

Gettysburg College
Musselman
Library
friends

VOLUME XVIII, NO. 2 Fall 2017

FROM THE DEAN

By Robin Wagner

Not long ago I enrolled in French 103 and experienced life as a Gettysburg College student. I love Paris. I love French cuisine. I love the sound of the French language. I hate being the ugly American when I go to France and cannot communicate beyond locating the restroom and successfully purchasing bread, cheese and wine.

I longed to have a conversation; to read the descriptions in museums. I imagined expertly selecting from a menu and getting the garden salad I thought I was ordering, instead of shredded rabbit in brown gelatin with flecks of maraschino cherry.

I was excited.

The 8 a.m. class was for beginners who had some French. My new classmates, mostly first year students, were panicked that they might not remember their high school French. Ditto, I thought, but for me that was in 1971! The professor assured me that I'd be perfectly fine, but it would require a lot of homework. And to do my homework I needed a textbook.

My adventure started with sticker shock—my textbook cost \$220. I thought it had to be a mistake; it wasn't even a real book. It was a bunch of flimsy pages shrink-wrapped and triple hole punched. I even had to buy the binder separately. It did come with an individual access code so I could do the audio assignments on my computer.

While I could afford to buy the book, several of my fellow students could not. They borrowed from friends to do the homework. Sometimes they couldn't complete the assignments. One student bought a used textbook; but those don't come with the access code so she couldn't do the listening exercises.

As librarians, we are well aware that when textbooks are unaffordable, academic success can become out of reach. Students often come to the library hoping to borrow a copy of their textbook. Our collection development policy specifically says that we do NOT buy assigned textbooks, since purchasing for all courses each semester is well beyond our budget.

You will read more about the textbook dilemma in this issue [page 5], and learn what our librarians are doing to advocate for the adoption of Open Educational Resources. For example, we are working with professors who want to reduce the cost of course materials. Some adopt open textbooks, which are online and free to read. Others curate a mix of free and library-licensed materials like journal articles and e-books to make their own low-cost or no-cost textbook.

In this issue you also will see how thinking beyond the textbook leads to other ways of incorporating creative educational materials. We are using our collections of art, historic sheet music, personal correspondence, maps and more, to this end.

My foray into French was an eye-opener on many levels, not the least of which was witnessing first-hand the obstacles to learning that high-priced textbooks cause.

On a lighter note, I learned something else: the French would not say *une salade de **jardin***, which sounds too close to ***lapin***, meaning rabbit. *Je voudrais une salade verte—pas de lapin, s'il vous plait.*



ON THE COVER

Our cover features a 1971 oil painting by J.W. Long of the Gettysburg Ice House Complex, located adjacent to the railroad tracks on North Washington Street. It was donated by Stephen "Skip" Olinger, whose parents, George and Mae, owned this property before giving it to the College in 1990. *More on back cover.*

Unless otherwise noted, these new exhibits will be up until June 2018.

Faces of Myanmar

The main floor photography exhibit, "Faces of Myanmar," features 24 images of men, women and children captured by Janet Powers, professor emerita of Interdisciplinary Studies and Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, during a photo safari in December 2014.

At a recent Friends-sponsored lecture, Powers talked about the advantages and disadvantages of a photo safari, and showed her images taken in the regions of Yangon, Bagan and Mandalay, as well as in Buddhist monasteries and the countryside. (*Young monastery initiate.*)



Veiled Compositions

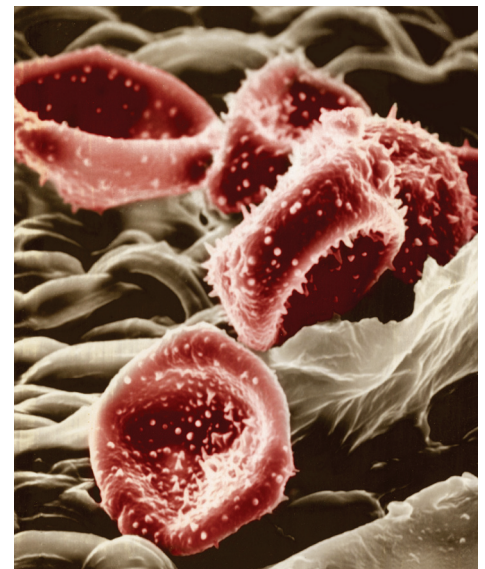
The oil paintings of Anika Schneider '15 are featured in the stairwell gallery. "Veiled Compositions" examines how the media presents news stories, and how the public consumes and processes these stories. She uses thick texture and drips of paint to create veils over subjects to reflect the "haze we must see through to understand events that happen at such a spatial and cultural distance."

Schneider is currently pursuing her MFA at Minneapolis College of Art and Design. (*This is a montage of news from February 10, 2015 that includes the meeting of Haider Al-Abadi and Angela Merkel in Berlin, and the Afghani police headquarters attack.*)



Under the Microscope

Kendall Wright '18, a peer research mentor majoring in biology and French, came to us with an idea for this exhibit (located on the ground floor) after learning that the Science Center holds decades of images developed by students using electron microscopes. Professor Emeritus Ralph Cavaliere, who taught many students how to use these microscopes, came out of retirement to lend her a hand in identifying the photographs. To Wright these are also works of art and she hopes "these strange, fascinating and oddly beautiful images will inspire a new generation of students."



Years of Health

Gettysburg College had a medical school? It did indeed—from 1839 to 1861. *Years of Health* on view in Special Collections displays documents and artifacts from the Pennsylvania College Medical Department. Also included are 19th century rare books about anatomy, physiology, medicine, health and midwifery. Many items were donated by alumnus and internet sleuth Bill Wright '61. (Through August 3, 2018)

Latte with Librarians

Research librarians Meggan Smith '04 and Kevin Moore are taking their skills on the road. Armed with laptops, signage and freebies, they now spend several hours during peak semester study times at The Commons, the coffee shop in the College Union Building. With the support of the Office of Multicultural Engagement, they hand out free latte mugs to those seeking research help. Between the casual setting and their warm personalities, business is growing.

Meggan Smith (left) assists Juliette Sebeck '18 with a research question.



Fun and Games

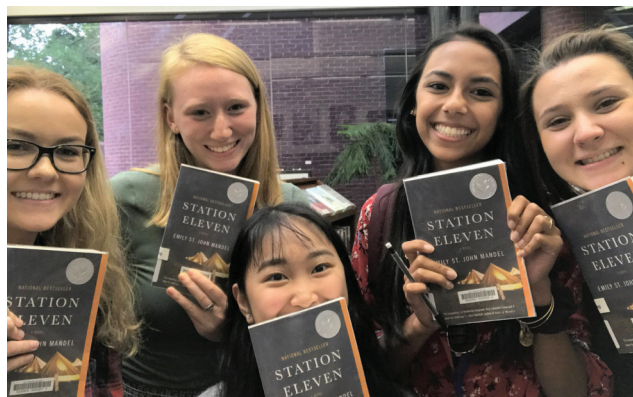
In response to student requests to provide an alternative venue for social gatherings on the weekends, the library has extended its Friday and Saturday hours to 10 p.m. instead of 8 p.m. We purchased a variety of board and card games for in-library use including old favorites like chess and checkers; strategy games like *Go*, *Risk* and *Settlers of Catan*; party games like *Apples to Apples* and new hits like *Exploding Kittens*.

Professor Radi Rangelova also asked us to be the Friday night spot for the Spanish department's bilingual poetry reading during Hispanic Heritage Month.

"I really like this idea so we are giving this a trial run to see if students come," says Director of User Services Natalie Hinton. "It is a way for us to play a visible role in improving campus climate by offering students a place to gather as well as to study." *Sophia Rostock '19 picks a game.*

Charting Your Course

Six hundred first-year students came through our doors during Chart Your Course week. To help them get oriented to the library, students were given fun treasure hunt tasks like finding a favorite DVD, or a specific book, and casually chatting with a librarian. For each mission, they must take selfies as proof of success. Then they are rewarded with freebies like pens, water bottles, and more. Pictured here are (left to right) Anastasia Semenov, Bridget Nusom, Jess Tran, Avani Pandya and Jamie-Lynn Kavanagh who unearthed copies of their summer reading assignment.



TEXTBOOK CRISIS: How Libraries Can Help

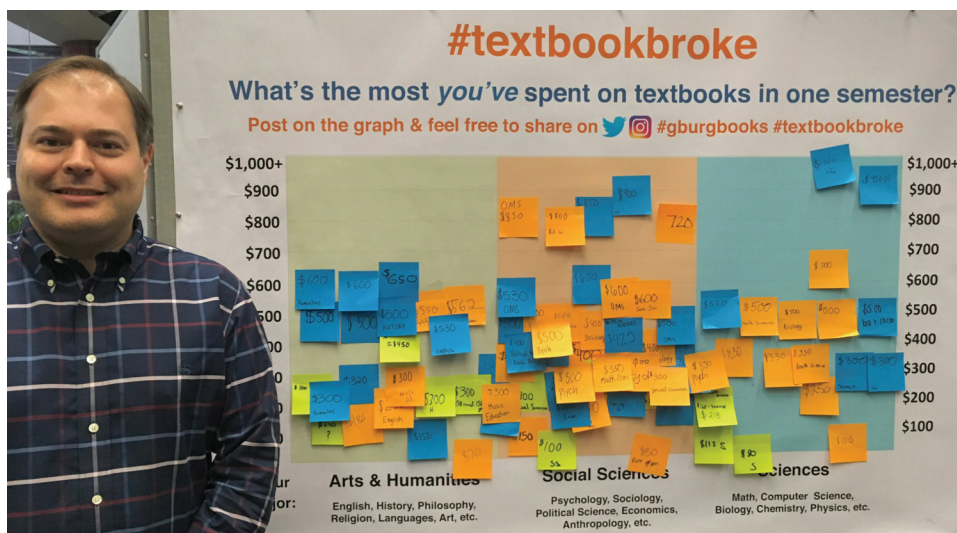
By Chris Barnes, Scholarly
Communications Librarian

With all the news coming out of Washington D.C., it would not be surprising if you missed the reintroduction of the Affordable College Textbook Act in Congress on September 26th, a bill designed to “expand the use of open textbooks in order to achieve savings for students.” But I can assure you that very few librarians failed to note the event, especially those on the frontlines of the “textbook crisis” that is plaguing college campuses. As the new Scholarly Communications Librarian, a big part of my job is raising awareness about the problem of outrageously overpriced textbooks and working to alleviate it by promoting the use of “open” ones, i.e. textbooks with a license that makes them free to download and open to customization.

Receiving assistance from Congress could be a watershed, but the bill has been introduced twice before and failed to advance. Hopefully the third time is the charm because thousands of students are being denied access to the readings professors assign simply because commercial publishers insist on retaining their enormous profit margins.

The situation has become exponentially worse over the last decade, a period during which textbook prices have increased by a whopping 88 percent, outpacing related expenses like room and board or tuition. The problem grows even worse when you realize that student loans do not cover books.

How high can those costs be? The national average is over \$1200 an academic year, or \$600 a semester. It is now common for one textbook to cost more than \$200, and therefore not unusual for students to spend \$1000 on books in a single



*Barnes stands in front of a poster that demonstrates high textbook costs at the College.
This was just one of the many Open Access Week activities for students and faculty.
Learn more at <http://cupola.gettysburg.edu/oaweeek/>.*

semester—especially if they are majoring in a discipline like economics or chemistry where prices are much higher than average.

But students being price gouged is just one side of the crisis. The other is what happens when students can't afford to buy required books. Studies show they use out-of-date editions, attempt to share with friends, drop the class, or enroll in a different section with lower book costs. Imagine a student being forced to decide on a course—or even a major—based on book prices.

That thought is what drives us to plan events like those scheduled for Open Access Week each October. This year, to raise awareness and gather data about the textbook situation here, we used a poster display to query students about the most they have spent on books in one semester. We also displayed open textbooks and Open Educational Resources that have been adopted by faculty in physics, biology and English.

In an online survey, faculty provided feedback on their progress in advancing the cause of open access in their teaching and research. Other events, like webinars and podcasts, were successful in sparking interest and discussion. The next step is turning that interest into action and effecting real change. Stay tuned.



(Above) This poster by Albert Guillaume was originally published in Paris in 1894 to advertise the comedic performance of "Gigolette." It appeared in the July 1896 issue. (right) Artist Henri-Gabriel Ibels' poster was originally published in Paris in 1893. It advertises L'Escarmouche, a weekly anarchist periodical directed by the French writer and satirist Georges Darien.

Bibliothèque: Explore France in the Library

Over the years, we have described many of our English and Asian language resources in Special Collections. We are also home to primary sources that support the other languages and cultures taught at the College. Here are some highlights related to the language, history and culture of France.

While there are a variety of rare books in English on France's history, we also have works in French, such as a 1793 travel narrative on late 18th century France and an illustrated collection of fairy tales c.1890. There are also French translations of classic books like a 1791 edition of Benjamin Franklin's autobiography and a 1912 *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

Recently we unearthed a surprise in our rare book holdings—a 1795 French science fiction book translated into English. In *Memoirs of the Year Two Thousand Five Hundred*, Louis-Sébastien Mercier speculates on what the world will be like in the year 2500. It was a gift from Edred Joseph Pennell, Class of 1912, and now is being used by Professor Caroline Ferraris-Besso's French class "Paris: The Capital of the 19th Century."

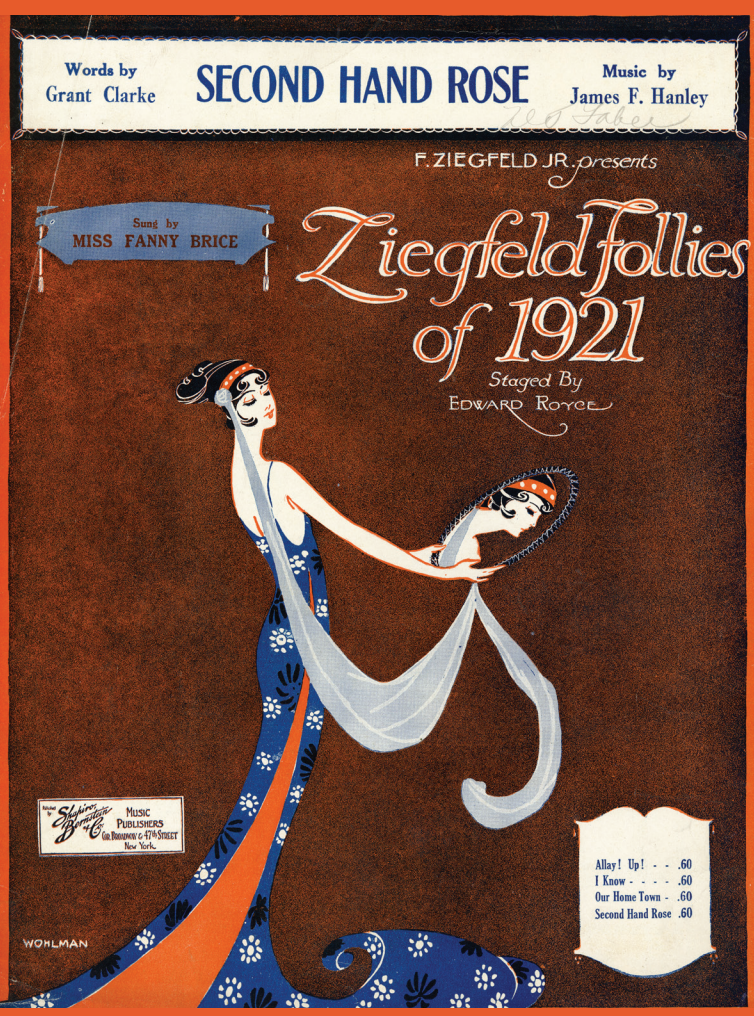
Manuscript collections contain letters, documents and photographs of travels to France especially during the 19th century and both world wars, such as the papers of Amos E. Taylor, Class of 1915, who served with the U.S. Army in France during WWI and stayed on to attend the University of Paris. This collection contains a number of photographs of towns and battles scenes.

Scholars can plot out some of this history using our map collections both in person and online. We have maps from the 16th-19th centuries that depict not just France but French colonial possessions. Professor Florence Jurney plans to use maritime maps from the *J. H. W. Stuckenberg Map Collection* for her unit on Caribbean pirates and the *Lawrence P. Taylor Map Collection* will come in handy helping Ferraris-Besso's students understand the architecture and transportation systems of early Paris.

Our fine art collection also supports the study of France. We recently received a gift from Geoffrey Jackson, Class of 1991, of 12 color lithographs from Jules Chéret's publication *Maîtres de l'Affiche* that exemplify poster art during the Belle Époque in Paris. A few of these already were exhibited in the Schmucker Art Gallery and will be used by art history classes.

Speaking of art, Professor Anne Kearns found the library exhibit on the "Faces of Myanmar" [see page 3] an excellent way to have her students practice their elementary French. Since they had recently learned adjectives describing emotions and colors, as well as nouns related to people and articles of clothing, it was the perfect venue to construct simple sentences aloud: *La fille est heureuse. Elle a une écharpe blanche et bleue*. The girl is happy. She has a white and blue scarf. It might not have been the most sophisticated conversation but it was a perfect blending of learning environments in the library.





GETTDIGITAL SHEET MUSIC

To the musician, sheet music is a collection of notes and symbols meant to be played or sung. To the historian, sheet music is a window into the past.

The library has over 1200 pieces of historic sheet music dating back to the 1830s. Christina Noto '19, a history major and library digital fellow, was drawn to one particular piece that has blossomed into an amazing project. She created a website to explore different aspects of the 1864 composition entitled "*Tramp! Tramp! Tramp! (The Prisoners of Hope)*" by George Frederick Root.

*Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching,
Cheer up, comrades, they will come.
And beneath the starry flag we shall breathe the air again,
Of the free land in our own beloved home.*

"*Tramp*" is written from the perspective of a Union soldier at a Confederate prison camp, possibly Andersonville in Georgia. Noto's website deconstructs different aspects of the song, unravelling the lyrics. For

example, "Tramp, tramp, tramp is the sound of marching," she explained. "If the prisoner was going to be liberated by the Union Army, he would most likely hear the tramping of the boots before he saw the men."

Noto also allows us to examine the cover art in detail. It includes illustrated references to five of Root's other songs and served as a kind of advertisement. The user can zoom in to the top, for instance, enlarging the image of a Thanksgiving feast with a vacant chair to symbolize the son, brother or husband who is fighting in the war, dead or in a prison camp. Noto then links to a recording of the song "*The Vacant Chair*."

There are also sections on her site dedicated to the life of the composer as well as the publishing company. Noto even includes a section called *Inspired by* where you can click on a timeline and listen to other songs written with the same melody as "*Tramp*." View her work at <http://christinanoto.sites.gettysburg.edu/music/>.

Another history major, Caitlin Connelly '17, spent last summer creating a digital archive which we will continue to add to in years to come. Unlike Noto who explored deeply one piece of Civil War music, Connelly did a broad sweep, digitizing a sampling of sheet music from many genres. Each item on her website represents a composer, a publisher or an individual piece of sheet music. When possible, she linked to recordings of the songs, such as Fanny Brice singing *Second Hand Rose* [above]. Her work in progress is at: <http://musselmanlibrary.org/sheet-music/>.

"This project gave me the opportunity to study American history through a unique lens," she explained. "The cover artwork, the lyrics and even the format of the music booklets and the material they were printed on—all shed light on popular culture and everyday life in the 19th and 20th centuries."

Papers Reveal a Chapter in College History

Historians of academic freedom would find the case of Gettysburg Physics Professor Louis A. Parsons (1872-1957) of interest. Thanks to the acquisition of 16 boxes of Parsons' papers, it is possible to reconstruct the circumstances surrounding his forced ouster for causes that, on the face of it, would never be tolerated today.

In 1907, the president of then Pennsylvania College, Samuel S. Hefelbower, was in the midst of an effort to upgrade the College's academic reputation by recruiting PhDs from leading institutions. Among them was Parsons, who held a PhD from Johns Hopkins and was then teaching at the University of California at Berkeley. Parsons was charged with establishing and building a physics program at Gettysburg.

By all measures Parsons did fine work. He mentored students who went on to graduate school and careers in both academics and industry. He was active in his field, presenting papers, publishing articles and actively engaging in professional societies. He also was part of a cohort seeking a Phi Beta Kappa chapter that was finally successful in 1923.

Parsons became a member of the Association of University Professors (AAUP) in 1923 and joined the College chapter when it gained enough members in 1924. The organization had formed nationally in 1915 to "enunciate and defend principles and practices of academic freedom and tenure." Here is where his story gets especially interesting.

It is likely that Parsons joined the AAUP in the midst of an unhappy episode at the College, relating to what he considered to be the unjust



firing of two scientists during the final months of the presidency of William A. Granville. Granville was dismissed by the Board of Trustees for various reasons (not including the firings), and was succeeded by a popular Harrisburg pastor, Henry W.A. Hanson. When Parsons raised the matter of the firings to Hanson, and the Board, he was told in effect to pipe down.

Parsons did not back down on this matter, or on another, relating to the manifestly unhealthy

conditions in the basement of Glatfelter Hall, where, according to College historian Charles Glatfelter, there was no steam heat and "sometimes green mold formed on the walls." Parsons pointed out the "ridiculous inadequate conditions" in which the chemists had to work.

It is not clear exactly what caused Hanson to decide that he had enough of Parsons, but the breaking point was reached in 1925. When Parsons did not back off his insistence on changes, he was dismissed, under the guise that his criticisms of the administration and some of his colleagues were not conducive to "that harmony of spirit which is essential in the obtaining of the best results of the institution."

Parsons went on to head the physics department at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington, where he remained until his retirement.

Special Additions

1862 Autograph Book

Before there were yearbooks, seniors would use autograph books to collect the reminiscences and fond farewells of classmates and professors. The library has purchased the book of Charles Levy, class of 1862. Among the signatures are those of Samuel S. Schmucker, a College founder; Professors H. L. Baugher, M. L. Stoever, C. P. Krauth; and classmates Albert Ebeling [shown] and Frederick Klinefelter, who was Captain of Co. A., 26th Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia.



The Dive

When Diann Cooper recently retired after 37 years at the College, she gave us her mementos from the 1988 opening of The Dive. Located below the swimming pool in the College Union Building, the alcohol-free nightclub displaced the bowling alley as a source of recreation. It offered food, music and live entertainment.

Cooper, who worked in Student Activities at the time, says, "We had such fun creating The Dive, there was a DJ booth, dance floor, bar area [shown] and stage." She gave us photos and promotional items including bottles openers, towels and tee-shirts with a deep-sea diver logo. Today The Dive is located in the Jaeger Fitness Center, still adjacent to the pool, but specializes in healthy food.



Handpainted China

The tiny flowers on this delicate china were painted by Cora Hartman Berkey, the first woman to graduate from Gettysburg (née Pennsylvania) College in 1894. It was a gift to Anna Jane Moyer, librarian emerita, who lived with Cora and her husband, Harvey (class of 1892), when she came to Gettysburg in 1961.

Under the lid, Berkey signed her initials and 1930, the year she painted it. But the more lasting gift was her stories. Moyer has shared both with the library.

"I grew to appreciate and understand her through evenings of conversation shared on her enclosed front porch or her favorite nook in the dining room," says Moyer, who wrote about Berkey in her 2006 book, *To Waken Fond Memory: Moments in the History of Gettysburg College*. "I realized that I was not only coming to know the College, but I was also gaining a sense of its past in a unique way."



Nurse Relays Soldiers' Stories

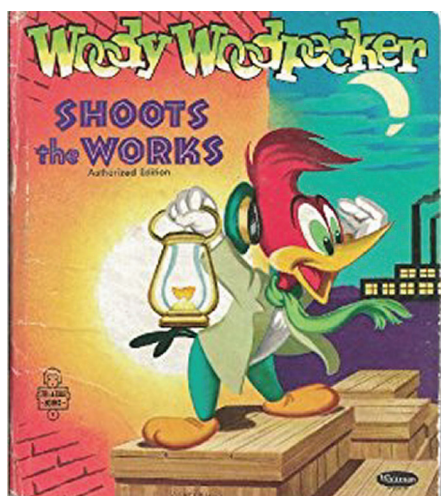
For many wounded soldiers returning from World War I, Nurse Emma West Durkee offered a bit of light after a very dark journey. Durkee [pictured center] worked for the American Red Cross's Department of Military Relief and was assigned to Debarkation Hospital No. 5 in New York City. She not only tended the men, she listened to them. And she recorded their narratives in a typewritten book, which was uncensored by the military.

There were five copies of her book published in 1923; one of which was recently purchased by library. *Uncensored War Stories told to a Red Cross Worker* includes not just these first-person accounts, but also photographs taken by Durkee. It offers an invaluable insight into the Great War.

Last summer Abigail Major '19, our Diane Smith '73 intern, began digitizing the book and creating a finding aid.



FOCUS ON PHILANTHROPY: Christine Benecke



Many of us might not remember what we ate for breakfast but when asked about our introduction to reading, our recall is instantaneous. "It was *Woody Woodpecker Shoots the Works*," said Christine Benecke smiling. "The five and dime in Littlestown sold Whitman Tell-A-Tale and Little Golden Books, and my mother would buy one for us if we behaved. She read it to us so often that one time I suddenly realized the words on the page meant what she was saying. The flame was lit."

It is not just alumni who support the library; employees like Benecke, an associate director of prospect research, also make a difference. "I've always supported the library because it is full of so many wonderful things to read and so much more—magazines, e-books, the Browsing Room, *You've Gotta Read This!*, CDs, videos and special programs," said Benecke who just marked her 25th year here.

In 2010, after reading about our book conservation and internship programs, she set up a payroll deduction to support these activities. "I did it out of pure jealous yearning," she admitted. "To get that kind of mentoring in any field is priceless, but to be able to learn a craft of such beauty and practicality is a great gift." Studying bookbinding has been on her bucket list for years, but in the meantime, she says she's happy to be helping others get the chance.

"I heard a quote once that even if you can never finish the whole work, it is still incumbent upon you to do your part. I'm not able to give a big gift, but I can add my bit to tip the scales."

GETTYSBURG'S ICE HOUSE COMPLEX

This painting captures the Complex in 1971 and while it has been extensively refurbished by the College since then, the character of these historic buildings was preserved. This location had many incarnations before becoming the student housing it is today. Between 1786 and 1990 (when it was given to the College), it has housed a Presbyterian Church and cemetery, a shirt factory, carriage making complex, blacksmith shop, a wood-works plant, a cutlery, a bottling company, two brewing companies, an ice cream factory, an ice and cold storage facility (where it got its name), a roofing business, personal residences and offices.



Gettysburg
COLLEGE

Friends of Musselman Library

300 North Washington Street
Box 420
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325 -1400

717-337-6604 phone
717-337-7001 fax
foml@gettysburg.edu
www.gettysburg.edu/library

Robin Wagner, Dean of the Library
Sunni DeNicola, Newsletter Editor