



Library Happenings

THE PRIZE IS THE THING...OR IS IT?

April is a month of many celebrations. It is National Library Week, National Poetry Month, Animal Cruelty Prevention Month, National Grilled Cheese Sandwich Month, National Humor Month, and about twenty five other observances. It is also the month when the Pulitzer Prizes are announced.

There is a strange fascination for lists--all kind of lists. Book lists are always in demand. Just do a quick scan through Amazon and note all the book lists that have been compiled and made available to all of us list junkies. I admit that I early await the announcements of the Pulitzers, a most distinguished award, originally designed for journalism. The National Book Award has become a coveted prize for some years, and the library world has a host of book awards, the best known of which are probably the Newbery and Caldecott awards for children's books.

I am always amazed when the list of award winners comes out that I am so totally unfamiliar with many of the books. Since I read hundreds of book reviews any given week and consider myself fairly aware of developments in the industry, this always makes me feel rather inadequate. The criteria and the guidelines for these awards differ in

every case. For some, the books are nominated by publishers. Booksellers nominate some, book critics nominate some -- it is therefore not surprising that we get a mixed bag. More surprising is the large number of very worthy books that are never even considered for a prize.

I recently noted on the web site of an antiquarian dealer a list of ten Pulitzer Prize-winning novels that are long forgotten. These went back in time to as early as 1923 and as late as 1997. Out of the ten named, I knew about half. The current asking price for some of the most unfamiliar brought extremely high ticket amounts, the highest being a book titled *Honey in the Horn*, by H. L. Davis, published in 1935 and priced at \$3500. I decided that I would see how many of these books were in Beaman Library, and to my great delight, we had all but one. The missing one was the most recent, and I am almost certain I recall purchasing that book. We would normally buy a Pulitzer winner as a matter of policy. Since it now brings a replacement sum of \$2000, I likely won't replace that one soon.....

We are especially proud that we hold virtually all of the Newbery and Caldecott Award books. These were made available through memorial gifts for Margaret Meador and Alberta

Morrell, mothers of Barbara Morrell Meador and the late Dr. Prentice A. Meador, Jr. This is an especially valued and cherished collection and one that has and will benefit our students for many years. Prizes are one way that the worth of a book may be measured. But the greatest measure of the worth of a book is in the eyes and mind of the reader.

Carolyn Wilson
Director
Beaman Library



**Celebrate
May!**

NASHVILLE AUTHOR HIGHLIGHTS ANNUAL FRIENDS OF BEAMAN LIBRARY EVENT

The week before Easter was a busy week on campus and it was an especially busy one for the Beaman Library as we celebrated with our Friends in a beautiful and informative program. Special thanks to our Student Government Association, to D. J. Farris, to the Academic Committee of the SGA, and to all the students who hosted and helped with the evening. Our Friends always find it especially significant that this event is supported by our students who see a need for library resources that meet their needs.

Recognition was given to the SGA members who conceived and implemented the first Friends of Beaman Library, Lincoln Rogers and Grant Mullins. Lincoln, who is currently a student in the College of Pharmacy, came up with the

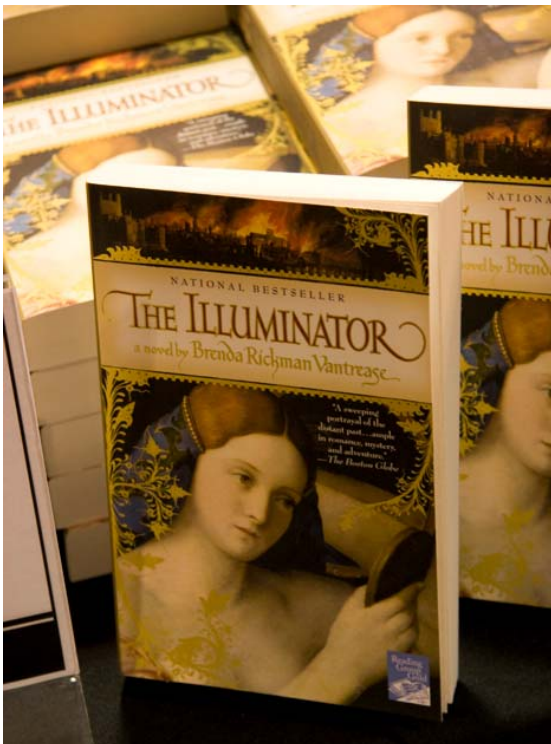
designation of our library supports as "Beaman Library Pillars". Grant Mullins lives in the DC area and is an aide to Senator Corker.

Author Brenda Vantrease, who was a librarian for many years, has spent the last ten years of her life fulfilling her dream to write. And write she has done, and most successfully. Her first book, *The Illuminator*, was set in medieval England and her plot is focused on the Lollard movement and John Wycliffe. It was praised as an "accomplished first novel", was translated into fourteen foreign languages, and was a Booksense pick in 2007 and on their list of books recommended for book clubs. This book was followed by *The Mercy Seller*, following the thread of the story in the first book, but taking place in Prague and France and England during the time of the

Lollard persecution and the influence of Jan Hus.

A third book is with the publisher and expected to be released in late 2009 or early 2010. This book focuses on Tudor England and the English Reformation and will be eagerly awaited.

Appreciation goes to the creative Beaman Library staff who beautifully orchestrated displays on the medieval culture, illuminated manuscripts and costume. As our Friends came in and enjoyed the food on the reception table, they were entertained by lilting recorder music of the period performed by Grace Bates, niece of our librarian Elizabeth Heffington. We are grateful to all who made the evening so enjoyable for us and our Friends of Beaman Library.



The Illuminator by Brenda Rickman Vantrease



Medieval Display



Author Brenda Vantrease



SGA President D. J. Farris



President Lowry



Grace Bates



Brenda Vantrease discussing her book with student Daniella Burke



LIBRARY ACQUIRES IRA NORTH ARCHIVES

Recently announcement was made by the university of the Ira and Avon North Scholarship Fund. This scholarship, begun by the late Ira and Avon North, continues through the generosity of the three surviving North children, Steve North, Phillip North, and Dolley North Rennie. In addition to the scholarship, Beaman Library will be the repository for the Ira North Archives. This material, which is comprised of documents, letters, papers, sermons, and a large number of audio and video tapes, will be a rich collection for researchers of the future.

Ira North was a member of the Lipscomb faculty for 22 years. He was a colorful and noted leader in the Nashville community in the area of religion, communication, and civic affairs. As minister of the Madison Church of Christ, he led the church of 450 members to a membership of 5000 at the time of his death in 1984. He was a bold and courageous advocate for many controversial causes and was never afraid to take a stand for what he believed was right and just. At Lipscomb, experiencing a class under Ira North was an unforgettable memory, and alumni throughout the country attest

to his continued influence on their lives.

The North archives will be a part of other significant holdings in the Beaman Library Archives. Currently the archives of former President Willard Collins, and Dr. Batsell Barrett Baxter, both prominent preachers as well as Lipscomb faculty, also are listed among our collections. The addition of the North material will give researchers an important insight into the history of the Churches of Christ and of Lipscomb University covering a substantial era in Tennessee.

MEMORIAL AND HONOR GIFTS OF BEAMAN LIBRARY

DECEMBER 2008–MARCH 2009

Helen H. Howell

Forrest W. Howell

Dr. Prentice A. Meador, Jr.

Mrs. Carolyn T. Wilson

Mr. & Mrs. James R. Byers III

Dr. & Mrs. Fletcher Srygley

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Morrell

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Shivers

Mrs. Bernie W. Arnold

Dr. & Mrs. W. Craig Bledsoe

Rena Carolyn Rogers

Stan Morrell

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Morrell

Lewis & Alberta Morrell

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Morrell

Mrs. Barbara Meador

Joseph Harwell

Mrs. Jo Ann Harwell

Carolyn & Frank Maddux

Rena Carolyn Rogers

Thelma Leake Woodall

Rena Carolyn Rogers

Mrs. Perry (Ned) Gregory

Rena Carolyn Rogers

Mrs. Anne D. Cullum (in honor of)

Rena Carolyn Rogers

Mrs. Gail Srygley (in honor of)

Rena Carolyn Rogers

Mrs. Jean Brown Waggener (in honor of)

Rena Carolyn Rogers

Prentice & Margaret Meador

Mrs. Barbara Meador

Norman Randolph Parks

Parks Charitable Trust

William P. Deese Jr.

Melvin Potts

Carolyn T. Wilson (in honor of)

Justin Scott

James Muncie Ward

Carolyn T. Wilson

Jennifer Wilson Rust