

# FOCUS online

NCSU LIBRARIES

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## PART I LIBRARY NEWS

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY COMMITTEE  
2005–2006

ALUMNI STORIES AUGMENT  
NC STATE UNIVERSITY'S HISTORY

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SCRAPBOOK

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Learn more about the [NCSU Libraries' Capital Campaign](#) by reading this issue's "Development" section. Here, Vice Provost and Director of Libraries Susan K. Nutter and NC State Basketball Coach Herb Sendek promote the Libraries' "Buy a Brick" opportunity. Each brick can be engraved in honor of friends or family and supports improvements in the D. H. Hill Library.

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## University Library Committee 2005–2006

Michael R. Hyman, chair	Microbiology
Penny M. Amato	Food Science
Alexander J. De Grand	History
Edward M. Farmer	Public Safety
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Martin A. Hubbe	Wood and Paper Science
Carolyn R. Miller	English
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Mary M. Peet	Horticultural Science
Douglas S. Reeves	Computer Science
Renzo Shamey	Textile Engineering, Chemistry, and Science
Rebecca C. Swanson	Distance Education and Learning Technology Applications (DELTA)
David A. Zonderman	History

### *Student Members*

Patrick Cleary	Student/Paper Science and Engineering
Lee Cobb	Student/Political Science
Michael Cropper	Graduate Student/Civil Engineering
Erich Fabricius	Graduate Student/Economics
Jivan Moaddeb	Student
Negela Moaddeb	Graduate Student/College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Jennifer Zurney	Graduate Student/College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

### *Ex officio*

Susan K. Nutter	Vice Provost and Director of Libraries
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### **[Left to right] Front:**

Mary M. Peet, Rebecca C. Swanson, Penny M. Amato, Jivan Moaddeb, Negela Moaddeb, Susan K. Nutter.

### **Middle row:**

Kerry S. Havner, David A. Zonderman, Susan S. Osborne, Erich Fabricius, Renzo Shamey, Carolyn R. Miller, Lee Cobb.

### **Back row:**

James R. Flowers, Douglas S. Reeves, Martin A. Hubbe, Michael Cropper, Jennifer Zurney, Patrick Cleary, Michael R. Hyman.

**Not pictured:** Alexander J. De Grand.



After World War II, some airport buildings provided housing for ex-GI students attending NC State. This photo shows one young member of a veteran's family circling the airport in a stroller in 1950. The photo above and the degree shown on page 4 are courtesy of Joseph H. Marion.

## Alumni Stories Augment NC State University's History

BY ANNA DAHLSTEIN, EXTERNAL RELATIONS

The NCSU Libraries' fall 2004 exhibition, *Transforming Society: The GI Bill Experience at NC State*, garnered a high level of interest among students, alumni, and other visitors from the Raleigh area. Because a large number of alumni live farther away and may not have had the opportunity to visit the exhibit in person, the Libraries mailed each NC State graduate of the late 1940s and early 1950s an exhibit catalog as well as an invitation to visit the Web-based version of the exhibit.

The Libraries digitized most of the extensive exhibit content and made it available on the Web at <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/exhibits/gibill/>. Completed in April 2005 by NCSU Libraries Fellow Jaime Margalotti, in consultation with Web Development Librarian May Chang, the online exhibit provides long-distance and long-term access to unique primary materials held by the Libraries' Special Collections Research

Center. The Web site includes digital images of University Archives photographs, *Technician* and alumni magazine articles, excerpts from autobiographical essays and letters, and some materials lent by NC State student veterans.

A number of former GI Bill beneficiaries, family members, and friends wrote back, sharing their own recollections of returning to civilian and college life after World War II or Korea. Because their accounts contribute to the historical record and supplement the oral history interviews conducted for this project, the Libraries requested the correspondents' permission to add the letters to the NC State Alumni Collection in the University Archives and to post excerpts from them on the GI Bill Web site. A few excerpts are reprinted here, offering testimony to the GI Bill's impact on individual lives and NC State. After World War II, living conditions on campus were cramped, as the GI Bill more

The NC State student government awarded the wives of graduates of 1949 and 1950 the degree of “Goodwife” to thank them for their patience with postwar shortages and housing difficulties.



than doubled student enrollment before additional dorms could be built. These four alumni describe the variety of makeshift housing that they endured—with a dose of humor rather than any complaints.

Thanks for sending the *Transforming Society* catalog! It sure brings back memories of my days at State College. I first “roomed” across the street from Tompkins Hall in the Stimpsons’ basement with about eight other freshmen. We had one makeshift shower and toilet. Then I went to 326 Syme Hall for the remainder, when they placed four students in #326—[but only] two desks. The GI Bill was my ticket to a civil engineering education. . . . Thanks for thinking of the returning veterans.

—MARION R. COCHRAN (CLASS OF 1950),  
GREENSBORO, N.C.

I was one of those GI Joes, 1948–1950. . . . We lived across from the Raleigh-Durham Airport in one of the three family apartments located in what had been the Army dispensary. Four or five more [NC State] students’ families also lived around there, as well as a forestry professor, using the other military buildings. We carpooled to the campus. Our building was heated by hot water from a large furnace that gobbled up about five cords of wood each winter to keep the building warm enough for the babies. Weekends were devoted to logging the surrounding forest

for that fuel supply. . . . We also maintained a large community garden and the women used the Depression-era cannery in Morrisville to preserve the surplus.

At graduation our wives also were awarded the Degree of Goodwife, a kind gesture made for their cooperation in contending with postwar shortages and housing difficulties with good humor. A copy of my wife’s certificate is enclosed if you care to add it to the GI Bill memorabilia.

—JOSEPH H. MARION (CLASS OF 1950),  
YUMA, ARIZONA

I was in the Army Air Corps from 1943 to 1946. By the time I received my discharge in April of 1946, most of the universities were already full with veterans. However, State responded to my inquiry and said I was welcome there, but they had no place for me to live. After a frantic summer, I enrolled at Presbyterian Junior College, mostly because the school had a room for me in a private home. Surprisingly, the education I received there was quite good and I had no problem in transferring to State for the fall semester of 1947. And it had to be an act of God that I found a comfortable room on Hillsboro Street for my wife and me.”

—JAMES S. PARKER (CLASS OF 1950),  
LUBBOCK, TEXAS

Thank you so much for sending me a copy of [the catalog]. I was a nonveteran student at NC State from 1949–1953 and witnessed first-hand the groundswell of veterans in college. I later returned in 1955 as a veteran and lived in Vetville [a pre-fab housing complex for veterans located on the west side of campus.] This was a God-send for my new wife and me.

—*CARL D. PRICE*  
(*B.S. 1953, M.S. 1957, E.D. 1971*),  
*RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA*

The NCSU Libraries wishes to thank these alumni and others who took the time to write their eyewitness accounts of a very special time in the university's and the nation's history. For more extensive excerpts, please visit <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/exhibits/gibill/>.

### Reid Grover Parks World War II Scrapbook

Ruth Parks presented a scrapbook commemorating her brother, Reid Grover Parks, his student days at NC State, and his World War II service, to the Special Collections Research Center on October 28, 2005. First Lieutenant Parks (1923–1945), Class of 1944, wrote home to his parents and little sister while attending NC State and subsequently serving as an Army Air Corps pilot in the European Theater. A family friend, S. Eugene Younts (NC State B.S. 1952, M.S. 1953), suggested donating the scrapbook to the NCSU Libraries. A University of Georgia vice president emeritus, Younts learned of the unique artifact while researching a book on his early life in North Carolina. Members of the Parks family who traveled from Davidson County to present the scrapbook to the Libraries included [left to right] **Michael Carrick**; **Sarah and Kenny Carrick**, both NC State freshmen; **Ruth Parks**; **Casey Carrick** (currently an NC State senior); and Ruth Parks's niece, **Carla Lookabill Carrick**. First Lt. Parks and the other NC State alumni who gave their lives in the war are remembered by name in the World War II Classes Student Study Room on the second floor of the D. H. Hill Library. ❖





## Elisabeth A. Wheeler Receives 2005 NCSU Libraries Faculty Award

BY BOB SOTAK, COLLECTION MANAGEMENT

**E**lisabeth A. Wheeler, professor emerita in NC State's Department of Wood and Paper Science, is the recipient of the seventeenth annual NCSU Libraries Faculty Award. This award is presented annually to an NC State University faculty member in recognition of outstanding contributions that support the Libraries' mission and its role within the university. The award was presented to Wheeler at the Friends of the Library Fall Luncheon on October 24, 2005.

Wheeler is an authority in wood anatomy, but her research interests also include wood evolution and the effects of climate change on wood structure. Recognizing the scientific value of the anatomical images of woody plants she had collected over the years and the potential that digital technologies had for making these images available to a worldwide audience via the Web,

she collaborated with a team of NCSU librarians and technical staff to submit a grant application to the National Science Foundation in 2003. They were awarded \$279,455 for a project focused on wood identification collection enhancement and Web access. This award allowed the creation of the InsideWood database, which has more than 5,800 entries for modern woods and 23,300 digital images. InsideWood provides online access to images that were previously available only as rare hard copies.

The InsideWood project team, led by Wheeler and library staff members Kathy Brown and Shirley Rodgers, was awarded \$243,039 in 2005 by the National Science Foundation to create a fossil wood database and enhance the existing modern wood database. InsideWood involves collaborators from the Micromorphology Group;

Jodrell Laboratory; Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, U.K.; the National Herbarium of the Netherlands; and CSIRO Forestry and Forest Products, Australia. The database has an international audience that includes wood scientists, botanists, archaeologists, paleontologists, and forensic scientists. InsideWood is also a valuable resource for students and the general public.

Wheeler has supported the Libraries on other projects as well. She collaborated with library fac-

ulty and staff on Project 25, an effort to develop twenty-five Web-based courses by fall 1997. She also donated the rare book *The American Woods*, volumes I through XIV, by Romeyn B. Hough, to the Special Collections Research Center. This book was digitized under an NC ECHO grant and is now available via InsideWood [<http://insidewood.lib.ncsu.edu/search/>]. ❖



***Patriot's Point Golf Course, Charleston, South Carolina.***

Willard C. Byrd Papers. MC 356. Project file 692.

Special Collections Research Center, NCSU Libraries.

## Special Collections Acquires Extensive Golf Course Design Archive

BY LOIS FISCHER BLACK,  
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER

Last year, the NCSU Libraries' Special Collections Research Center acquired the drawings, records, and working library of the firm Willard C. Byrd and Associates, one of the most prominent landscape architecture firms in the country. Byrd contacted the university regarding the disposition of his archive, because he desired to preserve the records at his alma mater and make them available to future generations of researchers.

Willard Calvert Byrd was born in Whiteville, North Carolina, on April 12, 1919. He served in the United States Navy during World War II on



***The Currituck Club, Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.***

*Willard C. Byrd Papers. MC 356.*

*Project file 950. Special Collections Research Center, NCSU Libraries.*

board a minesweeper. He enrolled at North Carolina State College, graduating in 1948 with a degree in landscape architecture from the School of Design. He then worked as a city planner for the Federal Housing Administration. Shortly thereafter, he established the firm of Willard C. Byrd and Associates, which soon specialized in golf course design. After a career spanning nearly five decades, Byrd died in December 2004.

Although Willard Byrd was best known for his work as a golf course architect, his work as a landscape architect was wide-ranging and included residential and resort communities, as well as commercial and industrial parks, built throughout the Southeast. His work changed the landscape of nearly 350,000 acres in more than a dozen states and several countries throughout the world. Notable projects include the Country Club of North Carolina, Wexford Plantation, and Myrtle Beach Golf and Yacht Club. Throughout his illustrious career, Byrd received many accolades. He



***Tara Plantation, Clayton County, Georgia.***

*Willard C. Byrd Papers. MC 356. Project file 154.*

*Special Collections Research Center, NCSU Libraries.*



was named a Fellow in both the American Society of Landscape Architects and the American Society of Golf Course Architects.

The more than 10,000 drawings in the collection, dating from 1956 through 2001, range in size from 8 x 10 inches to over 135 inches in length. They are drawn on a variety of media—including drafting film, paper, and tracing paper—and were executed mainly in ink or pencil. It is possible to trace the creation of each of Byrd's projects from concept to design by studying the materials. Since the vast majority of design firms do not keep copious records reflecting the evolution of ideas and thoughts throughout the design process, this collection is unique and irreplaceable.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lively, friends of the Byrd family, facilitated the collection's transfer from Atlanta to Raleigh. After a collaborative effort to pack the drawings and files at Willard Byrd's office, the Livelys drove a box truck to the NCSU Libraries' Satellite Shelving Facility, where they delivered rolls of Byrd's drawings, along with several boxes of project files and books.

The Special Collections Research Center is in the process of creating a guide to the Willard C. Byrd Records. For more information, please call (919) 515-2273 or send an electronic-mail message to [special\\_collections@ncsu.edu](mailto:special_collections@ncsu.edu). ❖

***Myrtle Beach Golf and Yacht Club,  
Myrtle Beach South Carolina.***

*Willard C. Byrd Papers. MC 356.  
Project file 778.*

*Special Collections Research Center,  
NCSU Libraries.*



## Digitizing 4-H and Home Demonstration

BY TODD KOSMERICK, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER



*Agricultural extension members canning produce, ca. 1910s. Special Collections Research Center.*

The NCSU Libraries' Special Collections Research Center is involved in a new digitization project called "Green 'N' Growing': The History of Home Demonstration and 4-H Youth Development in North Carolina." Funded by a \$49,992 NC ECHO Digitization Grant, the project will facilitate access to primary resource materials on the two Cooperative Extension programs. The resulting research and educational tool should be a valuable resource for students and scholars.

"Green 'N' Growing" draws upon the rich historical records found in the University Archives that document the Home Demonstration and 4-H programs. These records provide valuable information about women, children, race relations, education, agriculture, and rural life

in North Carolina during the twentieth century. Because North Carolina was predominantly rural and agricultural for most of the twentieth century, the 4-H and Home Demonstration photographs and documents reveal significant aspects of the state's history.

The mission of the Extension Service, which grew out of the Populist and Progressive movements, was to help North Carolina's rural citizens develop a more prosperous economy and way of life by providing information about new advances in agricultural sciences. The home demonstration and 4-H programs were created to reach out specifically to rural women and children. Home Demonstration began in 1906 with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture's Farmers' Institutes for Women, and it had firmly

become part of NC State's Agricultural Extension program by 1914. Home demonstration later became home economics and today is the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. Between 1907 and 1912, 4-H began as "corn clubs" for boys and "tomato" or canning clubs for girls. The term "4-H" was not widely applied to these organizations until the mid-1920s. By the 1950s, North Carolina had more 4-H participants than any other state. For both 4-H and home demonstration, separate organizations existed for whites and African Americans until desegregation in the 1960s. North Carolina's 4-H and home demonstration programs generated such nationally known luminaries as L. R. Harrill and Jane McKimmon [see "Development of the National 4-H Program," *Focus*, volume 23:3 (2003): 14–16].

"Green 'N' Growing" will greatly enhance access to these unique images and documents in the University Archives. Through the project,

Special Collections is digitizing approximately 3,000 photographs and 2,000 pages from pamphlets, flyers, newsletters, and other publications dating from the 1910s to the 1970s. The digital images and associated metadata will be maintained through the same Luna Imaging® database created for the University Archives Photograph Collection project [see "Improving Access to the NCSU Libraries' Visual Collections," *Focus*, volume 24:3 (2004): 11–12, 14], and they will be accessible through the center's Web site. Users will be able to conduct keyword searching through the database and download low-resolution images from the Web site to local computers. High-resolution copies (up to 1,200 dots per inch) can be obtained by contacting the Special Collections Research Center.

In addition to the digital images, the project will create other resources. Staff will develop Web-based search tools such as Encoded Archival Description (EAD) finding aids for the origi-



*4-H member Herman Peebles of Wake County, winner of a state prize, standing in a cornfield, ca. 1920s. Special Collections Research Center.*

nal archival materials. They will also compile narrative histories, bibliographies, and timelines to provide context for the study of the Home Demonstration and 4-H programs in North Carolina. These resources will facilitate research and educational use by faculty and students here at NCSU, as well as for researchers at other universities and at primary and secondary schools.

“Green ‘N’ Growing” is funded in part by a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant awarded through the State Library of

North Carolina. The Institute of Museum and Library Services, an agency dedicated to creating and sustaining a nation of learners by helping libraries and museums serve their communities, manages LSTA. The NCSU Libraries will seek a second year of grant funding to digitize and create metadata for annual reports and to evaluate the Web-based delivery tools. ❖



*[Above] Home Demonstration Club member Mrs. W. D. McNairy of Greensboro illustrated how to cane the seat of a chair, 1939. Special Collections Research Center.*

*[Below] Hattie Baker from Gates County and Sissie Brouche from Warren County demonstrated how to make hot-pan mats out of pine needles at the Wake County Whispering Pines 4-H Camp, July 1941. Special Collections Research Center.*





*Focus*, a newsletter published three times a year, seeks to promote the services, activities, needs, and interests of the NCSU Libraries to the university, the Friends of the Library, and beyond.

Editor: Terrell Armistead Crow.

NCSU Libraries Homepage: <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/>