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The Flyleaf

Friends of Fondren Library Vol. 44, No. 2

Winter 1994



Flying for Fondren Gala The "Ariel" From The Anderson Collection



A Letter to the Friends

Dear Friends.

On April 9, 1994, we will be "Flying for Fondren". We invite you to join us that evening at Cohen House on the Rice campus for a festive evening as we honor Ben and Mary Anderson and acknowledge their extraordinary generosity to Rice.

In 1986, Mr. Anderson gave his extensive aeronautical collection of books and related materials to the library. There are between 3,500 and 3,800 books, pamphlets, bound periodicals, albums, scrapbooks, clippings, and photographs, models of airplanes, kites, and lantern slides.

Mr. Anderson put together his collection over 20 years. He has covered the history of manned flight from the dreams of Leonardo da Vinci to the beginning of the Space Age. To build this collection, Mr.

Anderson consulted bibliographies and antiquarian catalogs, worked with dealers in the United States and England, and traveled extensively.

In the soaring spirit of this gift and the many others of the Andersons, we are planning a grand celebration. Please join us for our annual fundraiser for the Friends of Fondren Library Endowment Fund. For further information, call 285-5157 and come fly with us.

Cordially,

Sally K. Reynolds

Chairman, Fondren Saturday Night

FONDREN LIBRARY

Founded under the charter of the university dated May 18, 1891, the library was established in 1913. Its present building was dedicated November 4, 1949, and rededicated in 1969 after a substantial addition, both made possible by gifts of Ella F. Fondren, her children, and the Fondren Foundation and Trust as a tribute to Walter William Fondren. The library celebrated its half-millionth volume in 1965 and its onemillionth volume on April 22, 1979.

THE FRIENDS OF FONDREN LIBRARY

The Friends of Fondren Library was founded in 1950 as an association of library supporters interested in increasing and making better known the resources of Fondren Library at Rice University. The Friends, through members' contributions and sponsorship of a program of memorials and honor gifts, secure gifts and bequests, and provide funds for the purchase of rare books, manuscripts, and other materials that are needed to support teaching and research at the university.

THE FLYLEAF

Founded October 1950 and published quarterly by the Friends of Fondren Library, Rice University, P.O. Box 1892, Houston, Texas 77251-1892. *The Flyleaf* is a record of Fondren Library's and Friends' activities, and of the generosity of the library's supporters.



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Cover photograph from *L' Aéronautique des origines à 1992*, from the Anderson Aeronautical Collection, Woodson Research Center. See story on page 2.

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Photograph of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson courtesy of Mary Anderson Abell. Photographs by Betty Charles

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Donors:



Mr. and Mrs. Ben Anderson to be Honored at "Flying For Fondren" Gala

by Dorothy Knox Howe Houghton

If I lying for Fondren" is the theme of the Fondren Saturday Night gala on April 9, 1994. The gala honors Mary Greenwood Anderson and Benjamin Monroe Anderson, donors of the extensive Anderson Aeronautical Collection housed in the Woodson Research Center.

Mrs. Anderson, who graduated from Rice in 1938 with a degree in biology, English, and sociology, celebrated her 55th class reunion in 1993. Eight members of her family graduated from Rice, including all four of her siblings. Mr. Anderson graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 1939 with a B. A. degree in geology.

Mrs. Anderson is a native Houstonian. Mr. Anderson is a native Oklahoman, who moved to Houston in 1928. Both of their families have been deeply involved in the business, social, cultural,

medical, civic, and educational activities of Houston. Mrs. Anderson's father, Dr. James Greenwood, established one of the first private hospitals for mental illness in Texas. The Greenwood Sanitarium for Nervous and Mental Disorders was south of the Rice Institute, at Old Main Street Road (now Fannin) and Old Spanish Trail. The sanitarium operated there from 1912 until 1951.

Mr. Anderson's father, Frank E. Anderson, his uncle, Monroe Dunaway Anderson, and their brother-in-law, William L. Clayton, founded Anderson, Clayton and Company in 1904 in Oklahoma City. Another brother-in-law, Benjamin Clayton, joined the company a few years later.

In 1916, the company moved its headquarters to Houston and became one of the largest cotton brokerage companies in the world.

Donors cont'd.

In 1936, Monroe D. Anderson established the M. D. Anderson Foundation "to benefit the public, advance knowledge, and alleviate human suffering". In 1942, the foundation bought 134 acres next to Hermann Hospital for a state cancer hospital to be run by the University of Texas. This was the beginning of the Texas Medical Center.

Benjamin Monroe Anderson, his brotherin-law, Marvin Greenwood (Rice '37), and Lomis Slaughter, Jr., founded Anderson, Greenwood and Company in 1940 to build light airplanes. World War II stymied this effort, and the three men went to Seattle to work on airplanes for the Boeing Company--then supplying airplanes to Britain.

In 1945, when the war was over, these men returned to Houston, and reactivated Anderson, Greenwood. The company continued to build light airplanes and did aeronautical engineering under contract for other companies. Anderson Greenwood then began to manufacture specialty valves. In 1986, before Keystone International bought Anderson, Greenwood, the company was among the 100 largest public companies in Houston. Passion for Airplanes

Although their business changed, Mr. Anderson and Mr. Greenwood never gave up their passion for airplanes. Mr. Anderson became an avid collector of books, paintings, watercolors, and memorabilia relating to aeronautics. He sought the help of a Royal Air Force pilot from World War II, F. E. Prince, to build the collection of historical materials, many of British origin, which comprise the Anderson Aeronautical Collection housed in the Fondren Library today.

In addition to his business and collecting interests, Mr. Anderson has been an active member of Christ Church Cathedral. He has served as chairman of the Houston Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society and as president of the Huntington's Chorea Foundation.

Mrs. Anderson was a founding member and devoted volunteer in the early years of the Friends of Fondren Library, along with her friends Florence Bryan Cook, Katherine Tsanoff Brown, and Margie Dudley Cashman. In 1966, along with Mrs. Albert Bel Fay and Mrs. Tom Martin Davis, she was instrumental in acquiring the bronze bust of Dr. Radoslav Tsanoff now on display in the

Fondren Library. Her involvement with local libraries began when she served on the board of the Friends of the Houston Public Library.

After Mrs. Anderson helped organize the Friends of Fondren, her life-long friend, Dr. Lillo Crain, urged Mrs. Anderson, Dr. William Seybold, and P. F. Graves to organize the Friends of the Texas Medical Center Library, of which Mrs. Anderson was the first president.

Mrs. Anderson has served on the Rice University Fund Council and the Class of '38 Scholarship Committee. An avid gardener, in 1979 she donated 78 holly bushes to Rice in memory of Salvatore Martino (known as Tony), the university's head gardener until his death. In the community she has been involved in many civic organizations, including the Junior League of Houston, the River Oaks Garden Club, the Southern Garden Club, and the Committee for Southeast Texas of the National Cathedral Association. She has also served as president of the Ladies Parish Association of Christ Church Cathedral.

Charter Members

The Andersons are charter members of the William Marsh Rice Society and Contributing Life Members of the Rice Associates. Mr. Anderson was a member of the Rice University Fund Council – Major Gifts Committee (1991-93). In 1987, the Andersons established an endowment fund to support the James and Ella Harris Greenwood Laboratory for Basic Medical Science in the George R. Brown Hall, the Benjamin M. and Mary Greenwood Anderson Chair in Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, and a research grant for the Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology. This was in addition to a fund in honor of James and Ella Greenwood that they endowed in 1975.

The Ben Andersons and others created a third fund in memory of Marvin Greenwood, which will be used to support mechanical engineering. The Andersons contributed to the construction of the Alice Pratt Brown Hall and regularly support the Shepherd Society, the Rice Design Alliance, and the Friends of Fondren Library.

In 1989, Mr. Anderson received the Texas Library Association's Philanthropic Award in recognition of his support of Fondren Library.

Fruit Box In Allen Center Basement Yields Mr. Rice's Papers

by Karen Hess Rogers

e have probably all had our special box, basket, or drawer of miscellaneous papers and correspondence that we never got around to filing or throwing out and it usually is a totally random collection of personal memorabilia. So, I suppose, it should have come as no surprise to discover a fruit box containing a variety of William Marsh Rice's papers in a corner of the basement of Allen Center. Some of these were Mr. Rice's personal and business communications and some were documents relating to his estate. This fruit box had followed the business office of the Institute from the Scanlan and Esperson Buildings downtown to the Administration Building on campus in 1945. Then the box was moved to Allen Center when the building was completed in 1967. While several people knew vaguely of the existence of these materials, no one guessed the significance of some of them. In July 1993, the staff of the Woodson Research Center in the Fondren Library asked me to talk with the Treasurer's office to transfer them to the more secure setting of the library. The Treasurer's Office said yes, and the first delivery took place in my children's 1985 station wagon.

A second archival transfer took place a couple of months later. This consisted in the form of vintage filing cabinets containing information on Rice's landholdings. The business managers of the university still have occasion to refer to these.

The Fruit Box

The fruit box yielded many treasures but first had to be fumigated, having suffered over the years the effects of floods, roaches, rats, and mold. Staff members in Woodson are still making a detailed inventory. But some of the fascinating discoveries are personal letters between Mr. Rice and his relatives, land grants and abstracts (one signed by Sam Houston), reports of the daily operation of the Rice ranch, documents relating to (Cont'd. on next page)



Mr. Wm M. Rice No. 500 Madison Ave. New York, N.Y. Dear Sir

As funds will be a little scarce with us about the 30th of this month, the date the interest note for \$750.00 is due to you, if not asking to much we would ask that you hold it over for 30 days, are paying you interest on it for that time, if you can do this please let us know and also notify the bank in Houston.

Yours Truly

Sabine Tram Co. Per Geo. M. Smyth Pres.

Collections cont'd.

the Rice and Capitol Hotels, and daily gauge reports from the Rincon Oil Field.

An inventory of the Capitol Hotel in 1900 lists, among other things, furniture, noting its condition. Room No. 425 boasted of "1 bed - old, 1 carpet - old, 1 washstand - old, 2 mattresses - very old".

There is a letter from Captain James A. Baker to Mr. Rice about the attempted takeover of the Magnolia Brewery by Mr. Busch of St. Louis who was trying to "break down the Magnolia Brewery and then buy its stock at his own figures". A price war had broken out, and Captain Baker's and Mr. Rice's solution was to hold down production costs to withstand Mr. Busch's fierce competition.

A linen map from 1893 shows the original proposed site for the Rice Institute where Louisiana intersects Pease, Leeland, and Bell. The downtown YMCA now occupies that location.

A handwritten translation of title for two leagues of land in the town of San Felipe de Austin on the 19th of July, 1824, describes John Austin, "a native of the United States of America and actual resident of this Province of Texas...that having emigrated to said place, with the intention to settle in the Colonial settlement of the Empresario Estevan F. Austin authorized by the Superior Government of the Mexican Nation".

Architect's Papers Added to Collection

by Elizabeth Hutcheson Carrell

he Woodson Research Center recently procured the papers of a Houston architect, William Addison McElroy (1897-1991), into its Alumni Collection. Mr. McElroy, a Rice graduate (1922), practiced architecture in the Houson area until the late 1950's. His projects included private residences in Tanglewood and River Oaks and a series of local churches, notably Saint Andrew's Presbyterian in Houston, the Bellaire Presbyterian Church, and Presbyterian churches in Corsicana and Baytown.

Mr. McElroy was descended from a long line of Presbyterian ministers and remained active in the church throughout his life. His father, the Rev. Samuel Addison McElroy, served as pastor to Presbyterian communities in Kentucky, Alabama, Missouri, and Texas. As a result, Addison and his siblings moved often, but always within the security of small-town life in the South where the local minister occupied a position of authority.

Samuel Addison McElroy, whose papers are included in the collection, was a popular and respected figure in the Presbyterian church. Born in 1860 to a prominent Louisville family, Samuel Addison McElroy studied at Centre College and later Princeton Theological Seminary where he took a degree. His earliest memories include the



William Addison McElroy

sight of Union troops marching through Louisville while he waved an American flag which an enthusiastic bystander had placed in his hand.

"We all went to the fence," he later said,
"and were having such a good time when my
mother, as mad as I ever saw her, came rushing
out and drove the rest away, took the flag from my
hand, dashed it to the ground and spanking me in
good fashion carried me into the house."

(Cont'd. on next page)

Collections cont'd.

The papers of Samuel Addison McElroy comprise one of the most interesting aspects of the collection. In addition to his role as an industrious small-town pastor, he wrote poetry and prose for several Presbyterian publications. His scrapbooks and diaries describe the concerns and activities of a typical Southern community in the last quarter of the 19th century and the first quarter of the 20th. Anyone with an interest in rural churches in the South during this period would find much in the papers of Samuel Addison McElroy, including an autobiography in manuscript form written in colorful style.

William Addison McElroy attended Austin College in Sherman, Texas, where he received his B.A. before taking an architecture degree at Rice. It was while he was a student at Rice that he met his future wife, Alma Millican, then an undergraduate. Mr. McElroy served in the armed forces during World Wars I and II. During the Second World War, he acted as military governor for the Allies in

Aachen, Germany. His letters from this period illuminate military and civil history as the Allies pushed deep into German territory.

William Addison McElroy and Alma Millican McElroy had four children, two of whom took degrees at Rice University. David B. McElroy (Rice '56) is a professor of history at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. His professional interests motivated the family to preserve the McElroy papers at the Woodson Research Center. The McElroy children, David B. McElroy, C. Addison McElroy (Rice '47), Ann McElroy Anderson, and Catherine McElroy Kennon donated a special fund to the library to honor their parents. The fund purchases books about architecture, horticulture, landscape architecture, poetry, and the history of World War II.

The McElroy papers include a wealth of genealogical material about the McElroy family and the Pinckney family, Charleston, South Carolina, whose descendants include Eloise Richter, wife of Samuel Addison McElroy.

Notices to the Friends

Lecture Notice:

All Friends of Fondren Library are invited to attend the 1994 Harold and Margaret Rorschach Lectures in Legal History. This year's presentations are by a husband and wife, the eminent historians Professors Natalie Hull and Peter Hoffer. Both will lecture at Rice University on March 17.

Professor Hull, a historian and lawyer from Rutgers University, will speak on "The Paper Chase: Historians and Access to Lawyers' Files," at 4:00 p.m. in Rayzor Hall 110. She is the author of, among other books, Fenale Felous: Women and Serious Crime in Colonial Massachusetts (1987).

An historian from the University of Georgia, Professor Hoffer will speak on "The Diviners", an inquiry into the ministers, civil magistrates, and the issue of admissible evidence in the Salem Witchcraft cases, at 7:30 p.m. in Sewall Hall 309. Hoffer's most recent book is *The Law's Conscience: Equitable Constitutionalism in America* (1990).

For further information call 527-6086.

Tax Notice:

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, known as OBRA '93 has many changes that affect donors and not-for-profit organizations. Gifts of appreciated property by any taxpayer may now be deducted at fair market value. Donors must now substantiate any contributions over \$250. Usually the charity will furnish a written acknowledgement. The three percent "floor" on charitable deductions remains in effect. For further clarification of the law and how it affects the individual see your tax advisor.

Erratum

In the Letter to the Friends in the Fall issue of *The Flyleaf* it was stated that "Brunch on October 23rd was presented to Robert L. Patten, Ph.D.". It should have read "The service award was presented to Robert L. Patten, Ph.D., at the brunch on October 23rd."

Events:



Julie Browning at work

Director Of Admission Explains The Process

by David S. Elder

J ulie Browning, Rice's director of admission, spoke at the Friends' meeting on November 3, 1993. Publicity about Rice, particularly in Money magazine, has caused the number of applications to increase dramatically in the past few years. Ms. Browning told the meeting that Rice has not always enjoyed an increase in undergraduate applications.

Before 1965, Rice attracted a steady pool of qualified applicants without significant promotion. After Rice began charging tuition that year, the number of applications to Rice declined for several years. The Admission Office responded by actively promoting Rice in the high schools, just as other universities do. After publicizing Rice's academic reputation and low cost, applications then increased above historical levels.

Ms. Browning said Rice tries to make the admission process as open as possible. Rice continues to be one of the few universities that does not charge any application fee. (This will change soon: the university has announced a \$25 application fee.)

The Admission Office wants no impediment for an otherwise qualified applicant. The result has been a gradual increase in the cultural diversity of the student body.

Although grades and test scores may gauge an applicant's intelligence and ability to thrive in an academic environment, Ms. Browning said that the Admission Committee also wants to gauge an applicant's creativity, introspection, and sense of humor.

She discussed the format and some of the questions on the admission form. One question requires an applicant to explain his or her most significant accomplishment for which the applicant has received no recognition.

The application form also contains a blank box (actually a small square) in which applicants place anything they want. One year an applicant placed a key to a locker in Autry Gymnasium. The committee rushed over to open the locker. The locker was full of tennis balls. This applicant got in.

Second Booksale a Success

by Karen Hess Rogers

"Speaking of the kind of bash that's for the books, that's exactly what the powers that be at the Friends of Fondren Library have planned for Nov. 19 at 2407 Times Blvd. It's their members' preview party for the annual used book sale. For volumes of information, call . . ."

Betsy Parrish.

The Houston Post, November 5, 1993

The members' preview of the annual booksale (actually, the second sale this year) was indeed a festive occasion, with more than 100 guests sipping mineral water and wine, munching meatballs, and buying books. Friends of Fondren Library had responded generously to our plea for books -- we collected more than 25,000 and the overall quality was extraordinary.

Sightems (as Betsy would say): Judy Amonett, Susie and Mel Glasscock, Ted and Nancy Haywood, Joanie Barrett, Bill Pannill, Joyce Nagle, Elizabeth Kidd, Gil Cuthbertson, Ferne and Harold Hyman, Barbara Kile, and the booksale cochairs, Texas Anderson and yours truly.



Texas Anderson deals with the buyers



Betty Conner and Harry Gee collect money.

The booksale opened to the public bright and early on Saturday morning. Sales were brisk, and we made many new friends and gained a number of new members. Most hardbacks we priced at \$1; paperbacks at 50 cents. A rare-book room contained volumes priced from \$2 to \$25.

Rice had generously offered the Friends the use of some unoccupied retail space. Our operation eventually expanded into three storefronts, five back offices, and a long hallway.

After Thanksgiving we learned that this was the future site of the new Village Arcade II, so we had a Going-Out-of-Business-Lost-Our-Lease sale the weekend before Christmas. We sold 3,300 paperbacks to one man. Marilyn Hellums accepted surplus furniture for the Graduate Loan Closet. We netted around \$7,000 on the November sale, bringing our booksale revenue this year to more than \$10,000.

Our next "annual" sale may be more than a year away, since we have lost both our retail location and storage. Perhaps one day a Friends of Fondren Library used bookshop will occupy space in the proposed Rice Alumni House.

Financial Report for Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993

	Fiscal Year 1993 (ending 6/30/93)	Fiscal Year 1992 (ending 6/30/92)
INCOME		
Membership Account, Balance Forward (6/30)	\$ 34,756	\$ 30,802
Membership Dues	82,574	80,248
Gifts & Memorials	52,236	60,500
Gala (net profit)	92,330	66,832
Book Sale (net profit)	4,305	
Rice subsidy of salary	<u>14,350</u>	13,650
TOTAL INCOME	\$280,551	\$ 252,032
DISBURSEMENTS		
GRANTS & ALLOCATIONS		
Gifts & Memorials Account	\$ 52,236	\$ 60,500
Endowment (from Gala)	92,330	66,832
Endowment (from Membership Account)		15,000
Book Sale Account	4,305	
Library's Fund	16,052	
Contemporary Literature	4,089	3,909
Audio Visual Grant	2,506	2,892
Special Book Purchases	1,255	1,113
Plant Contract	666	666
Sarah Lane Lounge		2,055
TOTAL GRANTS & ALLOCATIONS	\$173,439	\$152,967
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Staff Salary (Rice Subsidy)	\$ 14,350	\$ 13,650
Staff Salary (Membership Account)	25,019	22,590
Fringe Benefits	5,584	4,292
Postage	5,403	5,241
Printing	11,150	13,020
Photography	401	340
Entertainment/Programs	5,746	2,822
Library Cards	659	
Computer	1,996	45
Honoraria	200	200
Staff Development	195	776
Telephone/Office Supplies	708	699
Miscellaneous	737	634
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 72,148	\$ 64,309
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$245,587	\$217,276
CURRENT BALANCE, MEMBERSHIP ACCOUNT	\$ 34,964	\$ 34,756
MARKET VALUE OF ENDOWMENT* (*Library receives interest only.)	\$818,374	\$709,172

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September 1993 -December 31, 1993

We welcome the following new members.

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In addition, the following have upgraded their membership in the Friends.

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September 30, 1993 -December 31, 1993

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JULIE BROWNING

on the occasion of her talk to the Friends of Fondren Library, by Friends of Fondren Library

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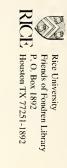
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