preservation, and digital projects. 

A handsome gift from Joseph F. Cullman 3rd will help the Libraries acquire the Russell E. Train Collection of Africana. (Over \$164,000 was raised from competitive internal Smithsonian Institution funds, which target necessary equipment purchases and cataloging projects.

#### **ENDOWMENTS**

Jean Axelrod Endowment (general acquisitions, funded by Shelby Shapiro)\*

Bailey Family Endowment (general Libraries)\*

Cooper Hewitt, National Design Museum Acquisitions Fund (Margery and Edgar Masinter)\*\*

Joseph F. Cullman 3rd Endowment for the Natural History Rare Book Library\*

Joseph F. Cullman 3rd Endowment for the Preservation of Natural History Rare Books

C. Michael Gooden and Diane Oksanen-Gooden Endowment (general Libraries)\*

Nancy E. Gwinn and John Y. Cole Endowment (intern pro-

Brian J. and Darlene Heidtke Preservation Endowment\*

Alice Kennington Rare Book Fund

The Margery and Edgar Masinter Fund for the Acquisition and Preservation of Illustrated Books

Frank J. and Betty M. Quirk Libraries Endowment\*

S. Dillon Ripley Library Endowment\*\*

Smithsonian Institution Libraries Endowment Fund for Serials Acquisition and Preservation\*\*

Smithsonian Institution Libraries General Support Endowment

Smithsonian Institution Libraries Special Collections Endowment

Lloyd and Charlotte Wineland Library Endowment for Native American and Western Exploration Literature

#### DONORS

\$100,000 or more Mr. & Mrs. Joseph F. Cullman 3rd

#### \$25,000- \$99,999

David & Frances Dibner, The Dibner Fund Brian J. & Darlene Heidtke Margery & Edgar Masinter Shelby Shapiro

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<sup>\*</sup>New endowments for 2003

<sup>\*\*</sup>Additions made in 2003

#### PERSONNEL

#### Promoted

Eliza Gilligan, Preservation Services

#### Joined

Lynne Altstatt, NMAI Library
Karen Brown, African Art Library
Erin Clements, New Media Office
Jennifer Cohlman, Cooper-Hewitt Library
Jesse Foley, AA/PG Library
Eric French, Preservation Services
Robert Kearns, Director's Office
Melinda White, NMAI Library
Mary Ann Wilson, NMAH Library

#### Moved

Susan Frampton, to Director's Office Eric French, to Museum Studies Reference Library Michael Hardy, to SIL Annex Barbara Insidioso, to Preservation Services Geoffrey Rinard, to Catalog Management

#### Retired

Larry Baukin, MSC Library Nick Schliapin, Catalog Management Bob Skarr, NMNH Library David Thompson, African Art Library Gladys Tutt, SIL Annex Tad Walendowski, Catalog Management

#### No longer at SIL

Charlotte Mosenthal, Cooper-Hewitt Library Marianne Petrino-Schaad, Museum Studies Reference Library Savannah Schroll, Director's Office

#### THE LIBRARIES IN 2003

20 Branch Libraries
115 Number of staff
20,356 Volumes added to collection (down 7%)
1,510,986 Total volumes held
190,207 Microfilm &-fiche items

**6,960** Journal subscriptions (includes 3,438 gifts)

13,796 Titles cataloged5,529 Book orders placed

13,099 Gift volumes selected for collection

6,693 Volumes bound or boxed720,232 Catalog records in SIRIS

#### GALAXY OF KNOWLEDGE

6,217 Images of collections added to website17,901 Total collection images

#### INFORMATION SERVICE

45,572 Reference questions answered (up 61%)

34,355 Library materials consulted on-site

229,813 Circulation transactions (items checked in or out or renewed)

31,008 First-time borrows of items

8,200 Non-Smithsonian Libraries users (new statistic)

17,604 Interlibrary loans of books and

Books and articles borrowed for SI

16,484

Above: *Biologia centrali-americana*, edited by Frederick DuCane Godman and Osbert Salvin. London, 1879–1915.

Cover: Walter Rothschild. The Avifauna of Laysan and the neighbouring islands with a complete history to date of the birds of the Hawaiian possession, (detail). London: R.H. Porter, 1893–1900.



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