

The University of Nebraska at Kearney is an Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Institution.

Museum of Nebraska Art

On Display at the Calvin T. Ryan Library

Bill Ray 1936 -

A former staff photographer for *Life* magazine, Bill Ray captured some of the most influential people of his generation. Based in New York, Beverly Hills and Paris, Ray travelled the world documenting major events, wars and great personalities. His photographs have appeared in numerous magazines and been featured in *Newsweek*, the *Smithsonian*, and *Life*. His work has also been exhibited and sold in prestigious galleries.

Born and raised in Shelby, Nebraska, Ray was interested in photography from a very young age, which his parents supported and encouraged. His photojournalism career began at the *Lincoln Star Journal* the day after graduating high school. As a young staff photographer, at the same time attending the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, he snapped newsworthy images ranging from visiting presidential candidates to university cheerleaders and area dignitaries.

In 1957 he was offered a freelance photographer position for *Life* magazine; by 1964 he was their staff photographer. He remained with the magazine until *Life* ceased publication in 1972. A collection of prints are currently on display in the lounge and entrance of the library.



Jacqueline Kennedy, 1960

IN BRIEF

Calvin T. Ryan Library Newsletter

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Plus ça Change, Plus C'est La Même Chose

Michael Sutherland, Web Services Librarian

In the last issue of *In Brief*, we introduced changes underway at the library, including new staff. However, with commencement and graduation this spring, I am reminded of the epigram by Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr above, literally translated, 'the more it changes, the more it's the same.'

This semester, like those before it, flew by. It seemed as though we were just observing the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and the next moment, we're recognizing graduates and holding commencement. Another year, another graduation. Much of what we have come to expect during the course of a semester happened in between, of course. Chili cook-offs, research, teaching, reference, buying books, National Poetry Month, National Library Week, meetings, and projects we have started and are working on. In many respects, 'the same thing' that we have been doing since the very first semester as Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney.

The University Archives & Special Collections in the library, is an excellent place that bridges time and provides connections between where the institution has been and the present. As a guardian of the collective history of our institution, we can see how things have changed, and yet remained the same. A good example of this was this year's 36th annual Bike Bowl. A tradition that had been on a 14-year hiatus made it's return for the second straight year on April 25th at the UNK Safety Center. The Bike Bowl began as a multi-day event in 1967. In addition to the 25 mile team race, the Bike Bowl also featured a tricycle race. The 1967 Blue and Gold touted the event as a 'huge success', with 84 riders participating in the 25 mile team race. The University Archives has a number of photographs and flyers from previous Bike Bowls. Many of the images, such as the one above, date from the 1989 Bike Bowl, with a scattering of images from other years. Unfortunately, the riders featured in the photographs are unidentified. If you have information about past Bike Bowls such as photographs and who is in them, or other items, please contact Laurinda Weisse, University Archivist. She would love to have that information along with photos to fill in missing years.



1989 Bike Bowl

Although things do change and how we do things may be different than in the past with the introduction of new technology and new people, we still endeavor to meet the same goal; specifically, to meet the information and research needs of students, staff, and faculty.

Jaycees Soup or Chili Bowl Cookoff

On Friday, January 23rd at the UNK Health and Sports Center, the Kearney Jaycees hosted a favorite community event, the 'Soup or Chili Bowl' cookoff. All proceeds from the event went to the Jaycees Scholarship Fund for Buffalo County High School seniors who have applied to UNK.

This year, a team from the library competed in the cook-off, with their entry "Charlie's Chocolate Chili". With the theme of 'Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory' the team dressed up as Oompa Loompas, serving chili to tasters, and taking 'home' the prize for 'Best Presentation/Theme'. The team pictured below from left to right: Kate Freeman, Lacey Rodgers, Mary Heater, Dee Urwiller, Julia Powell, Rochelle Krueger, and Sally Sinor.



Library Oompa Loompas

Library Celebrates National Poetry Month

Poet and Professor Emeritus Don Welch stood before an audience at the Calvin T. Ryan Library, Wednesday April 22nd and read selections from his newest book of poetry - *Homing*. The reading was well attended.



Professor Emeritus Don Welch

The author of 18 books of poetry and regular contributor to literary magazines, Professor Welch was an English professor at UNK from 1959 to 1997. Although officially retired in 1997, he continued to teach various poetry, literature and philosophy courses and be an avid reader and writer of poetry. More than 300 of his poems have appeared in magazines, journals, and anthologies throughout the United States.

While at UNK, Professor Welch was awarded the Distinguished Paul W. Reynolds and Clarice Kingston Reynolds Endowed Chair in English Poetry and Creative Writing. His national honors include the Pablo Neruda Prize for Poetry, judged by the poet William Stafford.

Award for Outstanding Library Research

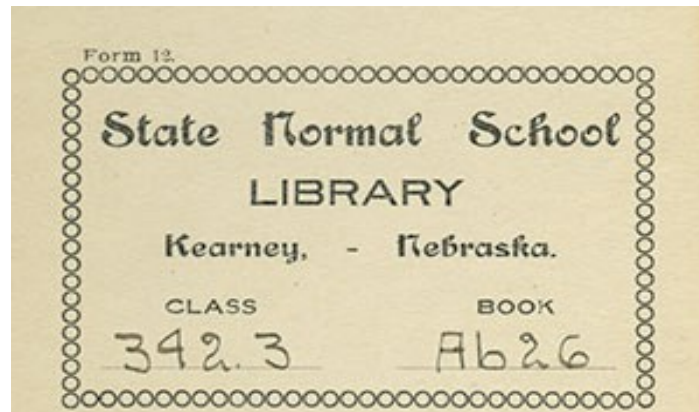
Michael Sutherland, Web Services Librarian

In conjunction with the office of Undergraduate research and Creative Activity, The Calvin T. Ryan Library Award for Undergraduate Research recognizes and honors excellence in the use of library services, collections, and resources by an undergraduate student researcher. The 2015 award was presented to Shaun Friedrichsen during this April's Student Research Day for his work in the English Department entitled '*Accepting the Bitter Reality: an examination of the poetry of Stephen Crane.*'

Kearney State Normal School Project

Sally Sinor, Project Archivist

From 1905 to 1921, the Institution that we know today as the University of Nebraska at Kearney existed as Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney. The Library was housed in the Administration building and was run by Anna V. Jennings who had a Bachelor's Degree in Library Science from the University of Illinois. In 1919, the June Quarterly Bulletin reported sixteen thousand four hundred and forty-three volumes in the Library. Since that time the University Library Collection has grown and transformed; books have been weeded out, but some of those original books still remain within the stacks and still being utilized



Nebraska State Normal School Bookplate

by the University population. No record has been kept, however, of which books are from this original Nebraska State Normal School Collection. The only way to identify them is by bookplates and rubber stamp markings.

This spring, with the aide of student workers, a survey was undertaken to estimate how many of Nebraska State Normal School books still remain in the University Library Collection. 65 columns in the stacks were randomly chosen and 5%, or roughly 11,500 books, were reviewed. Of those, 230 were found to be marked Nebraska State Normal School. This summer a survey of the entire University Library Collection will be undertaken to identify the whole of the remaining Nebraska State Normal School Collection.

National Library Week

Laurinda Weisse, University Archivist

Sponsored by the American Library Association, National Library Week in April is 'a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support.' We celebrated National Library Week by taking a look back at our first librarian, Anna Jennings, for whom the Jennings Room on the second floor of the Calvin T. Ryan Library is named.

Miss Jennings started the library at the Nebraska State Normal School. Over her 34 year tenure, she built a 43,000 volume collection from scratch worth more than \$100,000 in 1939 dollars, \$1.7 million in today's terms. The library featured open, browsable stacks, which were rare in that era. Most other academic librarians allowed only librarians and assistants to access the book shelves. Under Miss Jennings's reign, the college became one of the first to offer library instruction, long before the text books on the subject were available. By 1917, each junior was required to enroll in Library Methods, a one credit class in which "the organization and care of the school library is discussed, and special helps for teachers are given". While we no longer have such a course, the librarians at UNK continue to teach students how to effectively use available library resources, albeit emphasizing databases and online resources over memorization of call number ranges.

The UNK Archives has most of the booklets written by Miss Jennings for student instruction. These publications feature many gems but also highlight how the core aspect of librarianship has remained stable over time. The 1917 Handbook of the Library emphasizes, "If you cannot find the information wanted, do not hesitate to ask for help; the watchword of the library is SERVICE. Do not forget, however, that the best part of an education is the ability gained through self help". Today, students can get help from librarians in a number of modalities, all linked from our Ask a Librarian web page.

In addition to her guides for students, Jennings wrote extensively on books for rural school libraries. The bulletins are primers on basic librarianship. They include everything from book recommendations broken out by grade level to directions on caring for books and which suppliers are best. Beyond books, Jennings emphasized the importance of music, writing that "music is one of the great social forces in rural community life. Real community music means participation by everyone. Boys and girls singing with their fathers and mothers will establish a common bond and lessen the lure of city life". To support this, she recommends the purchase of a Victrola along with records from her supplied list.

Throughout her career, Anna Jennings provided loving service to the college and the community. She participated in the Nebraska Library Association, gave talks to the community about her travels, and influenced numerous students. We have several Special Collections books

inscribed to Miss Jennings, describing "happy hours spent under her watchful eye". She was a remarkable woman who gave the library a strong beginning. We strive to continue what she started.

Support the Calvin T. Ryan Library

Gifts that Strengthen Collections — Do the books you love need a new home? They may be just what is needed to enhance the library collection. We are especially interested in books and other materials with a UNK, Nebraska, or Great Plains connection. See this site for details: <http://library.unk.edu/about/giving.php>.

Provide Financial Support — Private financial support is vital to creating a margin of excellence at the Calvin T. Ryan Library. Your gifts assist in bringing valuable collections of information to the library, as well as creating a physical environment which compliments learning for all library users. Gifts supporting the library are tax deductible and are handled by the University of Nebraska Foundation, a 501(c) (3) corporation. For more information, please contact the University of Nebraska Foundation's Kearney office at P.O. Box 2678, 214 W. 39th St., Kearney, NE 68848; or call 308-698-5270; or give online at <http://bit.ly/UNKLibraryFund>.

Buy a book for the library — Looking for a gift idea for that special graduate? Want to thank a professor, parents, friend for their help? Want to let UNK know what a special place it is? Look no further — Buy a Book for the Library.

With a gift to Buy a Book, a bookplate with a personalized message will be placed in each new book purchased by the library. The bookplate will include the name of the donor and the name of anyone the donor chooses to honor or recognize. A copy of the personalized message and a letter of acknowledgement will be sent to the donor and, when possible, the honoree or the honoree's family. The information will also appear in the library's online catalog of materials.

To support the Buy a Book program, visit nufoundation.org/unkbuyabook. To learn more or to request a brochure, contact Anne McConkey at the University of Nebraska Foundation at 308-698-5282 or amconkey@nufoundation.org.

In Brief is a publication of the Calvin T. Ryan Library, University of Nebraska Kearney. It is designed to keep friends of the library informed about library changes and events. Its production is overseen by the Library Publications Committee. Current members are:

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