

SUU

FRIENDS OF THE SHERRATT LIBRARY

NEWSLETTER

February 2010

Volume 1, No. 2

FRIENDS HELP SPONSOR

Howard R. Driggs
MEMORIAL LECTURE

Pulitzer Prize winning historian Dr. Daniel Walker Howe will deliver the Howard R. Driggs Memorial Lecture at 7 p.m. on March 24, 2010 in the Great Hall at Southern Utah University. The lecture, part of SUU Founders' Week activities, is entitled *The Communications Revolution in 19th-century America and Its Consequences*, and is sponsored in part by a generous donation from the Howard R. Driggs Memorial Foundation. Dr. Howe received the Pulitzer Prize for History in 2008 for his most famous book *What Hath God Wrought: The Transformation of America, 1815 - 1848*.

Dr. Howe is a Rhodes Professor Emeritus of History at UCLA and Rhodes Professor of American History Emeritus at Oxford University. In addition to the Pulitzer Prize for *What Hath God Wrought* he was awarded the annual American History Prize of the New York Historical Society and the annual Prize of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic. He is a historian of the early national period of American history and specializes in the intellectual and religious history of the United States. He was president of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic in 2001 and is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

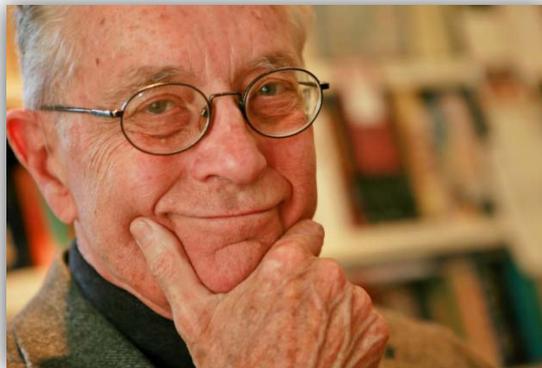
Born in Ogden, Utah, Howe grew up in Denver, Colorado. He attended Harvard (A.B.), Oxford (M.A.), and the University of California at Berkeley (Ph.D.). He taught at Yale from 1966 to 1973, at UCLA from 1973 to 1992 where he was chair of the History Department from 1983 to 1987. In 1989-90 he was

the Harmsworth Visiting Professor of American History at Oxford. In 1992 he took early retirement at UCLA and returned to Oxford to take up a permanent position there as Rhodes Professor of American History. He helped found the Rothermere American Institute at Oxford. In 2001 he spent a semester back at Yale as a visiting professor. In 2002 he retired from Oxford, and so is now "emeritus" at two universities. He continues to do research and writing, both at UCLA and the Huntington Library.

He and his wife Sandra live in Sherman Oaks, California, and go back to England every summer to visit their friends. This September they will celebrate their 49th wedding anniversary. Sandra is a Special Education Resource Teacher and Chair of the Special Education Department at Birmingham Charter High School in Van Nuys, California. They like travel, making plans, and watching *Masterpiece Classics* on TV and reruns of *Law and Order*. Most of all, they enjoy the company of their three grown children, their spouses and their five (so far) grandchildren.

The annual Howard R. Driggs Memorial Lecture was established in 2009 with the inaugural Driggs Lecture being delivered by the Honorable Michael O. Leavitt. The

Lecture was established by Driggs' step-daughter, Camille Bradford, to highlight the Driggs Collection which is housed in the SUU Special Collections at the Gerald R. Sherratt Library. This collection, covering a time span from 1890 to 1965, includes manuscripts, research notes, photographs, correspondence, and memorabilia from Driggs' work with the American Pioneer Trails Association, the Oregon Trails Memorial Association, historical and creative writings, personal and family records, and as a teacher. The collection and previous lectures may be accessed at www.li.suu.edu/library/digitization/digitalarchives.htm.



PRESERVATION WORKSHOP TAUGHT

The first of several workshops sponsored by the Friends of the Sherratt Library was held on January 27. Paula Mitchell, University Archivist, instructed participants on how to care for and preserve family documents. Information on the preservation of both print and digital photographs was covered as well. In addition, Jill Stucki, Technical Services



Analyst, demonstrated several simple book repair tips to protect and prolong the life of a book.

To enjoy your photographs far into the future, you need to take some care in the handling and storage of the images today. Old documents must be handled with care, using clean, dry hands and stored in a stable environment away from heat and moisture.

HOWARD R. DRIGGS COLLECTION

By Camille Bradford*



The Sherratt Library acquired the Howard R. Driggs Collection in 2004. Janet Seegmiller, Paula Mitchell and the staff of the Special Collections Library then embarked upon the project of archiving the papers, artifacts and memorabilia of one of the University's four founders.

Supported by grants from the National Park Service, the photographs in the collection were digitized and are now online. The Collection was opened to the public in 2006.

Howard R. Driggs (1873-1963) was born in Pleasant Grove, Utah and came to the Branch Normal School (BNS) in 1897 after his graduation from the University of Utah. A striking mural in Old Main portrays him teaching one of his English classes, and a portrait of him hangs in the Great Hall.

After leaving BNS he taught at the University of Utah and later at New York University, where he earned his Ph.D. and became Chairman of the English Department in the School of Education. During his distinguished career Dr. Driggs was both a Professor of English Education and historian of the American West. He was well known throughout the country as an author and speaker in both fields.

He developed his lifelong interest in the history of the American West as the son of pioneers. He became the President of the Oregon Trail Memorial Association in 1928. This organization later became the American Pioneer Trails Association (APTA), committed to promote the marking and preservation of all the pioneer trails. He headed APTA until his death in 1963.

Throughout his life Dr. Driggs was active in the LDS Church, wrote extensively for church publications, and helped organize and lead many church projects and events. Shortly after his death in 1963 he was eulogized in United States Senate by Senator Frank Moss, who remembered him as "one of Utah's most illustrious sons." The Howard R. Driggs Elementary School in Salt Lake City was named in his honor when it opened in 1965.

The Howard R. Driggs Room in the Special Collections Library displays some of the many photographs, books and memorabilia from the Collection. An annual Howard R. Driggs Memorial Lecture has also been established at SUU. The first lecture was delivered during the Founders Day activities in March 2009 by Governor Michael Leavitt.

*Camille Bradford, a member of the Advisory Board of Friends of the Gerald R. Sherratt Library, is the stepdaughter of Howard R. Driggs.

Workshops Available to Learn New Skills

The Friends of the Sherratt Library is sponsoring a *Family History Research @ the Library* workshop on Wednesday, February 24 at 4 p.m. at the Sherratt Library on the campus of Southern Utah University. Local historian and Special Collections Librarian Janet Seegmiller will be teaching the one-hour workshop.

Janet will demonstrate a number of online sources available to family history researchers. One of the new sources is *Footnote*.  This comprehensive database has over 50 million full text documents including American, cultural, family, military (Revolutionary to Vietnam War), Native American, political, and social historical documents. In a collaborative project with the Sherratt Library, *Footnote* recently added the Deseret Iron Company Account Book from Cedar City, 1854-1867.

Another valuable source is BYU's *Family History Archives*. This is a collection of published genealogy and family history books available full text online. These records include family histories, county and local histories as well as books and magazines on genealogy. Books scanned into the *Family History Archives* come from numerous collections including the FamilySearch Family History Library, BYU's Harold B. Lee Library, and the LDS Church History Library.

Janet will also highlight sources for accessing historic newspapers full text online and demonstrate how to use *HeritageQuest*, a database available to all Utah residents through the Pioneer database project. With coverage dating back to the 1700s, this collection is rich in unique primary genealogical and historical sources that can help people find their ancestors.

The workshop will be held on the main level of the Sherratt Library and will include hands on instruction. Anyone who has joined the Friends of the Library at the Associate Level is invited to attend the workshop at no charge. All others are welcome to attend for a nominal fee of \$10. If you have questions concerning the workshop, please contact Janet Seegmiller, seegmiller@suu.edu, 586-7945.

The next workshop will feature *Free Open Source Software Available to You*. Reference Librarian Scott Lanning will teach the workshop on April 28 at 4 p.m. in the Sherratt Library room 002.

Library Books Remain Valued Resource

The Gerald R. Sherratt Library collections have taken a century to accumulate and contain books dating back to 1786. The present collection includes more than 280,000 volumes. Although digital collections are rapidly increasing at SUU and other universities, print collections remain critical to satisfy the research needs of students and faculty. The number of books in print increases at about 38 percent each year.

Recently at Syracuse University there was a effort by the library to move some of its print collection to a remote location to reduce library costs. This proposal met with protests from hundreds of outraged students and professors who were irritated at the plan to ship many volumes off-campus. At Stanford University, where there was a proposal to store volumes from its East Asian Library remotely, a formal report from the library committee reinforced "the importance of print collections and browsing." And, a study at Rice University concluded that "some scholars insist that they need to be able browse books on the shelves so that they can serendipitously discover related works." The Rice study further suggests that it could take up to half a century—or two generations of faculty—before faculty in certain disciplines will abide the preeminence of digital over print.

These are vivid indications that in spite of the rapid increase of digital resources, a strong book collection remains a critical resource for the scholarly efforts of students and faculty.

The mission of the Friends of the Library is to support the Sherratt Library in the effort to continue to increase the collections and offerings.

FRIENDS OF THE SHERRATT LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

Randall Allen	Barbara Matheson
Douglas G. Bonzo	W. Clayton Petty, Co-Chair
Camille Q. Bradford	Gerald R. Sherratt
Beverly Burgess	Brian Tavoian
Helen Englehart	Evan Vickers
Diana Graff, Co-Chair	Lorraine Warren
Anne O. Leavitt	

Budget Cuts Force Tough Decisions

As a result of SUU budget cuts last year, the Sherratt Library had to make significant cuts to services, materials and personnel this academic year. The multimedia center, which provided students with specialized computer software and equipment, was closed. The library materials budget was reduced nine percent and 20 percent of print journal titles were discontinued.

LexisNexis, a database of full-text news, business and legal resources, was cut for a savings of \$12,000. Students were frustrated without access to *LexisNexis* and three months later, Dean Jim McDonald of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and Dean John Eye of the Library allocated one-time money to fund the database for the remainder of this year. The library had to cut the New York Times microfilm collection to reinstate *LexisNexis*. In the meantime, the Library received approval from the SUU Student Association to implement a Library fee of \$5 per student per semester to assist in funding databases in the future. This fee is still pending approval of the President's Council.

Cuts to the Library budget greatly impact the quality of learning at SUU. Since 1898 the University has worked tirelessly to obtain University status and the Library plays a significant role in maintaining that distinction. The Friends of the Library are hoping to raise enough funds from donors to bridge the funding gaps and maintain the high quality education for students at SUU.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

February 24 – 4:00pm

Workshop: *Family History Research @ the Library*
Taught by Janet Seegmiller
Sherratt Library Special Collections
Cost: Free to Friends at the Associate Level or above.
All others \$10.00

March 22-26 – SUU Founder's Week Activities

March 24

Noon to 2:00pm

Library Birthday Celebration
Garden Level Lobby
Come enjoy some birthday cake @ the Library

7:00pm

Howard R. Driggs Memorial Lecture
Presenting Dr. Daniel Walker Howe
Great Hall, SUU Hunter Conference Center
Cost: Free

April 28, 2010 – 4:00pm

Workshop: *Free Open Source Software Available to You*
Taught by Scott Lanning
Sherratt Library Classroom 002
Cost: Free to Friends at the Associate Level or above.
All others \$10.00

<http://www.li.suu.edu/library/friends>



Southern Utah University
Gerald R. Sherratt Library
Friends of the Library
351 W. University Blvd
Cedar City, UT 84720

FRIENDS OF THE SHERRATT LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

Editor: W. Clayton Petty
Layout & Design: Sheri Butler
Articles contributed by members of
the advisory board and Library
faculty and staff